



The Oak Leaves



Manchester University Issue XIV - March 14, 2014

Sharfman To Become Provost at Oglethorpe

Andrew Ellam
Co-Editor

Following the end of the academic year, Dr. Glenn Sharfman, vice president and dean for academic affairs at Manchester, will no longer be a Spartan.

Instead, he will become a Stormy Petrel since he recently accepted the role of provost and vice president for academic affairs at Oglethorpe University, a small liberal arts college in Atlanta, Ga.

Sharfman feels that his new role at Oglethorpe will be a positive change for him. "I think in everybody's professional life, there comes a time where you might be ready for a new challenge," he said. "This opportunity presented itself, and it seems like something that I'm well suited for in an area of the country that I've never lived."

Although provost will be Sharfman's new title, he will be performing duties that are very much like his current responsibilities at Manchester. "More or less, my job is to lead the academic program, to build the faculty, and to increase Oglethorpe's enrollment," he said. "There are some differences in the way Oglethorpe goes about their business than Manchester, but I'd say more similarities than dif-

ferences."

In addition to performing familiar obligations, Sharfman will be working at an institution that is quite like Manchester in several aspects. Both universities have similar enrollment numbers and compete in NCAA Division III athletics. Also, Oglethorpe is currently undergoing a transitional period of growth as an institution, just like Manchester has over the last decade. "They have a brand new student center, which is terrific," he said. "One of the tasks that I'll be working on is to build the new science center for Oglethorpe, which is something that I inherited when I came [to Manchester]."

"I think that in some ways, Oglethorpe is in a place that reminds me of Manchester when I got here nine years ago," he continued. "They've got some buildings that need to be renovated, and that's something that I've had some experience in doing."

Sharfman has overseen several extensive changes during his time at Manchester, such as the opening of a new Academic Center on the main campus and the establishment of a College of Pharmacy in Fort Wayne. Additionally, Manchester's

core curriculum was entirely revamped and graduate programs for athletic training and education were added with his guidance.

As for leaving Manchester, Sharfman will find it most difficult to leave behind the connections he has made with others on campus and in town. "I'm going to miss Manchester students, I'm going to miss Manchester faculty and I'm going to miss the town of North Manchester," he said. "My kids grew up here, so we have lots of roots in the community."

On the other hand, he is excited for the opportunities that await him down south. "I'm looking forward to taking some of the things that I've learned [at Manchester] and applying them [at Oglethorpe]," he said. "And I'm looking forward to meeting new people."

"I think it would be trivial to say that I look forward to the weather, but after this winter I think that's maybe not so trivial," he added with a laugh.

Sharfman will begin his tenure as provost of Oglethorpe on July 8. In order to find his replacement, Manchester will be searching nationwide for a new vice president and dean for academic affairs.



FROM SPARTAN TO STORMY PETREL Dr. Glenn Sharfman, vice president and dean for academic affairs, recently announced that he will be leaving Manchester this summer in order to become provost at Oglethorpe University, a small liberal arts college in Atlanta, Ga. He will begin working at Oglethorpe on July 8. Manchester will search across the nation for a new dean.

Photo courtesy of Manchester University Media Relations

MU Students Anticipate Spring Break 2014



Manchester University

Spring Break 2014

SOAKING UP THE SNOW In anticipation of Spring Break, first-year Schwalm Hall residents T. J. Thompson, Lucas Gramman, Shawn DeVore and Kevin Clarke find time to "tan" on a snow bank outside of Schwalm. Although, according to the campus calendar, Spring Break for the North Manchester campus technically does not begin until Monday, March 17, many students will leave campus later today to start enjoying a brief hiatus from classes and studies. While some students will head home for the break, other students will travel to warmer destinations to take a vacation from the cold and snowy midwest. Classes will resume on Monday, March 24.

Photo courtesy of Jessica Hickerson

Inside: Temple Grandin VIA, Race 2 Fitness, Track and Field

Around Campus

MU Jazz, Symphonic Bands Perform at Cordier

Devin Clark
Staff Writer

On Friday, March 7, 2014, Manchester University's Jazz Ensemble and Symphonic Band performed during their program of *Fantasies of Sound*. Filling half the Cordier Auditorium, the music echoed smoothly throughout.

"The harmony of the music was beautiful," said Larissa Valdez, a first year who attended the program. "It has been a while since I've heard music like that."

Natalie Nicola Jones, who plays the flute and piccolo for Symphonic Band and trumpet for Jazz Ensemble, said: "A member of the Symphonic Band said his friend teared up at the end of 'Longing.' The good type of crying!" Jones has been involved with MU Symphonic Band and Jazz Ensemble for three years, but has been playing the flute and piccolo for 12 years.

The performance started with short pieces from Manchester's Jazz band, and then switched to the Symphonic Band.

"The performance went really well!" Jones said. "I loved all the pieces we got to perform for this concert, especially 'And Hope Lead Them Home'."



