

NEWS

Part II of the quest: Engineering students discuss vocation with President Spina, pg. 4

A&E

Jesse Thompson artistically challenges gender norms and hypermasculinity, pg. 6

OPINIONS

Love, Posey encourages struggling students uncomfortable with classwork, pg. 11

SPORTS

Women's basketball takes home hardware in Maine, pg. 15

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 14, 2017

FLYER NEWS, VOL. 65 NO. 6

UNIVERSITY OF DAYTON

The SPHR Conference explores the challenges of advocacy

EMMA KAPP Staff Writer

The Social Practice of Human Rights Conference brought people from across the world together at the University of Dayton's River Campus from Wednesday to Friday, examining and discussing human rights issues.

The third biennial conference was sponsored and planned by UD's Human Rights Center with a theme of "Chartering the Frontiers of Research and Advocacy." The goal of the event was to explore challenges of advocacy posed by racism, xenophobia, other forms of extremism and what Pope Francis has termed "the globalization of indifference," according to the conference website. To go along with this theme, the conference included four keynote addresses, four plenary dialogues and nearly 100 research presentations. The topics covered ranged from forced migration and peace to modern slavery and dictators. One theme remained constant, however: dedication to solving the root problems of human rights violations.

The conference opened with keynote speaker William Dobson Tuesday evening. Dobson, chief international editor for National Public Radio, gave a presentation entitled "The Learning Curves of Dictators." In it, Dobson described how the number of democracies is at its lowest point in 25 years because of the growth in populism and nationalism. "In a globalized world, the best forms of persuasion are subtle," Dobson pointed out.

River Campus became abuzz with activity Wednesday morning as the conference officially began. After some opening remarks from Dobson, the first plenary dialogue began. It focused on the issue of forced migration, a problem facing about one in every 113 people, according to the panel. The experts on this topic included



With over 100 original presentations from scholars and practitioners across the disciplinary spectrum, four plenary dialogue sessions were featured. Pictured above is the forced migration dialogue given by Dylan Corbett, Ramón Márquez Vega and Azadeh Shahshahani. Photo courtesy of Sylvia Stahl.

Dylan Corbett, executive director of the Hope Border Institute, Azadeh Shahshahani, legal and advocacy director for Project South, and Ramón Márquez Vega, director of La 72 Home and Refuge for Migrants. Much of the discussion focused on the U.S.'s policy and its inattention to the dignity of migrants and refugees. A call for dialogue and a need for action were the biggest sentiments from this plenary.

The next rounds of research panels covered topics such as the analysis of social movements and the intersection of human rights, economics and social justice. Additional projects looked at the connection between human rights and sustainability.

Wednesday evening's keynote address came from Marielena Hincapié, executive director of the National Immigration Law Center. She spoke about the treatment of migrants in the U.S. and how reform in the immigration system is desperately needed.

Thursday morning's activities included a plenary dialogue on peace and another selection of research presentations. Topic in this group included gender violence and indigenous peoples' rights.

The afternoon keynote address was given by Nadiezhda Henríquez Chacín, a human rights advocate who works to give closure and information to families of disappeared people. Sophomore human rights and English major Mary McLoughlin attended the address and found it "inspiring."

Carol Anderson spoke as part of the evening keynote. She is a human and civil rights advocate and expert on African American history and 20th century politics. Her speech on white rage garnered a standing ovation at the end of the night.

Friday's concluding remarks left conference attendees satisfied and feeling enlightened.

"It was really valuable as a student with an interest in human rights to be able to talk to the people who are doing cutting edge research in the field and see the breadth of subjects and opportunities," McLoughlin said.

Tiffany Hendricks, a sophomore human rights studies major, would agree.

"I really loved that they brought in people from global perspectives to help drive different points that these are global issues," Hendricks said. "It's easy to look at it and take it like a researchable problem from an academic standpoint, but I feel like having people coming from different areas to offer insight and perspective really helped me contextualize and officially recognize that this is something real we can combat."

The conference was partnered with OpenGlobalRights, an organization dedicated to spreading awareness of human rights. Live tweets and online broadcasts of the discussions were available from the event.

Through the efforts of many people, the conference was able to inspire dialogue, force thoughts from new perspectives and touch hearts and minds. Bringing together people to learn about the horrendous human rights violations that occur around the world every day allows for advocacy and awareness to spread. Although the conference lasted only a few short days, the effects and learning outcomes of it will be felt as attendees continue their work and research.

NEWS FLYER NEWS | TUESDAY, NOV. 14

UD students and Dayton nonprofits address food desert

ALEXIS VASKE Contributing Writer

Students who do not have a car to bring to school or cannot pay over \$200 for a parking pass are left to figure out how to purchase groceries. Junior Carly Perkins knows this well.

"Last year my roommates and I did not have a car so getting to the grocery was difficult. We Ubered every week and it got to be expensive," Perkins recalled. "I brought my car this year, which has made it much easier." Junior Anna Choquette, another stu-

dent without transportation, stated, "All of my roommates and many of my friends have a car so finding a ride isn't difficult. It's finding time that's the issue. The grocery is far so you have to set aside time to make the trip and being highly involved in clubs and activities makes that a challenge."

UD does offer the "saturday shopping shuttle," which picks students up at multiple locations on campus and takes them to Walmart and various restaurants located on Dorothy Lane and South Dixie Drive. UD says this shuttle is open to all students but especially freshman because they are not allowed to bring a car on campus. Caldwell Apartments is the single pick-up location in the student neighborhood.

Students without a meal plan know that UD does not have a grocery store in walking distance of campus, which reflects a larger issue: a city consumed by food deserts.

Dayton is among hundreds of areas in the U.S. considered to be a food desert. The United States Department of Agriculture, USDA, defines a food desert as an area lacking access to healthy foods due to grocery stores' lack of fresh fruits or vegetables or



"I was highlighting the difference between the markets, the fresh vegetables versus the processed ones, furthering the difference in food availability throughout the city," said photographer Sylvia Stahl, explaining her photos pictured above. Her photos were showcased in an exhibition focusing on Dayton's food desert.

inaccessibility of the store. 23.5 million people live in food deserts, nearly half in low income areas, according to the USDA. The USDA also found a high correlation between those living in a food desert and increased diabetes rates.

Many people, particularly those who face financial hardships, do not have access to grocery stores because of geographic location and lack of transportation. Therefore, those living in food deserts are often forced to do their shopping at local convenience stores. Additionally, people living in food deserts frequently resort to getting their meals from fast-food restaurants because of they are easier to access in terms of cost and physical proximity.

In the last decade, public awareness about this issue has grown significantly. Going from a largely ignored problem to catching the eye of former first lady Michelle Obama, who included the issue as part of her "Let's Move" campaign to combat childhood obesity. As part of her project, Obama hoped to eradicate food deserts by 2017 by providing tax breaks to supermarkets that opened in food deserts.

With an issue that affects seven percent of Americans, the next question becomes: how can food deserts be alleviated and eventually eliminated? The City of Dayton cannot solve the issues surrounding food deserts overnight, and they certainly cannot do it alone. The progress made thus far has been largely work of nonprofits, volunteers, community members and college area students.

In numerous cities, local activists have stepped up to provide fresh foods through community vegetable gardens and pop-up farmers markets, including here in Dayton. Mission of Mary Cooperative, started by UD graduates, is located two miles from campus. Among other community services, MMC grows vegetables and sells them to neighborhood residents.

Places such as Mission of Mary Cooperative are working directly with Dayton residents to meet their needs. UD students have the privilege of calling Dayton their home and even though it is only for four years, the UD community can make an impact. Current UD students are also taking action. Senior students in the Dayton Civic Scholars program have worked with Mount Olive Baptist Church to start a community garden, a project many congregation members are excited about.

"We wanted to do a project that addressed the issue of food deserts," explained senior DCS member Katherine Liming. "Our close ties with Mission of Mary helped push this project forward. We had a lot to learn when it came to gardening."

In addition to the work being done by nonprofits and UD students, decisions made by the university in regards to the development of the Montgomery Fairgrounds site may be influenced by this particular issue of food deserts.

At the interactive visioning workshop hosted by planning NEXT and University President Eric F. Spina Oct. 27, discussions took place regarding the development of the Montgomery Fairgrounds site UD and Premier Health purchased last spring. At the forum, some students and faculty members suggested building a grocery store featuring produce grown by local farmers in the space. This was one suggestion amongst many proposed at the session.

Don Vermillion, Fitz Center director of public projects, acknowledged that the UD administration is aware of the lack of grocery stores. He sees potential for a more accessible grocery store closer in the area in the future.

William Dobson talks international politics at UD's Speaker Series event

SEAN NEWHOUSE Staff Writer

In part with UD's Speaker Series, NPR's Chief International Editor William Dobson spoke at KU Ballroom Tuesday about dictators and democratic movements in the 21st century. Dobson's speech was co-sponsored by UD's Human Rights Center and the Endowment to Support Education in Nonviolence.

Author of "The Dictator's Learning Curve: Inside the Global Battle for Democracy," Dobson often provides commentary on international affairs for ABC, CNN, CBS and MSNBC. He previously worked for Slate, Foreign Policy, Newsweek International, Foreign Affairs and the Washington Post. He is a 1994 Truman Scholar and holds a master's and law degree from Harvard University.

Before his lecture, Dobson sat down with Flyer News to talk more about his career. He said he enjoys participating in speaking engagements and getting the opportunity to answer questions people might have about his work.

