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## MU Alumnus Brings DNA Forensic Talk to Nov. 12 VIA



**Anne Gregory**  
Media Relations Director

Manchester University alumnus Doug Storts returns to campus Nov. 12-13 to present "Human Forensic DNA Analysis."

The Thursday, Nov. 12 VIA presentation begins at 7 p.m. in Cordier Auditorium. Dr. Storts will continue the discussion at noon Friday, Nov. 13 in MU's Fort Wayne auditorium. Both are free and public; registration is unnecessary.

Storts will discuss the use of DNA technologies in forensic science and their application to scientific investigations of evidence related to forensics, such as a crime investigation.

"The topic will be of interest to not only those in the scientific field, but also the general public," said David F. Kisor, chair of the Department of Pharmaceutical Sciences for Manchester's Pharmacy Program in Fort Wayne.

As head of research at Promega Corp., Storts' responsibilities include DNA sequencing, cloning, expression analysis and genotyping.

After graduating from Manchester in 1978, Storts earned a Ph.D. in microbiology at Miami University and did research at University of Chicago. He has 30 peer-reviewed publications and 55 publications and chapters in non-refereed journals and books.

# Prez: Intercultural Center to Stand Free

**Sarah Farnam**  
Staff Writer

A social media campaign urging MU officials to continue keeping the campus Intercultural Center separate from other buildings drew attention from President Dave McFadden – and a promise to accommodate the request.

Last year, students learned of plans to tear down the current Intercultural Center on College Avenue and create a space for that program in the Chinworth Center, to be built where on the site of the current Administration Building.

Disappointed international and multicultural students turned to social media to protest. Many involved in the movement brainstormed several ideas to get the attention of MU chief administrators, said Elizabeth McKenney, Multicultural Affairs programmer and president of Manchester Uni-

versity International Association.

Caniece Leggett, president of the Black Student Union, encouraged other students to get involved, and others used Facebook and Twitter to get in touch with former students through the MU Alumni of Color Facebook page.

Ultimately, they presented a petition signed by more than 150 students, staff members and alumni. "The petition was the big attention-getter that showed we had support from alumni as well as current students," McKenney said.

The petition inspired President McFadden to address students last Friday about the updated plans for the Intercultural Center. While about 20 students attended the meeting, four spoke to the issue.

"Until there is any kind of alternative in place that works, the house is going to stay," McFadden told the gathering and The Oak Leaves. The University has stopped plans to include the Intercultural

Center in the Chinworth Center, he said. In addition, the University no longer plans to tear down the Intercultural Center. (Over the past several years, MU has torn down many of its aging College Avenue houses.)

The Intercultural Center house is dear to students for several reasons. McKenney said many students who gather at the house already are self-conscious about their cultural differences, such as the types of food that they cook.

"Minority students ... feel like they are being watched on campus, and that they need to watch how they act and what they say." The Intercultural Center gives them a space where they can unwind out of the public eye.

"If you integrated the Intercultural Center into the Chinworth Center, it would be like every other place on campus where they can't totally be themselves."

McFadden acknowledged the importance of a stand-alone

structure for these students. "It provides a home-like space as a home away from home," he said. "It is a space in which you can be yourselves without being judged by others."

The meeting gave President McFadden and students an opportunity to address problems with the current structure of the building, he said. These problems ideally will be addressed in a way that pleases both the administration and the students, he added.

McKenney said the next step is to stay in communication with the administration about plans for the Intercultural Center. "As long as the administration stays open about communicating, there won't be any more need for the organizing or activist-type movement."

Because the new Chinworth Center will not open until fall 2018, McFadden said there is plenty of time to consider options.



Improvisation group 'Academic Probation' practices for its upcoming performance. Photos by Savannah Riley

## Rogue Troupe Stands Up for Comedy Skits

**Aaron Lloyd**  
Staff Writer

In a stressful setting like college, everyone needs a good laugh. That is exactly what the Improv Troupe "Academic Probation" brings to campus. The Troupe meets a couple times a week to practice with hopes of performing a show in front of an actual crowd, possibly later this month.

Improvisation is stand-up comedy without planning or preparation. For most of the skits, the performers ask members of the audience to suggest a setting, an occupation, or even a conflict.

Senior Derek Self of North Manchester created the Troupe last year with dreams of following in the footsteps of such famous improv groups as Second City and Whose Line is it Anyway.

