

The Oak Leaves

Manchester College Issue X - December 3, 2010

MC Hosts First Quidditch Tournament

Katie Majka
Staff Writer

The excitement was palpable as eager fans and curious spectators gathered on the steps outside of Funderburg Library, which looked out onto the mall where the teams congregated on the edge of the field, solid blocks of red, blue, yellow and green. Various audience members mirrored these colors to demonstrate their support for their respective team, talking among themselves animatedly as Manchester College prepared for its first Quidditch match.

Those familiar with the Harry Potter series – and even those who weren't – were eager to watch the various Manchester clubs participate in the tournament, with the Pre-Professionals of Science (PPS) representing Gryffindor, Psychology Society (PS) as Ravenclaw, Student Education Association (SEA) playing Hufflepuff, and the Accounting & Business Club (ABC) acting as the Slytherin team.

Like in any of J.K. Rowling's descriptions of her Quidditch games, the tension occurred off the field as well as on, before and during the match. Upon discovering that her fellow classmate Nikki Glassley would be playing on the Hufflepuff team, Ravenclaw Katherine Pea laughed and said: "Ha! You're in Hufflepuff – you're average!"

As a devout Harry Potter fan, however, Glassley caught the joke and agreed to Pea's comment.

The competition on the field began with Gryffindor versus Ravenclaw, the former's Seeker capturing the Snitch (played by first-year Jon Caffarelli) and a quick victory within five minutes of the opening whistle blow. "Gryffindor catches the Snitch!" announced senior Cambria Teter, who was acting as commentator. "Game over!"

Ecstatic with their first win, Gryffindor player Erin Cole said: "We'd like to thank our first Seeker Jesse Steffans for catching the Snitch and kicking butt."

The second match consisted of Hufflepuff and Slytherin, during which SEA president and Quidditch captain Emily Katona exclaimed frantically: "Hufflepuff is having a heart attack – we're going to die!" And with a Slytherin victory, it seemed as though her prediction came true to some extent.

Slytherin player Michael Stocker said of the victory: "Win one for the Dark Lord!" His comment was met with resounding cheers from his teammates.

Glassley was breathing heavily after the unexpected intensity of her first match. "That would be so much harder if you were



FLY FOR THE WIN Senior Kassie Seidenstucker, Gryffindor, and first-year Derek Jones, Ravenclaw, chase after a dodge ball that stands in as a quaffle from J. K. Rowling's fictitious sport of Quidditch. The first tournament on Manchester College centered around the four Harry Potter houses, Gryffindor, Ravenclaw, Hufflepuff and Slytherin, each represented by a different organizations on campus. Ravenclaw, better known as the Psychology Society on campus, came through as the overall winners.

Photo by Stephanie Barras

actually flying," she said.

It was the third game of the day, however, that had everyone talking even when the tournament had ended. The players were Hufflepuff and Ravenclaw, and Quidditch fever had taken over the mall more fervently than ever before.

Seemingly channeling the spirit of Rowling's first Gryffindor Quidditch captain Oliver Wood with a direct quote from the series. "This is no time to be a gentleman! Knock her off her broom if you have to!" Glassley shouted at teammate Jason Eakins. Meanwhile, the spectators were also commenting excitedly about the game.

"I like it," first-year Brittany Riddle said with a smile and a clap of her hands. "I don't know what's going on, but I like it!"

A frantic Teter agreed with this statement. "It's hard, there's so much going on," she said. "I keep saying 'ball' instead of 'Quaffle'."

But in like any Quidditch match, the spectators were soon distracted by the Snitch-less field; to add even more intensity to the games, the Snitch

was allowed to venture anywhere on campus in its quest to evade capture. "Where's the Snitch?" was echoed amongst the audience and teams alike as players were growing exhausted and substitutes were trailing on and off the field.

Katona was anting heavily as she came off the field. "Off the record, we're going to find the Snitch and tie him up," she said. "This is what happens when Hufflepuffs get desperate!"

Others, however, seemed to enjoy the Snitch's delayed reappearance. "Our Snitch is currently missing in action," said fan Brittany Kurtz with a grin, "but this is still quite enjoyable."

Eventually the match was called to a halt, with Ravenclaw in the lead; shortly afterwards, Hufflepuff Seeker Curtis Nordmann returned with the Snitch, who had been lurking behind the Science Center during his absence. However, in what some called a controversial call, referee Jason Ray declared that Ravenclaw remained the winners, an announcement that was met with jeers from the Hufflepuff

team and their supporters.

"The Snitch didn't return with the 20-minute mark," Ray explained. "They caught it about a minute and a half after the game was over."

"We rock," Ravenclaw Ashley Vance said of the win, while her yellow-clad opponents continued to protest the decision, shouting, "Ten points to Hufflepuff! Twelve points from Ravenclaw!"

"You get really into it," said Vance's teammate Katy McFadden as Hufflepuffs continued to rage at the referee, who waved merrily at them in response to the various Harry Potter-related curses that were bellowed in his direction.

"Hufflepuff was robbed of a great victory today," Glassley said. "But we still have Hufflepride!"

Eakins agreed with this comment. "We were an excellent team who just happened to get ripped off," he said.