"There's something particularly fulfill-

ing about talking to people in a different place with a different background," Dobson said.

He acknowledged his hectic schedule as an international editor, but noted his love for the work, "There's nothing quite as personally daunting as having 100,000 words in front of you that you haven't yet written."

He also appreciated spending time with UD students at an informal gathering prior to his official address where he talked about his career and international politics.

In his lecture, he began by describing the contemporary battle between dictators and democratic activists to the audience. He said dictators are not using blunt force to control their countries; instead, they are manipulating the system to grant themselves greater power.

For instance, Dobson suggested that laws are written broadly but enforced selectively. The media under dictators are government-controlled, and authoritarians govern under the guise of democracy and human rights.

Dobson used Venezuelan President Nicolás Maduro, who recently won a



Photo courtesy of Christian Cubacub.

seemingly democratic election, as an example. He stated that in the election, there was blatant rigging, politically-motivated arrests and extreme gerrymandering.

Dobson warned about the future of democracy, as the number of dem-

ocratic states is at its lowest in 25 years. The popularity of nationalist and populist movements further damages democratic governments.

Nevertheless, he remains hopeful about democracy's future. While writ-

ing his book, he interviewed dictatorial regime officials and democratic activists from countries such as China, Egypt and Venezuela. Dobson described the activists as "creative, battle-tested strategists" who came from all walks of life.

Following his speech, Dobson answered questions from the audience about dictator's strategies, Russian influence on social media, political rhetoric and journalistic ethics.

Adam Roman, a sophomore communication major, was glad he attended Dobson's speech.

"The strength of Mr. Dobson's presentation was its myriad of real-world examples and serious, yet hopeful, message that being a dictator isn't easy, and it's not getting any easier," Roman said.

"It was interesting to hear Dobson's talk, and I thought it related well to human rights," said Emma Kapp, also a sophomore communication major.

Nominations for next year's UD Speaker Series can be submitted on the University's Speaker Series site. **NEWS** FLYER NEWS | TUESDAY, NOV. 14

Calendar of Campus Events Nov. 14-28

Nov. 14

Think About It: Your Wellness Identity event in KU 211 (4 p.m. - 5 p.m.)

Nov. 15

Student Government Association's Tough Talks event in KU Torch Lounge (7 p.m. - 9 p.m.)

Nov. 16

American Society of Civil Engineers Networking Night event in Kettering Labs, Room 203 (6:30 p.m. - 8 p.m.)

National Society of Black Engineers' Real Talk event at the NSBE house (6 p.m. - 8 p.m.)

Nov. 17

Red Scare's Flyer Friday event in KU Plaza (11 a.m. - 2 p.m.)

Nov. 18

Ally Training in Kettering Labs room 203 (10 a.m. - 2:30 p.m.)

#UDLateNight Movie: Leap in Sears Recital Hall (10 p.m. - 12 a.m.)



Nov. 19

Student Government Association's public Senate meeting (6 p.m. - 7:30 p.m.)

Nov. 20

Nov. 21 Thanksgiving recess begins after classes

Nov. 22 Thanksgiving Break

World Exchange Fall Conversation Groups in Rike room 108 (11:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.)

Nov. 23 Thanksgiving

Nov. 24

Nov. 25 Saturday Classes Meet

Nov. 26 We hope you had a restful Thanksgiving break!

Nov. 27 Classes resume at 8 a.m.

Graphic by Jessica Burnham/Staff Graphic Designer

NEWS FLYER NEWS | TUESDAY, NOV. 14

Engineers continuing their quest for vocation are guided by President Spina

LIZ KYLE News Editor

This series follows two UD engineering students, Joshua Romo and Tom Tappel, who are on a mission to discover how successful engineering majors found their own vocation, as well as their major fitting in with the University's purpose, "the University for the common good." This is part two of the series. We invite you to read part one on our online platform, flyernews.com.

Continuing their journey of exploration through an engineering lense, Joshua Romo and Tom Tappel are still eager to search for their area of study's connection with vocation and UD's mission statement, "The University For The Common Good." They have been given insight from Brother Ray Fitz, SM., who is a Fr. Ferree Professor of Social Justice in the Fitz Center for Leadership in Community. So far, they are feeling pretty optimistic with their interview techniques, and they even feel more confident when examining their own unique vocational journeys.

"We make sure to talk about the interview right after it happens. We believe our initial feelings right after the interview is important,"



President Spina believes the key to recognizing one's vocation is taking a step back and self reflecting. Photo courtesy of Joshua Romo.

Romo said. "We go into the interview with a set number of questions. It starts very structured, but within two minutes of speaking, things just start to flow.

We get the best results from the interviews by being present in the

moment, and I've been connecting that to what vocation means to me."

Tappel's enjoyed viewing vocation through an engineering lense, "It's been verv cool that losh and



I have been able to study vocation for the Chaminade Scholars, but now it's even more interesting to look at it from an engineer's mindset. Br. Ray's idea of the engineer's 'design mindset' has really stuck out to me so far."

They moved along their path of attaining wisdom Tuesday when they sat down with the University's president, Dr. Eric F. Spina. Spina has been serving as president of the university since July 1, 2016.

Before joining the UD community, he began his career as a faculty member in the college of engineering and computer science at Syracuse University, then eventually made his way up the ladder of succession to chair, and then dean of the department. In 2007, Spina became SU's vice chancellor and provost.

When reflecting on his own vocation, Spina believes he began to experience glimpses of it towards the end of his undergraduate career at Carnegie Mellon University while studying mechanical engineering. At the beginning of his college career, he began to question if engineering was the true path for him. He considered switching his major to business or economics.However, once he began to take more engineering-focused courses, he knew he was on the right path.

"By the time of my junior year, I took a slew of mechanics courses and structures courses," Spina said. "While taking these classes, I was thinking, 'Oh! These are the building blocks you can actually put into practice.' That was when I started to hear my vocation a little bit."

Not only was he inspired by his undergraduate engineering courses, he put his new found knowledge into practice through CMU's annual Buggy competition at their spring carnival. Student organizations participate in the event by showcasing their hand built buggies and racing them against each other. From the Buggy competition and his peers around him, Spina's excitement grew as he saw how how engineering can be put into practice.

With the signs of his vocation at his fingertips, he continued his academic career at Princeton University, graduating with his doctorate and master's degrees in mechanical and aerospace engineering. The connections he built with faculty and undergraduate students he taught as a teaching assistant showed him that he wanted to live a life with the purpose of making a difference. "You hang around academics

Graphic by Ria Gordan/Staff Graphic Designe

"You hang around academics for long enough and you realize that's a life I could lead in which I could make a difference," Spina said. "It's all about impact and that's what I was looking for. The combination of reflecting on the teachers who have had an impact on my life and getting that initial taste as a TA, interacting with students and helping that with research, I felt satisfaction from that."

Spina always valued the importance of taking time out of his schedule for some family time and self-reflecting. When looking at college student populations in general, he believes there is a lack of time spent on thinking about one's vocation. He views the pressure put onto students early in high school to take as many AP courses as possible and overload themselves with extracurriculars as a potential roadblock for vocational discovery. In order to lead students around the roadblock, Spina believes students should be feel encouraged to reflect within their area of studies.

"I think we can always do more to support our students in really reflecting. Here, we're a values based institution, and I think the university really stands for something," Spina said. "The more time we can help our students think about reflection and how to put it all together in a way that will make them passionate about what they're going to do, then they'll be able to contribute to their community."

Under Spina's presidency, he has implemented a path for the university: "The University for The Common Good." In terms of including engineering into this path and discovering their own vocation along the way. He believes engineers at UD have the potential to become the problem-solvers in society and have a true impact on the world around them.

"As engineers, I don't think we give ourselves enough credit for this, but we actually think about problems. We should be thinking about the problems rather than the solutions, let's face it, we have the solutions part down," Spina said. "I think undergraduate education is all about learning the importance of being a responsible citizen in the world, and I see UD doing this better than most places. I'll put our engineers up against anyone else's in terms of what their value systems are, what kinds of jobs they're going to do and how they're going to do them."

Be on the lookout for the final part of this three part series in future Flyer News publications.

NEWS FLYER NEWS | TUESDAY, NOV. 14 —

Students promote stalking awareness amidst Hollywood scandals

JEN STRANIERO AND EMMA WHITE Contributing Writers

As of early November, over 80 women spoke out about being sexually harassed, assaulted, raped or molested by Hollywood mogul Harvey Weinstein, going back as late as the 1970s. Hollywood actor and director Kevin Spacey also was just recently accused of sexual assault by over 10 men and women. For both Weinstein, Spacey and other alleged predators, there is no guarantee that the number of victims will stop climbing.

The month of October has been a momentous period of time for victims of sexual assault and harassment to voice their abuses. This movement of victims announcing their harassers was kickstarted by the explosive New York Times article that revealed Weinstein's criminal acts, and how he had paid off accusers for decades. Although sexual misconduct and sexual assault crimes are receiving major attention from the media today, a majority of the public lacks awareness on a related issue that often times may lead to these forms of assault and harassment: stalking.

This semester, a group of 10 dedicated communication majors hope to bring attention to the topic of stalking and its severity. For their public relations capstone class, the students were tasked with creating a stalking awareness campaign. The overall goal of the campaign is to make UD undergraduate students more aware of stalking on college campuses and the warning signs of stalking. College students are an especially important demographic to make awareness of stalking because people ages 18 to 24 experience the highest rates of stalking, according to the U.S. Department of Justice.

