

The Oak Leaves

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Department of Music Stages 'The Foreigner'

Jessica Klemm
Staff Writer

The Manchester Department of Music recently produced "The Foreigner," a play of uprising laughter and heart-racing thrills as the main character figures out who he is and helps so many unexpected people along the way. The play takes place in Betty Meeks' Fishing Lodge Resort in Tilghman County, Ga.

The play, performed in Cordier Auditorium, had a twist. The audience didn't sit in the auditorium seats, but on fold-out chairs on the stage. White acoustic shells surrounded the edge of the stage, making the stage feel small and somewhat like Wampler Auditorium.

The stage was a cabin, with rough barn wood lining the walls and floor. A small green glass chandelier hung above a small dining room table. Nearby stood a small orange sofa covered with a colorful knitted blanket draping over the back. The walls had kick-knacks sitting on selves and a sign hung on the wall of a big-mouth bass that said, "Welcome - Drop a line. Stay Awhile." The set portrayed a very small, cozy setting—a place where anyone could imagine sitting on the couch with a cup of hot chocolate, relaxing by the fire.

The play is about Charlie Baker, played by



LIVE ON STAGE From April 11–12, the Manchester Department of Music staged performances of its spring play "The Foreigner." The play, which takes place in Betty Meeks' Fishing Lodge Resort in Tilghman County, Ga., is about Charlie Baker, a foreigner who can't speak English and fears talking to anyone during his stay at the resort. Overall, the production was well received by Manchester students and faculty members.

Photo by Savannah Riley

Clayton Marcum, whose wife is in the hospital and who has befriended Sgt. "Froggy" LeSueur, played by Joshua Dold. LeSueur drops Baker off at Betty Meeks' (played by Kathy Hawkins) resort, where he learns that Baker has a fear of talking and doesn't want to talk to anyone on his stay.

They come up with a plan that Baker is a foreigner who can't speak English. During his stay he

meets Rev. David Marshall Lee, played by Chris McAllev—someone who isn't as he appears, his fiancé Catherine Simms, played by Kenzie Hare—someone who just needed someone to listen to her, Owen Musser, played by Adam Dundas—an obvious antagonist of the story, and Ellard Simms, played by Jacob Ray—a boy who is smarter than most people think.

The play was a

comedy that had its turns of darkness at times. It kept audience members on the edge of their seats and had them smiling throughout the plot's development.

There were times however, when scenes were played out longer than they should have been, but it kept its charm. During an intermission, audience members repeated lines and jokes from the play and laughed.

For example, in

Act 1 Hare's character comes down the stairs to talk to her fiancé and says, "I'm pregnant. You're not as sterile as you thought you were. Ain't that good news?"

Benjamin Dixon, a junior, said that the play was hilarious. "What more can I say?" he said.

Beate Gilliar, professor of English, watched the premiere of the play and was impressed by the production. She said that

she hasn't laughed that heartily in a long time and complimented the director Kira Hawkins on her style of mentoring and guiding the very talented actors to challenge themselves.

"One of the points I deem powerful about the play is its gradual shift from an assumed communal innocence to the revelation of feigned manipulation," Gilliar said. "At the end, even the most foreign (and alienating) appearing language clues from non-verbal via Georgian to multi-global gestures can lead to a community that teaches itself the explosive powers against discrimination."

"The Foreigner" overall was very well put together. The smaller space of the stage made the play more intense and made audience members feel as if they were a part of the performance.

"I think that the audience members on stage gave a more intimate feeling to the play and helped us have a closer view of the stage," said senior Amanda Hendricks. "It was really cool to be at the 'winder' of the lodge!" The casting of the characters was wonderfully executed.