Spectators and players alike continued to buzz about the end of the third match when the fourth and final – Gryffindor versus Slytherin – took the field, Gryffindor pulling off another win and earning

first place in the tournament.

Student Casie Zumbrun was among those who hoped for further tournaments, but perhaps with a slight variation. "Next time, they should play on Segways instead," she joked.

The audience disbanded, pleased with the overall tournament and the unexpected but entertaining controversy that had ensued, many voicing the popular wish that Manches-

ter would organize future Quidditch matches. There was no question among them that it had been a success, and Harry Potter fans were ecstatic at the similarities that had been found between their own Quidditch tournament and those that Rowling had imagined when inventing the sport and creating all the excitement that followed fourteen players on broomsticks.

*In Remembrance of
Dr. Marcia Benjamin*

*All memorial gifts in
her honor are asked to
be directed to
Manchester College.*

Inside: Harry Potter Review - MSO Concert

Around Campus

Harry Potter Mania Draws Many to Premiere

Briana Bass and
Kelsey Collins
Co-editor and Staff Writer

The end begins for Harry Potter.

But before everyone's favorite boy wizard hangs up his Invisibility Cloak, fans will be treated to two final movies. The long-anticipated seventh Harry Potter film, part one, has arrived. "Harry Potter and the Deathly Hallows: Part One" opened everywhere on Nov. 19, 2010, with midnight showings at 3700 theatres across the country.

RHA took a bus with 51 Manchester students to the Rave in Fort Wayne, where they met up with approximately 20 other Spartans. In addition to the bus trip, RHA also sold "HP meets MC" t-shirts to encourage Spartan pride at the movie.

Many fans were dressed up in their wizard apparel or as their favorite characters; there was even Hagrid and a Snitch! Sophomore Ashley Noll, dressed as a Hufflepuff student, attended the midnight showing with a group of friends. "It was interesting to see everyone dressed in costumes for the characters," said senior Phylicia Kelly. "I

have never seen that at the movies before!"

First-year Lexi Salcedo also dressed up as a Hogwarts student, but from the Ravenclaw house. "I loved the movie!" Salcedo said. "The portrayal of the book was exceptional!"

First-year Brittany Ross went dressed as Order of the Phoenix member Nymphadora Tonks. Ross even had the purple hair to boot!

During the four-hour wait until midnight, RHA sponsored a variety of activities, including Harry Potter-themed charades, a Harry Potter rap contest, and a costume contest. First-year Jeremiah Sanders won the rap contest and walked away with a movie poster, candy and a gift card. While prizes could only be awarded to Manchester students who went with RHA, Harry Potter charades was opened up to everyone in the theatre, including attendees with no connection to the college.

Harry Potter and the Deathly Hallows: Part One is a movie on the run and a race against time. Harry and his best friends Hermione Granger and Ron Weasley must find the last of the Horcruxes, the pieces of Lord Voldemort's

soul, in order to destroy the Dark Lord once and for all. No where in the Wizarding World is safe, from the Ministry of Magic to Hogwarts. Harry and his friends can no longer rely on the protection of their school or their elders and are thrust into adulthood while their society declares war.

Student reactions to the movie were not varied. The majority of the audience had only positive critiques. "The movie was awesome," said Miro Arguijo, Helman Hall representative for RHA. "I thought it was the best one so far. The cinematography was breath-taking and the fight scenes epic."

"Harry Potter and the Deathly Hallows: Part One" made \$125.1 million on opening day, with \$24 million from the midnight showings.

Harry Potter seems to have not died out with the long length of time between movies. Fans still fill up midnight shows, and rewatch the movie in theatres. Harry Potter fans are still diehards and very supportive of the actors, as the excitement from the MC student audience indicates.



HP MEETS MC Schwalm Hall Director Melissa Webb and East Hall Director Tish Kalita pose for a picture in the theater while they and about 70 other MC students wait for the midnight premiere of "Harry Potter and The Deathly Hallows: Part One." Webb and Kalita chaperoned the RHA trip to see the premiere in Ft. Wayne, where RHA hosted games, contests and other fun activities before the movie began.

Photo by Abby Niederman

Chamber Singers to Sing 'Lessons and Carols'

Carson McFadden
Staff Writer

Following a tradition that began in nineteenth-century England, Christmas time church services incorporate scripture lessons and seasonal hymns and songs. Over 100 years later, the tradition will take the form of a choral concert in North Manchester's Zion Lutheran Church. On Friday, December 3, at 7 p.m., the Manchester College Chamber Singers and Cantabile will perform "Lessons and Carols," a concert with historical roots.

Chamber Singers director, Debra Lynn, says that this concert is far different than a typical choral performance. "This will have a very interactive feel to it," Lynn said. "The choirs and readers actually surround the congregation."

In a typical concert, the choir is on stage while the audience sits in their seats. However, for this event, there will indeed be a choir in the typical place, but another choir will stand at the back of the sanctuary. Different readers will speak from various places around the sanctuary, and the congregation will par-

ticipate as well, singing different hymns and songs, as well as adding to readings and prayers.