PLAY THAT FUNKY MUSIC Guest trombonist Dr. Adam Johnson, who plays in the Fort Wayne Philharmonic Orchestra, joined the Manchester University Jazz Ensemble and Symphonic Band in Cordier Auditorium last Friday to participate in their "Fantasies of Sound" concert.

Photo by Savannah Riley

However, Manchester's Symphonic band was not performing alone. Accompanying them was Dr. Adam Johnson, a trombonist for Fort Wayne's Philharmonic Orchestra, who led Manchester's Symphonic band in beautiful pieces.

Johnson chose to play the trombone because of his uncle. He said his

uncle had one and since his family could not afford a trombone, his uncle gave him one that was resting in his closet.

Johnson reflected on what got him into playing. "The challenge: I love playing larger ensembles and solos with large ensembles, so just the challenge of putting it all together and being like a small

part of a bigger puzzle.

"The trombone is usually a back row instrument," he added. "We don't play solo stuff very often. Most of the time when you think of a soloist you think of violin player or a pianist, or a cellist. There are not a lot of trombonist soloists, but when we get a chance we like to take the opportunity we have."

Briauna Taylor, a sophomore, was moved by the performance. "Hearing Dr. Johnson play made me want to cry and laugh at the same time," she said. "His ability to play brought me into a whole other world. It was so beautiful and peaceful."

Jones concurred. "Playing with Dr. Johnson was amazing!" she said.

"He is a phenomenal trombonist! We blended really well with his tone."

This is not Johnson's first time at Manchester, as his trombone quartet played here last spring; it was his first time playing with the wind ensemble, however. "They are doing a very good job," he added.

Johnson, whose wife, Rebecca, is a Manchester University library faculty member, said that he really likes it here and encourages students to visit his wife in the library. "It is a nice campus, beautiful campus, and Scott Humphries [assistant professor of music] has been wonderful to work with. I really enjoyed playing with the band."

Another evening soloist was Natalie Nicola Jones, who also performed her first-ever solo. "This concert I played my first trumpet solo for the Jazz Ensemble during Kicks N Licks," she said. "I was super nervous, but it was successful! We are also playing some difficult pieces for our final concert of the semester. So it's not one to miss!"

The next performance will be held on May 9 at 7:30 pm, in Cordier Auditorium.

Pettit's Disney Course No 'Mickey Mouse' Class

The Oak Leaves

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Brad Reuille
Staff Writer

When one enters Professor Pettit's office, they are immediately drawn to the Disney memorabilia that lines the walls—small figurines of Mickey Mouse, Buzz Lightyear and Donald Duck. Professor Pettit taught a class over January session titled "Disney and the American Culture," where students visited and analyzed Disney World.

The elective class was very small, according to Pettit. "We had a total of four students, and only one is a sociology major," he said. "One is an English major, one is a communication studies major and one is a business major."

Pettit describes his class as "looking at the whole Disney Corporation and universe as a case study in American society and culture." Why this topic? "Disney is a wonderful window to understand our whole society and culture," he said.

Before the class went to Disney World, they spent a week and a half on campus reading about Disney, taking quizzes and watching videos. "The time

we spend in Disney World is like field work," Pettit said. The students have learned through their readings and work, and apply to what they see at the park. "I always ask students to go around in groups no smaller than three," Pettit said. "If there are at least three students in a group, it means that they are more likely to talk about coursework, and to discuss with each other how it relates to readings and discussions." Once a day, Pettit and the four students would meet to discuss what they had done, what they had seen and how it related to what they had learned.

Alaina Beckner, a student in the class, liked being able to experience the parks with people her age and hearing their opinions about it. "When I go with my family, they all like most of the same things, and have been exposed to the same things," Beckner said. "When I went with my classmates, they had different thoughts about what Disney is. I also liked getting to know my classmates more throughout the course of the class."

Outside of the Disney World complex, the

group made a side trip to Celebration, Fla., which is a planned community that Disney built. Celebration, Pettit noted, is a community that looks to the past. "It goes back to what people would call neighborhoods, and housing styles that are very comforting and familiar," he said. "They tried to encourage neighborliness by having public parks instead of private lawns, and houses that have front porches, where people can sit out and socialize."

According to Pettit, the class was so "committed and determined" that when January session began on Friday, Jan. 3, Pettit suggested that they meet on the following day, Saturday. The day after that, a major snowstorm hit, which made it impossible for Pettit to make it to the university on Monday. During the course of the snowstorm, and the days after, Pettit and the students Skyped. "Not only were they that devoted and committed, I also found out that on the days when I could not be here, the students were meeting in the classroom regularly, and doing work that I assigned," he said.