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Manchester Hosts Annual 'Lil' Sibs Weekend'



SAY "CHEESE!" MU student Vivien Carter poses for a quick photo with her brother, Ean, during Lil' Sibs Weekend. The annual event, which took place over the course of Apr. 10–11, encouraged students to invite their younger brothers, sisters, nieces, nephews, cousins or friends within the ages of 5-12 to campus for a weekend full of activities and entertainment. Lil' Sibs Weekend was sponsored by Manchester Activities Council (MAC) and everything was free for participating students and their siblings, including meals provided at Haist Commons. Activities at the event included a juggler, inflatables and swimming at the Strauss-Peabody Aquatic and Fitness Center in town.

Photo by Savannah Riley

Inside: Research Symposium Preview, MU Baseball and Softball

Around Campus

MU Students Help Restore Community Mural

Haylee Parrish
Staff Writer

Manchester students involved with the art club

and Main St.

The mural, which is around five years old and depicts winter, spring, summer and autumn ab-

and restore it to its former glory.

The students have already begun the restoration of the mural, starting

group of us who are still going to be in Manchester over the summer, so the left half will be finished then," said Abigail Lynn, a

permissions, the students held several meetings in order to gather information about the project, including the times available to work on it, as well as to encourage students to volunteer. They also gathered supplies to use on the mural. "Riverbridge Electric has agreed to pay for all the materials we need," Lynn said. "They buy the paint, they buy the scrapers, they buy the brushes, and we provide free labor to get the job done."

The students are receiving help from two associate professors of art. Thelma Rohrer is overseeing the project, and Ejenobo Oke has given pointers on how to fix the wall, how much of the paint to take off, what primer to put on it

to make it last longer, etc.

Despite the hard work going into the project, which can be difficult to work on while juggling sports, homework, evening classes and dinner hours, among other things, Lynn believes that the work is worth it. "The mural has community value," she said. "There was nothing up on the wall before, and it's also a really nice addition because it's where the farmers market is held every year, so it's a background for that event." North Manchester and MU residents can expect to see the mural's restoration completed by the end of the summer.



SPRING REDECORATING MU student artists collaborate with a local youth group to restore a mural on the corner of Wayne St. and Main St. The mural, painted on the Riverbridge Electric building, displays a colorful scene from each of the four seasons. It will be completed over the summer by students still on campus.

Photos by Andrew Ellam

Artists Anonymous, in collaboration with the youth group at the Church of the Brethren, have taken up the task of restoring the mural on the Riverbridge Electric building at the intersection of Wayne St.

strictly using several basic shapes and bright colors, has undergone water and snow damage over the recent harsh winters. Witnessing the mural's decay has pushed the students to action in order to rescue

with obtaining permission from the youth group that originally painted it. Due to the mural's large size, students will split the work. "Half the wall is going to be restored during the school year, and there's a small

student involved in the restoration of the mural.

The project has taken several hours already, and is expected to take several more. In order to make the project a reality, aside from receiving



'The Foreigner' continued from page 1

The set was engaging to the eye due to the wood work and added a harsh

contrast against the mood of the play at times. At the end of the play, the audi-

ence gave a standing ovation.

The next Man-

chester theater event is "Dog Sees God: Confessions of a Teenage

Blockhead" on May 8-9 at 7 in Wampler Auditorium. This is a student-run pro-

duction directed by Kori Jennings under the Manchester Theatre Society.

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Upcoming VIA Opportunities

Mathemagics

Monday, April 20
7 p.m.

Jo Young Switzer Center, upper level

Moving Toward Conflict:

Connecting Struggles for Self-Determination Around the World

Thursday, April 23
7 p.m.

Cordier Auditorium

Small School, Big World

Tuesday, April 28
7 p.m.

Jo Young Switzer Center, upper level

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Around Campus

Feminist Author Michael Kimmel Presents VIA

Allie Spillman
Staff Writer

Feminist author and scholar Michael Kimmel delivered a lecture interspersed with humor on feminism and its relevance to all genders on Monday, April 13, in the upper JYSC. Kimmel, a professor of sociology at Stony Brook University in New York and dubbed "Bro-Whisperer" by the "Atlantic" magazine last year, began his presentation with a reference to John Gray's 1992 self-help book "Men Are From Mars, Women Are From Venus" and spent the following 45 minutes arguing that both sexes are much more similar to each other than they are different. Kimmel did, however, point out that a book titled "We're All From Earth" would not sell 18 million copies like Gray's work.