Lynn is striving to keep "Lessons and Carols" from feeling like an actual performance. "It really is intended to be a Christmas gift from the college and Zion Lutheran Church to the community," Lynn said. "I really want this to be a celebratory and worshipful event."

The worship aspect is something else that makes this concert unique. Typically, college concerts don't have any religious direction. However, Lynn describes this event as "Christ-centered." With scripture readings and hymns, it is easy to see why this is. In addition to the religious aspects of this concert, Lynn says that the many readings and interesting music selection make this event different than any other. As well as antiphonal readings from the seventh century, words from Madeleine L'Engle and Heinrich Heine will be recited, giving this service a broad textual base.

The people involved with the service also help to make it unique. "The

readers are people from all over the community – many are college faculty, staff, and administrators and their families," Lynn said. "During the planning phase, I really tried to involve a few people who aren't typically thought of in connection with the music department at the college. That's just one more way in which I'm hoping to keep this from feeling like a performance."

Robin Gratz, a college librarian, will be accompanying the choirs on the organ as well as playing solos during the prelude and postlude. With so many people involved, Lynn is quick to express her gratitude. "I also greatly appreciate Zion Lutheran Church's willingness to host this service," Lynn said. "Pastor Ladona Webb, along with organist Robin Gratz and choir director Sally Rhudy have been very helpful to me. Zion Lutheran Church has a beautiful sanctuary and our choirs enjoy singing there very much."

At the end of the service, the choirs will sing an ancient Latin text for the benediction. Lynn says that it should be "a really terrific effect."

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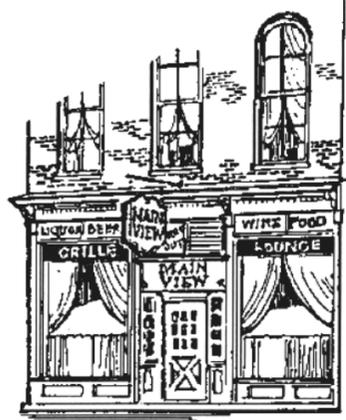
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Around Campus

'Just Us' Rally Advocates Tolerance, Change

Sarah Plew
Staff Writer

Last Wednesday before Thanksgiving, you may have noticed an unusual amount of excitement on the mall on your way to lunch or class. The lively music reverberating off the buildings, the groups of students playing four square games and the dozens of signs along the sidewalk were all part of the "Just Us" rally, an event intended to increase awareness of intolerance at MC.

Several groups on campus, including Kenapocomoco Coalition, United Sexualities, and Gender Café, teamed up to host the rally for change on November 17. These groups organized the event after discussion about issues of prejudice they have seen on campus among students.

"We noticed there was an issue about labels at Manchester," said junior Whitney Hidalgo, co-president of Gender Cafe. "But then we realized it wasn't just [minorities]. It was everyone on campus."

In addition to the activities on the mall, the rally provided homemade labels that you may have seen students wearing during the day. They read things such as, "I am not just a woman", "I am not just a minority" or "I am not just an athlete." Similar signs were strategically placed along the sidewalk on the mall, inviting students to join in the action.

At the event, students were invited to write love letters to racial and religious hate groups, to

write letters to political representatives, to draw sketches on chalkboards of how they see themselves and to make new, more inclusive labels to wear during the day. Sophomore Kenny Green, senior Zach Washington, and Professor Barb Burdge all spoke during the rally about the issue of intolerance. Washington is also president of Kenapocomoco Coalition, a campus organization focused on issues of conscience.

"We're here to get an education, not label each other," Washington said. "College isn't easy, but we're here to come together."

Washington and the other students coordinating the rally strive for greater acceptance and tolerance at MC, particularly in relation to stereotypes.

"Labels are given to us," he said. "But that's not necessarily how we see ourselves."

Sophomore Kay Guyer, member of Kenapocomoco Coalition, says the rally provided labels for students to wear to expose the issue of stereotypes on campus. "We are much more than our labels," she said pointedly.

Admittedly, people label each other in every level of society, and MC seems to be no different. But what are more surprising are the instances of bullying that Guyer says she has noticed on campus and desires to change. "We want to transform this into us being proud of each other," she said. "We should uplift people and their individuality."

The labeling, the

intolerance and the bullying all need to develop into acceptance, said Hidalgo. "We need to build acceptance," she said. "Not just tolerance."

The contributors hope that the "Just Us" rally was a beneficial first step in the process of ending this issue.



I AM NOT JUST A SPARTAN Junior Whitnee Hildago, first-year Lily Munoz, senior Zach Washington and junior Kyle Grubbs prove they are more than just a label at the "Just Us" Rally on Nov. 17.

Photo by Kay Guyer

MSO To Hold Holiday Concert on December 5

Eddie Shei
Staff Writer

It's a wonderful concert.

That is the theme for the Manchester Symphony Orchestra's annual holiday concert on Dec. 5. The concert will be held in Cordier Auditorium on campus at 3 p.m. It will be free and is also a VIA event.