"We feel that this topic of stalking will resonate well with the student body because of the community aspect of UD," said Sara Heyd, one



A group of seniors hopes to educate the dangers of stalking behaviors on UD's campus. Top row pictured from left to right: Lucy Von Fahnestock, Eileen Carroll, Emily Wagner, Emma White. Bottom row: Laura May, Danielle Damon, Jen Straniero. Not pictured: Sara Heyd, Alexa Hornak, Brynn Sandy.

of the students apart of the project. "When students realize that stalking is a prevalent issue, they'll be able to pinpoint specific actions and warning signs with confidence and will hopefully be proactive about taking actions against it."

Stalking is defined by the Department of Justice as, "A pattern of repeated and unwanted attention, harassment, contact, or any other course of conduct directed at a specific person that would cause a reasonable person to feel fear." Stalking behaviors are often hard to define because they are dependent on if the receiver is desiring the action. For example, a behavior like excessive liking of social media posts may be seen as harmless, but if this causes the person to become fearful, then it should be considered stalking.

Stalking may seen like something that only happens on television; however, 7.6 million men and women are stalked in the United States each year. This means that 1 in 6 women and 1 in 19 men fall victim to stalking during their lifetime.

The students found out that there is a variety of reasons why society does not take stalking as seriously as it should. One is that pop culture and Hollywood portrays stalking behaviors as desirable or romantic. Kristen Keen, assistant dean of students, who runs the UD Sexual Violence Prevention Education Office, shares with the students that the hit movie

"Twilight" is a perfect example of romanticizing stalking behaviors. In the movie, Edward sneaks into the room of his love interest, Bella, and watches her sleep. Audiences are made to think that this display of interest is attractive and desirable, when "in reality this is an unacceptable stalking behavior," Keen says.

In addition to the romanticizing of stalking behaviors on the big screen, the explosive use of social media among young people is normalizing the way that stalking behaviors are talked about. The phrases "to creep" and "to follow" are often used by college-aged students in reference to regularly reading or viewing someone else's social media accounts. What students may not know, is that in actuality, these phrases carry much heavier weight in relation to stalking.

College students are at an even more increased risk of being stalked due to the close proximity between students, the increased opportunity for interaction and the easy accessibility to attain contact information on college campuses. Although they are the highest at risk, this age group is also the least likely to report stalking.

Like victims of sexual assault and/ or sexual harassment, individuals often do not report stalking because they fear they will be faced with criticism or disbelief upon confession. UD's Title IX/504 coordinator Amy Zavadil hopes that students don't fear this. She shares that stalking is prohibited under University policy and is delighted that students are finally sharing such, "important information with the University community."

Stalking can have harmful consequences, which is why the group communications students believe that it is important to recognize its warning signs. As a community of college students on UD's tight-knit campus, students may feel the obligation to help those they see suffering. Outlined in UD's Commitment to Community (C2C), it needs to be recognized that one individual's well-being is connected to the well-being of others. In addition, President Eric F. Spina stresses an emphasis on the common good, which means UD students must strive to help each other.

The students believe that first step in helping those who are being stalked is to educate students on recognizing when stalking may be taking place. Many behaviors may seem normal to some, but if a person begins to feel uncomfortable or scared, then those actions qualify as stalking behavior and intervention is needed.

In order to educate students, this month the UD Sexual Violence Prevention Education Office, along with the dedicated group of 10 communication students, are aiming to highlight the severity of stalking. They hope to raise awareness of stalking warning signs so that students can identify stalking and help get themselves or their friends out of unhealthy situations.

"Interestingly enough Kristen told us that research shows that once students are taught more about an issue, the frequency of reports jumps," said Jen Straniero, another student of the project. "So, obviously we don't want stalking reports on campus to increase, but if it does in the next year or so, that information could tell us if students learned what we are hoping to present to them." With that said, no stalking reports were filed between 2014 and 2016, according to the 2017 Campus Security and Fire Safety Report.

As another effort to educate UD students on stalking, the students have planned an on-campus event to share this information. On Nov. 15 from 12-3 p.m., the communication students will be at Humanities Plaza handing out information about stalking as well as free nachos. In addition, they have planned an activity called 'Spot the Dot' which will take place Nov. 20 at noon and will give students a chance to learn more about stalking awareness and get some candy. Lastly, specialty napkins with stalking statistics will be dispersed at Flyer Enterprise locations this month as an effort to further educate students.

To learn more about stalking behaviors and how to recognize them, follow PAVE on Twitter @UD_PAVE, Instagram @ ud_pave and like their Facebook page at UD PAVE.

SEEKING WITNESSES

A woman, who is a UD employee, was struck by a car on September 11, 2017 at 1250PM (lunchtime) crossing Irving Street in front of Campus South at Frericks Way. She was helped off the street by two individuals. We are looking for these individuals as well as anyone who witnessed the accident or arrived at the accident shortly after it happened, so they can assist in providing details of where she was struck and found lying on the street. It is very important to resolving this accident.

Please call or text 937-751-6670

The University of Dayton has resources for students who are currently, or previously have been, victims of stalking:

Public Safety: 937-229-2121

Counseling Center: 937-229-3141

Kristen Keen: 937-229-1217 or kkeen1@udayton.edu

Title IX Office: 937-229-3615

ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

- FLYER NEWS | TUESDAY, NOV. 14

Long Island author creates the theme park of your nightmares

CARI ZAHN A&E Editor

"No one's heard of a lightsaber before George Lucas. No one's heard of a monster theme park before Michael Okon."

"Monsterland" started as a part of a slew of self-published books on Amazon that still see great success to this day. Since, Michael Okon was discovered by London international marketing consultancy, MediaBitch, which placed "Monsterland" on the fast track to being published by WordFire Press.

As a part of a two-book deal, "Monsterland" was printed for the world, and it appeals to audiences from age nine to 90. The book's "Harry Potter or Luke Skywalker," as Okon so affectionately refers to his protagonist, is teen Wyatt Baldwin, who embarks on the hero's journey. Wyatt must save his date in an extraordinary theme park where zombies, werewolves and vampires roam. Those interested in a cliche, "boy wants girl" teen novel are in luck.

But those looking for a deeper story shouldn't turn their noses to this novel either. The story is told from a different perspective



Photo courtesy of the official Michael Phillip Cash blog.

each chapter, so readers get a firsthand look into the mind of the monsters themselves. The novel is laced with commentary on our current political climate, embracing themes like consumerism and exhibitionism—in the sense that these sick people, or monsters, are constantly being put on display for others' enjoyment.

Okon's goal was to answer the question: "What makes a monster a monster?"

"Monsterland" is one of six planned novels in the series, and Okon is already deep into the third book, with plans for books four and five in the works. With 15 self-published novels and a closet full of screenplays, there's no doubting whether Okon was meant to be a writer. However, not everyone gets published, nor do they get the chance to have their novel turned into a movie as he has.

"I might be one of the very few self-published authors to get a movie," Okon said.

Still in the works with an unnamed Hollywood producer and two screenwriters that have written scripts for Disney movies, Okon is hoping "Monsterland" makes it with the likes of Andy Weir's "The Martian," Amanda Brown's "Legally Blonde" and Christopher Paolini's "Eragon" as a self-published tale adapted into a major motion picture.

How did all of this success happen upon a Long Island-native working at his family's transportation company? Of course, writing at night while his wife and kids were asleep was a good first step, but Okon has a few more secrets up his sleeve.

Okon recommends picking up the book "Save the Cat" by Blake Snyder, his personal bible, not only for learning to screenwrite, but also for understanding how people want to hear a story. He took the screenplays he wrote in college and began adapting them to novels, creating the set he published on Amazon.

While everyone may not have a collection of screenplays laying around to work from, Okon suggests writing them for any future stories a writer might want to publish.

"When I write a script, I know the story, the arcs, the plotholes," Okon said. "I take that script, and I flesh it out into a novel because the the story is already there. Outlining your work before you write is paramount for writing a

da novel."

That's his secret to completing so many works, but he credits much of his success to the help of his family.

"You must get a team behind you, but you can't run everything yourself," Okon said. "I wouldn't be here if it wasn't for my family promoting my works and making my name."

Okon's success allows him to offer retrospective advice, but he said that in all fairness, the success came as a total surprise. While he would have been happy to get published, it wasn't the end-all-be-all goal. A writer since the age of 15, Okon was simply practicing his favorite craft when this opportunity presented itself. "I just love to write," Okon said.

"I have so many stories to tell."

Readers can look forward to those stories when the novel's sequel releases in the spring of 2018.

Monsterland by Michael Okon was published Oct. 13. It is available wherever books are sold. Readers interested in more of Okon's works can find his self-published books on Amazon under pseudonyms Michael Samuels and Michael Phillip Cash.

Marianist brothers display inspiring art at Gallery St. John

ETHAN SWIERCZEWSKI Sophomore, English/Film Studies

The University of Dayton's identity as a Marianist institution plays a major role in the cultural vibrancy that the school cherishes. Through their spiritual vocations, Marianist brothers have strived to better the lives of both students on campus as well as Dayton residents. And, when it comes to enriching the cultural experience of those around them, the Marianists rise to the occasion, inspiring others through their own talents and passions. There is no better illustration of this inspiration than the Gallery St. John in Beavercreek, Ohio, a treasure trove of original art created by Marianist brothers.