With co-founders Zack Clark, Austyn Rybicki, Aaron Lloyd and Stratton Smith, Self has organized meetings and events to help the group grow. Last year the co-founders took a weekend trip to

Chicago to see one of the local Improv Shakespeare perform.

"...the actors gave us an idea of what actual improv is about

**"We don't have to filter out what we say at times and we are able to mold the Troupe however we want to."**

-Senior Derek Self  
co-creator of Academic Probation and what it looks like," said Self, an economics major. "It gave us some direction on where to go with our own troupe."

Self said the MU group bonded by traveling together and sharing a room. "Nothing brings you closer together than cramming five college students into one hotel room."

Academic Probation had a table at the Activities Fair this fall, but is not an official campus club.

SEE IMPROV, PAGE 2

# Remembering a Manchester Mentor

The editors asked President Emerita Jo Young Switzer to write this tribute for *The Oak Leaves*.

**Jo Young Switzer**  
Editor Emerita

We are each lucky to meet several extraordinary people during our lives. For me, one of those extraordinary people was Dr. Rowan Keim Daggett. Professor Daggett died on Oct. 24 after a long illness. She had taught English at Manchester for 30 years.

She was one of my heroes.

Her death brought me a profound sense of loss. Even more, though, I feel deep gratitude to have known her. She was a really good person.

Rowan Keim Daggett arrived at Manchester three months after I graduated. She had just finished her Ph.D. in English from Indiana University, doing her coursework and research while her two sons were young.

She researched how places in England got their names. Over time, she took many groups of Manchester students to England on January session study tours, always planning the trips carefully so that students could afford them.

She taught literature, the history of the English language and other humanities courses. She was always a strong advocate for the humanities and for learning across the disciplines. She loved the English language, yet she could also understand how others found comparable excitement in science or math or accounting or art. She always

encouraged students to take classes in disciplines different from their majors.

What most of us learned from Rowan, however, was how to live our lives.

Several lessons stand out for me.

One lesson is that our families are important, even if they are not perfect. Rowan Keim Daggett loved her family, and she wanted us to love ours too. She respected her two sons and their families. She admired that her sons were different from each other, but both committed to doing what they did well. She was thrilled to see one of her granddaughters graduate from Manchester several years ago.

She taught us about lifelong loyalty. She and her sisters vacationed together regularly over many decades. They came from all parts of the United States to savor their commonalities and differences. While I never got to meet them, it was clear from Rowan's accounts that they were smart, flexible, appreciative and fun. I can only imagine how much they laughed when they were together.

She taught us how healthy it is to laugh. Everyone who knew Rowan enjoyed her throaty laugh. Whether she laughed at a ribald line from Beowulf or at a tale of a faculty blunder, she had a great laugh. She knew how important it was not to take ourselves too seriously.

She also taught us to encourage one another. In the 1970s and 80s, when the number of women on the faculty could be counted on one hand, she knew they needed support.

SEE MENTOR, PAGE 2



Newly inaugurated President Jo Young Switzer poses with her mentor, Dr. Rowan Keim Daggett on Sept. 17, 2005. Photo by Jeri Kornegay

## Service for Professor Daggett is Nov. 21

A memorial service for Rowan Keim Daggett, professor emerita of English who died Oct. 24, is set for 1 p.m. Saturday, Nov. 21 in the chapel of Timbercrest Senior Living Community. Visitation will follow. McKee Mortuary is handling arrangements. Memorials are suggested to the Rowan Keim Daggett Scholarship Fund for students 25 or older majoring in the humanities



## Lasser Challenges Traditional Faith Perspectives



Professor Lasser (right) exploring Turkey and Greece with his 2015 January Session class.

**Stratton Smith**  
Staff Writer

The stocky professor is often seen with a group of different-sized books in one hand and a cup of coffee (black in the mornings) in the other. The New York native is in his fifth year on the Manchester University faculty and is widely popular among students – and not only religious studies majors. It's 33-year-old Justin Lasser.

Lasser was hired for his critical thinking approach from a unique point-of-view that most people are never taught. "I take a critical approach to religion, not to be confused with criticizing," Lasser said. "As a kid, I was always fascinated by the deep questions of life, such as 'Is there a meaning to life?'"