Scott Humphries, the conductor for the Manchester Symphony Orchestra (MSO) and the current director of instrumental studies and music education at Manchester College, is in his third year with both and will be conducting for

the first portion of the concert. Debra Lynn, chair of the music department and choral director will conduct the second. The first portion will include the concert suite from the film "It's a Wonderful Life" and the second will feature selections from "Handel's Messiah." Manchester College's A Cappella choir will be included in both featured pieces. "Fantasia on Greensleeves" as well as "Sleigh Ride" and the traditional sing-a-long with the A Cappella choir are also going to be played.

The Manchester Symphony Orchestra, which is now in its 72nd sea-

son, is recognized as being supported by the smallest community in the United States for an orchestra. It is comprised of professionals, students and alumni of the college, community members and some staff and faculty members. Lila Hammer, from the college Registrar's office, is the orchestra's principle clarinet and Mark Huntington, from the athletic training department is the second chair clarinet. "It's a fantastic community-college collaboration," Humphries said.

The symphony orchestra is governed by the Manchester Symphony

Society. This board of directors is responsible for getting the funding for covering the costs of the MSO as well as some scholarships for student members. The 15 members support the four concerts a year through memberships, community support, grants, endowments and some support from Manchester College. "The costs are surprisingly high for a group so small," Humphries said.

To do so there is an audition process. The audition process involves the interested student playing a piece of music that is either a solo piece that would

be considered a gold level for an Indiana State School Music Association (ISSMA) Solo and Ensemble competition, or an excerpt from a previous concert that the student was just a part of. After the playing of the excerpt or solo piece, Humphries said that he sometimes will have students do some sight reading, or play a piece of music that they have not looked at before, to see how well they are able to do so.

After this process, they could also be selected to be recipients of the Keister Scholarship if they are allowed to become members

of the orchestra. Humphries looks at whether or not he feels that the student should be given a scholarship. "I encourage any students who played strings or wind or percussion in high school to audition for the orchestra," Humphries said. The students are able to take part in the Manchester Symphony Orchestra for credit as well, if they so choose. Currently there are about 15 Manchester students in the orchestra.

ASA Students Attend 'All for Africa' Conference

Shelby Covington
Staff Writer

Society is well aware that Africa as a whole faces several serious struggles. However, the possible solutions to Africa's problems remain rather unknown among its people and those who yearn to help.

In order to learn of these unrecognized resolutions, nine members of African Student Association (ASA) ventured down to Bloomington, Ind., to hear the director of operations of an organization called All for Africa speak at Indiana University on Nov. 12.

Diane MacDonald of New York informed her listeners of the problems with the type of aid the

people of Africa currently receive. She adds how the innovative projects of "All for Africa" are more effective because they promote a flowering economy and allow the people to become more self-sufficient.

MacDonald enlightened the audience about how some organizations simply donate money or mosquito nets, which is not enough. For example, a donation of \$100 used towards a child's education pays for one year of schooling. Once that year is over, another \$100 is needed. Plus, this one year of education fails to change the issues in the community. Thus, the value of that education lessens, and that child leaves the village because

he cannot do much with an education in a community that has remained stagnant due to the lack of economy.

"All for Africa" is different because it provides long-term sustainable funding. "We have to create jobs; we have to create livelihood," MacDonald said, "because all of the rest does not matter if the community cannot grow."

The program reaches toward this goal of long-term sustainable funding by "creating projects that make a difference in the community by building jobs and income."

The largest of these projects is called Palm out Poverty (POP). The goal of POP is to plant one million palm oil trees

in Ghana and Cameroon.

"The Pop Campaign has, and will continue to bring, many sustainable benefits to the local communities in which the palm oil trees are planted," wrote executive director and founder Bruce Wrobel in a newsletter.

These benefits include the creation of 700 agricultural jobs, the development of small and medium enterprises, lowering the local cost of palm oil, teaching the best practices for resource efficiency and establishing a model to support local farmers. Also, three types of infrastructure are being added to communities: self-sustaining, large scale and social.

In contrast to the

previous example, POP allows donated money to be replenished year after year. For instance, \$30,000 plants 1500 palm oil trees. Those 1500 trees will produce \$30,000 every year for the next 30 years. "It's a new way to look at philanthropy," MacDonald said.

The reason why palm oil trees are so important to Africa results in the fact that palm oil is the highest used vegetable oil in the world and that rate is rapidly growing. "Palm oil is an important resource," MacDonald said. "It's one of the rare products that can be milled or processed for food use and biofuel at the same time from the same plant."

In addition, Africa permits the perfect climate

to grow such trees. This ideal climate makes Africa the primary location for growing palm oil in the world yet 80 percent of their palm oil is imported from Indonesia and Malaysia. "Africa was the largest producer of palm oil until the end of colonialism," MacDonald said. "So our goal is to bring it back."

Since the launch in Sept. 2008, members of the project have planted 37,000 trees.

"The POP campaign will provide long term support for program development and capacity building across the African continent in the areas of health, education and skills training/livelihood creation, clean water and micro-finance," Wrobel wrote

Around Campus

'The Christmas Chronicles' to Air on WBKE

Lynette Griffin
Staff Writer

Now that the Christmas spirit is in the air with families putting up the Christmas tree and lights and other decorations, WBKE invites you to start a new tradition. While decorating or just sitting around the living room or perhaps you need a break from studying for finals, why not listen to a Christmas story on the radio?