Kimmel's discussion started with a brief history of changes in the lives of women and men and touched on the role of privilege in feminism and in recognizing the ideologies that conflict with it. Eminem, a rapper and songwriter, was then facetiously deemed a gender studies theorist, and Kimmel laid out four main ways men benefit from supporting the feminist movement.

Junior social work major Jacob Archambault was intrigued by the history of feminism as well as Kimmel's description of society's unwritten rules of manhood.

For instance, Kimmel had noted four basic changes in the progression

of feminism: women realizing their identities, gaining presence in the workplace, finding a balance between family and work, and taking charge of their sexuality and intimacy. "Those were really interesting to me," Archambault said. "I was also intrigued by what it means to be a man ['no sissy stuff,' earn the most money, be stoic and 'sturdy like an Oak,' and 'give 'em hell'] and how these ideas correlate was the most interesting part of the VIA from an intellectual standpoint.

"Kimmel's elocution and seamless sewing of men and women being two cloths riding the road of life together was a fresh breath of air to a suffocating diatomic society," Archambault added later in a philosopher-like fashion.

Kimmel's main point of discussion was feminism and its benefits for men, but he also spoke about many of the secondary issues that make gender equality so difficult to exact, such as the racial component and the fact that not all women share the same experiences.

Addie Neher, first-year accounting and finance major, found Kimmel's discussion especially enlightening because of his ability to describe feminist struggles in terms of "privilege." "What stood out to me most as a multiracial person," Neher said, "was that race and privilege are invisible to those who have it. I have dealt with many offensive racial comments directed toward me being of Asian descent, and yet

I haven't even given others' privilege of being from German or Swiss decent a second glance. I have only become aware of the situation because part of me is 'different.'"

Kimmel followed up his point about privilege with a bit of comic relief about an under-appreciated gender studies theorist—Eminem.

Kimmel read a quote from an interview Eminem gave to MTV in 2001 in which the rapper said, "The lowest degrading thing that you can say to a man when you're battling him is to call him a faggot and try to take away his manhood. Call him a sissy, call him a punk. 'Faggot' to me doesn't necessarily mean gay people. 'Faggot' to me just means taking away your manhood."

Kimmel pointed out the distinction between sexual orientation and gender in conjunction with masculinity within the rapper's quotation while getting many laughs at his comment about Eminem being a theorist.

Kimmel concluded his lecture with four reasons why men should support gender equality. He explained that when men share equity—a perception of fairness—in their homes, their kids, their wives and the men themselves are healthier, smarter and happier. He named the fourth benefit even more emphatically than the previous three: these men also have more sex. The majority of the students couldn't contain their laughter.

Tanita Kadirova,



Image courtesy of www.thefeministwire.com

first-year English and political science major, appreciated the opportunity to attend the VIA, noting that while some people in the United States may not identify as feminists, there are almost entire countries elsewhere that do not support the movement. "I think often times people in America don't realize what a privilege it is to live in such an open-minded community," Kadirova said. "Back home [in Uzbekistan] there is a completely different mentality. I have never heard any man back home identify as a feminist.

Being completely truthful, I have never even heard a woman openly stating that she is a feminist. What I can say is that I am happy to finally be in the environment that matches my beliefs and values," she added.

While America likely has a larger population of male feminists than nations like Kadirova's home country of Uzbekistan, some American men still feel uncomfortable identifying with feminism. Sarandon Smith, first-year art and Spanish major, was aware of this coming in to

the event, and approached with caution. "I was drawn to the VIA out of skepticism," Smith said, "and I was nervous about the prospect of sitting through yet another lecture about how feminism has gone too far, but I sat in awe, listening and nodding in agreement with a man who stood up, admitted to his privilege, laid out all the cards, and didn't mince words about the state of gender inequality today."