Like many men and women of faith, Lasser was drawn to the church out of refuge. "My family was divided when I was in my teens," Lasser said. "So I turned to the church for a place of refuge. I fell in love with it."

Lasser's faith can be difficult for his students to understand, simply because it is different from most of what they have ever seen. "I absolutely love God, but I'm not interested in the existence of God,"

Lasser said. "I want to do my faith, not believe my faith."

Lasser hopes his students take a deeper approach to religion, as he has. "I took a class and it was freeing to know I could ask questions that were not appropriate to ask to the church," Lasser said. "Once I asked those questions, my faith didn't disappear, it was just more informed ... I hope to show that questions are more important than answers."

Lasser has taught at six New York-based schools, including Union Theological Seminary, which he calls "one of the most progressive schools in the world." He earned his master's degree and Ph.D. at the Seminary, and is co-author of *Thunder: Perfect Mind and Potent Nothingness: A Materialist Theology*, among other publications, and has other books in the works.

"I'm writing about what it means to think about the questions of 'the impossible,'" Lasser said. "'The impossible,' in a way, is my name for God, in the sense that 'it' is not a CEO of the universe, but somehow that God is the very reality of God."

Lasser also is developing a work on the historical Jesus. Stay tuned.

## Students See Power, Magic of Storytelling

**Erin Fralick**  
Staff Writer

Students gathered in Cordier Auditorium last Tuesday to attend the VIA "The Power of Storytelling" eager to get more VIA credit, but they left eager to tell their own stories. Speaker Ken Medema is a blind classically trained pianist and song composer who travels and urges people to tell their stories.

His presentation was all about inspiring students to tell their story. "A story gives a wisdom that waltzing through life without it wouldn't," he told his audience. "Story is the best human currency there is."

He encouraged students to stand up and tell their story, which he would then weave into a song. First-year Alex Cote told the audience about the influence of fictional characters on her actions.

"(The experience) was quite terrifying at first, but I decid-

ed to overcome my fear because Mr. Medema's presence made me feel more comfortable and made me want to tell even part of my story."

First-year Darlene Melvin talked about the influence of fiction on her life. "To hear my story about how Harry Potter got me into reading and inspired me to teach sung back to me made me feel like I really matter." This is the exact reaction Medema said he wants from the audience: He wants everyone to remember that "Your story is a powerful tool. Your story matters, learn it, and tell it often."

Medema gained his love for music at a young age. When he was 5, his family bought a piano. "I just kept playing and playing and playing. The rest is history."

His passion for music turned into a career. Medema was a music therapist at a psychiatric hospital where he used music to reach patients. While working with the patients, he discovered the im-