Starting Sunday, Dec. 12 through Wednesday, Dec. 15 at 7P.M., WBKE will play two segments of "The Christmas Chronicles" each night. Each segment is 30 minutes long.

"The Christmas Chronicles" is an eight-part commissioned drama, complete with original music, that captures the magic and mystery of everyone's favorite Yuletide character, Santa Claus, according to the official website. It all started with a child's classic question: "How does Santa deliver all those toys all over the world in just one night?"

This story will be more of what the radio was in the 30s and 40s. It will include acting through voice, music in the background, so it is not your typical voice broadcast. It will be an old, storytelling by Tim Slover, about Santa Claus. Slover is the

author of "The Christmas Chronicles," "Joyful Noise" and "Hancock County."

WBKE normally does not do student broadcasting during finals week, but they were approached by this story offer and decided to try it out. "The Christmas Chronicles" came from Utah as a one-time purchase.

"We hope this is an element of a new tradition," says Megan Feters, advisor of WBKE radio station. "If it is a success we hope to play it twice in one day next year, that way if you miss one episode you can catch it the next time around."

WBKE also does a live internet stream of their radio broadcast, which allows listeners to tune in wherever they are. Those who may go home early during the week of finals can listen online to hear the rest of the story.

One of the goals of the WBKE is to become more involved throughout the community. "The Christmas Chronicles" will reach out to families, Peabody and Timbercrest residents, as well as the Manchester student body.

"Many people have memories of decorating for the holidays while listening to music," Fetter says. "I think this will be a very charming addition to the

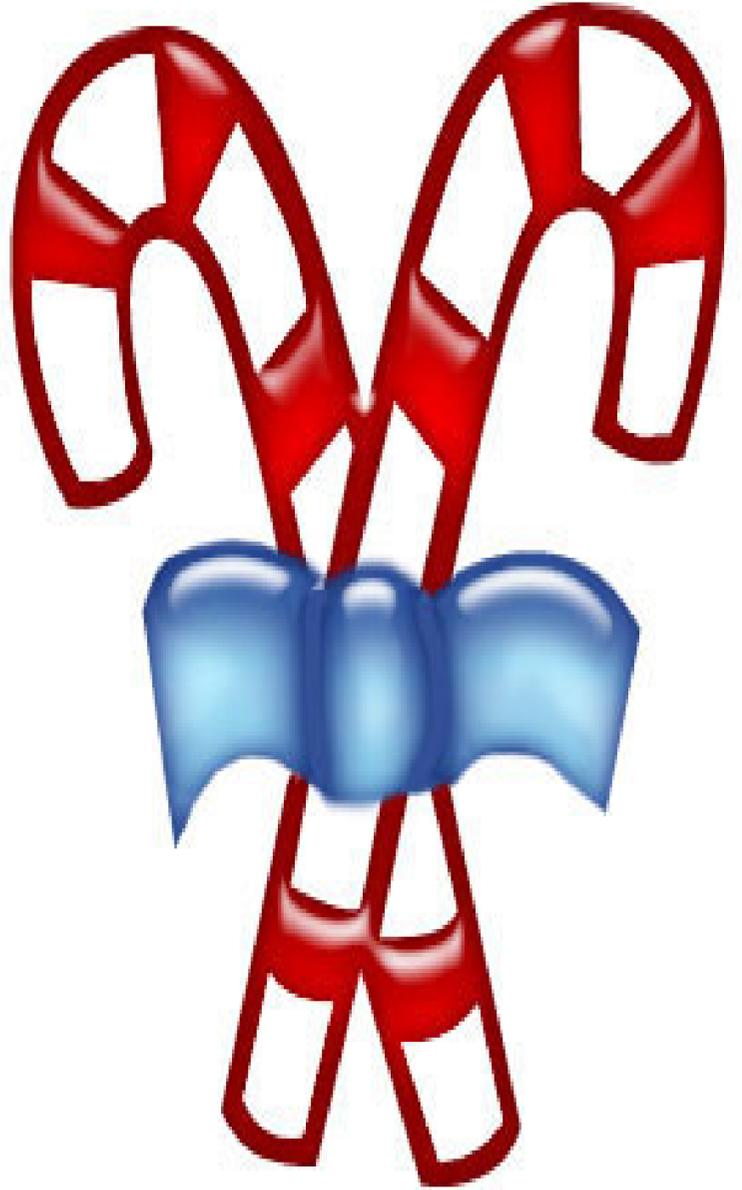
season to decorate while listening to a comforting Christmas story on the radio. Families will be able to create new a tradition."

There will be five copies of "The Christmas Chronicles" in book form that will be given away to listeners.

"I'm excited and hope that this can spark a new tradition," says senior peace studies and communications major, Julia Largent. "Not knowing the story line, I picture it to be like the old times when families sit around listening to the radio."

Largent, who is also the station manager, expects to be at the station to push the buttons. Because the station is not normally running during this week, she says she'll sit in there to make sure the story runs correctly.

Both Feters and Largent are excited for this addition to WBKE with hopes of it becoming a tradition. "The timing will be great for families and college students when they need a little break," Feters says. Largent adds that if you want to check "The Christmas Chronicles" out before they go on air, look at the WBKE website.