UPCOMING VIA PROGRAMS

Julia Serano, I'll See It When I Believe It: Perception and Gender Entitlement
Monday, March 31 - 7 p.m. - Upper Union

Nathan Araya, Simply Ethiopia
Monday, April 7 - 7 p.m. - Upper Union

Literary Film Society Presents Alfred Hitchcock's Rear Window
Friday, April 11 - 6:30 p.m. - Cordier Auditorium

Joel Feldman, A Father Speaks: End Distracted Driving
Tuesday, April 15 - 3:30 - Cordier Auditorium



Around Campus



Shalala Presents VIA on Governmental Policies

Tyler Roebuck
Staff Writer

"If you want something done, give it to Donna Shalala." This is how Tim Ogden characterized the speaker for the VIA event on March 3: "Social Security, Medicare and Obamacare; Is Government Getting Too Big?" The audience in Cordier auditorium was entertained and challenged by Donna Shalala, former Health and Human Services secretary, who is, among many things, well versed in the large issues the United States faces today.

President Switzer introduced Shalala and her accomplishments beautifully. "Donna Shalala is a woman of small stature but big ideas," Switzer said in an email. "She has been a role model for me since she served the nation in President Clinton's cabinet as head of Health and Human Services. Her deepest values show, however, in her service in the Peace Corps after graduating from college. She was one of the very first Peace Corps volunteers and served in Iran. Her concern for the health, safety, and education of all people reflects in awards she has been presented. In 2010 she received the Nelson Mandela Award for Health and Human Rights, 'for improving the health and life chances of disadvantaged.' President George W. Bush presented her with the Presidential Medal of Freedom, the nation's highest civilian award. In 2011, she was inducted into the National Women's Hall of Fame in Seneca Falls, New York, in celebration of her work to bring equal opportunities to girls and women. She is a very short woman in stature, but she is a big hero to me."

After some jests about the weather in Miami, Shalala described her support of small colleges. "I have a special place in my

heart for places like Manchester," she said. She believes that the most successful individuals come from small organizations where students receive one on one time.

Shalala's lecture began with her statement that the United States has taken only three big steps in domestic social policy: Social Security, Medicare and the Affordable Care Act. These big events, as Shalala put it, "changed what it means to be an American."

She talked about how Franklin Delano Roosevelt established Social Security as a policy to give support to people 65 and older with nothing to fall back on. Roosevelt wanted something that looked more like Social Security and Medicare combined, but presidents did not have enough influence to pass Medicare until Lyndon B. Johnson came along. Johnson only managed to pass Medicare because of its promise for jobs in the south. Today, Medicaid, which is a part of Medicare, is the single largest employer in the southern United States. These programs "would not only change what it means to be elderly, but also middle aged and young," Shalala said. This is because of reduced costs on middle-aged adults paying for their parent's healthcare, which freed up more money for better living all around.

The most recent change in domestic social policy may be the most familiar to college students. The Affordable Care Act (sometimes called Obamacare) is an attempt at better healthcare coverage for Americans. Many question why the government does not simply establish a universal healthcare system, to which Shalala has an answer. "After World War II, we decided not to [have universal healthcare]," she said. Labor unions provided insurance for many



IS GOVERNMENT GETTING TOO BIG? Manchester University welcomed former Health and Human Services secretary Donna Shalala to campus on Tuesday, March 11, for a VIA. The discussion, which focused on the growth of the United States government, was the eighth lecture in "The Harry '35 and Jeanette Henney Lecture" series.

Photo by Vivien Carter

Americans, and privatization of medical practices created jobs.

However, according to Shalala, in the last two-to-three decades, employment and healthcare have declined. The auto industry found competition, and, because of its need to supply health insurance, is struggling to compete. Many businesses have reduced or dropped their health insurance for workers so that they can remain competitive in the economy. Because of this, 75 percent of uninsured persons work a full-time job. Mistakes made during the

healthcare reform in Clinton's presidency allowed this and similar issues to grow.

According to Shalala, President Obama learned from these mistakes, and through his Affordable Care Act expanded Medicare and eliminated restrictions on obtaining healthcare. By spreading much of the cost to Americans across the board, many uninsured people can now access affordable healthcare.

Throughout all of these big changes in policy, Shalala noted that the debate has been over

the same issue; should the government do more than defense and foreign policy? While both sides have their arguments, the main disagreements for all three were not "should the government do it", but instead "how should they do it?" Though it was not easy, all three issues have been resolved, and according to Shalala, "the government rarely takes big steps, but when they do, everyone gains."

Shalala was the eighth lecturer in "The Harry '35 and Jeanette Henney Lecture" series. Jane E. Henney, a 1969 graduate

of Manchester, established the lecture series in 2003 to honor her father's 90th birthday. She expanded it on her mother's 90th birthday to honor both of her parents. The Lecture celebrates Harry and Jeanette's 40 years of distinguished service to education in their community by inviting big name speakers that are devoted to doing the right thing. Harry died in February 2007. Jeanette died one year before the day of the lecture: March 11, 2013.

Grandin Receives 'Innovator of the Year' Award

Louise Magiera
Staff Writer

Manchester welcomed Temple Grandin on March 6 with a full day of activities, beginning with an early morning discussion in the morning in Flory, a lunch with students, and a VIA event at 3:30 in Cordier.

Grandin is a professor of animal sciences at Colorado State University and the author of multiple books. She also designs systems to promote humane treatment and equipment for farm animals and speaks about how autism has affected her life.