Hidden away at the tree-covered Mount St. John, the gallery is a fifteen-minute drive from downtown Dayton. From oil paintings and watercolors to ceramics and color photography, the art on display is diverse in nature, and the art indicates the passion and personal touch of its creators.

"We have shows," said Rev. Michael Nartker, one of several artists whose work is featured by the gallery. "We take turns. There are five [Marianist brothers] who show their work, but we don't all necessarily show at the same time. One of us will feature for five Sundays, then the next brother shows."

Nartker is the current featured artist of Gallery St. John, displaying his work in oils, watercolors, acrylics, and pastels.



Paul Nyugen/Staff writer.

From illustrations of various outdoor scenes and depictions of architecture to closeups of flowers and sketches of San Francisco's famous "Painted Ladies," Nartker has diversified his work and has explored new ways of creating.

"My instructor has been pushing me on oil, which I've never liked," he said. "But the new water-soluble oils I like, because they give me more control. The detail is easier for me."

This detail is evident in the delicate nature of the flowers his oils depict, as well as in the subtle beauty of the foreign architecture and "Painted Ladies" he so

enjoys.

Brother Joe Barrish, the gallery's coordinator, is the senior artist in rotation for the shows. His artistic expertise and years of experience at the gallery have helped him to create a space where the artwork of the Marianist brothers can really flourish and be appreciated.

"I don't try to press [the artists] on anything," Barrish said. "There's no competition here. We're trying to be as professional as possible. Everything must be presented properly. We're not for profit, and we're not trying to sell stuff, but we're really here as an educational outreach."

Lining a narrow hallway off to the side of the gallery's main showroom are another artist's exquisite creations. Brother John Lemker's color photography complements Nartker's pieces, providing an altogether different but equally inspiring array of artwork.

"Basically, I shoot landscapes and nature things," Lemker said. "I spend a lot of time at a place. [Photography] has taught me a lot of patience, which I do run out of at times. But sometimes the possibilities are so good that I'll just wait and wait and wait."

This patience and attention to detail that Lemker has learned comes through in his photographs. The brilliance of their composition—from subject to angle to lighting—is something to marvel at for moments at a time. Whether the scene is a rushing waterfall in the forests of Michigan, the fleeting solar eclipse or a pile of vibrant leaves in his own backyard, Lemker cherishes every photo opportunity as special in its own right.

"Even a single blade of grass will make a photo altogether different." The Marianist artists are eager to share

their work and passion with everyone they encounter.

"It's a very spiritual kind of experience," Lemker said. "You and I are God's special work, and his DNA is in us. Things too have God's DNA. We're part of [this artwork], and it's part of us." The Marianist mission champions a truly holistic life experience. While academics are important, Gallery St. John and its artists highlight the invaluable nature of creative expression and immersion in the arts. Their personal passion is visible in each and every one of their pieces, and their dedication is inspiring by itself. It is impossible to leave the gallery feeling anything less than enriched with the vibrancy of the Marianist tradition.

The gallery will feature Nartker's work until Nov. 19, Lemker's photography will be showcased in its totality Feb. 14 through March 18, 2018. Barrish's artwork will follow from March 21 to April 29. Admission is free, and university students are welcome and encouraged to visit.



6

ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT - FLYER NEWS | TUESDAY, NOV. 14

PROFILE The Women of **231** Irving



Left-to-Right: Heather Axton, Mary Morimoto, Kyleen Cody, Laylah Funk, Sarah Hannibal. Photo courtesy of Christian Cubacub

HILLARY HUNT Staff Writer

FN: How did you all meet?

Mary Morimoto: Four of us were in an orientation group together and Sarah was my direct roommate freshman year.

Laylah Funk: And Heather and I were roommates freshman year, but I didn't know that either of them was in our orientation group.

Kyleen Kody: All started freshman year.

Sarah Jane: But all of weren't together until last year.

Heather Axton: We're actually all in the same business fraternity, so we reconnected through that. Kylenn Kody: Laylah quit being an RA just to live with us.

FN: What is on your bucket list for next semester?

SJ: Oh, we have a list right here. MM: We'll pick our top three and keep it PG-13.

HA: Your grandma might read Flyer News.

MM: We want to go on a weekend road trip. We're trying to go to New Orleans for Mardi Gras this year. LF: I thought we were going to Canada for Spring Break. MM: We want to go to Blue Beer Day

all together. SJ: Well, we already did this one, and

it was to have really good Halloween costumes. We were the Spice Girls. MM: Then we got the house we were at to play "Wannabe." KK: It was pretty much the peak of

our time here.

FN: Do you have any house traditions?

MM: We're having a friendsgiving soon, the first and last. HA: We try to do roomie nights every once in awhile, or go to the Oregon District.

MM: But none of us have the same schedule—We're kind of a mess. HH: Our tradition usually ends up being everyone sitting around the kitchen table and cramming for tests together.

LK: But it's always fun when we're all home together because it's a rare occasion.

FN: Where do you see yourselves in 10 years?

LK: Sarah will be saving the world

from human destruction. SJ: That's the dream. KK: The coral reefs will be flourishing again.

HA: I don't know. I feel like we all have existential crises about this question everyday.

KK: You really picked a stressful time to ask this question.

HA: I imagine between the five of us that we'll be in at least three countries. MM: I don't disagree.

HA: I'd say we're all pretty ambitious.

FN: What's your most embarrassing moment at UD?

HA: Sarah would always yell at our neighbors for not recycling Then one night she just barged into their house and started yelling at them. LK: Sarah will be that person at a random party and scream over loud music "Do you have a recycling bin?" KK: Just Heather's life in general. SJ: I think we just embrace our embarrassment, so we just forget if we were embarrassed.

FN: What is your favorite part about being a student here?

KK: I feel like we have to say community. I feel like someone will come bursting through the door if we don't. HA: Having so many friends in business school. I mean we're all business majors. It makes being a student more fun because we always have at least one class together or with a friend. And we're able to get to know everyone.

LK: And the fact that we're able to live so close to everyone and our friends is something that's pretty unique to UD. HA: And you always see someone no matter where you're walking. KK: The flattering color scheme. I'm just saying it's better than like orange or brown or something.

FN: What advice would you give to underclassmen?

LK: Get to know people in your orientation group. HA: Even though we all met freshman year, it took us a long time to come together, so if you feels like you haven't found your niche, don't give up. LK: Get involved. If you want to join

LK: Get involved. If you want to joir a club, join it.

MM: Freshman GPA matters. Study. It's not nerdy, it's cool.

HA: The library is a cool place to be. HA: Find a place that works for you to study.

SJ: That isn't your bed.

LK: The little upstairs cafe in Dorothy Lane Market is the place to go. Open 24 hours.

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ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

FLYER NEWS | TUESDAY, NOV. 14

THE ARTIST



There are so many words you could use to describe Jesse Thompson. However, "traditional" is not one of them. A senior pursuing a degree in visual arts, Thompson uses his work to explore his own identity as well as alternative forms of artistic expression.

"I don't really have a concentration," Thompson said. "But I like being a jack-oftrades, so I try to play with all different kinds of mediums."

The one thing that is constantly present in Thompson's work is his desire to eschew the rules of conventionality in both the techniques he uses and the messages he conveys.

"Recently, I've been gravitating more toward digital mediums," Thompson said. "I've been doing a lot of taking traditional formats and then trying to be alternative. That's a big thing for me."

This urge to create something new and different is perhaps best exemplified in Thompson's most recent project where he plans on painting a mask and then incorporating it into a photograph or video. Through this project, Thompson hopes to combine the physicality of traditional fine art with the modern accessibility of a digital medium.

Crediting influences such as Alexander McQueen, it is no surprise that Thompson likes to combine artistic mediums

"My favorite designers are known for taking the runway

1F AI



JESSE THOMPSON

and turning it into a work of art, where the dress becomes sculptural, and you're breaking the boundaries that separate fashion from more traditional forms of art," Thompson said.

McQueen's combination of fashion and fine art is what inspires Thompson the most.

"In the same way that he crossed the boundary of fashion and combined it with fine art, I try to take traditional artistic techniques and mediums and view them through a digital perspective," Thompson said.

Thompson's non-traditional approach to his work might come as a surprise to some considering his background. Growing up in Dayton, Ohio, Thompson was brought up in a white, middle-class environment where the general community applauded traditional expressions of gender and sexual orientation. However, despite Thompson's upbringing, he uses his work to challenge mainstream ideas regarding sexuality and gender.

"I strive to challenge the perspective in which I was raised in my work," Thompson said. "I would also describe my work as something that is very much so based in queer theory and challenging ideas of hypermasculinity."

Despite his cutting-edge approach to art, Thompson strives to make his art accessible to everyone while still telling his own story.

"I try to make my work ambiguous enough to where it has a multitude of interpretations but pointed enough to where I am telling a narrative



Photo courtesy of Jesse Thompson

in relation to myself," Thompson said. "And I really want the audience to understand that this may not be your story, but you have the ability to empathize with a part of the story."

You can find more of Jesse's work on his Instagram: @jesse_j_ thompson, and if you'd like to contact him about commissions, you can email him at thompsonj17@ udayton.edu.

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Photos courtesy of Jesse Thompson
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ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

FLYER NEWS | TUESDAY, NOV. 14

New lecture series brings lo Palmer to campus

ROSE RUCOBA Staff Writer

It is said over and over again how art can change people's lives but rarely does the public get to hear the thought process behind the artwork that is so prevalent in creating that change. Distinguished artist Io Palmer's work has been inspiring change for over twenty years.

