

The Joak Leaves

Manchester University Issue XV - April 4, 2014

'Bigfoot' on Campus Revealed as 'Senior Prank'

Tyler Roebuck
Staff Writer

On Friday, March 28, many Manchester University students were utterly bewildered by what they saw.

Students that were outside around campus or in the PERC had an experience they will surely remember for years to come. What did these students see that was so disturbing? According to all witnesses, Bigfoot stepped onto campus.

Among the first students to see Bigfoot was senior Lucas Kauffman, who works for the grounds crew on campus. "Every week, I go around campus picking up litter," Kauffman said. "One day, I was picking up litter near Schwalm. Out of the corner of my eye, I saw this big, hairy creature with big feet that did not look like a Schwalmite. I was very afraid, and walked away slowly, so that I would not anger it." He also heard Bigfoot making vocalizations. "I cannot remember exactly what it sounded like, but I think it was kind of like a bear, but deeper," he said. Kauffman was bothered by this event, and was highly reluctant to go on record.

The next reported sightings were from the PERC. First-year Nick Newcomer, who was lifting, experienced his first cryptic sighting. "I saw something at the baseball field that was tall and dark," he said. "I kept watching it and it was just looking around." Because he was inside, Newcomer did not hear Bigfoot howling.

Senior Emilie Hunt



LURKING IN THE WOODS Senior Donald Campbell, while posing as "Bigfoot," wanders through the woods surrounding campus. Last Friday, several students believed they had spotted the infamous creature on campus. However, following an investigation conducted by Campus Safety, it was revealed that Campbell was pretending to be "Bigfoot" as part of a "senior prank."

Photo by Savannah Riley

did hear his howls for attention. Unlike most people, who would run away, Hunt decided to do the opposite. "I was going for a walk behind the PERC, and I heard this awful howling," Hunt said. "I thought 'huh, that's kind of weird.' So I snuck my way toward the source of the yell, and to my surprise, I saw Bigfoot prowling in the woods behind the practice football fields. I followed him for a while in the tree line, at a distance of course, until I lost track of him. It was truly an experience like I have never dreamed I would have."

Of all the students who saw Bigfoot that day, sophomore Josh Busen-

bark had the most interactive experience. He was going for a jog behind the softball field when he saw Bigfoot. Busenbark reverted to instinct: "I used to watch the show 'Finding Bigfoot', so I thought back to it and what I was supposed to do," he said. "First, I need to make my call so that we are on the same page, or 'goochie.' So I made my call, he responds, and he is angry. Then, I went back to my 'Mario Kart' days, unsheathed a yellow/brown banana, and tightly squeezed it for maximum launch. I missed him, so I ran away." Busenbark was fearful that he further

angered an already angry Bigfoot.

Senior Kristen Hoffman heard from other students about the sightings. "I thought winter was gone, but I realized that it's not because Bigfoot is around," Hoffman said, adding, "I think he is lost. Or maybe migrating. I do not know."

With so many concurring accounts, Campus Safety launched a full-fledged investigation into the sightings. After only a few hours of investigation, they came up with a verdict. The official report read, "Safety invested its entire staff toward investigating the sightings. The

investigation discovered that the 'Bigfoot' that students reported was another student. [Senior] Donald Campbell was found in the woods behind Tall Oaks, near the Prayer Labyrinth. Campbell was in the process of putting his clothes on when Safety apprehended him."

Campbell did the act as a prank. "I thought it would be more fun to do it than not to do it," he said. "I wanted to see people's reactions, and who would not want to be a furry Bigfoot running through the woods?" Some of his tactics included staying along the borders and tree lines of campus and howling.

"I began howling to draw people's attention, so that I could get more of a reaction," he said.

Upon receiving the news, students were relieved to hear of the prank. "That does not surprise me at all!" said Kauffman with a big laugh. "That sounds like Donnie. It was a good prank. I give him props."

Busenbark's response was much more serious. "I am glad I misfired the banana then, because I would never want to hit a student," he said. "I really need to think before I act; somebody could have been hurt." Busenbark has a message for Campbell: "It's a little early for April fools," he said. "It was a good prank, just not the right time. You have got to stick to the playbook."