The VIA started with Professor Jim Falkner reviewing previous recipients of the Innovator of the Year award and then introducing Grandin, who is the 2012-2013 Innovator of the Year. "I couldn't be happier presenting the Innovator of the Year award to any other person," said Falkner as he handed Grandin her award.

Grandin's topic for the VIA was "The Creative Mind". She reflected on her childhood and how she

noticed that she was different from other children her age. "When I was young, I thought everyone saw things in pictures like me," Grandin said.

Grandin described herself as a "visual thinker" and explained how she categorizes items in her head as pictures. "My mind is like a search engine for images," she said. Grandin attributes her success throughout high school, college and graduate school to the help she received from her mother and teachers when she was younger.

"I was fortunate to have good, early intervention," Grandin said. She remembers helping her mother host dinner parties to help her learn proper social skills, such as shaking hands and taking people's coats. "My mom had a good sense of how much to 'stretch' me so it did not cause panic," she said.

Grandin also attributed her success to learning the value of hard work at a young age, mentioning that she attended boarding school and worked in the horse barn on the school grounds. "Learning how to

work is a really important skill," she said. "It gives you responsibility."

Grandin noted how her science teacher noticed how hard she worked in the horse barn and introduced her to experiments that would interest her, such as optical illusions. Grandin started to become interested in school again because of this.

Grandin discussed how schools are changing and removing hands-on and visual courses, such as cooking, welding, music, art and woodshop. "There would be nothing for kids like me," she said.

"People aren't doing real things, and there's a resourcefulness they do not have because they cannot do practical things." Grandin explained how schools could integrate subjects into hands-on classes, such as mathematics into cooking by using fractions. "We have a tendency to over-protect these kids and they should be learning job skills, like dog walking or a paper route," Grandin said.

Grandin stated how she believes holding



INNOVATIONS Temple Grandin visited campus on Thursday, March 6, to claim her 2012-2013 "Innovator of the Year" award, as well as speak at a VIA in Cordier Auditorium. Grandin is a professor of animal sciences, an author, and a designer of humane farm equipment.

Photo by Savannah Riley

a job and having responsibilities are very important skills for children to learn. "There are too many kids getting hooked on video games and not learning practical skills," she said. "If you don't expose kids to interesting things, they don't get interested in interesting things." Grandin explained how she found her interest in cattle when visiting her aunt's ranch

one summer in Arizona.

"We put too much emphasis on what kids are bad at," she continued. "Let's focus on what they can do. We need to expose things to kids so they become interested in it." She reflected on how she enjoyed art and woodshop classes in high school because she is a visual thinker.

She also said that

many children are labeling themselves as their diagnosis, which worries her. "Their diagnosis becomes their identity," she said. "I met a little girl this week in New York who said: 'I have autism like you' and I asked her to tell me something else about herself. She then said, 'I have asthma.' We use labels too much."

**CONTINUED ON
PAGE 5**

Around Campus

MU Students, Faculty, Staff 'Race 2 Fitness'

Kalie Ammons
Staff Writer

Students, faculty and staff are working together to motivate each other to get healthy this year with the help of the "MU's Race 2 Fitness" program. For some, this may be reminiscent of "MU's Fit for Life Challenge" that took place the last two years. This program differs by switching the focus from weight loss to an overall healthy lifestyle.

With the help of senior web programmer analyst Joel Waggy, a virtual 5K was designed to track participants' progress through Gateway. Members "run" one mile over a two week period by participating in different events and logging them on the website.

"There are 15 different things you can do," said Heather Banks, RN,

BSN and director of health services. "Get massages, go to the chiropractor, you can work out up to six times, drink 64 oz. of water, make a meal from unprocessed ingredients, attend church, read your Bible, go to 'Lunch and Learns.' If you complete 10 out of the 15, then you complete your mile."

If the incentive to get healthy isn't enough, members who complete their mile are awarded with prizes, and members who complete them first are awarded with even bigger prizes, all related to your health. Common prizes include exercise balls, which can conveniently replace a desk chair.

"Everyone who finishes the whole 5K is put into a drawing for a larger prize," Banks said.

While the focus has been taken off of weight loss, there is still an

initial and final weigh-in for the 35 participants.

"What we did as a wellness committee to help promote this is we came up with a weekly schedule of activities on campus that people can participate in," Banks said. "Brandi Chauncey hosts some classes and comes in at six in the morning on Mondays and hosts lunch. Shanon Fawbush does fitness class with videos. Lindsey Wertz does two classes on Tuesdays and Thursdays. Health Services hosts a video for walking, because we wanted to make it for all fitness levels."

The online dashboard helps to track progress of the participants without them having to carry around papers and constantly write down their activities. Students, faculty and staff can log their accomplishments from any

computer or smartphone and instantly see their virtual runner move along a track.

"It has our names and whoever is our sponsor, just to make it a little more fun," Banks said. Members don't have any real sponsors, but can pick from a list of companies to add to the experience.