Palmer, who has shown her work all over the world, presented her art to UD for the VASE lecture Wednesday in Sears Recital Hall.

Visiting Artist Scholar Educator (VASE) lectures is a new series held by the department of arts education to give UD students a chance to hear from real artists and learn about their work.

Arts education professor R. Darden Bradshaw opened the night and explained the lecture series' mission.

"This lecture series, the VASE lecture series, was proposed as a way to foster a space for University of Dayton students to enartists and scholars," Bradshaw said. Palmer's journey placed her in a position at Washington State University for the past 11

gage with, hear from, and learn from these

years. Her presentation entitled "Working Ideas" gave a history of her work, inspirations and influences. "I titled it this because I would like to talk

to you all about not just my work, but how we sort of wrestle ideas into formation," Palmer explained. Palmer's story began in Hydra, a motorless,

Greek island off the coast of Peloponnese, where she spent the first seven years of her life. She grew up being influenced by her parents, both artists themselves, and by her African and Jewish roots.

One significant memory she recalled in her talk was that her father was the only black man on the island.

"I say that about my father because at a very young age I realized a difference and how often I felt like the 'other'," Palmer said. This feeling of not belonging later bled



Photo courtesy of IoPalmer.com

into her work.

Much of Palmer's art includes hair or synthetic hair, a part of the body that is of major focus in the African culture. Her work includes synthetic hair with hair accessories. hair as portrayed as a mop, and bobby pins used to create sculptures.

"What I was trying to get to was a performative act-that we brush our hair, we pick our hair, we gussy ourselves up for the performance that is our daily lives," Palmer said, explaining her work, "Combs and Hairballs'

Another major element of her work, an element that is underlying in all of her art, is the concept of class structures and labor. Many of Palmer's pieces are arranged on levels, demonstrating the highs and lows of society.She also draws from history and couture-high fashion.

One piece reflects Queen Elizabeth's gown, which, according to Palmer, speaks to the position of power Queen Elizabeth held at the time

Other works of hers carry undertones concerning the environment and sustainability, such as "Silver Ooze," a piece that is made to look like an oil spill cascading down a yellow window frame.

The piece's inspiration comes from the

Gulf oil spill in April 2010.

"I want my work to hurt your eyes just a little bit...I want that sort of surface the gaudy, the tacky. And this piece was that," Palmer said about her piece.

Closing the presentation, she talked about her recent trip to Cuba and her awareness of the gates, walls and boundaries while she was there. She said she plans to incorporate those ideas into her next piece.

"I wanted to close with an unformed idea because I think that that is how I started. Our ideas are not fixed, they are always changing," Palmer said.

At the end of the evening, Palmer offered a few words of advice, given to her by another artist when she was young.

"You just gotta work," Palmer said, "You gotta get in there and do the work."

The VASE lectures are aimed at arts students, but are welcome to all and are free of charge.

New movie review: Murder on the Orient Express

BRETT SLAUGHENHAUPT Movie Columnist

One train. 15 strangers. One murder. One detective. A cast of four Oscar nominees and two winners. And one of the grandest mustaches to ever grace the silver screen. Are you in?

With "Murder on the Orient Express," we are back in the world of Agatha Christie's famed 1934 novel of the same name. Adapted to great acclaim in 1974 with an equally powerful past, Kenneth Branagh ("Hamlet," "Thor"), both directing and acting as lead, is here to put his own twist on the material.

The plot is fairly cut and dry: after a few days on the Orient Express, the strangers on board find themselves on a train derailed by snow in the midst of a murder investigation. Mr. Ratchett (Johnny Depp, essentially playing himself) is stabbed to death in the dark of his room one night. We soon learn (not exactly a spoiler, unless you want to go in knowing nothing) Ratchett is not the art collector he pretends to be, but a famed convict on the run for murdering six-yearold Daisy Armstrong. Now it is up to Hercule Poirot, self-described as "probably the greatest detective in the world," to find out who killed the killer before the train is back on its journey.

Issues with the film lie in the fact that we have seen this type of story play out again and again on the big screens. That is not to say this film isn't enjoyable in its retelling, but it never does hit the strides it may once have when the story was first

published. In recognition of this problem, Branagh brings together a fully capable cast, a gorgeous set on and around the train and some breathtaking cinematography to keep us busy.

The script also has a hard time finding the right tone it wants to set for the film. We have a plethora of stock characters (the owner, the conductor, the detective, the count and countess, the butler, the professor, the widow, the gangster and his assistant, the doctor, the princess and her maid, the governess, the missionary, and the salesman) all together in a tiny room. This should call for great melodrama and big acting. We certainly receive this in key moments, which leads to Glee being able to hear Judi Dench hiss out a Russian accent, or watching Michelle Pfeiffer act in ways her roles the past decade haven't called for.

As the story unfolds throughout the running time, and as we humanize each character a bit. the film begins to stall because it never really knows what it wants us to think of these revelations. Are we to watch and understand the meta-critique of filmmakers who don't allow character growth, or is it truly a social commentary about the injustices of the world. As these two paths diverge, they come crashing back together in a wonderfully biblical confessional scene set on the snowy train tracks. The film may have disappointed earlier, but it succeeds at this moment.

Where tone may not be con-

sistent in the script, it is impeccably delivered through the lens of Haris Zambarloukos (who also worked on Branagh's "Cinderella"). Beautiful, melodramatic visuals keep us interested in what we are looking at, and what we are looking for. Inevitable "whodunit" sequences that would typically come across as cliche – the crime scene, the confession - are dissected through a creative use of visuals and camera angles. The crime scene, in particular, is approached with a panning overhead shot, giving us a clear look into what lies

around the room, but more importantly keeps us away from all the dark nooks and crannies a more "serious" film would want to emphasize. The price of the ticket is worth it for this reason alone.

Other aspects of the film are up to par, as well. Each actor plays to their role perfectly, but Michelle Pfeiffer clearly must receive the most praise. Starting off as the "shrill woman who talks too much," she slowly unravels and undermines aspects of herself until a key scene blows everything else away. It really is great work in a film that doesn't really call for it, otherwise. After her performances in "Mother" and this film, here's to hoping Hollywood begins to recognize the amount of talent both she and her generational peers have after being shafted for so long.

"Murder on the Orient Express" is a capable film that never truly makes the genre its own, nor did it intend to. Instead, we receive ravishing visuals, beautiful acting and a fairly quick and easy mystery to uncover. Come for the performances, stay for the mustache.

A Week In the Life of a College Student



torym "I don't know what to do about the depression and the inflation and the Russians and the crim in the street. All I know is that first you've got to get mad." **fn**editorial -Network (1976) Building Relationships: Tangling our lives together

animals and entities. We share space and time and presence with one another, and, occasionally, we are vulnerable enough to delve deep into our human relationships that we grow together. Our lives often become strange webs that become tangled in each other.

Relationships. With family. With friends. With significant others. With the four paws dog that lives down the hall. With that five-page essay due in two hours. Each relationship brings it's own emotions, dynamics and energies. As we continuously enter into relationship with one another, we begin

We build relationships with people, to learn the complexity of what strong relationships look and feel like. We tango and twirl with our relationships, slowly learning what makes each encounter with other human beings wonderfully original.

Our relationships do not end with human relationships, but they also extend to our interactions with our circumstances, environment and planet. A sheet sign on college park read, "We only have one" with a depiction of earth. We only have one. We have a planet, and we have a relationship with our planet--and, further, all other living things. We are webbed on this

planet. Our lives can never be distinctly severed from others because each choice we make influences more than our own individual selves. We must rely on each other-and that is a beautiful thought.

FN has been intrigued with human relationships, and, further, how they change our worlds, our vocations, our hearts. In this issue, we have "Love, Posey" (our new unconventional advice column), engineers on a quest for how their field and faith intersect, and an artist, Io Palmer, making art for the purpose of asking the tough questions about our world and our place in it.

Our pages our printed with our lives at UD. They are printed with the events, the faces, the stories of our student body.

Therefore, let us take this Thanksgiving break to not only give thanks for the familial relationships we have, but also to reflect on our relationships with all other living creatures and our earth. Let's take these few days off to give some thought on how we are interacting with others. Let's take a look at our relationships. Let's give thanks that we, as a world, have lives that are beautifully, messily tangled.

Antibiotic Awareness Week: **Resist the Resistance!**

ROSE RUCOBA Staff Writer

These days, we take a lot of things for granted-like freedom of speech, the food we eat, electricity, the Internet, and, especially, antibiotics.

In the grand scheme of things, antibiotics are brandnew to us as they have only been around for seventy-five years, since Alexander Fleming discovered the first antibiotic, penicillin, in 1945.

and, these days, antibiotics are being over-used or as a quick fix instead of as a last resort.

Often, doctors are quick to prescribe antibiotics for patients that do not have bacterial infections and patients are not questioning this practice.

What's the harm in taking antibiotics for non-bacterial infections?

The beauty about antibiotics is that they kill harmful bacteria in the body with none to little side effects. Bacteabsolutely necessary and in as chickens, pigs, and cows. small of a dose as possible.

Doctors may overprescribe them because they are so effective or out of convenience or even ignorance.

Patients, however, must be wary of this practice because taking antibiotics for the wrong reasons may mean getting bacterial infections that haven't been seen in society in years, but this time, they are antibiotic-resistant, making them more dangerous and deadly.