Graphic courtesy of christmasgifts.com

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Op Ed: Technology Influences New Style of English Writing

Chaz Bellman
Staff Writer

As the English language is ever changing and technology advances, one can wonder if it is not time for formal writing styles to evolve as well. What is considered professional and formal in essays or documents has remained nearly the same since the time of the typewriter, but in the 21st century we have the chance to transform formal writing forever.

The English writing style and language has seen a change since the times of using words like "thus" and "thou" along with other aspects of older English, and some may say the language is less proper than it once was. However, we can see the changes with new forms of books, the Bible being one example that has been translated in many languages and had new wording brought forth from the King James Version to the New International Version used by most people use today. That being said, students of today, with the use of new wording and technology, could change the way we formally read and write.

In this information era the younger genera-

tions always seem to have their phone on them to connect with people in their lives. With these phones a new piece of language has evolved and that is text message styling where words and complete sentences are shortened, but still completely understandable. Changing to texting style wouldn't be the first test of new wording.

Cambridge University did a study to prove that the eye and brain make words based on the first and last letters of a word. The example below is only a small portion of how changed words can still be understood: "...aocccdrnig to a rscheearch at Cmabrigde Uinervtisy, it deosn't mtttaer in waht oredr the lltteers in a wrod are, t he olny ipromoatnt tihng is taht the frist and lsat lltteer be in the rghit it pclae. The rset can be a taotl mses and you can sill raed it wouthit a porbelm..."

For the rest of the document see Cambridge University's website <http://www.mrcbu.cam.ac.uk/people/matt.davis/Cmabrigde/>.

This example shows that the eye and brain can make out words that are not in the correct order and the document is still easily understood, therefore

is it time to shift formal writing to text language which could simplify formal essays and documents from school to the work place.

Simla 2 da Cambridge letta, sum of da wurds r not speld perfect but da reada undastands da mesage. Usin dis lang. in formal papas cood help simplify da way we go bout bizness & change how fast 1 is able 2 do things. Lik da rest of da Eng. Lang. it wood tak time to evolve and b perfect, but once ppl cood get da hang of txt style wurdin, da rate @ wich we read & type cood b gr8ly increased.

With our technology and new terminology we have found in the way of cell phones and social network websites like Facebook and Twitter, our generations could be helping to shape a new form of acceptable formal writing. This new writing could possibly increase the rates at which we read and write while simplifying the English language by merely trying to quickly communicate with our friends. The quick language we have begun today through texting could help shape and speed up the business and educational world as we know it. But for now this is just food for thought.

Around Campus

Bowl Over Hunger



BOWLING FOR SOUP Carole Miller-Patrick stands with the nearly 150 bowls collected by the Office of Volunteer Services for the "Bowl Over Hunger Dinner" Sunday, Nov. 14, in accordance with their annual Hunger and Homelessness Week. The bowls were part of a deal that allowed all in attendance to have all-you-can-eat soup and breadsticks while keeping the bowl as a souvenir to remind them of those who struggle for their daily meals. The dinner raised \$370 for the North Manchester food pantry.

Students Take Advantage of BCA Opportunities

Lisa Stojanovich
Staff Writer

Becca Creath, a junior at Manchester College, spent the fall semester of her sophomore year away from North Manchester, Indiana. The peace studies major was living and studying in Derry, Ireland, the country's fourth largest city with a rough population of 100,000. Creath studied at the Magee College in the University of Ulster. She was able to experience another culture, especially the life of an Irish college student.

But Creath isn't the only Manchester student who has had these kinds of experiences. Manchester College sends an average of 22-24 students abroad each year using the BCA study abroad program.

BCA has been part of Manchester since 1962. It has since grown to include six other Brethren colleges in the United States. The program "promotes international understanding, awareness of global citizenship and academic scholarship through educational exchange" according to their mission statement.

There are three different ways for Manchester students to study abroad. They spend an entire year,

a semester, or go during January session. "The full-year program is especially important for language majors planning to fulfill degree requirements," Thelma Rohrer said. Rohrer is the director of international studies at Manchester. She said that most students wish they could spend a full year once they become immersed into the culture.

Manchester currently has five students who are spending this academic year in a foreign country according to Rohrer. Two students, Eloise Fulmer and Jonathon Ulrich, are in Marburg, Germany. Michael Carpenter is in Barcelona, Spain. Najah Monroe is spending the year in Strasbourg, France, and Kira Wennerholm is in Cheltenham, England. There are five other students abroad for the fall semester and 12 more have been accepted for the spring semester.

Students who will be leaving this spring are covering four continents and eight different countries. They will be staying in Spain, England, China, Germany, India, Ecuador, Japan and Mexico.

Rohrer says that a country's popularity varies each and every semester, but Spain, England, Japan, and Ecuador are usu-

ally top of the list. "Mexico and Greece are especially good for some majors," Rohrer said, "and the newer programs of Northern Ireland and India are gaining lots of attention."

Some students are unable to study abroad for a year or semester. There are schedule conflicts or financial worries, but Manchester has an option yet. Classes offered during January session often go abroad. This is a way for students to go abroad while not compromising necessary credits. These students spend roughly three weeks abroad, and there are opportunities for travel in most disciplines.