Newcomer was disheartened. "That's disappointing," he said, adding, "I wanted to see Bigfoot!"

Hunt was disappointed as well. "You mean to tell me that I wasted all of that effort chasing after Donnie? That is uncool."

In the end, Campbell found the prank worth it. "It was an absolute blast, and I would not hesitate to do it again," he said. "I was afraid I would get caught when the girl was chasing me, and the banana was a total surprise. Kudos to the guy that shot it; he was close."

Who knows; maybe "Bigfoot" will re-emerge at graduation.

MU 'Travoltifies,' becomes Mackenzie Shunter

Kobe Cunningham
Guest Writer

In its ever-present quest to increase its visibility beyond northeast Indiana, Manchester University has decided to go Hollywood.

After considerable week-long research following celebrity gossip websites, Manchester University decided it was prudent to follow actor John Travolta's lead. During the Academy Awards in March, Travolta mistakenly introduced performer Idina Menzel (who sings "Let it Go" from "Frozen") as "Adele Dazeem."

The result was that Menzel/Dazeem rapidly became a household name.

Now Manchester will "Travoltify" its moniker in hope of a similar bounce in name recognition.

During their lunch break one Tuesday, the cabinet gathered round an out-of-date computer (now for sale) in the Clark Computer Center. They each typed a letter of "Manchester University" into the "Travoltify Yourself" app found online at Slate.com and, with the click of a mouse, found the university's new name: Mackenzie Shunter.

Then they went back to their sandwiches.

The process, con-

"manchester university" Travoltified is...



"Mackenzie Shunter"

"TRAVOLTIFY YOURSELF" Following the Academy Awards in March, where actor John Travolta accidentally introduced Idina Menzel as "Adele Dazeem," Manchester University has decided to "Travoltify" its own name and will become "Mackenzie Shunter." The name change will give the university a handle that is unlike that any other institution's, which will help increase the university's visibility beyond northeast Indiana. As a result of the change, Travolta will hand out diplomas at Commencement in May.

Photo courtesy of Kobe Cunningham via Slate.com

siderably simpler than hiring an expensive consulting firm, has delighted administrators. President Jo Young Switzer, a long-time Travolta fan, believes that Mackenzie Shunter complements the current mission beautifully. "I'm

pleased with the new name because we have graduated so many people of annuity and comprehension over the years," she said.

President incumbent Dave McFadden notes that the name change allows him to skirt

an annoying issue. "Our new name will be good because there isn't another school called Mackenzie Shunter anywhere in the world and we can avoid the whole 'are we a college or university?' question," he said.

But without "University" in its name, will Mackenzie Shunter be obvious as an academic institution?

Dean Glenn Sharfman does not seem worried, for nostalgic reasons. "Well, I for one would love to attend MS," he said.

"For one, I dated Mackenzie Shunter back in high school—she went by Mac back then."

Personal connections aside, Sharfman feels that the new name will capture the students' imaginations. "Students will love the new name because it will be easy to cheer for the Shunters," he said. "We will be able to Shunt them down and Shunt it down their throat or myriad of other cheers that roll off your tongue."

John Travolta will make an appearance at Commencement this year to hand out diplomas. It's too early to tell whether he will mispronounce as many names as Dean Glenn Sharfman usually does, but the race will be close.

Graduating students may request Mackenzie Shunter on their diplomas this year. Simply email Sharfman at his newly Travoltified email: GraceSharrap@mackenzieshunter.travolta.

The Campus Store will sell Mackenzie Shunter apparel next week.

Inside: Random Registration, MU Goes Greener, D-Free Sports

Around Campus

Registrar to Implement 'Random Registration' New System will Randomly Organize Class Schedules for Students

Alexah Parnin
Staff Writer

Are you tired of competing with other students to get in classes? Sick of piecing together your schedule like a puzzle? Help is here.