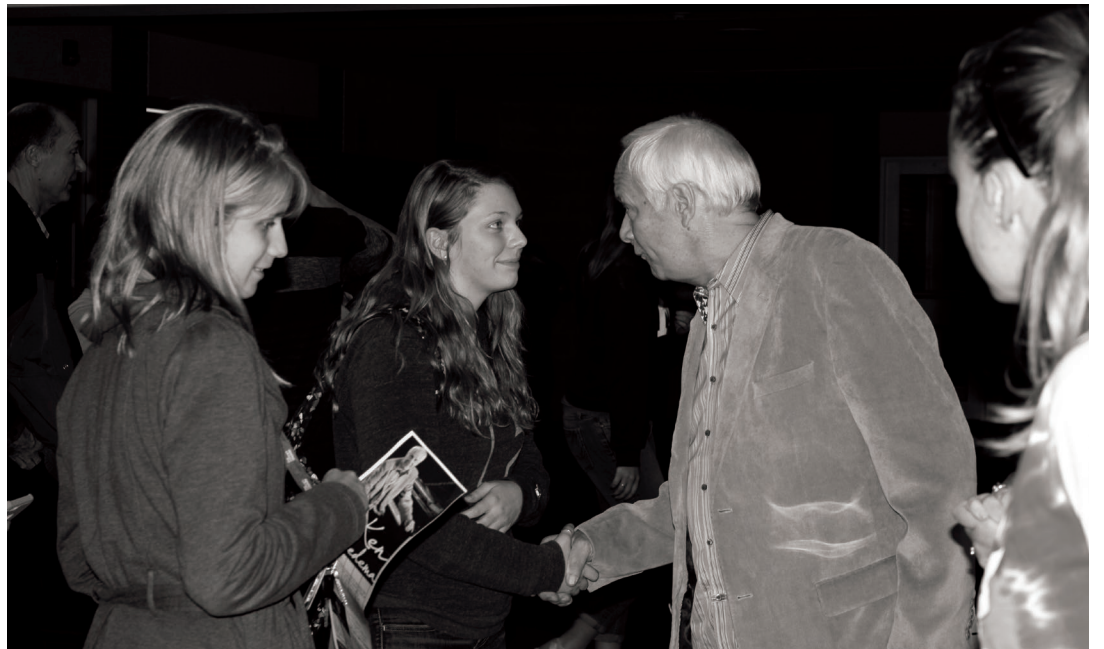


Photo by Kalie Ammons

**Musician Ken Medema greets students post-performance.**

portance of stories. Then Medema started Brier Patch Music, now called Ken Medema Music.

While Medema is inspired by audience members' sto-

ries on the stage, in his life he has been inspired by multiple stories. "My mother dealt with two blind children, a husband in the Navy and depression, and she powered

through it."

Medema said he finds inspiration in stories that are less personal to him, such as stories of cries for justice.

### IMPROV, FROM PAGE 1

That gives the Troupe freedom, Self said. "We don't have to filter out what we say at times and we are able to mold the Troupe however we want to."

"Not to say anything negative about the more 'academic' clubs on campus, but improv is great because it isn't that. Academic clubs don't remove you from your daily student responsibilities and expectations. The Troupe is liberating in the sense that it is entirely detached from ordinary rules and expectations that are remotely academic.

"It's a place where people can express themselves, it's an escape from reality."

One of the skits the Troupe does is called The Clap Game. There are three groups of two players on stage, and each must act out a different conflict. One group will begin the dialogue until another group claps to start a totally different dialogue, picking up from the last sentence of the first group. The twosomes keep handing off the dialogue until the performers are laughing too hard to go on.

The Troupe gathers at 10 p.m. on Tuesdays and Thursdays in



**Senior Derek Self and sophomore Austyn Ribicki mid-improv session** Wampler Auditorium. Participants and watchers are welcome.



Professor Rowan Keim Daggett with a student sometime in the 1980s.

### MENTOR, FROM PAGE 1

She organized regular women faculty gatherings that continued until we could celebrate that they weren't needed any more – decades later.

She taught us about friendship. In her retirement, she and Barb Ehrhardt (retired director of Koinonia Environmental Center) each lived on their beloved Lake Tippecanoe, weeding their flow-

ers and talking about books and politics. In the winters when they were snowbound in their homes across the lake from each other, they shared a happy hour each day, sipping nice beverages while they talked on the phone.

During her retirement years, she had even more time to nurture her friendships with Denise Rickleff, her sisters and others. Along with Barb, they were there for her in thick and thin. What a gift they gave to her as she became weaker. Loyal friendships were constant companions for Rowan Daggett because she knew how to take care of friendships.

This I know. Rowan Daggett would tell us to savor each day. She would tell us to read and read and read and read. If we read her a favorite passage, she would laugh her throaty laugh and crinkle her beautiful eyes and be thankful that we had found those amazing words to share with her.

She was a smart woman.

She was an intelligent woman.

She was a loyal woman.

She was a good teacher.

We will miss her. Manchester and its graduates are wiser because they learned from her.


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Photo by Tiana Maclin

Senior Emma Nellans

## New Senior Series VIA: Nellans Talks on Autism

Tiana Maclin  
Media Relations

Emma Nellans will present “Autism Awareness: My Work with One Extraordinary Child” for the newly revived Senior Series at 3:30 p.m. Tuesday, Nov. 10 in Cordier Auditorium.

The Argos, Ind. native found a passion for autism awareness five years ago, after she was asked to babysit a cousin affected by it. Working with a child who has severe, non-verbal autism opened her eyes about the challenges and triumphs of the disability, she said.

She says it is important to understand that every child with autism is different. At the VIA event, a guest speaker from Lighthouse Autism Center in Warsaw, Ind., will share an in-depth look at how applied behavioral analysis therapy can help children with autism.

Nellans is studying elementary education with a concentration in mild intervention. The designation qualifies her to work with students who have mild disabilities.