Kimmel's topics discussed during the VIA seemed to be well-received by many in attendance, but some students found issue with particular audience responses.

MaryHelen Clark, junior communication studies major, found a problem with some audience members' misunderstanding of masculinity. "I found it sad and distasteful that when Kimmel would mention something about masculinity traits, people sitting around me would agree with them," Clark said. "That's ridiculous. These people did not fully grasp the concept. Men are being told since day one to abide by these 'rules of masculinity' in order to be a real man, and this causes many problems in our society. While I'm not saying every man should open up and cry while sharing deep feelings, they should at least challenge the masculinity rules. They should show that the rules aren't set in stone and they cause more harm than positive outcomes," she said.

MU to Host Annual Research Symposium

Students of all majors present findings on subjects of interest

Loic Youth
Staff Writer

From 3:00 p.m. to 6:30 p.m. on April 24, Manchester University will be having its 17th edition of the Student Research Symposium.

The symposium, which according to Professor Jenna Oke "gives faculty and students the chance to work side by side, develop ideas and to study and explore together," has been a feature of the University since its inauguration by Dean Switzer in 1998.

This year, there would be a brand new addition to the symposium. It will start with the traditional paper/oral presentations in the Academic Center and will be followed by the poster presentations that will take place in the upper Jo Young Switzer Center.

In previous years, students have been able to apply for different scholarships such as the Jo Young Switzer Writing Award or the Poster Award, both requiring the submission of a paper or poster respectively. However, students can audition this year to be the key note presenter and there can only be one key note presenter; an idea that is well received by the student body.

"We want to find one presentation that is a good embodiment of what

the symposium means to Manchester," Oke said. "We are looking for someone with a well-written abstract, has engaging ideas, a thoughtful presentation

tant that this presentation be a good example for everybody to see," she added.

The participants range from first-years all

research something that interests them and to share it with faculty. "If you want to shine, here is your time to shine," Oke said with a laugh.

