

The Oak Leaves

Manchester University Issue XI - February 22, 2013

Documentary Photo Series Displayed in ACEN

Mike Dixon
Staff Writer

A new gallery is on display in the Academic Center's first floor hallway, although its composition is more documentary than imagination. The exhibit includes 18 pictures of sex trafficking, brutality, and hardship existing in Cambodia. Professor Ejenobo Oke selected the exhibit from the work of Tim Matsui, a professional photo-journalist, who photographed the entire collection along with many other world stories that can be seen on his website.

Each picture tells a personal story as tragic as the next and includes a caption but no title. The effect of browsing the collection is like wading into a swift-moving river. A casual passerby tests the water by observing a single picture, steps in further by reading the caption, finds the story shockingly compelling, and finally gets caught up in the stream of photographed narratives that is the collection.

Many shots are strictly documentary. The subject matter does not need to be beautiful, and is sometimes decidedly not. The photo which Oke calls "hardest to look at" is the third picture on the right wall of a little boy and many others living off a massive landfill. Filth practically emanates from the portrait

and the boy almost certainly has not long to live. It is a fine example of a picture that is absolutely horrible but absolutely necessary. Capturing this moment

some shots that are simply beautiful. Professor Oke's favorite artistic photo is the second photo on the right wall, depicting a woman named Rin checking her

woman named Doi. Rin's floating eye, the face behind her with eyes closed, and Doi's sure hands accent the dark image with a tragic grace.

bodia. Matsui works a lot with sex trafficking and is currently covering an operation to catch pimps of underage prostitutes and rehabilitate their unfortu-

man rights and its mission to create compassionate students improving the human condition.

Exhibiting art such as Matsui's serves a dual purpose, according to Oke. Firstly, the story of Cambodian life is not particularly well known and deserves more awareness. Secondly, the level of human suffering in these communities should make viewers realize how good their lives really are. If students could imagine how vicious the communities there are, how disadvantaged its people are, then maybe they could feel compelled to improve their own community and its lives. "Sometimes that means a monetary donation," Oke said. "Sometimes it means helping at a soup kitchen... but people should not feel pressured to respond. Every individual will respond in a way unto themselves."

The exhibit will be on display until Oct. 11, 2013, while classes are in session. If students have time between classes, visit the first floor of the Academic Building for a graphic lesson on the human condition.



WORTH A THOUSAND WORDS On display in the first floor hallway of the Academic Center is one of the images that is part of Tim Matsui's photo series depicting the brutality, hardship and sex trafficking found in the lives of many Cambodians. Professor Ejenobo Oke chose this series to bring light to the story of Cambodian life and to allow viewers to understand the lack of true hardships in their own lives.

Photo by Vivien Carter

may disturb the viewer, but it also gives meaning to the subject's life.

However, there are

make-up in a mirror before another woman who is getting her make-up applied by a transgendered

Artists like Tim Matsui use art as a means to raise awareness of troubled regions such as Cam-

nate employees. Oke felt that the focus of these photojournalists fit well with Manchester's focus on hu-

MU Students Break Boundaries, Validate Love

Charlaine Grosse
Staff Writer

If you entered on the Union last Feb 14th, you probably noticed that for some students on campus, Feb. 14 was not viewed as Valentine's Day anymore, but as Validation Day.

The Validating Love campaign was a photography display that featured images of all types of love, specifically kisses shared by heterosexual, homosexual, and interracial couples. This campaign was created by Whitnee Hidalgo and Kay Guyer, both seniors at Manchester University.

Their inspiration was Jackie Nagilla, the former OMA Director, who had assigned a passive program, where people do not have to interact with each other to get the educational aspect of it. Indeed, when Nagilla was an undergraduate student, she organized a kissing on Valentine's Day, where a number of interracial and same sex couples literally sat and stayed frozen, lips to lips, for thirty minutes, all over campus, throughout the day.

Hidalgo and Guyer wanted their program to bring the same message but not the same concept. "The message was validating love, through racial boundaries, through gender boundaries, and through different sexual orientations from the domi-

nant ideology of the white heterosexual one," Hidalgo said. "Especially here in Indiana, where it was not until the mid-seventies that interracial couples were allowed to get married."

also why Guyer asked us," Heath said. "It was a great idea, especially being on Valentine's Day. I think it had a really good message and it was showing the actual scope of the campus

Becca Creath, Peace Studies coordinator, noted that the event was an appropriate way to honor the diversity on campus. "Having a display that is validating the diversity

forget that love can take many forms. So I think it's great to celebrate the diversity that Manchester University has to offer."

Guyer said it was a gift to her to have the

the beginning of what individuals in these photos hold," Guyer said. "Take a look, and you can just feel beauty exuding from them."