She hopes to pursue a career in ABA therapy after graduating from Manchester. As a Fast Forward student, graduating in three years, she has taken courses during the summers and full course loads during the school year.

## Garcia Discovers TB-Fighting Antibiotic

Erin Fralick  
Staff Writer

During an internship last summer at Notre Dame University, Martin Garcia, class of 2016, discovered an antibiotic that was successful in fighting tuberculosis. Garcia had to synthesize different forms of beta lactam (an antibiotic in the same family as penicillin) to see if they could fight off any bacteria.

Garcia drove every day to South Bend, where he worked from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. Then he would begin his lab work. First, he would check reactions that he’d set up the night before. Then he removed any impurities from the reaction. This could take anywhere from one to three days. If there was time left in the day, Garcia would set up the next reaction.

This internship wasn’t the chemistry major’s first experience in the field. He received the MU Kauffman Award in 2013, which sent him to Nicaragua for Manchester University’s annual Medical Practicum.

The trip not only gave him a new take on different ways to treat patients, but also on what Western cultures see as necessary



Senior bio-chemistry major Martin Garcia

while other cultures view as a luxury. “My perspective was changed on what is truly important in order for happiness to be achieved,” he said.

With an undergraduate research fellowship at Boise State

University, Garcia had a chance to network for future opportunities. That put him in contact with Jared Lewis of the University of Chicago chemistry faculty.

“My ongoing communi-

cation with (Lewis) encouraged me to apply for the National Science Foundation fellowship.” He also received Manchester’s Luminescence Award in 2015 for his work with the Hispanic Union.

## Academics, Scholarships Attract Students to MU

Karen Kanyike  
Staff Writer



Photo by Savannah Riley

Junior biology-chemistry major Bolanle Oladokun transferred from Ivy Tech last fall for MU’s pharmacy program.

Every fall, spring and summer, Manchester welcomes a new batch of transfer students to campus. The academic programs, sports and family connections are the most common attractions for these students.

The Pharmacy Program attracted junior biology-chemistry major Bolanle Oladokun of Indianapolis. And scholarships. “My involvement with Phi Theta Kappa Honor Society at my former college made me eligible to receive (Manchester’s) Presidential Scholarship,” said Oladokun, who transferred from Ivy Tech Community College in fall 2014.

MU has 84 transfer students, mostly from colleges and universities in Indiana, Kansas, Michigan and Ohio, said Brandi

Chauncey, transfer student coordinator and associate director for recruitment.

“The students come from a mixture of large public and small private universities,” said the 2001 Manchester graduate. “Most of them come from the Ivy Tech College campuses across Indiana.”

Oladokun aspires to become a pharmacist. “I plan on graduating with a degree in biology-chemistry and hope to be accepted to the Manchester College of Pharmacy, Natural and Health Sciences.

“Manchester will help me achieve my goals because the professors challenge you, they know your weaknesses and strengths and are able to provide the necessary assistance and they are also willing to talk and give students their time,” she said.

“Dr. Jerry Sweeten, my Principles of Biology professor, helped me see biology in a different way. He engages students during class lectures.”

The transition for Olado-

kun was tough, but with the help of her strong social support system, she was able to feel more at home at Manchester. “I like all my friends and the community aspect at Manchester. No one gets left behind,” she said. “Counselor Danette Till was very helpful, especially when I was homesick.”

Oladokun is involved with a variety of campus organizations, including the American Chemical Society, Circle K, the African Student Association and the Black Student Union. In her free time, she likes to go to anime conventions, engage in cosplay, go to events on campus and listen to music and podcasts.

Manchester actively looks out for students who wish to transfer to Manchester, said Chauncey. “I do a bit of travel in the fall and spring visiting Ivy Tech campuses and some of the other counselors try to connect with schools as well,” she said. Manchester also mails information to potential transfer students, especially those in community colleges.

## Student Refs: Someone Will Whine

Stratton Smith  
Staff Writer

The point guard dribbles the ball, his eyes wandering the floor. He drives inside the lane, roughly jarred by an opposing player, his hands flailing maliciously. All 10 players on the court turn to the man in white and black, wondering if he will blow his whistle or let the game continue.

Either way, someone will not be happy.