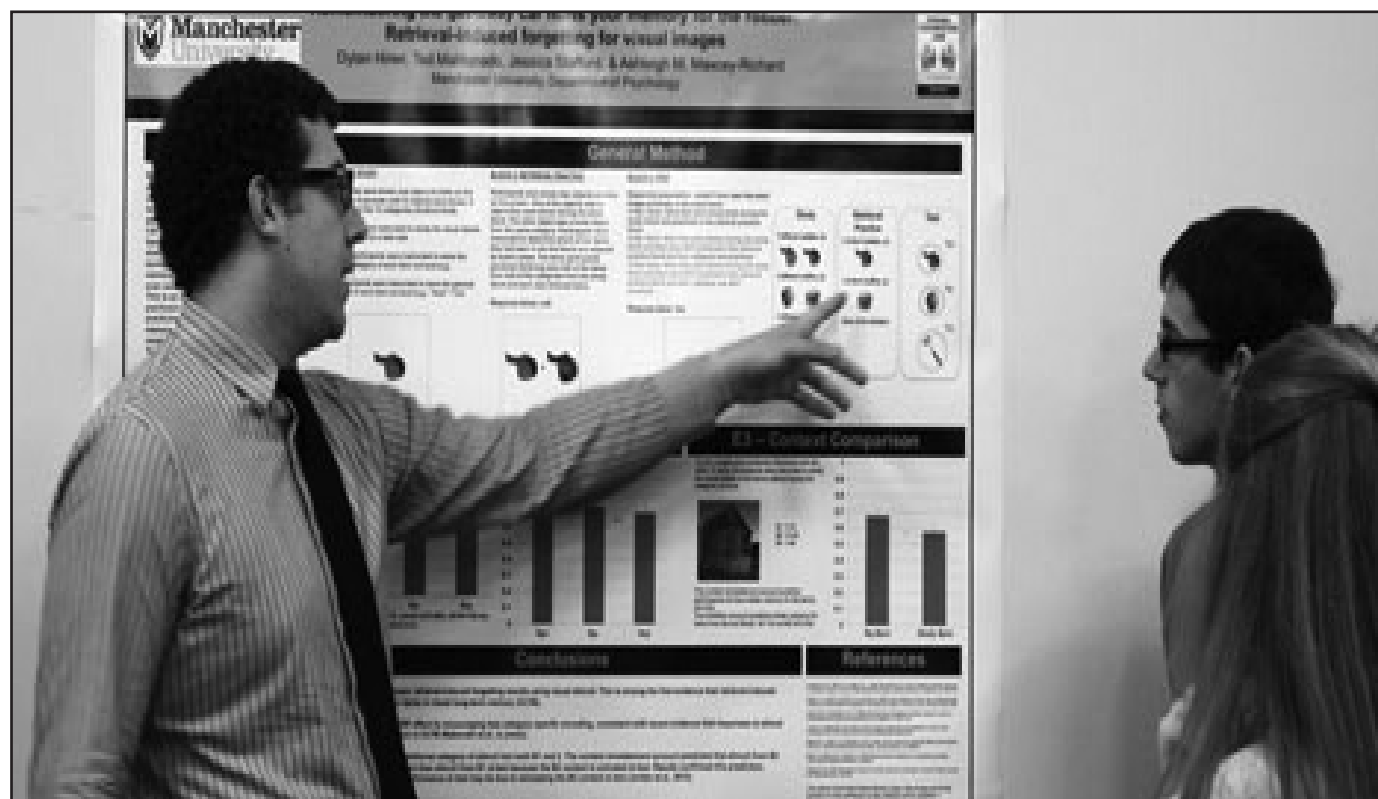
critical when it comes to planning the event, highlights the importance of students getting into research early on in their college careers. "Ideally

they are going on to graduate school, it will be a really good skill to have."

When asked if students are handpicked to participate in the event, Dwyer told us that it is purely based on student interest. However, it is common to have students from the psychology department present their research as it is part of their senior requirement.

Although the presenters will not be getting money or any other notable gift for their efforts, one student will get to present his/her work in front of the committee at the end of the presentations. This student will be the key note presenter and this exclusive presentation will be due to outstanding work and research that is a level above the other presentation. As Oke mentioned earlier, it also must embody what the symposium means to the university.

The Student Research Symposium committee would like to give a special appreciation to faculty member, Lynne F. Margolies, who will be retiring at the end of this year. She has helped organize the event every year. In Oke's simple terms, "she will be missed."



SHOW WHAT YOU'VE GOT Former MU student Ted Maldonado presents at the university's 2013 Student Research Symposium. Manchester will host its 17th symposium on Friday, April 24. At this event, students ranging from first-years to graduates and professionals will present research conducted on topics that either relate to their majors or are just of interest to them. This year, the traditional paper and oral presentations will be held in the Academic Center, and poster presentations will be in the upper Jo Young Switzer Center. In addition, students may audition to be the key note presenter, who will serve as a representation of what the symposium means to Manchester. Photo courtesy of www.manchester.edu

and especially someone who could make a connection with more than campus members because there's a huge number of people off campus that come to this event.

"It is really impor-

the way up to seniors and even graduate and professional students from the pharmacy school. Although most seniors do research papers for their respective majors, underclass men are greatly encouraged to

Oke tells us that the Student Research Symposium would not be where it is now without the help of Katherine Dwyer and soon-to-be-retired Lynne Margolies.