They are used because they cause an extreme, and unnat-

ural, growth in animals and because they allow farmers to keep the animals in horrid conditions without worrying about them getting sick.

What is more, this issue of use of antibiotics on animals comes back around to us humans.

The antibiotics that the animals eat do not just disappear once they are killed, but reics on a regular basis.

They heighten the risk of resistant bacteria in our bodies and make us all more prone to bacterial diseases that have been extinguished for some time.

So how can we stop this epidemic and why aren't more people doing something about it?

UD is taking a big step in prevention during World Antibi-otic Awareness Week (WAAW), which takes place November 13-17.

During that week, there will be a variety of activities for students to participate in and a panel discussing antibiotic-resistant bacteria on November 16 from 7-8:15pm.

For those who are unable to participate in WAAW or are looking for other ways to help, it is always good to be aware of where your meat comes from and what goes in it, and to always ask your doctor if you are unsure about an antibiotic prescription.

Resistant bacteria are a real threat, but we at UD can be the real solution. Join the fight antibiotic-resistant against bacteria and resist the resistance!

"The trick to their ability to cure, however, is that they are only used in small doeses when absolutely necessary. And these days, antibiotics are being over-used as a quick fix instead of a last resort "

Yet they are as precious as fossil fuels in terms of their benefit to society, and we, like in the case of fossil fuels, are abusing their power.

Antibiotics have been used to treat some of history's most devastating diseases from cholera to pneumonia to the Bubonic plague.

The trick to their ability to cure, however, is that that they are only used in small doses when absolutely necessary, ria cells, however, can mutate at anytime due to their DNA, leading them to mutate into an antibiotic-resistant form of bacteria.

That being said, if a person stops using antibiotics too soon, they do not eradicate all of the bacteria, allowing leftover mutant bacteria to become resistant bacteria.

Due to this frightening situation, it is strongly advised that antibiotics only be used when

If this issue isn't maddening enough, though, antibiotics are not only being overused on humans, but on animals, as well.

According to an article by sustainabletable.org, the FDA reported this year that only 20% of antibiotics were being prescribed to humans. That means the other 80% were being fed to animals.

Antibiotics are dumped by the pound into the food of animals raised for meat, such as main in their bodies and are in the meat they are killed for.

The antibiotics also find their way into the environment through urine that runs into bodies of water or ground water, and in the animals' waste that is then turned into fertilizer and finds its way into crops and plants.

We then consume the water, meat, or plants with antibiotics in it, which is a problem because we do not need antibiot-

Dear Posey,

I need some advice. And, since no one else seems to be able to help, I figured I would try this.

While I know I am at UD for school, I am having a hard time balancing my school work with my social life. I love the math and sciences, so I don't have a problem with homework from those classes. But I would rather suffer through 1,000 paper cuts from my overpriced textbooks than sit through my English and philosophy classes.

For the most part, I drag myself to those classes (because my professors take attendance), but I cannot stand doing the homework. When I do

motivate myself and read the articles I have to for class, I feel like the words go right over my head. I am so frustrated and I don't know how I am going to get through this semester.

In my philosophy class, all of the exams are essays and how am I supposed to write about something I do not understand? I guess my brain just doesn't work that way. Any suggestions on how to survive my classes? I would rather do literally anything else then my homework. I don't have the time to spend on reading this stuff a million times.

Does using my textbook as a pillow help me understand it more? So far, the results are inconclusive.

Thanks,



Thanks for dropping a line,

Your comments and concerns certainly do not go unshared. Once upon what feels like another life, many moons of many semesters past, I (somewhat begrudgingly) took MTH 205 for a major I am no longer pursuing.



The course focused on reconceptualizing simple math for the Common Core standards. Ultimately, this meant that I spent a fair amount of time thinking about what it means to add 3 to 7. I learned that for some people, it means just that. I also learned that for some, it means borrowing 2 from 7 to create a friendlier equation of 5 plus 5.

And when it comes down to it, I think that's the important thing. Arriving at that 10, arriving at new knowledge, is a radically creative act. It's a process and it's practice and it's a pilgrimage.

We-all of us-are on an odyssey for whatever wisdom comes from learning. I think the thing to do is honor that fact. Radical acts of creativity are not limited to the humanities building or Fitz Hall, they happen every day in Kettering Labs and the Science Center and in dorms and houses throughout campus and far past the archways into the city of Dayton and beyond. Let this become your mantra.

Know that you are a part of a body of knowledge and knowledge-making-a body that is growing, moving, and expanding. Your passion for math and science will carry and sustain you and stretch your mind far past its initial elasticity.

It you would, try letting English and philosophy do the same. English is basically the study of stories and how and why we tell them, and when you break it down etymologically, philosophy is just (and all) the "love of wisdom." At the soul of their cores, they are both about a chance to grapple with what it means to be human and how we can come to be human together. They enable the flourishing of mathematical and scientific advancements to have meaning in the lived experiences of people all over the world. In this way, they are not entirely separate. They work in tandem in the business of making meaning matter.

Onto solutions for this semester. Number one, keep up what you are already doing- keep reading! Try not to get discouraged. When you get frustrated, remember what it is that you are doing when you are reading. Your mind is processing an orchestral symphony of 26 shapes that someone else strung together and somehow you are able to understand! How thoroughly neat and weird and wonderful that is. What a gift that is. And then, you get to respond and analyze in your own words and regenerate the whole process. Pretty heart-stoppingly/mind-blowingly cool, if you ask me.

Tips for actually getting through the reading: non-fluorescently-lit spots, silence to suit your fancy, and/or the abundance of resources on campus (think the LTC or Write Place). Try talking about your readings with a buddy as if they weren't assignments for a course. Find ways they connect with you or your major or something that interests you. Ask questions out loud and highlight and underline what intrigues you. You'll thank vourself in class.

And when it feels like you can't read a single more word, come up for air. Take a dance break. Go see the sunshine or the leaves fall. Watch an inspirational YouTube video (Shia LaBeouf's "Just Do It" and David Foster Wallace's "This Is Water" are particular favorites of my own). Find what works for you and use it.

Next semester, try and see if there are any classes that go beyond filling a requirement and knock on the door of opportunity. The course catalog is vast and rich. There are chances to explore hiphop and philosophy or detective fiction or your own creative writing. My best advice is to take a plunge and see what you can find. I'm willing to bet that whatever it is, it will be good.

Here's to giving the poets and philosophers and tellers-of-stories a fighting chance. Wishing the best of osmosis and none of the papercuts you.



OPINIONS

FLYER NEWS | TUESDAY, NOV. 14 I'm Not Celebrating

Manafort, Gates: What else is to come?

PETER KOLB Opinions Editor

Some days you wake up and just know you're in store for a rough day. It's October 30th, 40 degrees out even the sky seems like it's crying.

Since last Friday, October 27th, we knew Special Counsel Robert Meuller's investigation was to deliver its first blow at the start of this week. Speculations abound; would it be the worse American. Gates has assisted Manafort in working with a Russia-friendly campaign amidst the ongoing crisis in Ukraine. As I write this article I refresh and see one of Trump's preliminary foreign advisors, George Papadopoulos, has pleaded guilty to the FBI for falsifying statements regarding his correspondence with Russian officials. These are awful, evil men, that do not have American interests at heart. They will reason not to trust their elected officials and to believe the worst arguments that people made about government. Americans could never look at government the same way again."

It's tough. It's been over 40 years; the teenagers which lived through Watergate—teenagers that had their view of America and its highest leaders uprooted entirely—are now 55 or older.

However the passion for change will forever lay in the spirit of youth. We

So what then? Trump rides out his presidency, he continues to tweet like a seventh grade girl suffering her first break up, his supporters continue to gobble it up, and the rest of us continue to watch with mouths agape as our country grows further and further apart.

Or maybe it's all true. Maybe Mueller's hammer continues to drop, and our president is impeached for treason against our country. Then what happens? We find out we've been lied, scammed, and played with by the very people we've elected to keep us safe; abolishing any faith in our country that may still be left.

America is more than divided, we are warming up for an ideological civil war; one that I simply cannot imagine being completely resolved in my lifetime.

So good. Get Manafort, get Papadopoulos. Let them rot between cement walls and feel the aching helplessness millions of Americans feel every day.

I hope one day they know what it's like to not have power. I hope Donald Trump gets a jail cell so small his ego can't fit in.

But goodness gracious more than anything I hope we find out what the hell is going on in this country.

Because we are not OK, we are not good. This is not a healthy, function-

"America is more than divided. We are warming up for an ideological civil war"

bigoted, unintelligent self-proclaimed sexual assaulter.

(and let me make it clear, no matter what Mueller finds, Trump is the biggest embarrassment to set up shop in the Oval Office.) ing society, and you're absolutely kidding yourself if you think otherwise.

So raise a glass to Mueller and the good work he's done so far, but do not celebrate. This is far from over, we have a ways to go.

"Can we attempt to grapple with what may be happening to our country? This may be a curtain drop America is not ready for, and I'm pretty terrified."

start of an avalanche? A low-level Trump campaign employee? Could it be a personal associate of President Donald Trump? Or would Meuller even go straight for the big fish?

A 31 page indictment. Twelve counts including: conspiracy against the United States, false statements to the FBI and conspiracy to launder money as foreign agents. Those indicted: Paul Manafort, Trump's ex-campaign chairmen, along with Rick Gates, Manafort's longtime business associate.

Whoo. Hoo. We got 'em.