Intramurals are part of the college experience for dozens of students at Manchester, but none are more popular than intramural basketball. Perhaps the popularity comes from the Hoosier state,

**“When reffing, you have no friends or enemies”**

-Sophomore Collin Wise

where basketball is considered “life” in several hometowns. But no matter the circumstance, intramural basketball is adored by the Spartans. That means Spartans also take officiating the game seriously – very seriously.

Students receive minimum wage to officiate Manchester’s intramural basketball games Monday through Thursday nights. Junior Nick Wingate, who also is on the Manchester Division III basketball team, is among the half-dozen intramural referees.

“I started reffing to be around the game more,” Wingate

said. “I’m a good referee, but not the best. I miss calls, but the game goes on.”

Former Goshen High School basketball player and MU sophomore Deric Haynes is playing intramural basketball. “I absolutely love playing basketball with my friends. It’s more fun because it’s so competitive,” said Haynes, who has endured “some controversial calls” in his intramural games.

“There isn’t one ‘good’ (intramural) ref,” he said. “They’re all about the same. Every one of them makes mistakes.”

Haynes remains sympathetic towards refs, because he has been around the game of basketball for so long. “They have bad angles, so it’s not that they’re making bad calls, they just can’t see them.”

Junior Matt Tall, who began playing intramural basketball as a first-year, begins the new challenge of officiating the games this year. With intramurals so competitive, several players will exchange hateful words and critiques to the referees, including Tall.

“I do my best to ref the same for both teams, no matter what,” he said. “However, the more people who complain to me, the less likely it is that I give them calls.”

Wingate takes a different approach. “I don’t have many people that criticize or complain, but when they do, I listen and keep the game going.”

Students reffing students know that bias can come with the territory. “I can’t say for sure, but I’d guess that there is a lot of favoritism on the court,” Haynes said. “When reffing your friends, you don’t want to be mean, then when you’re reffing someone you dislike, you might be a little quicker with the whistle.”

Sophomore Tyler Biggs, participating in intramurals for the first year, agrees. “I think it’s wrong (students officiating students),” Biggs said. “Yes, it’s a friendly game, but it’s also a competition that a lot of people take seriously.”

“When reffing, you have no friends or enemies” Wingate said. “I keep the game fair and make the calls that I can see.”

Tall often laughs at how seriously some players take the game. “It’s not the NBA. It’s intramural basketball. I’ll let both teams play it out and call the necessary fouls.”



Photo by Savannah Riley  
Hunter Lane and Tyler Klein



Photo by Savannah Riley

Students work through essays in the Writing Center

## Writing Center Has Help for Big and Little Projects

Guerby Ruuska  
Staff Writer

The process is simple: You schedule a time to meet, walk in, show your work and let the friendly criticism begin.

The Writing Center is one of the most used sources in the Success Center.

Whether if it’s on your computer or on paper, your work is thoroughly viewed and revised at The Writing Center. Not only are you shown how your simple mistakes can be fixed, but you learn ways of catching spelling errors. Coordinator Laura Turner-Reed and her team of writing consultants make it their job.

“I personally find the Writing Center useful and helpful and I feel like it’s a whole letter grade difference after you see them,” said first-year accounting major Mikki Goetz of Highland, Ind. “And the people are really nice as well.”

The Writing Center, located in the Success Center in the upper Jo Young Switzer Center, was established in 1999.

“We saw a need to help students across the curriculum with all of their writing assignments, especially first-year students in their

challenges to produce academic and other critical writing” said English Professor Beate Gilliar.

Turner-Reed came to the head position in 2011 and has worked to expand the program, which works with about 10 students on a slow day and 20 on a good one, she said.

“It completely depends on the paper and how much help the student needs,” she said. “So a one-page summary could take 10 minutes, and we might do a 27-page senior seminar paper in multiple sessions. Students can come in as often as they like for the same paper,” said Turner-Reed.

The program takes pride in assisting students with all kinds of papers, including communication studies speeches, chemistry and even math.

In addition to staff, the writing consultants include students.

“I try my best to hire people who have a variety. Right now, I have a staff of six. They are sophomores all the way to seniors,” said Turner-Reed.

The Writing Center is open 9 a.m. to 10 p.m. Monday through Friday and 5 to 9 p.m. Sundays.