Dwyer, who is very

we'd love people to start their first year so they get real comfortable with it and work on some additional research," she said. "That way, when they are juniors and seniors they are more comfortable with it and if

Spartan Sports

Baseball Walk-up Songs Exhibit Uniqueness

Rachel Laing
Staff Writer

If you head to one of MU's baseball games, chances are you'll hear a wide variety of songs being blared through the speakers at Gratz Field. Players choose their walk-up songs that are played when they approach the plate or mound, and they're as unique as the team members themselves.

Senior pitcher and outfielder Justin Miller picked "The Way We Ride" by TI. "There is no special meaning to the song, but I'm a music fanatic and I like the way the bass, treble and all the parts of the music come together to form an amazing beat and vibe to get me pumped up for my next at bat," Miller said.

Sophomore pitcher Richard Topie picked a song with a different feel—"Supermassive Black Hole" by Muse. "I picked this song because I like the beginning beat, and the special meaning it has to me would be the type of music it is," Topie said. "I'm not big on most rap songs, so something with a rock bass to it gets me focused."

Sophomore outfielder and infielder Kevin Clarke chose "Jump Around" by House of Pain for his walk-up song. "I chose it because it has a catchy start to the song and it gets the fans laughing and moving around," Clarke said. "It also loosens me up when I get up to the plate and puts me into a

good hitting frame of mind."

Senior infielder and outfielder Trevor Kimm has three songs that rotate during games—"Rough Rider Anthem" by DMX, "Takillya Remix" by Vinnie Maniscalco, and "Double Bubble Trouble" by MIA. He has varied reasons for each choice. "I chose the first one because I am a fan of old school rap and this is one of my favorite songs," Kimm said.

"I had the second one last summer and some friends said I should keep it, so I did," he added. "Finally, I picked the third one because I heard it this summer when playing for the Kings and really liked it as a walk-up."

Kimm pointed out how important of a decision the walk-up choice is for players. "The walk-up songs keep the crowd into the game and can help get the players ready to hit or pitch," he said. "There are countless hours spent in choosing a walk-up song and it is important to us players to choose the right one."

Not only does a good walk-up song get the players focused, it also keeps the game moving. "The music also keeps the down time of baseball from becoming monotonous and helps avoid silence during the game," Kimm said.

Clarke agreed that it's an important process. "The players take pride in their walk-up songs, and it takes us hours or even days to get the walk-up song that we like and think would put



ROUNDING FIRST Senior infielder Logan Hug, whose walk-up song for this season is "Number One Spot" by Ludacris, rounds first base after hitting a single up the middle during a home game against Indiana Tech last season. Heading into this weekend's three-game series at home against Mount St. Joseph, the baseball team is 14-11 overall and 7-8 in the HCAC. Despite their recent struggles, the team is fifth overall in the HCAC (at the time of publication) and is still in contention to reach the conference tournament at the end of the regular season. Game one against Mount St. Joseph is set to begin this afternoon at 4:15 p.m.

Photo by Savannah Riley

us in a good mindset as we are preparing for our at bat or appearance on the mound," he said.

Sometimes the decision can even be a community process. "Some players will even turn to social media to try to get help from peers about what songs they might like to hear them have as a walk-up song," Clarke said.

The songs can even help to bring the team together, Miller pointed out. "Having music playing dur-

ing our games is amazing," he said. "It really lightens the mood between innings when a good song comes on and players are singing it in the dugout. It gets people into the game and helps build a team's morale."

Topie shared the same sentiment. "I think the best part about having music played during a game is that it can get the team hyped up and set the tone for the inning," he said. "Each player has a song that is unique to their

personality."

While team unity is important, the playlist also reflects individuality. "Everyone on the team does their own things and you can definitely tell that everyone has their own taste in music," Kimm said.

Being able to showcase their differences is something that suits the team well. "There is no theme amongst the team—the songs everyone chose really fits their personalities; from country to rock

to hip hop, we have it all." Miller said.

Currently, the Spartans are 14-11 this season, with a 7-8 record in conference play. They will host a three-game series against Mount St. Joseph this weekend, with game one beginning this afternoon at 4:15 p.m.