Creath had the opportunity to experience a different culture through BCA. She completely enjoyed the experience and would "recommend traveling abroad to anyone who is thinking about it."

Students, Faculty Make Plans for Winter Break

William Rhudy
Staff Writer

Winter break beckons us all. Professors and students alike look forward to the holiday season every year, it is a chance to reconvene with family members we haven't seen in months and it also gives us all a chance to catch our breath after the exhausting semester.

Dr. Stacy Erickson of the English department is eager for the upcoming break. "I'm looking forward to playing with all kinds of little people," she said with a laugh, "running around with my nieces and nephews, seeing Santa."

Winter break also means home-cooked meals, cooked for several instead of several hundred.

It means a return to a house or apartment that is familiar, where memories flood back after what seems like an eternity adrift. Dr. Kate Eisenbise of the religion and philosophy department is looking forward to the winter holidays as much as her students. "I'm going to take my dog to go play with my brother's dog and on Christmas night my 20 cousins

and I get together and it's always enjoyable," she said.

However, many Manchester College students won't be resting on their time away from campus. Winter break also means picking up several shifts where we used to work. It can feel like our time on break is more constrained than at school; retail employees will return to

work during the busiest time of year, shifts will extend well past midnight and sleep will be just as hard to find.

Erin Shay, a 3rd year student, will be spending her break in such a whirlwind, and in fact, she finds her break is more stressful than her time on campus. "I have more responsibilities in a shorter amount of time," she said. "During

an 8 hour shift you have X amount of problems you have to deal with; whereas when I'm at school I have 24 hours to deal with my responsibilities. At school my stress is more spread out."

Two more weeks of classes, one week of exams and the semester will be complete.

Don't Just Talk about Improving, Act Upon It

Holly Pawlak
Staff Writer

Let's be honest about this: the world has been coming apart at the seams, and we've been far too complacent about it. Sure, many of us are well aware of the apocalyptic risks of climate change, the social/environmental ravages of perpetual warfare, and the harsh realities of the rise of global corporate fascism. The era in which we live is defined by an incessant news cycle that chronicles the "end of days" trope in real time. And yet, despite occasional outbreaks of resistance, we've mostly been content to watch it play out through the lens of detached denial.

While we may laugh at climate change deniers — including the slate of potential incoming congressional chairs who will be tasked with overseeing this issue — we might also recognize a grain of personal truth in these jocular

reflections. How many of us really have taken all the steps at our disposal to forestall the drivers of climate change, from zeroing our carbon emissions to refraining from the consumption of products responsible for deforestation and mounting waste? Who among us has truly stood resolute against the war machine at every turn, from open and organized tax resistance to educating tirelessly against the fallacies of recruitment?

This isn't an indictment, but more so a statement about the nature of the challenge before us. The array of tactics for change at our disposal is vast and always growing. But there is a deeper problem at hand that works against the accrual of these tactics into an effective overall strategy, namely our incontrovertible reliance upon the very forces that we are seeking to alter or abolish. We might attend a protest but eat fast food on the

way home. Perhaps we've changed our light bulbs yet still utilize fossil fuel electricity. Maybe we work with anti-war groups even as we fund war through multiple means. And so on.

We are all so thoroughly implicated in the patterns and practices of conflict and degradation that it is by now nearly impossible to extricate oneself altogether. Our utter dependency on the very system that we aim to alter necessarily imposes limits on how far we might be willing to go in order to dismantle the machinery of destruction. Metaphorically, we can liken our situation to that of being on a rapidly sinking ship and having to somehow construct a new ship out of the old materials without drowning in the process.

This isn't intended to be a fatalistic statement. People before us have anticipated the end of the world and have found ways

to stave it off. Yet we must acknowledge that our times are decidedly different: irreversible climatic thresholds are being crossed, essential resources including water and soil are being ruthlessly depleted, violence is systemic and endemic, and the carrying capacity of the planet is being pushed to the brink. All of this has happened in such short order that our moral imaginations have not been given sufficient time to catch up.

We now find ourselves caught in a scenario in which the problems before us are increasing exponentially, and thus could potentially trigger a downward-spiral runaway effect from which no recourse to technological fixes will save us. Indeed, our impoverished spirits exist in inverse proportion to the increasing technological interpenetration of every aspect of our lives, and the gap between them widens over time.

And yet, in this do

we find ourselves with a unique opportunity to forge peace from war, abundance from scarcity, and ultimately survival from extinction: just as the repetition of flawed strategies spirals negatively, so too can constructive strategies mutually reinforce one another in a genuine "positive feedback loop."

Furthermore, we can celebrate the emerging notion that the challenges before us are not amenable to piecemeal, band-aid solutions, meaning that if we avoid self-imposed extinction it will mean that we have truly, finally, gotten our living right. Here then is a hopeful prospect: our success will be measured in the very existence of future generations, who will find themselves (if at all) in a world that is socially just and environmentally sustainable.

Movements for change up to now have been successful primarily in incrementally slowing

the gears of destruction — which doesn't sound like much except that it has given us this narrow window of opportunity in which to act. If we squander this opportunity, the fault lies in ourselves; if we embrace it, the benefit will accrue to our progeny, and our forebears will be eternally thankful.