The pictures were originally supposed to be displayed on the campus TV screen, to reach a wider audience, but the Administration did not approve the idea. Beth Sweitzer-Riley, vice president for student development justifies this decision by stating that it is important to have pictures displayed with a context of the educational component, as well as an opportunity to provide dialogue on the issue.

"The TV screen display of just photos would not allow this interaction to happen and thus unintended consequences could occur which could possibly backfire and generate hostility rather than understanding and widen gulfs rather than bridge them," Sweitzer-Riley said.

According to Hidalgo, if you are not shaking up the basket, you are not doing it right, because it is deviance that changes the culture.



VALIDATION DAY On Feb. 14 the Validation Love campaign, created by MU seniors Whitnee Hidalgo and Kay Guyer, featured images in the Union of couples in heterosexual, homosexual, or interracial relationships expressing and validating their love through their kisses.

Photo courtesy of Kay Guyer

Wes Heath and Zabrian Mills, both students at Manchester University, participated in this event together. "Zabrian and I are one of the few out gay males couples on campus, so I guess this is

in term of relationships." Although some people did not seem to appreciate the images and were rolling their eyes, many others really enjoyed this exhibition that was hosted in the Union on Valentine's Day.

that we have on campus, on Valentine's Day, seems to be a wonderful way to witness and help create a more supportive and potentially aware campus," Creath said. "I think that lots of people, sometimes,

opportunity to photograph those couples, and she hopes it has become a gift of thoughtful conversation to staff, faculty and students. "The courage to take a personal stand for justice on campus is just

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Around Campus



RHA Hosts 'Late Night Lounge' at Oakwood

Heather Elson
Staff Writer

Late Night Lounge, an open mic night, was hosted by RHA in Oakwood's lounge on Thursday, February 7, 2013. This event allowed students to showcase their talents such as singing, rapping, playing instruments, dancing and reading slam poetry to a room filled with over 70 people.

Late Night Lounge was created to allow students to have a healthy alternative to "Thirsty Thursdays." Also, it is RHA's goal to provide a safe environment where students can share their talents, hang together and provide students with a variety of college experiences.

Michael Corsey, hall director of Oakwood and RHA advisor, suggested the idea to the E-Board. Xuny Haley, Vice President of RHA, thought it was a great idea and took charge of the event. She emailed students, faculty, and staff that she thought would be willing to participate in this event, such as Lexi Salcedo, junior, who read her poem, "Monster," and Nicola Jones, secretary for RHA, who was asked to open the event.

Jones performed a rap about Professor Joe

Messer. Her inspiration came from her January Session class to Australia. "We were on a trolley, and we were all messing around," Jones said. "I was rapping about people and they were like, 'Hey write a rap about Professor Messer.' So I wrote a small portion of it. [However,] Chelsea D. Butler did help me spice up the lyrics a little bit."

The MC for the night was Corsey, who led the show in style with his witty humor. He advised students to not clap, but snap for the evening; and if one enjoyed what a performer did, at any particular moment, [s]he was to yell "Go In!"

Holly Rittenhouse, who sang and played the piano to "Let It Be" by The Beatles, was a favorite among the crowd. "She is really good at playing piano and has a great voice," said Donnie Watkins, first year. "I really enjoyed her performance."

Another singer was Zach Pitts, who sang two a cappella songs "Forever and Ever Amen," and "Three Wooden Crosses," by Randy Travis. "Singing is a big hobby of mine and I love doing it," Pitts said. Pitts performed Randy Travis' songs because

people have told him that he sounds just like Randy.

One could tell that the crowd was really getting into the performances by hearing them shout, "Go In!" "I felt the performers were really good and entertaining," said Jessica Bostic, sophomore. "There was a wide variety of different talents."

The success of the event has led to more planning for future Late Night Lounges. However, it will not be every Thursday, nor an open mic night. "We are going to offer a bit of variety, in the sense of video games, board games, etc.," Corsey said. "We will have open mic hopefully three or four more times [this semester]." Also, RHA hopes to get more faculty and staff involved, collaborate with other organizations on campus such as MAC, English and communication studies departments; and hopefully move it to different residential halls.

The next Late Night Lounge will not be until April. However, RHA is collaborating with MAC to produce MU's Got Talent on March 9. So stay tuned and keep an eye out for future flyers.



This is an excerpt from the rap about Professor Joe Messer that Nicola Jones performed at the Late Night Lounge hosted by RHA on Thursday, Feb. 7. The rap was based on her January Session trip to Australia with Messer's business class.

Correction

In our Feb. 15 article on the men's basketball team, it stated that the men's team will play at Earlham on Saturday, Feb, 16. The contest that day was actually a home game for the Spartans at the PERC.

The Oak Leaves regrets the error.