Different activities are on the website to record for progress. "The HIV testing was on there, and so was donating blood, because community support makes us well," Banks said. "Giving makes us feel well." Participants can also upload healthy recipes to share.

"The wellness card is for staff only," Banks said. "If we do so many wellness events a year through HR, we get a day off.

The wellness

committee went the extra mile to ensure that faculty and staff could participate as well as the students.

"We have something to do every day of the week, and we try to do something over the lunch hour since staff and faculty usually have that time off," Banks said. "We have a couple students who come in here and do our walking video with us, and of course some students go and eat first and then come in for the second or third mile."

While the College of Pharmacy has participated in MU's Fit for Life Challenge the last two years, they are not participating in the Race 2 Fitness program this year.

To view the activities for Race 2 Fitness, logon to Gateway and scroll to the bottom of your screen. From there, click on the "My Team Sites" tab

and then click "Organizations/Other." MU's Race 2 Fitness will be the first organization on the left. After clicking it, recipes and fitness flyers will appear with easy access to everyone. If you're not already participating in MU's Race 2 Fitness and would like to view the dashboard, you'll either have to make an account or look over the shoulder of a friend who is participating.

"It's fun and we try to come up with new ideas," Banks said. "It's really hard to get people involved with wellness, even if we ask people what they want to do and organize it, people are then too busy or it's too hard to do. So we've had people who are participating and we've had really good feedback."

SSM Travels to Indianapolis for Pacers Game

Tyler Stevenson
Staff Writer

Manchester University's Spartan Sport Management (SSM) club recently traveled to Indianapolis to watch the Indiana Pacers host division rival Milwaukee on Thursday, Feb. 27. It wasn't all basketball, however, as the club got a tour of Banker's Life Fieldhouse before the game. The club had made trips to see the Pacers before, but this was the first time they had been able to tour the facility. As club members and faculty advisor Dr. Ryan Hedstrom says, "It's not what you know, but who you know."

That knowledge came in handy for this trip. At the Indiana Association for Health, Physical Education, Recreation and Dance (IAHPERD) conference last November,

a group of 12 students attended and had a question-and-answer session with the guest speaker panel. They toured the Dallara IndyCar Factory and the Indianapolis Motor Speedway, and they also had the opportunity to network with sports industry professionals.

Seniors Kara Gilley and Katrin Muser connected with Kyle Ward, a corporate ticket sales manager for the Pacers, and recognized a huge opportunity for the club. Ward told them about his group and corporate sales experience, and Muser asked him if they could get a tour of Banker's Life Fieldhouse before a game. Ward set it up.

When the club got to Indianapolis on Feb. 27, many were not sure what to expect. Dr. Hedstrom had even warned mem-

bers that these tours could get cancelled without any warning due to staff members being super busy, but that was not the case.

First the club was taken downstairs to the press conference room where Ward had set up a small panel to talk to them. Ward brought Cody Sparks, a premium services manager, and Bobbi Courtright, director of community and player relations for the Indiana Fever of the WNBA, who also use Banker's Life Fieldhouse. Sparks and Courtright both talked about how they got to their current positions and the pros and cons of their jobs. While they both worked long hours, both wouldn't trade their jobs for anything.

Senior Kara Gilley was impressed with the panel. "I really enjoyed the tour of Banker's Life," she

said. "The small panel was awesome to hear from; it doesn't matter how long someone speaks to you and about what, any time you can grab on to content and make a connection it is a big deal."

Fellow senior Eric Courter was also impressed with the tour. "It was interesting to see the behind the scenes of a professional sports organization and hear what they on a day to day basis," he said.

The club was also taken upstairs to the Varsity Club, the premium restaurant where patrons can have dinner while watching the Pacers or get dinner before taking their seats, overlooking the court. Ward also showed them one of the many suites that Banker's Life has to offer, with seating of up to 50 people, leather couches

and \$1,000 worth of food as well.

Then it was on to the main attraction, the game itself. The Pacers jumped out to an early lead over the struggling Bucks, but Milwaukee would not go down without a fight. The game was a back and forth battle for four quarters before Indiana pulled away 101-96 to improve their record to 44-13 at the time, good for first place in the NBA's Eastern Conference.

Being sport management majors, however, meant the students couldn't just watch the game. "This trip allowed me to see several people who work these games and what they are doing," Gilley said. "I find that along with watching the game, I am now more aware of the sidelines/behind the scenes of what

people are doing with the event management and game operations. It is so different watching that on TV and being at the game seeing it; it gives more insight."

Courter was amazed with the quickness of the operations staff. "It's really cool with all the replays and promotions they do and how they are always on time and make it look good," he said.

While Spartan Sport Management was happy with their Pacers game experience, they are still hard at work. They are planning two campus-wide events, the Molasses Mile and MU Club Olympics, scheduled for April 23 and May 8, respectively. More information will be made available as the dates approach.