This isn't a how-to guide and I'm not going to be prescriptive here. You already know what needs to be done, and you are steeped in how to do it. What I want to get across today is the sense of urgency of the task, the finality of our failure, and the magnitude of our success. As oppressed peoples and besieged habitats in the present welcome our solidarity and compassion, so too does the future anticipate our awakening and stand ready to offer its thanks.

Around Campus

Student-Directed One Acts a Treat for All



ACT IT ALL OUT First-year Kirby Dopkowski stands as her character Edith Formage as Sophomore Josh Vardaman pleads his case in the one act "Dentity Crisis" directed by senior and president of the MC Theater Society, Katherine Pea. The plays were Friday, Nov. 19, and drew crowds of not only students, but faculty and staff members as well as members of the community. Along with Pea, seniors Laura Kramer and Hannah Reed directed their own plays.

Photo by Joseph Stuart

Senior Athletes Say Sad Farewell to College Sports

Kelsey Barta
Staff Writer

It is always hard to say goodbye to something athletes have become at-

tached to. Seeing the end of a sport season is always difficult, but that is cranked up a notch when it is the last college game some athletes might ever play.

Some seniors who play a fall sport are feeling a loss. "I realized after my last game what the coaches and former players were talking about when they said it goes so fast and you cannot play forever," said Ryan Reed, a senior football player. "It hit me so hard when I looked at the clock on Saturday and realized that it was all over and there was nothing I could say or do to make it come back."

Maybe the true lesson in sports is not about

winning or losing. Maybe the more important aspect is what we can't put in stat books or up on a scoreboard. Is it really who has the most points when the final buzzer goes off? Or is deeper than that? Garrett Fredrick, a senior soccer player, seems to think so. "Soccer has helped me to develop discipline, patience, and persistence," Fredrick said. "I've learned to put others above myself and that, as a team, we are able to accomplish so much more than as individuals."

Fredrick believes that sports are much more than results. "The lessons learned along the way far exceed the value of any number of championships," Fredrick said.

Karla Conrad, a senior volleyball player, has the same feelings about the game. "I know that years from now I'll never remember my dig percentage or the win record, but I'll always remember what playing sports did for me," Conrad said. "I've learned that discipline and hard work

pay off. I've taken what I've learned as an athlete and used it to be a student." With Conrad's 3.85 GPA, some might say that certainly is paying off. Conrad went on to say that good sportsmanship has played a role in her daily life too.

The seniors will miss the game. It is always hard to say goodbye after becoming accustomed to something being a part of us, but maybe it's not so bitter when we know what has been learned from it.

October Athletic Training Student of the Month



Stacia Gerardot

Hometown: Fort Wayne

*Future Plans: Physician Extender/
Certified Athletic Trainer/
Physical Therapy*

*Activities: President of MCACT,
Spending time with family, Church
involvement*

Men's Basketball Loses Heartbreaker

Kirby Dopkowski
Staff Writer

On Nov. 16, Manchester's men's basketball team started the season off on the right foot with a big win over Wheaton, 79-60. The stands were full of students all there to support the Spartans in their season opener.

Many of the students were dressed black for the traditional Black Out game. Shirt designs were voted on by students, and then sold for five dollars weeks before the game.

Manchester, which is ranked 30 for Division Three, started slow in the beginning against 49-ranked Wheaton. Starting off the season Manchester was ranked 25 and Wheaton 27.

This is the first time Manchester has been ranked nationally since 1999.

"It was not a normal first game," Coach Brad Nadborne said. "Both teams were ranked pre-season. Usually the first game is against a weaker team and then you work our way up to the stronger teams."

The first 20 minutes both teams were feeling each other out. "We are usually a 40 minute team, but this time it was more of a 30 minute team," Nadborne said. The Spartans were in good shape, making successful runs and working the whole court. In the last 10 minutes the Spartans had an eight point lead over Wheaton, and before you could blink, Manchester was up 13 and the game was over. Overall, Manchester was 55% from the floor while Wheaton was only 36%.

This season the Spartans are making the old into something new.

They have new goals, they are nationally ranked and playing at that national level, and are a recognized program. Sophomore Joel Sovine is a new addition. Sovine transferred from Mt. St. Joe this year to play for Manchester because it is closer to his home. "The team plays hard and I'm ready to play hard with them," Sovine said. Besides Sovine as a new addition, the first-years are shaping up nicely, but just need a bit more seasoning according to Nadborne.

"This was a signature win, but one win doesn't make a season," Nadborne said. "I was contacted through email, phone calls and text messages congratulating me and the team on this win. This is the type of win that gets people's attention."

On the 17, the JV team won against Grace in a game that was said to be

a hard fought win of 74-69.

Before the season started, the Spartans traveled to New Mexico for a once in a lifetime opportunity. They fell against Division One New Mexico at the historic Pit Arena, 107-62.

On Nov. 23 the Spartans defeated Kalamazoo 78-63. On Nov. 28 the Spartans fell to North Central 84-73. The Spartans travel to Hanover tomorrow, Dec. 4.