The registration process will be changing this fall. Students will no longer sign up for their own classes, but will be put into a system that randomly organizes their schedules.

Registrar Lila Hammer explains this new system. "We've created a complex algorithm," she said. "We'll just push a button and within ten minutes all students will be enrolled."

Hammer explained that the first-year students will be entered into the system first because they have the most classes that they need to fill. "We will end up with seniors," she said, "with hope that they can get into classes to finish their requirements and graduate May 2015."

The system is set up so that all of the 8 a.m. classes will be filled out first. "We will also be adding Saturday morning classes," Hammer said.

The current registration process has been known to cause students

stress. Sometimes picking classes to correlate with their future major can be daunting, not to mention actually choosing a major and career path.

"This will be easier," Hammer said. "It can take the stress out of picking their courses. We will pick the courses for them."

Majors will be chosen based on the courses that the students have been randomly put into. "Maybe a student thought they were interested in accounting, but they'll end up with philosophy," Hammer said.

First-year Haley Crocker, a bio-chem major, expressed her concerns about this change. "I honestly am not a fan of it because I like to choose courses based on what I'm interested in," she said. "The current system does have some problems, but it's still based on choice."

"I guess it would be good for people who do get put into something they really do end up enjoying," she added. "I just think it takes away freedom of choice."

Hammer thinks this new system will be beneficial for the university. "This change will ensure that students have the op-



STRESS-FREE SCHEDULING Registrar Lila Hammer fills out class schedules in anticipation of the new registration process, which will take class choice out of the students' hands. Instead, students will be randomly placed into courses by means of a new system that will organize schedules for them. There will be no input based on majors or academic standing. Additionally, a system will be developed where faculty are selected randomly to teach different courses.

Photo by Vivien Carter

portunity to take classes in departments all across campus," she said. "We will

make sure every class has an equal number of students enrolled. All around I

think it's a win-win situation for students, faculty and the university."

The change will officially take place during fall 2014 and will be formally announced during finals week this semester. Students will have already registered, but their registration will not be taken into consideration. Also, there will be no change of course days. "There will be no need for changes because every student will have a perfect schedule," Hammer said.

Hammer expressed high expectations of satisfaction from this change.

"Students will be so excited that we're making these choices for them that enrollment will increase exponentially," she said. "We are expecting a large number of transfer students because they will be so impressed once the word gets out."

Hammer also mentioned that there are further new plans for the university next year.

"Next year we plan to develop a system where we randomly select faculty to teach different courses," she said. She explained that students will be impressed at how well-rounded our faculty is and how they want to embrace this variability.

'Room Switch' Enforced in Frigid Temperatures

The Joak Leaves

Published by the students of Manchester University

Editors in Chief

Andrew Ellam
David Lloyd

Faculty Advisor

Dr. Katharine Ings

Photographers

Vivien Carter, Savannah Riley

Staff Writers

Kalie Ammons, Emily Barrant, Devin Clark,
Cody Goble, Louise Magiera, Alexah Parnin-Choisne,
Brad Reuille, Tyler Roebuck, Tyler Stevenson, Jacob Sweet

Newspaper Delivery Manager

Artie Shidler

Subscriptions: The general fee is paid for by full-time students whose tuition includes a subscription to *The Oak Leaves*. Mailed subscriptions are available for \$20 for one school year. Make checks payable to *The Oak Leaves* and send to the address below.

The Oak Leaves welcomes written opinion pieces; however, only signed letters will be published.

For advertising contact:
oakleaves@manchester.edu
For all other concerns please write to:
oakleaves@manchester.edu

or
The Oak Leaves
604 E. College Ave Box 11
North Manchester, IN 46962

Please join our group on Facebook group entitled "The Oak Leaves"

The views in *The Oak Leaves* do not necessarily represent those of Manchester University or the majority of its students.

Tyler Stevenson
Staff Writer

On Jan. 6, 2014, Manchester University decided to implement a mandatory room switch day for all students living on campus. The switch occurred on one of the coldest days of the year, with temperatures dipping below zero degrees and wind chills reaching negative 40, not to mention snow accumulating between 10 and 18 inches.