## SPARTAN SPORTS

### Moore Voices Love of Sport Announcing

**Zach Newcomer**  
Staff Writer

Blake Moore found his calling in sport announcing five years ago as a freshman at Union High School. "I was reading off the lineups for my brother's junior high basketball game, when the women's varsity basketball coach approached and asked if I would announce for their games," said Moore. The avid sports fan was willing.

Today, the sophomore sport management/communication studies double major is the voice behind Spartan Athletics. Along with his knowledge of sports, Moore brings a deep, charismatic voice, catching the listener's attention while pronouncing each word clearly.

Moore is sports director of campus radio station WBKE 89.5, announcing for football, soccer, volleyball and soon, basketball. The station's three other sport announcers - Ethan Foster, Kody Smith and Wayne Smith - partner with Moore to provide play-by-play and color commentary during games. He takes time outside of work to get to know his co-hosts to help build the chemistry of their broadcasts.

Announcing a game is not just showing up and describing what is happening. There is immense preparation involved long before the first whistle blows. Moore starts the night before or morning of the game, looking up statistics of the players and teams.

"(Moore) is an outstanding broadcaster," said co-host



Photo Savannah Riley

**Sophomore Blake Moore announces games for Manchester's WBKE 89.5 radio station.**

Wayne Smith, a sophomore communication studies major. "(He) works very hard to provide every major statistic and is very descriptive in his play-by-play."

More than an hour before game time, Moore arrives at the press box, sets up his gear and surveys the field to find something interesting he can use to talk about during the game. As game time nears, Moore and his co-host put on their headphones and microphones and the public part of their job begins.

"The most difficult part is painting a picture for the audience," Moore said. "I need to convey what is happening on the field through my words, sort of like a book. I need to use the correct terms, because there are different terms for each sport."

Moore learns the art of play-by-play calling by listening to some of his favorite announcers: Bob Lamey of the Indianapolis Colts and Don Fischer of Indiana University men's basketball.

And, for sure, Manches-

ter grad and U.S. Hockey Hall of Famer Mike "Doc" Emrick, who does play by play for the National Hockey League and Olympic ice hockey. (Emrick, who graduated in 1968, was a co-founder of WBKE.)

"I take bits and pieces from each one of these guys," he said. "I watched the entire Stanley Cup Playoffs to listen and learn from Doc Emrick."

The Blake and Wayne Sport Show airs 8-9 a.m. Tuesday mornings. Tune to 89.5 FM or visit [wbke.manchester.edu](http://wbke.manchester.edu) to listen to these programs



Photo by Savannah Riley

**Junior Mariah Jordan on Oct. 31 cross country meet in Shelbyville**

### Women's XC Wins HCAC Title, Men Place 2nd

**Kody Smith**  
Staff Writer

The women's cross country team added another accolade to the record books Oct. 31 in Shelbyville, Indiana, and secured their fifth team Heartland Collegiate Athletic Conference title, the first since 2012.

Also at the All-Conference meet, junior Mariah Jordan, a three-time all-HCAC honoree, completed the course in 22 minutes, 14.7 seconds, gaining the first individual championship in the history of Manchester University Women's Cross Country.

Senior Rachel Weeber secured her second All-Conference award, finishing third at 22 minutes, 40 seconds. Following a sophomore season with an Honorable Mention, junior Tiffany Harbor took sixth with 23 minutes, 6.4 seconds for her first All-Conference accolade.

Spartan Head Coach Geoff Lambert is Coach of the Year after a tremendous first season leading the squad.

The men brought home a second-place team finish, including second-place individual. This was the 17th straight season with Manchester runners finishing in the Top Five at the team conference meet. The Spartans put up 75 points, falling short to the Rose-Hulman Fighting Engineers, with a score of 96.

Junior Connor Bresnahan led the Spartan time at 26 minutes, 3.9 seconds, his first All-Conference honor. "I was pretty excited about the second-place finish," Bresnahan said. "I knew I would have a shot at the Top Five coming into the race, and when I saw the leader pulling away from the rest of the runners, I knew I could potentially catch him."

For the seventh time in the last eight meets, an individual Spartan finished in the Top Five overall. "We were pretty disappointed with how the race went," Bresnahan said. "We know we can run a lot closer to Rose-Hulman; the race was not as close as it should have been. It did not show our true potential." Junior Alex Gudeman finished 13th overall and senior Jacob Sweet finished 18th, earning both runners Honorable Mention.