Dance Marathon Held in Honor of BigJohnny

The Oak Leaves

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David Lloyd
Staff Writer

On a frigid Friday night in North Manchester, Manchester Activities Council (MAC) transported family and friends alike to a lovely luau dance marathon to honor the late Alina Big-Johny, who died in the tragic Indiana State Fair stage collapse in 2011.

BigJohnny, an English and education major, graduated in 2011 and her presence is still fondly felt throughout the campus. "Alina was one person that was very dear to my heart," said Miro Aruijo, a third-year MAC member. "She loved unconditionally, and was a joy to be around as she brought happiness to everyone."

The fundraiser, a dance marathon, raised money for an education scholarship in BigJohnny's name. The entry fee was \$25, which could be paid for out of pocket or raised through donations. The entry fee guaranteed five raffle tickets, and each \$25 after that would earn another five chances to win numerous prizes.

Chrissy BigJohnny, Alina's sister, approached Manchester regarding a fundraiser in her sister's

name. Alina was a member of the Manchester Dance Team, which made a Dance Marathon the most fitting option to raise money in her name. The Joe Moorhead Band, a group with a Jimmy Buffett island vibe, provided music that fit perfectly with the scenery of bouncing beach balls, leis and palm trees.

"The tropical dance party was a great way to have her family come back and enjoy the campus," said Lexi Salcedo, an English and education major like BigJohnny. "It really brought life to her memory, and helped to show her family that even two years after her death, the campus still really cares about her."

The dance marathon was set up to have teams or individuals dance for a half hour at a time, followed by a 15-minute break in which games were played for prizes. Dancers could also be shipped off to "Exile Island," which was a comfy set up of beach chairs off in the corner. The "exiler" would pay an amount of money to send the victim off to the island, and the victim would have to pledge twice that amount in order to leave the island.

The island theme

seemed to resonate many memories of the warmth BigJohnny would bring not only to fellow students, but to her professors as well. "Alina would wear her pink flip flops to class on even the chilliest days, so I used to think that her warm personality prevented her from getting cold," said Dr. Katharine Ings, English chair as well one of BigJohnny's professors. "She had a generous spirit and a dazzlingly infectious smile. Alina was my student throughout her four years here, most memorably in Senior Seminar. We took a train to Chicago to see a performance of 'Wicked,' and on the train home she texted my husband to let him know we wouldn't be back until 1:00 a.m."

The fundraiser, which was an all-night event, helped to raise \$3,952 for the Alina Big-Johny Memorial Scholarship.

It proved to be a successful night for an even better cause, succeeding in remembrance of a former classmate, student, friend or family member, and bringing a little warmth in February to North Manchester.

Validating Love Cont.

"Being provocative is good because it gets attention, so I'm all for that, but you still need background information and an educational program, like for the exhibitions we have in the Academic Center," said Glenn Sharfman, vice president and dean for Academic Affairs at Manchester University.

Thus, the goal of

the Validating Love campaign — bringing exposure to the people who did not have exposure to this counterculture — was reached. According to Hidalgo, thanks to the great talent of Guyer, the pictures say a thousand words. "An intimate kiss, to a parent to child kiss, all it does is symbolize love and that was the whole point

of this campaign," Hidalgo concluded.

Around Campus

Students Study Modern Mind in London, Paris



I SEE LONDON, I SEE FRANCE MU students studying the "Making of the Modern Mind" with Professors Steve Naragon and Gregory Clark in both London and Paris this past January Session enjoy the Parisian scenery. Photo courtesy of Deanna Beckner

Ariel Smith
Staff Writer

January Session is not something that all schools offer, but Manchester University is one of those few that does. This January Session was punctuated by tea and croissants for two professors as they took their students to England and France. For religion and philosophy professor Steve Naragon and physics professor Gregory Clark and their student group, London and Paris were the places to be as they studied the "Making of the Modern Mind."

This class was a little bit of science and philosophy mixed together while learning about the development of western civilization. The class broadened its understanding of the progress and change of how individuals and societies thought of themselves. Naragon emerged from his

current leave from teaching to take part in the trip. For instance, museums held a lot of artifacts that students could look at to determine the development of their use. Students also looked at the development through the ages of four different themes. Some examples Clark gave were of the idea of astronomy or—for those that have more of a passion for fashion—the shoe. He mentioned that the Museum of London had shoes that were 800 years old that the students could use as part of their study of development by comparing them to modern footwear.

Clark also spoke of teaching the students how to travel frugally. "One of the things we wanted our students to learn from this is that really the big expense is getting there," Clark said. "Once you're there you can eat pretty cheaply if you know where to go." They stayed in hos-

tels, one week in Paris and one week in London. The prices for one night at a hostel were similar to accommodations for someone in the United States.

The weather was also similar to what MU was experiencing back in the States. While the temperature was in the teens in Indiana, it was only up to about the thirties in Europe. "North of France was just hit with snow the whole time we were there," Clark said. "That slows things down, more than they're used to. We couldn't go to the top of the Eiffel Tower."