The university decided to do the mandatory switch so everyone could have the chance to live in the different dorms and get to meet new people, while increasing campus cohesion. With a rise in the number of complaints during housing registration as well, administration felt that this could help solve the problem.

Just coming back from winter break and getting back into the swing of January Session, students already had to deal with the bitter cold and snow that was taking hold of Indiana and the rest of the country. Needless to say, there was a lot of negative feedback from the student body. "I'm not very happy about having to switch during the coldest day of the year," Garver resident Austin Stanley said. "This feels like some sort of punish-

ment!"

Fellow Garver resident, Brayden Troxel, disagreed with Stanley. "I really liked the room switch day being during January because moving all your things in the cold builds character," he said.

Resident assistants were not excited about losing their residents and having all new floors. "I think the mandatory roommate switch day is ridiculous," said Helman RA MacKenzie Mance. "All year the other RA's and I have tried to build a community between roommates. This has just messed everything up."

Administration also took a misstep by not communicating with the RA's and other personnel. "We were not contacted by residential life at all during the process," Mance said. "We had no input in the decision."

The cold and snow did not make Mance any happier. "The cold just put everyone in such a negative mood," she said. "Nothing is fun in the cold."

To make it fair to all students, those who lived in Garver, East and Schwalm got to move into Oakwood, Helman and East Street Apartments while the those students living in the suite styled rooms moved back to communal living. This received both positive and

negative feedback from the students. "The only possible benefit of this whole situation is the fact that I get to move to Oakwood," Stanley said. "Now I'll get a bigger room with some extra space for activities!"

Troxel wasn't looking forward to the extra responsibilities that come with living in the suite style rooms. "I'm not excited to switch to Oakwood because that means I have to clean the bathroom, and I'm too lazy for that," he said.

Everyone will be having an eye turned towards next year to see if Manchester continues the mandatory room switching. Troxel was in favor of making it a yearly tradition. "Manchester should keep doing this; I mean, why not?" he said.

Mance took the opposite stance. "I think this shouldn't have happened in the first place," she said with a scowl on her face.

Stanley had a unique take on it. "I think this is something that should be done once every four years," he said very thoughtfully. "Make everyone experience it just once and have the opportunity to see how other people live at Manchester!"

UPCOMING VIA PROGRAMS

John Travolta, Adele Dazeem: Creativity and Public Speaking
Friday, April 4 - 7 p.m. - Cordier Auditorium

Tiger Woods, Creating and Strengthening Personal Relationships
Thursday, April 10 - 7 p.m. - Cordier Auditorium

Rob Ford, Balancing Drugs and Politics Effectively
Friday, April 11 - 6:30 p.m. - Cordier Auditorium

Tonya Harding, Cheaters Never Prosper
Tuesday, April 15 - 3:30 p.m. - Cordier Auditorium

Around Campus

Walkie Talkies Replace Cell Phones on Campus

Cody Goble
Staff Writer

No longer will students stand in the middle of the football field, cell phone clamped to their ear, asking "Can you hear me now?" That's because Manchester has banned cellular telephones from campus property. However, realizing that communication is a must, the school will provide each student, staff and faculty member with a new walkie talkie.

Currently, the program is in its early stages, with only a few on campus having access to the walkie talkies. Yet despite this, many students could not be more thrilled with the new policy. "Take it from a communications major; walkie talkies are good for MU," says senior Hunter Snapp. "There's nothing really worth contacting outside of the radius of my walkie talkie anyways."

For others, the walkie talkies allow for more peace of mind. "I have always been concerned about Big Brother keeping track of my location and listening to my conversations through my phone," said sophomore art major Sara Joll. "But now, with the new ban and talkies, all I have to worry about is the government listening to my conversations."

Professor Mark Angelos strongly supports the walkie talkie movement. "Good—my *@\$% phone has said 'no service' every *^+& day since December," he said. "That's ^@!+*%\$#. If I can't use mine, pull the %*#\$ plug on everybody else. That's what I say."