Both cross country squads are back in action Saturday, Nov. 14 at the Great Lakes Regional in Terre Haute, Ind.

### Frightful End for Spartan FB on Halloween Game

**Kody Smith**  
Staff Writer

First-year defensive back Dillon Nelson intercepted his seventh pass of the season while sophomore running back Hunter Hardee rushed for yet another 100-yard game as the Spartans hosted the Rose-Hulman Fighting Engineers on Halloween.

A crowd of 1,000 plus packed Carl W. Burt Memorial Field for a back-and-forth match-up between the conference foes, with Rose-Hulman nudging out a 35-28 victory.

After trading scores in the first quarter, the Fighting Engineers silenced the Spartan offense with a pair of touchdowns in the second quarter. Heading into halftime, the Spartans trailed 21-7. Following the break, the Black and Gold struck back with a fury, scoring with a 13-play, 72-yard drive capped by a 5-yard rushing touchdown by freshman quarterback Tristan Chester.

Driving the defensive, Nelson nabbed a pass from Rose-Hulman quarterback Austin Swenson, and there was no catching the HCAC leader in interceptions. Nelson ran the picked-off pass 61 yards for a Manchester touchdown. Within the first eight minutes of the second half, the Spartans tied the game at 21.

Rose-Hulman fought

back, scoring twice. With two minutes and 10 seconds remaining on the game clock, Chester connected with junior tight end Brandon Webb for a 9-yard touchdown pass, tightening the score at 35-28.

Following a failed on-side-kick by the Black and Gold and an intercepted pass attempt by Chester, Rose-Hulman finished off the victory.

With senior quarterback Logan Haston out with an injury, Chester completed 14-of-33 pass attempts for two touchdowns and an interception to go along with a rushing touchdown in his first collegiate game.

Hardee rushed for 112 yards and reeled in a 5-yard touchdown pass from Chester. Hardee has rushed for 100-plus yards six times this season, leading the HCAC in total rushing yards (815), rush yards per game (116.4) and rushing touchdowns (eight).

Senior wide receiver Evan Rice caught three passes for 58 yards, while Webb added three receptions for 20 yards and a touchdown. Junior defensive back Nathan Birk led the defensive squad in tackles with 17, along with a quarterback sack that forced a 12-yard loss.

The Spartans are now 3-4 overall this season, and 3-3 in the HCAC. The team travels Saturday, Nov. 7 to Hanover College for a conference matchup with the 2-6 Panthers. Kickoff is at 1:30 p.m.



Photo by Savannah Riley

**First-year defensive back Austin Coughlin**



Photo by Savannah Pugmire

**First-year Annie Barce during Manchester's first home swim meet**

### Swimmers Make History With First Home Meet

**Tanner Forsythe**  
Staff Writer

Manchester's swimming and diving team hosted a home swim meet for the first time in history when they welcomed the Franklin Grizzlies on Friday, Oct. 30 into the community pool in North Manchester. The program is only in its second full season, but "this is one of the last firsts," says Head Coach Mike Kroll.

Both teams were happy to compete before a Manchester fan base for the first time, in the Peabody Aquatic Center located a few blocks west of campus.

MU men swam hard but took a 220-60 loss. Top finishes included first-year Tyler Brand in the 1,000-yard freestyle. He finished second, setting a new school record of 11:15.96. First-year Andrew Hinds won the 50 breast stroke with 29.48 and first-year Quinn-Michael L'Heureux placed third with 30.06. First-year Guerby Ruus-

ka placed third and set a new school record in the 50-yard freestyle with 22.87 and placed fourth in the 100-freestyle, setting another record with 53.70.

MU women took a 206-52 defeat, but first-year Mikayla Goetz broke records in the 500- and 1,000-yard freestyle with times of 6:24.07 and 12:55.10, respectively.

Sophomore diver Ally Roskos put MU on the charts as Ohio Athletic Conference Diver of the Week. In her first meet of the season, she scored 396.1 on 11 dives against Franklin College on Oct. 30, winning the event and putting her half-way to qualifying for NCAA Division III Regionals.

The Spartans compete again this Saturday, Nov. 7 at Crawfordsville, Indiana, with Wabash College and Rose-Hulman University.

Fans can watch the Spartans host another dual meet on Jan. 9, against Olivet College.