Water Pipe Breaks, Floods Funderburg



WATERED DOWN Manchester University's Funderburg Library moonlighted as a shallow wading pool this past week after a small water leak turned into a much "deeper" issue after a water pipe broke. Currently, the library will be closed until at least Monday, which include's Wilbur's Café and the computer lab. The library staff has said they will issue an email in regards to gathering volunteers to help relocate books, but for now make sure to come prepared with both textbooks and a bathing suit.

Photo by Andrew Ellam

Around Campus

MU Softball Sick of Gym, Raring for Diamond

Emily Barrand
Staff Writer

After a double-header in Kentucky, the Spartan softball team is warmed up and ready to take on the season.

The team looks forward to more wins like the one against the Praying Colonels in the season opener. "I was really happy with how we played," said Head Coach Tracy Cromer. "The defense played really well; we only had one error. The pitchers adjusted fairly quickly." In general, she is happy with the team's work so far. "I think we're doing a lot of things well; we just need to continue to get bats in off of live pitchers and continue to fine-tune different areas," she said. One of her only complaints, like many others across campus, is the weather.

Even though the team is all warmed up, unfortunately the weather has not. Continuous cold weather means players must practice inside, an annoying obstacle for all. "I have never been more excited to go outside and play than I am right now," said junior pitcher Ashlea Nash. "Being inside is good for the off season but it is season time now; we need to pitch live off the mound and dirt and our defense needs balls hit to



STUCK IN THE GYM Like other Manchester spring sports, the Spartan softball team has been kept inside because of the snow and saturation. Forced to take grounders on the hardwood rather than on the field, the Lady Spartans look forward to warmer weather as they travel to Florida to play 10 games over Spring Break.

Photo by Vivien Carter

them off the dirt and grass. We need to be in our cleats running."

First-year Sean-na Redman agreed. "It's hard to slide on the wood floors," she said. "Being inside everyday really gets you down. We all just want to be out there on the

field." Cromer will take the team out as soon as they can properly prepare the field. This winter will indeed end, and the players anxiously await the day.

The team seems to be off to a good start for many reasons. There are 11 returning players, add-

ing much knowledge and experience to the team. "Offensively, I think we'll be strong," Cromer said, adding, "Defensively as well."

Nash said: "We have a small team this year and I believe our team chemistry is the best

it has ever been. Everyone is on the same page with what our goals are and we all want to win. We have a lot of people that can play the same position and play it well, so it makes each player work hard and challenge each other to earn each spot."

Redman agreed that team chemistry is strong. "We have really bonded as a team and can communicate with one another," she said. "We help each other when we get down and push one another to do better."

Of course, there are always areas to improve. "Consistency is the biggest thing for our team; we need to practice hard every single day and compete in practice so when game time comes around, it is just natural for us," Nash said.

Both Redman and Cromer mentioned the intention to improve batting. "If everyone can have confidence when going to that plate, I think we can be more successful hitting," Redman said.

After spring break, the Lady Spartans have many games to look forward to. The first conference weekend at home is scheduled for the first weekend of April. Cromer encourages students to attend games in support. "I think we're going to be an exciting team to watch," she said. "The student body has been really supportive in the past; hopefully that will carry on this year."

MU Students Bring P.E. to Homeschoolers

Jacob Sweet
Staff Writer

For almost 20 years, Manchester University's Physical Education Program (PEP) has been teaching homeschooled kids the importance of physical education and the different subjects associated with it, like fundamentals and teamwork. Students taking Exercise Sport Science (ESS) 206 create the lessons and teach the homeschooled students.

PEP is taught by Dr. Kim Duchane, professor of exercise and sport sciences. The 10 students taking the class are the teachers and they split up in teams of five to teach their homeschooled students. Five Manchester students teach kindergartners, and first through third-graders. The other five teach the fourth through sixth graders and the seventh and eighth graders. "The elementary students learn the fundamentals [of differ-

ent sports] and the upper graders learn about teamwork," Duchane said.

Students from all over Wabash County and even as far as Peru are coming to partake in these lessons taught by the Manchester students. "These students are receiving a graduation credit by completing these physical education courses," Duchane said. Manchester University works with the Wabash Association of Teaching Children at Home to make this possible for the young students. Around 60 to 100 kids are in attendance for the classes.

Parents homeschooling their children is not a rare occurrence in this area of Northeast Indiana. "[Parents] homeschool their kids because they want to individualize their kids instead of having

him or her in a class of 30, or some have a disability," Duchane said.

Mikayla Munn, a sophomore physical education major, appreciates what the program offers. "It allows me to get experience in a physical education setting without being removed from campus, and I love that I get feedback about my teaching style too," she said.

Munn is also glad she can include other subjects along with the physical education. "I wish I could do more but my students seem to love what I am doing, incorporating spelling words into physical activity as well as math makes my students enjoy it more, which as a future educator makes me proud," she said.

Munn is also proud of how far her students

have come and their improvements. "My students are more social and seem to be more confident," she says. "At the beginning, I would ask them what their goal of the day was and each would hesitate, but now they have three or four different goals for me which makes me feel pretty awesome that each of them wants to improve in more than one area."