In addition, some students have focused on the health benefits that a cell-phone free campus



CELL PHONES, OVER... First-year student Allison Schlatter tests out her new COBRA CX210 20 Mile 22 Channel GMRS/FRS, which will be provided to students, faculty and staff next year following the recent announcement that cellular telephones will be banned on campus property. Due to the cell phone ban, tuition will increase by \$1,300 and the technology fee will also increase by \$900. The walkie talkie movement on campus has garnered mixed reviews from students, faculty and staff.

Photo by Vivien Carter

provides. "Without those annoying cumbersome phones in everyone's pockets, everyone's chances of brain cancer will go down," says senior art major Holly Jantz. "Now we just have to worry about homework and

finals frying our brains."

A few students have had difficulty adjusting to the new policy and are going to extreme measures to use their cell phones. "It's been a bit dangerous since I've been

taking phone calls in the middle of the road (since that isn't considered campus)," says senior English major David Lloyd. "Dodging cars and carrying on conversations don't mix. Additionally, it's impossible

to find batteries anywhere anymore for my walkie talkies."

On the other hand, Lloyd still sees the benefits that walkie talkies offer. "On the bright side, I actually get better service with

my walkie talkie than I ever did with a cell phone," he said.

However, the battery issue must soon be addressed. Over the summer break, Manchester will open a battery kiosk in Clark Computer Center. Additionally, ITS employees will receive training in walkie talkie repair and maintenance. Their services will be free of charge to all members of the Manchester community.

In order to properly enforce the new ban, a fair and balanced penalty system will be enforced. A first offence of having a cell phone on campus will result in a \$100 fine. For a second offence, the person must complete 1,000 hours of community service. A third offence will result in immediate termination or expulsion.

Unfortunately, providing the new walkie talkies, training the ITS employees and building the battery kiosk will cause a moderate increase in expenses for students. Tuition will increase by \$1,300 and the technology fee will rise by \$900.

The walkie talkie model that Manchester has chosen to provide its students, staff and faculty is the COBRA CX210 20 Mile 22 Channel GMRS/FRS. It currently has a 4.3 rating (out of 5) on Amazon.com, which seems rather impressive. Of course with only 22 channels for a campus in excess of 2,000 people, private conversations will be unlikely. However, the university believes that this will strengthen fellowship among all, making Manchester truly worthy of the Spartan heritage.

MU to Keep One-Person Flash Mobs a Secret

Emily Barrand
Staff Writer

If you search the term "flash mob" on YouTube, you will discover a plethora of videos of people spontaneously forming dance groups in random public places, such as malls, sporting events, and street fairs. Manchester University, with the help of Michael Dixon, director of Intercultural Services and certified Zumba instructor, will soon be part of this growing trend. In order to break clichés, Manchester is looking at ways to spice up the average flash mob. "Manchester has prided itself on being out of the ordinary," Dixon said. Not only is the university looking to create the world's smallest flash mob, another unique aspect will be the mob's locations; students will perform in places such as libraries, or jails.

Why the unusual locations? "I think it lightens the mood," Dixon said. "In libraries, they say it's supposed to be quiet... well let's turn it up." In jail, inmates are bored and sit around thinking negative thoughts; what better way to liven things up than with spontaneous dance? He has several other potential location ideas for flash



SPONTANEOUS DANCE Manchester University one-person flash mobs are actually so secretive, no pictures are available. Spearheaded by the director of Intercultural Services Michael Dixon, the movement looks to "turn up" at local libraries and jails. Dixon looks to spread the word around one person at a time and effectively lighten the mood at locations that are stereotypically quiet or filled with negativity.

Photo courtesy of <http://static.someecards.com/someecards/usercards/MjAxMy1iMDY4MzZM4MmQ2MzU5ZDRl.png>

mob as well, including The White House, yachts and maybe even Chick-Fil-A, but the latter option might be a bit difficult to obtain so for now it remains just an idea.