I hear whimpers of excitement reveling in the calm before the inevitable storm. I hear shouts of victory, with well-deserved, ironic chants of "LOCK HIM UP." I hear we think we're starting to finally "drain the swamp."

I'm just starting to think we never will.

I get it, the bad guys are on their way out. Manafort is a thoroughly disgusting human, and an even receive justice, many more to come as well. Good, bring justice.

But can we attempt to grapple with what may be happening to our country? This may be a curtain drop America is not ready for, and I'm pretty terrified.

I wasn't around for Watergate, at least not when it happened. But the effects of former President Nixon's scandal continue to reverberate not just through the landscape of American politics, but American culture altogether.

The staff of U.S. News published an article just a few weeks after Nixon's resignation, sifting through the effect Watergate may have on the future of America. They opened with: "The impact is deep and will be enduring. It will be a long time, if ever, before politics in the United States is the same again."

Correct. 40 years later, CNN's Julian Zelizer writes in an op-ed, "The scandal continues to reverberate today throughout the political spectrum. We still live in the era of Watergate... Each revelation gave voters another are the ones who are most angry, the most passionate, the most vocal about the state and status of ourselves and our country.

But I just don't think we're ready for what's about to come. This could be much more than Watergate, this could be much more than anything to ever happen in American history in terms of high-level corruption.

This could end in a lot of ways. Maybe we're all wrong. Maybe Trump and his administration are free of all treasonous crimes. Maybe he's not America's greatest traitor; instead simply just an entitled, homophobic,

MAJOR LEAGUE BASEBALL Cubs fan celebrates Astros' World Series title



BRENDAN ZDUNEK Staff Writer

As a die-hard Cubs fan, I rooted for the Astros to win the World Series.

It really all started when I saw a clip from a show on the MLB Network back in 2014. The commentators had come to a topic that did not have much relevance at that time, the curse started and how but it seemed interesting nonetheless. The question proposed was: "When will the Cubs and the Astros be back in playoffs?"

Just the next year, in 2015, both teams had made surprise runs and made it to the postseason as Wild-Card teams, but would eventually be both eliminated (Astros in the ALDS and the Cubs in the NLCS). In 2016, with high expectations on them, the Cubs pulled the miracle of miracles and won their first World Series in 108 years.

Then, in 2017, it was the Astros' turn. They stormed out of the gate at the beginning of the season and eventually out-muscled every other team in the postseason to claim their first World Series championship in the franchise's 56-year history. So, yes, that is when two teams who had largely been Houston went into a decline laughingstocks in the MLB for decades had finally made themselves relevant again, but it is also when I became remember thinking when I a fan of the Astros.

Living in the Chicago suburban area, I was raised as a Cubs fan.With everything that the Billy Goat Curse had to offer, I became so a lot of terrible seasons desperate to see them finally win it all and end the misery that had built up over the years. I remember hearing the old stories about how



the Cubs were just outright terrible. I lived through the Bartman game, the consecutive sweeps in the NLDS in 2007 and 2008, the "Dark Ages" as Theo Epstein began to rebuild the team yet again, and, eventually, our rise back to prominence.

In the meantime, our NL Central Division rivals, the Astros, had suffered some misery as well. Since being founded in 1962, the team had made the playoffs a couple of times and had one of the greatest pitchers ever in Nolan Ryan, but those seasons never produced a league pennant.

Eventually, the Cubs earned a trip to the World Series in 2005, but they were completely dominated and swept by the team on the other side of Chicago, the White Sox. After that, and was so bad that their more popular nickname became the "Lastros." I even was a kid that, "Hey, the Cubs are bad-but at least they're better than the Astros."

Fans of both teams have suffered a lot of misery and throughout the years. So, on one level, I do empathize with Astros fans from that standpoint. But, now, my affinity for the Astros goes beyond that. In 2013, the Astros moved to the American League, and, around that same time, both teams started to rebuild in same way. They up the farm system with excellent prospects via draft picks and trades.

As the rebuilds occurred. two stars broke out for them: Anthony Rizzo for the Cubs and José Altuve for the Astros, arousing the very question the MLB Network commentators had discussed on the show I talked about before. In 2015, Carlos Correa was called up to Houston, as were Kris Bryant and Addison Russell to Chicago. Within 3 years, both teams made it back to the playoffs and won their own respective and longawaited titles. So, on another level, the Astros' journey to a championship is extremely similar to the Cubs' journey, almost as if the former division foes have been connected for a long time.

Who could have imagined what would happen after those commentators asked that question three years ago? Well, no one really could have. So much history was rewritten, or 'earned' as the Astros like to call it, in that short span of time. History was against the Cubs, and it was too against the Astros. Many people thought the Cubs would choke as usual

and that the Dodgers would roll over the Astros, who had never had much postseason success. Essentially, not many people believed in either team outside their own fans. But I always believed in the 2016 Cubs, and this

entire year I believed that Astros would win it too. So, I rooted for the Houston Astros because now, after years of being at the bottom of the league, they may both rule the MLB for many years to come.

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SPORTS FLYER NEWS | TUESDAY, NOV. 14 —

MEN'S BASKETBALL Trey Landers rises to leader for Flyer basketball

MICHAEL CROUCHLEY Staff Writer

Entering the 2017-2018 season, UD's men's basketball team is almost unrecognizable from the core that left the floor of the NCAA Tournament in March. After losing four players with significant minutes, the on-court leadership will have to fall into the hands of the few veteran Flyers. Trey Landers, who is beginning his sophomore season, has quickly risen from apprentice to master among Dayton's ranks, and has embraced his newfound leadership role.

Landers is certainly well-equipped to take on the added responsibility as he spent a large portion of the offseason working on getting into better shape.

"I've always been in decent shape, but I feel like this year I really had to work on my eating habits," Landers commented. "I know I'm getting stronger in the weight room, but as far as it transfering on the court I don't see myself getting tired as much. I'm able to get up and down

better and help my team to my best ability."

As important as his physical transformation was, Landers claims the mental aspect of the game is where he's seen the most refinement.

"Obviously I didn't play as much last year, but [I gained] that experience. I've obviously worked on my body and everything, but the biggest thing would be my mental thought and everything."

The Flyers are hoping that Landers' all around improvement will lead to production on the court. "Trey's done a great job. He looks

like a guy that's been here before," said head coach Anthony Grant.

In addition to his changing role on the court, Landers will look to use his experience to succeed in a new role off the court.

"It's different for me, now I have to be a leader for all these guys," Landers said. "Now I'm having to be like the big brother, and I was just the little brother last year. So it's different for me, but I feel like I'm taking on the role pretty well." Mentorship, as it turns out, is a two-way street. Dayton's freshman class this season features four players 6 feet 7 or above--an abundance the 6 foot 5 Landers and other Flyer veterans have not seen on their own team in recent seasons.

"It's a lot more size with Kostas [Antetokounmpo], you got [Obadiah Toppin]," Landers said. "It's a lot different from last year... with me being in here and having to go up against the 6'8", 6'9" guys is different."

After averaging just 5.8 minutes in nine games played last year, Landers started and played 15 minutes in the Flyers' exhibition game on Saturday against Ohio Dominican. He shot well from the field, making three of five field goal attempts, and dished a precise lob to redshirt freshman Kostas Antetokounmpo for an emphatic alley-oop slam.

Landers tallied eight points in Dayton's opener against Ball State. The Flyers return home Nov. 25 to take on Akron.



Trey Landers has embraced his leadership role thus far for the Flyers, and has started both the exhibition game and regular season opener. Photo by Christian Cubacub/Multimedia Editor

UD volleyball on collision course with VCU for A-10

STEVE MILLER Sports Editor

With a hard-fought regular season in the rear view mirror, Dayton volleyball is preparing for the Atlantic 10 Tournament, which they have won in each of the previous three seasons. The Flyers finished off their regular season slate with two sweeps in the national capital region this weekend, over George Washington and George Mason, to finish with a record of 13-1 in conference and 22-7 overall.

Dayton's only blemish in the A-10 was a 3-2 loss to Virginia Commonwealth Oct. 29. That match was also their first conference loss since October of 2014, snapping a streak of 51 consecutive conference victories. Coincidentally, the 2014 loss was to George Washington, whom the Flyers ended up defeating in the conference championship match later that year.

This year, the Flyers enter the tournament as the second seed, marking the first time since 2013 they failed to earn the top spot. VCU has the first seed.

The A-10 Tournament will be held Friday through Sunday at the Palumbo Center in Pittsburgh.

"I think we have a pretty good idea

of what each team does and how they play and the things we need to do to be successful," said Head Coach Tim Horsmon, previewing the weekend. "I think with this program, outwardly, the expectations are always for us to go to the NCAA Tournament and have a shot to win our league and win that tournament in the end of the year. Inwardly, I think for us, it's just playing as well as we can play, have a really good weekend, and have a really good process."

As the No. 2 seed, Dayton receives a first-round bye and will take on the winner of Saint Louis and George Washington. Should they win, they would most likely face top seed VCU in the championship on Sunday.

"If we're going to play them, I guess it depends on who we're gonna play in the second round," Horsmon said. "But if we were to face up with them again I think we learned a lot from our first match and we will be prepared for their system and what that looks like to beat them."

Amber Erhahon, a senior middle blocker who has tallied over 300 kills this season, elaborated on the team's energy for the upcoming competition.