Luckily for the Spartans, they will be playing all but two of their remaining games this season at home.

Softball Focuses on Teamwork, Consistency



BATTER UP! First year outfielder Mikayla Deisler awaits the next pitch during a recent game. At the time of publication, the softball team held an overall record of 11-10 and a 6-4 record in the conference. On Wednesday, Apr. 15, the Spartans swept a doubleheader against the Defiance Yellow Jackets by final scores of 5-3 and 10-2. The team will play two doubleheaders at home this weekend, both against conference opponents. Tomorrow, they will face the Transylvania Pioneers and on Sunday they will play against the Rose-Hulman Fightin' Engineers. First pitch for game one of tomorrow's doubleheader is set for 1 p.m.

Photo by Savannah Riley

Collin Groves
Staff Writer

When it comes to sports, especially at the collegiate level, some might expect winning games and placing first in the conference to be the overarching goal of the participating players and coaches. However, for the Lady Spartans, growth as a unified team, forming bonds as teammates, and truly playing their best carries just as much importance as winning.

"You want them to

win and make it to Conference," said head coach Josh Dzurick. "But you also want them to perform consistently at a high level."

Even though this is his first year as softball coach along with the several new additions to the team, Dzurick still has plenty of confidence. "We have lots of talent on the team, and they have ways to push and challenge one another," he said.

But regardless of the talent present in a team, teamwork plays an

integral part in team sports; with a new team, that level of trust and chemistry has to be built. "The first practice in the fall was complicated," said first-year Justine Spencer. "We had a new coach, a new team, and we didn't talk a lot at first."

But as practices ensued, the trust and companionship between the players and Dzurick grew as well. "Our level of trust is comfortable, but growing," Dzurick said. "I think now the trust we have is

stronger both ways."

Not only did the girls learn to play better on the field together, but their bonds as teammates spilled off of the field and easily displayed itself when they simply were together. "There's lots of joking now," Spencer said. "It's getting better and better each day."

The team as a whole had to acclimate itself to being comprised of almost entirely new players, but veterans responded well to obtaining a

new head coach and new, younger teammates. "The first-years are continually growing," Dzurick said. "But the returners are also just as dependable."

Not only were they dependable from the coach's perspective, but to newcomers like Spencer, they passed their knowledge, skills, and Spartan culture on to them. "The experienced players showed us the ropes," Spencer said. "At the same time, they sort of passed on a softball legacy on to us too."

Currently, the Spartans have their eyes set on improvement, with ideas on how to improve their in-game performance. "We just need to work on

defense and play fundamental softball," Dzurick said.

Aside from looking at how they play softball, their psyche and mental readiness is just as important before, during, and after a game. "We just need to remember to not get down on ourselves and just learn how to come together as a team," Spencer said.

This weekend, the Spartans will host back-to-back conference doubleheaders. On Saturday, they will face Transylvania and on Sunday they will play against Rose-Hulman. At the time of publication, the team had an overall record of 9-10 with a 4-4 record in the HCAC.

Spartan Sports

Friday, April 17
Baseball

vs. Mount St. Joseph, 4:15 p.m.

Saturday, April 18
Men's Tennis

vs. Transylvania, 10 a.m.

Men's and Women's Outdoor Track and Field
at Huntington Invitational, 11 a.m.

Baseball

vs. Mount St. Joseph, 12 p.m. and 3 p.m.

Softball

vs. Transylvania, 1 p.m. and 3:30 p.m.

Men's and Women's Golf

Manchester University Spring Invitational
at Honeywell Golf Course - Wabash, Ind. - TBD

Sunday, April 19
Softball

vs. Rose-Hulman, 12 p.m. and 2 p.m.

Women's Golf

Mount St. Joseph University Spring Invitational
at Ashton Oaks Golf Course - Cleves, Ohio - 12 p.m.