Dixon has a fool-proof plan to teach his students the choreography. Actually demonstrating the moves takes far too much time and energy that could be devoted to much more important things. "I plan to

stand there and telepathically push the information to them," he said. He may also try bringing in a hypnotist to see if that works better. "I'll think they'll dance better if they're hypnotized. You see some people and think, 'They dance really great...but I think they'd dance even better if they were hypnotized.'"

Telepathy and hypnosis take far less time and effort for all involved.

Pulling off a successful flash mob takes practice. "I think you need to take the number of people that are in the flash mob and multiply it by three, then divide that number by 60; that's how many minutes it would take [to practice]," he said. Using this math, a mob of six people would need to practice for approximately 3/10 of a minute in order to ensure they wouldn't make any mistakes.

Six people, however, is far too many for the flash mobs that Manchester plans to create. In order for the university to break the record for smallest mob, the number of participants must be much lower than six. "I tried to get one person to participate, but I think I can do even less than that," Dixon said. It would therefore take less than .05 of a minute for this individual to practice. No

amount of time is too much to deter Dixon from pursuing this goal.

First-year Tabitha Sutton has always wanted to be in a flash mob, and looks forward to her big break. "Flash mobs are spontaneous and exciting; everyone around is always so confused," she said.

Dixon hopes word of this exciting new idea spreads quickly, but not too quickly, around campus. "My goal is to tell only one person, and then that one person tells one person, and that one person tells one person," he said. Telling only one person at a time ensures the pureness of the information. "I want to take the time to really cultivate this," Dixon said, admitting it may take upwards of two years to spread the word to everyone.

Dixon urges students to help Manchester succeed in this groundbreaking activity. Everyone can help by simply not showing up; too many people in attendance would completely destroy the goal of smallest mob. Do your part—by staying in your dorm and admiring from afar. And please, don't tell anyone.



Spartan Sports



D3 to D-Free: MU to Drop Competitive Athletics

Jacob Sweet
Staff Writer

For the last 50 years Manchester University has been a part of the National Collegiate Athletic Association (NCAA) at the Division three level, but Manchester has decided to break free. The athletic administration has decided that athletes will play sports for fun instead of winning and losing. The university is concerned there is too much pressure to win.

With all of the new contracts in sports and all of the pressure to win a championship, Manchester is afraid that society is ruining the image of sports. "People are always pressuring athletes to win and we don't want our kids thinking that sports is all about money," said Manchester University Athletic Director Rick Espeset. Many of the big-time athletes are making a huge amount of money, like just recently Miguel Cabrera signing a \$292 million dollar contract extension with the Detroit Tigers.

A big part of the school breaking away from the NCAA is the money they will save. "A huge part of the money spent by this school is on athletics and if we can limit the amount we spend on sports we can spend it more for our benefit to improve our campus," Espeset said. Lower-



NO MORE SCORES The image above, taken during Manchester's home game against Earlham on Oct. 19, depicts the last time Manchester will ever compete against the Quakers (or any other opponent). Recently, the university decided to leave the NCAA and drop competitive sports altogether. Manchester will save money by cutting NCAA sports, which means that more money can be spent on campus improvements. Instead of coaching full-time, coaches will work part-time, meaning they will be able to spend more time with their families.

Photo by Savannah Riley

ing the intensity of sports and making it just for fun means coaching will go to part-time instead of full time. Having part-time employees means the school is saving money.

Manchester is big on the importance of family values, and the coach-

es will be able to spend more time with their families, which is much more important than coaching all the time. "We want the coaches to be able to go home early and enjoy their families, like going to their kids' games and spending time with their spouses,"

Espeset said. The university feels like the head coaches and assistants are away from their families too much during the season.

Not only does Manchester want coaches to spend more time with family, but the same goes for the athletes participating in

these sports. "With all the competition taking place on the weekends, athletes are stuck on campus instead of going home and enjoying their family," Espeset said.

Sports can bring on a lot of injuries and a lot of athletes get hurt because of the high intensity

and the school does not want people their students getting hurt. "We just want our kids to be healthy and have a long and healthy live, so by limiting the intensity we should be able to do that," Espeset said.