Every Thursday before the homeschoolers arrive, Manchester students and Duchane have a faculty meeting to talk about highlights of last week and improvements for the week to come. After the faculty meeting, the students start arriving and the teachers greet them. Once all the students get there, they have a "walk and talk" where they can catch up with friends before fitness

time begins. The teachers complete their lessons and then there is a short break. After the break the next set of teachers begin their lessons. Once the second teacher is finished, there is a debriefing and closing where the teachers and students talk about the skills and other information they learned on that day. To close the lab, Manchester students and Duchane have a closing faculty meeting where they talk about student's behavior and the plans for the next class.

The physical education program for homeschooled kids takes place every Thursday from 12 to 2 p.m. in the PERC main gymnasium. Any parents interested in signing up their child to participate can contact Dr. Kim Duchane.

February Athletic Training Student of the Month



Brandy Crouse

Hometown: Cleves, OH
Future Plans: Attend PA School
Campus Activities: Member of the women's soccer team, MUATC
Current Preceptor Assignment: Women's Basketball

Grandin, continued from page 3

Grandin explained how labeling a person with a diagnosis could be harmful. "Diagnostic labels are not precise, and that's the problem. People treat it like they are precise and they are not," she said. "I don't think becoming your disease is a good thing."

Professor Stacy Erickson enjoyed hearing Grandin speak. "I thought it was a great talk and a great event for Manchester," she said. "I was particularly inspired by what she said about avoiding over-generalizations and not becoming your diagnosis or disease."

Audience members asked questions after Grandin spoke. Questions ranged from her current research, the movie that was made about her life and how she became success-

ful. In order to be successful, Grandin believes in self-promotion. "Show off your work and people will take you seriously," she said. "Make a portfolio of what you can do and do work that other people want."

After the event, Grandin was available in the Cordier lobby where people could purchase her books, have them signed and have their picture taken with her. First-year Alaina Lewis had the opportunity to meet Grandin and have her picture taken with her. "Meeting someone who has done so much, things that most people believed she couldn't because of her disorder, was so incredibly inspiring," she said.



Photo by Savannah Riley



Spartan Sports



MU Baseball Stays Hot Despite Cold Weather

Cody Goble
Staff Writer

Due to melting snow, MU baseball's March 9 and 10 games versus DePauw at Westfield have been postponed. "There is still snow on our field, and the fields around the region still either have snow on them or are too wet due to the snow melting," said senior pitcher Dylan Padgett.

At the time of publication, one of the makeup games against DePauw was scheduled for Sunday, March 16, at Grand Park in Westfield, Ind.

Just chalk it up as another winter-caused inconvenience for the Spartan baseball team. This year, excessive amounts of snow have forced all the team's training to be done indoors, which the players and coaches say impose some limits. "Inside practice can be beneficial, but it is nowhere near practicing outside," said Head Coach Rick Espeset. "To think the game, to teach the game, you need to get outside."

According to Coach Espeset, the weather this time of year can be difficult to plan around. "I sometimes wonder why we even make a schedule since March is so unpredictable," said Coach Espeset jokingly.



WARMING UP Senior first baseman Ryne Lehrman participates in drills during a recent team practice inside the PERC. Although the weather conditions have been unfavorable for baseball, the team has been on fire, winning its last six games. Also, the Spartans are currently ranked 19th in the D3baseball.com Top 25 national rankings. Because Gratz Field on campus is currently unsuitable for games, the team will play Heidelberg tonight at Grand Park in Westfield, Ind. First pitch is scheduled for 6:45 p.m.

Currently, the baseball team has a winning record of 6-2. For the season opening weekend of March 1-3, the Spartans traveled to Myrtle Beach, where over those three warm sunny days, the team played six games. For their first two games, the team met Manhattanville, which

resulted in two losses for the Spartans with scores of 7-6 and 8-7. However, the team rallied over the next two days, winning four straight games against the College of Staten Island, Wilkes University, Muhlenberg and Eastern University. The scores were 10-3, 10-3, 11-7 and 7-6 respectively.

Many of the players had a great time in South Carolina. "It was awesome to see the sun," said fifth-year first baseman Daniel Maringer. "The last few years, [Myrtle Beach] has been cold, but not this year."

However, the trip

was a bit grueling. "It was a 14-to-16 hour long bus ride," Maringer said. "Luckily, I was able to sleep for some of it."

Overall though, the coach felt the season opener was a success. "I was pleased with our trips," Espeset said. "With so many new guys at new

positions, we used this as a test, and they did well." Maringer concurs. "I think we have a good team," he said. "The new guys coming in, I believe, will make a really big impact."

Recently, the Spartans were in action at Taylor University on Tuesday, March 11 as they swept the two-game series. The scores were 7-5 and 2-1 respectively, and each game ended after eight innings.