"I think this season in the A-10 has

kind of been a dogfight with almost every team this year because every team brings something different to the table," she said. "But definitely with VCU, it's been a dogfight with us and them. So I think that we just have to be ready to play. I think that they're a very good team and they have a lot of good assets, and we do too. And it's almost like playing ourselves. So I think that we just have to be ready to play and ready to fight."

"I hate to dumb this down, but we obviously just need to play a little bit better, a little bit more composed," said Horsmon of the keys to victory in potential a rematch with the Rams. "We lost in five at their place."

"Individually, I think there are some players that are going to play much better this weekend and I think as a group we're going to do some things differently," he said. "I know from a coaching standpoint, that wasn't our best match and we're going to do a much better job of preparing them."

Dayton's second-round matchup will be Saturday afternoon at 4:30 p.m. The A-10 Championship will be held Sunday afternoon at 1 p.m.



Senior Jane Emmenecker (left), who leads the squad with 796 sets, speaking with junior Margo Wolf (right), who leads the team with 485 digs. Photo Credit: Vignesh Krishnaraja/Staff Photographer

SPORTS FLYER NEWS | TUESDAY, NOV. 14

WOMEN'S BASKETBALL Flyers roll to Maine Tip-Off Crown



STEVE MILLER Sports Editor

After last season's opening game, when Dayton women's basketball fell to Quinnipiac, head coach Shauna Green and the team were searching for answers. They found some, and fast. A conference title and trip to the NCAA Tournament later, the Flyers have hit the ground running in the new season. Dayton won the Maine Tip-Off Tournament this weekend, defeating Harvard and Tulane on back-to-back days for a 2-0 start, and are taking home hardware before they even tip off at UD Arena.

"We had two really tough games, I think both teams



Senior point guard Jenna Burdette is looking to lead her team to their third NCAA Tournament appearance in her four seasons on the team. Shauna Green was an assistant coach in Burdette's freshman year. Photo by Steve Miller/Sports Editor

competed really well," said senior point guard Jenna Burdette of the competition. "Both games were a game of runs, and we just kept answering. That's just what we need to keep doing is when one team makes a run we just fight right back, and I think we did a really good job of that today."

The Flyers defeated Harvard on Friday night, 72-66, in their season opener. The Crimson were coming off a 2016-17 year that they finished 21-9 and ranked No. 49 nationally in the Rating Percentage Index (RPI). Senior guard JaVonna Layfield had a career night, leading the Flyers with 20 points and 22 rebounds. Both figures were career highs for Layfield, and her 22 rebounds are tied for second all-time for a single game for a Dayton Flyer.

On Saturday, UD came out hot against Tulane in the first quarter, but fell bitterly cold in the second. After finding themselves down at halftime 39-30, the Flyers stormed back in the second half to defeat the Green Wave 71-65. Five Flyers scored in double digits in the game, led by sophomore guard Jayla Scaife's 19, exhibiting the breadth of Dayton's offense.

Before the poor second quarter against Tulane, UD's offense was picturesque in Green's mind.

"I thought we started really well the first quarter," said Green of her team outscoring Tulane 18-11 in the opening 10 minutes. "That's something we've been talking about really since the exhibition game is getting a really good start and coming out and being the attacker, and us dictating what they do."

Fast offense has been the

hallmark of this program as long as the current seniors can remember.

"We're always going to play fast," Green said after the team's exhibition game against Findlay Nov. 4. "We want to try to score in six seconds or less. If we're open, I'm telling them to shoot it

"I just feel like we have a lot of confidence in our shots and our coaches have a lot of confidence in us," said Burdette of the attacking pace. "So no one feels backwards about taking anything. And I think that's good for gaining confidence also."

Burdette and Layfield, the two seniors who have been at UD for each of their four years, are looking to use each day as a learning experience to try to get recapture the postseason success they experienced in their freshman season.

"If we have good competition throughout the non-conference, then it makes us better, and makes our conference hopefully easier," Burdette said. "So right now we're just taking it a day at a time and hopefully better ourselves for the tournament."

While their Elite Eight run in 2015 and loss to Tennessee in March last season are solid cornerstones on which to build a potential run this year, the Flyers are also receiving help from their bench where two transfers are honing the team into a championship mentality.

Araion Bradshaw and Julia Chandler, transfers from South Carolina and Syracuse, respectively, each reached the National Championship once in the previous two seasons. Per NCAA rules, they're both sitting out this season, but are motivating the players on the court to climb to that same peak.

"There was like 'win an A-10 Championship,' that's the goal," said Chandler describing the mental feeling that previously existed at UD. "Well [at] Syracuse, our goal was to win a National Championship, so now people are starting to realize that's the goal, to win a national championship."

Chandler's and Bradshaw's offcourt leadership is valuable to the team, but any material success needs to be executed between the lines. That's where Green was most impressed this weekend.

"I'm just really proud of the seniors that stepped up and made plays," she said. "Jenna made a huge play, [JaVonna] came in and made huge plays down the stretch, Alex [Harris] got huge offensive rebounds. That's what seniors do and I'm proud of them."

As Green has preached since her first day as head coach last year, reaching any lofty goal is a process. And that process starts with finding yourself. While it's just the start, their two wins to begin the season helped Dayton do just that.

"We developed an identity this weekend. This new team, this new journey. We developed an identity, and I really like what it is," Green said. "I'm really proud of their resiliency, I'm proud of how they came back and they stuck together."

The Flyers open up their home schedule this weekend with games against Morgan State (Friday, 7 p.m.) and the University of Virginia (Sunday, 2 p.m.).

SPORTS FLYER NEWS | TUESDAY, NOV. 14 –

MEN'S BASKETBALL Cunningham's shot gives Flyers first victory

MICHAEL CROUCHLEY Staff Writer

In a season highlighted by so much change, it was a familiar face that stole the night when forward Josh Cunningham rose up and hit a hook shot with less than a second left to give the Flyers a 78-77 win over Ball State in the first game of the season. Cunningham finished with 22

points but none more important than his last two.

After Dayton relinquished their lead with 2.6 seconds remaining, Xeyrius Williams lobbed an inbound halfway across the court to Cunningham, who split two defenders and laid in the winner. The jumper fell as the buzzer sounded to send UD Arena into an uproar.

"It was a great pass from X. It was an amazing pass, it was right on the key," Cunningham commented after the game. "As soon as I turned around, I was like 'Alright, I do this all the time,' and then just go ahead and try to put the ball in the basket."

It's especially fitting that Cunningham, one of the team's captains, got the basket after missing a majority of last season with an injury to his left leg. Senior guard Darrell Davis said, "It means a lot to me, the team, the organization, the fans, everybody. We know what Josh has been through he faced so much adversity, and he was able to conquer."



Junior forward Josh Cunninham led UD with 22 points and seven rebounds in his 33 minutes of action on Friday night. He hopes to play his first full season after a leg injury sidelined him much of last year. Photo by Griffin Quinn/Staff Photographer

The season opening win for the Flyers was a sentimental victory as well. There was much anticipation for Head Coach Anthony Grant's first game with a rather inexperienced

roster.

Out of the gate, the Flyers' defense was stifling as it took Ball State a whole six minutes to get their first basket while UD jumped out to an early 14-0 lead.

"We played hard," said Grant about the run. "We weren't necessarily guarding the way we talk about needing to guard. But guys made the extra effort, played really hard, and came up with some big defensive plays."

The early run was highlighted by a huge block from sophomore guard Trey Landers, and two three pointers by Williams.

The rest of the first half saw Ball State inch their way back into the game on the back of their three-point barrage. At the half, they were fivefor-16 from beyond the arc, and had cut Dayton's lead to just three, 36-33.

Ball State's hot shooting continued into the second half as they were able to pull ahead by 7 points early on. Darrell Davis made a huge statement to get the Flyers back ahead scoring eight straight points, including a three-point shot from the corner that sent the crowd into a frenzy.

"I was feeling it a little bit. Coach Grant said to be patient with the offense and it would come to me," Davis said after the game.

The rest of the second half was back and forth. The Flyers were able to pull ahead by seven with two and a half minutes to play, but Ball State went on a run and closed the deficit to one point. And with three seconds on the clock, Ball State's Taylor Persons made a layup to put the Cardinals ahead 77-76. Persons gave the Flyers trouble all night and Grant took notice of that. "He's really, really good. A big body, he's one of those guys that makes everyone on the floor better," Grant said.

But luckily for the Flyers, Williams' and Cunningham's heroics salvaged the effort.

Some of the Flyer freshmen were able to make an impact in the game as well. Guard Jalen Crutcher played 26 minutes contributing six points and five rebounds. Redshirt freshman forward Kostas Antetokounmpo made his long-awaited debut as well. While his minutes were limited due to foul trouble, he made a big threepoint shot to swing momentum the Flyers' way in the second half.

"We have a lot to learn, but I'm glad we get to learn through winning," Grant said in a huff of relief after his first official game.

Although the thrilling finish was only made possible by some cold stretches on the part of the Flyers, the electric atmosphere brought back warm memories for Grant, who played on the same court during his college days.

"To hear the building explode the way it did at the end, I cherish every moment of it," Grant said.

The Flyers continue their season on Nov. 16 against Hofstra in the Gildan Charleston Classic.



UD Arena went into a frenzy a la overzealous teenagers mixed with demonically low discounts on Black Friday when Cunningham hit his game winning shot in Dayton's season opener. Photo Joe Miller/Staff Photographer



Senior Darrell Davis tallied 16 points against Ball State, and with 37 minutes, played more than any other Flyer. Photo by Joe Miller/Staff Photographer

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