The school officials at Manchester University take pride in making the town of North Manchester a robust place to live and visit and they want to help the business thrive so they can help the image of the university. "We really want to help the businesses like the Brew House and if we do not have dedicated athletes then they can spend more time at the bar," Espeset said. "If they are 21, that is," he added. Manchester wants students to enjoy local businesses and not have to worry about winning and losing.

Manchester University has made its decision and is not going to let sports take control of the campus. The board of trustees does not care to hear anyone's opinions on this topic and neither does the president. If you have any questions on this topic call the NCAA office in Los Angeles and they will explain this topic in more depth. The athletic offices will now be open on Mondays and Wednesdays only.

MU Custodians to Compete in 2016 Olympics

Students to Acquire Custodial Duties while Custodians Formally Train

Kalie Ammons
Staff Writer

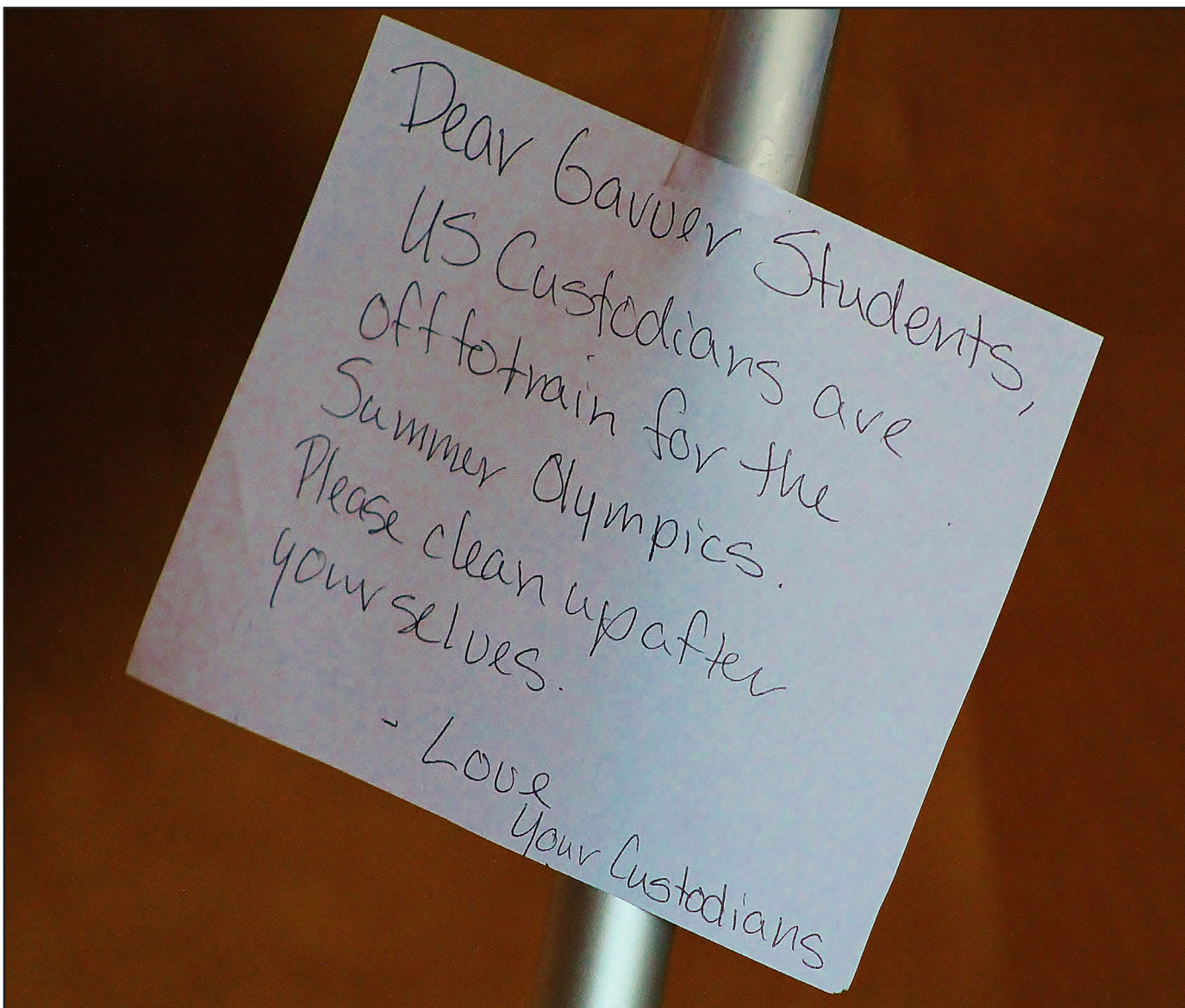
MU custodians will be taking the next year off to continue their training for the 2016 Summer Olympics in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil.