This will be Espeset's 18th year as head coach of the Spartan Baseball team. According to his bio on Manchester's online athletics page, he has taken the team to the conference tournament 15 times. By the end of his 17th season, his record was 458-278-2. With his 243rd win, he became the Manchester baseball coach with the most wins. Coach Espeset and his wife, Andrea, live in North Manchester with their son and two daughters.

The Spartans are scheduled to play three-game series this weekend against Heidelberg at Grand Park in Westfield, beginning with the first game tonight at 6:45 p.m. The series will conclude with a doubleheader tomorrow, starting at 10 a.m.

MU Track and Field Wraps Up Indoor Season

Junior Bridgette Rowe To Compete in High Jump at National Meet



JUMP FOR JOY Junior jumper Austin Finley practices his technique for the high jump event at the PERC. Although the indoor track and field season has reached its end, junior Bridgette Rowe will be representing Manchester tomorrow afternoon at the NCAA Division III Championships in the high jump event. The outdoor season will begin on March 29 at the Hanover Invitational.

Photo by Savannah Riley

Alexah Parnin
Staff Writer

The indoor track season is sprinting to an end, but the winter weather is not following its lead. As the snow slowly melts, the teams prepare for their outdoor season.

"It's been a great season," said Track Coach Brian Cashdollar, "considering everything we've accomplished and everything we've had to deal with, mostly meaning the weather."

The cold and snowy weather has been an obstacle affecting many of the runners. Senior Britany Shuler, a finance major, described her biggest challenge this season. "[It was] not being able to run outside because it's cold," she said. "No runner enjoys the treadmill."

Shuler said she runs "anything from the 400 to the 5K."

Junior Madeline Keisler, an exercise science major, agreed that running on treadmills is

unfavorable. "Training has been moved to mostly treadmill runs," she said, "which can give me a mental block with running very easily, but knowing that I'm not the only one makes it easier sometimes. I am just ready for the weather to break so I can run with my teammates."

Cashdollar agreed that the weather has the potential to weigh the team down. "The biggest challenge is continuing to be dedicated to the sport," he said. "When there is a foot

of snow outside, that can be hard to do."

Training indoors because of the snow is not the main problem, however, the lack of an indoor track and equipment makes it difficult for the teams to practice. "It is hard to work on speed without a track," Shuler said, "but the coaches have done the best they can to focus on our fitness instead of speed for the time being."

Despite the obstacles this harsh winter has given the teams, they have accomplished to hurdle over them. "There have been a number of school records go down this year," Cashdollar said. "They also are having huge PRs, which is what I am most proud of, that we are getting the most out of the teams."

"I am proud of the overall work ethic," he added. "We preach daily about controlling what they can and they are improving every day. The energy in practice is what makes us great. The individual school records is a reflection of the team effort."

An important team quality for any sport is support, and, according to the runners, the track teams score high in this category. "We are very close as a team and always cheering for whoever is competing," said Keisler. "There is always positivity in the air at practice and also at meets."

Cashdollar said: "There have been numerous times where the team has been gathered around for a meet. When I see the athletes that are cheering and excited for their teammates, I am proud. As coaches, that's what we strive for, that passion. It's

exciting."

Sophomore Allison Rowe described one of these times as being her most memorable moment from the season. "The Defiance meet was over except for triple jump," she said. "Our entire team came over to support Bridgette and me and I beat my personal record by one meter. I felt that this was the moment our entire team came together as one unit to support each other."

Although most of the team is done competing for the indoor season, Manchester will be represented at the National Meet by junior Bridgette Rowe, who participates in the high jump and the triple jump.

"I am preparing for nationals by keeping my body healthy, working hard in the weight room and using each practice to

better myself technically and physically," Rowe said. "Over the past couple of weeks I have been jumping well. My coaches have taught me to be consistent. Consistency is key for high jump; sometimes an extra scratch at one height can decide between 1st and 4th."

Rowe attributes her success to her teammates, family, friends and coaches. "I am an out-of-state athlete from California so my parents don't get to see me," she said. "My team and friends have become my family here. They always support me and drive me to do better."

Cashdollar added that Manchester has had a high jumper at the national meet every year except for two. "That is very unique for a school like us," he said.

Spartan Sports - Weekend Events

Friday, March 14

Men's Tennis
at Earlham, 6 p.m.

Baseball

vs. Heidelberg @ Westfield, Ind., 12 p.m.

Saturday, March 15

Baseball

vs. Heidelberg @ Westfield, Ind., 10 a.m.
vs. Heidelberg @ Westfield, Ind., 1 p.m.

Softball

vs. Fairleigh Dickinson @ Clermont, Fla., 3 p.m.
vs. Trinity (Conn.) @ Clermont, Fla., 5 p.m.

Women's Indoor Track & Field - Bridgette Rowe
at NCAA DIII Championships - High Jump, 3:30 p.m.

Sunday, March 16

Softball

vs. SUNY Geneseo @ Clermont, Fla., 1 p.m.
vs. William Patterson @ Clermont, Fla., 3 p.m.

Baseball

vs. DePauw @ Westfield, Ind., 3 p.m.