Custodians are participating in a variety of sports, including swimming, gymnastics and beach volleyball. The custodial also competed in this year's Sochi Winter Olympics in curling, and recalled that the swift brushing motion resembled their daily efforts at Manchester.

"When you wax floors as often as we do around the university, it trains you to be a better karate athlete," said Megan Flinn, custodial supervisor who will compete in karate in 2016.

Union custodian Jerilyn Ammons, who will be competing with the shot put, explained how students have helped prepare her for her sport. "When students throw away rice and pasta and ice packs and other liquids, the trash becomes really, really heavy," she said. "So to prepare myself, I'll stand at the dock farthest away from the dumpster and chuck the trash bags as far as I can. This helps improve my overall upper-body strength."

While the custodians take the next year off to formally train, students will take over their duties to maintain a clean and comfortable campus. As a result, the custodians' salaries can be used to fund their training expenses, and students will be able to complete their new requirement of 100 "Manchester



IMPORTANT NOTICE The Garver Hall custodians taped this friendly note to a mop, reminding student residents that they will be taking time off from custodial duties in order to train for the 2016 Summer Olympics in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil. As a result of the custodians' temporary leave, students will be required to take over all custodial duties and clean up after themselves until the Olympic games are finished. Custodians will compete in a variety of events, such as beach volleyball, gymnastics and swimming.

Photo by Savannah Riley

Service" hours each year.

"I think they'll do fairly well," Flinn said. "Like all of our student workers and our community service workers, they'll do an O.K. job. Cleaning up puke, I don't know how well they'll do, but taking out trash they'll be great at."

Students will easily be able to meet their Manchester Service requirement with the amount of cleaning to do around

the university.

"I'll say each student will have to do an hour a day," Flinn said. While that may not sound like a lot, keep in mind that there are roughly 1,200 students attending Manchester, meaning every day 1,200 hours of cleaning needs to be done.

Flinn said that training for the Olympics has been much more stressful than her position

with Manchester. However, she is not worried about the rumors that Chartwells employees will follow their example and join the competition in Rio de Janeiro.

"That would be great!" said Flinn. "They would be a tough competition, but I'm looking forward to it."

While Manchester will be rooting for their super-athlete custodians in 2016, some are express-

ing concern about students taking over cleaning duties.

"I think it's really brilliant that the custodians are getting such a great opportunity, but I don't understand why we have to take over their jobs," said Raeanne Schoeffler, after a moment of deep breathing and personal reflection.

When Schoeffler heard about Flinn's plan to compete in Olympic ka-

rate, she again became distraught and defensive.

"If my right to be lazy depends on duels between students and custodians, I will do everything in my power to succeed," shouted Schoeffler frantically.

Reaction to the mandatory Manchester Service hours was not received much better. "Others may feel that refusing to do the extra work is a sign of our self-righteousness; however, we are only attempting to exercise our rights," Schoeffler said. While she exercises her rights to protest, the custodians continue exercising as they train for the Games.

Students, faculty and staff anxiously wait for the 2016 Olympics to see if their friends and colleagues will bring any medals to Manchester. Until then, the debate continues on whether Manchester Service will become a permanent part of the Manchester experience.



Image courtesy of en.wikipedia.org