This was Clark's second time teaching the class. The course work was very similar this year from the first trip, though he said that this time it had been "fine-tuned," and a little more structured. He hopes to keep the class going every other year. On the off years he teaches other classes during January

Session as well. "Making of the Modern Mind" fulfills a core class requirement for Cultural Connections and more information is available for anyone interested in this class the next time it is offered.

Culturally Relevant Series Gains Momentum

Caleb Noffsinger
Staff Writer

How far back does new students' knowledge of film history extend? Professor Michael Slavkin has noticed that his students have come into classrooms without knowing a specific film reference he might make to connect the film with class material. So he came up with a solution that would not take up further class time to explain or to show the film; he decided to show a handful of films during times that many students would not be busy.

This film series started last fall semester when Slavkin decided to show films based on famous literature

that many students might not know about. This semester the films will be based on cultural relevance. According to Slavkin, director of Teacher Education and associate professor of education, "Cultural relevance is when the film speaks to aspects of humanity that cross a wide variety of groups. The films we view hit on love, passion, freedom and power, which all students trying to get a Liberal Arts education should know about." The films will not only help the students catch references made in the classroom, but also will help strengthen the knowledge that they may already have about a certain topic.

While this program is fairly new, it does seem to be getting a lot of attention. Each showing generates

around 15 people in attendance and many new faces appear at each showing. The films vary from many different genres and eras. There are some big name movies such as "The Matrix," and some that few may know such as "Frozen River."

The films are all chosen by a handful of professors from the FYS program who believe that the ideas in these films should be emphasized. Films are screened on Thursday nights in Room 101 in the Academic Center.

VIA Addresses Students' Money and Future

Kate Rosenbaum
Staff Writer

President Jo Young Switzer presented her annual VIA "Your Money and Your Future" on Feb. 12. Professor Judd Case introduced the convocation for Switzer, saying, "She is committed to you [the students] every day." He noted that she knows the power of listening and is able to "understand communication from the dish room to the classroom to the boardroom."

President Switzer then began her speech by stating the importance of having ability and conviction. She gave examples of faculty, staff and students on campus and their dedication to this topic. One example related to the students who recently made a trip to Nicaragua and their services provided while there. "Nicaragua was a life changing experience," said Megan Batten, a senior Biology-Chemistry major. "While there we en-

gaged in a new culture and learned from medical professionals."

Switzer went on to state that many people who exhibit ability and conviction are able to "observe their own values while respecting other people." She later went on to say, "I think different people with ability and conviction handle money with intentionality."

Her advice to students at the VIA about handling money in a smart fashion consisted of spending less than you earn, asking oneself if a car is necessary, and paying off credit cards each month. She gave techniques and skills that can be used in order to avoid conflicts with these issues and why it is important for them to be monitored.

Another one of Switzer's suggestions included enrolling in Manchester's Financial Responsibility class. "As an accounting major, it is information I already knew,

based on my major, but I think it would be very beneficial for those who are not Accounting or Business majors because they are able to learn information from outside of their majors," said Lauren Gazdick, a senior accounting major.

The company SALT, which helps students learn how to make informed decisions about money and be prepared for real-world finances, was also represented during the Cordier Auditorium gathering. Registering for and completing SALT courses can qualify Manchester students to win prizes. If 75% of students sign up for SALT there will be an array of prizes ranging from a suite at a Tincaps game, various \$50 gift cards, goodie baskets to halls and dorms, or even a free taxi ride to Ft. Wayne. The first drawing will take place on March 8th in the Union. Afterwards, if 75% of students complete a SALT course there will be a second prize drawing on April

5th in the Union.

Jack Gochenaur, vice president and chief fi-

specific information about the area in which one resides. Sherri Shockey,

VIA presenters are "very passionate about this opportunity."



MONEY TALKS Following President Jo Young Switzer's presentation of "Your Money and Your Future" on Feb. 12, CFO Jack Gochenaur spoke to students about various information to be gained from SALT. Students are encouraged to enroll and participate in the SALT program as a drawing among members for prizes will occur soon. Photo by Alexah Parnin

nancial officer, spoke after Switzer about SALT. He stated that job, internship and scholarship information was available through the SALT website, www.saltmoney.org, including

director of Student Financial Services, spoke also about SALT. Shockey informed the crowd that the website can import student loans with step-by-step directions. She said that the

President Switzer closed the VIA stating that students should take advantage of the tools offered through the SALT program.

Removal of 'Smoker's Table' Enforces Policy

Jacob Ray
Staff Writer

Manchester University adopted a 100 percent smoke-free campus policy on July 1, 2012. However, not everyone is happy about this. "It's hard to not smoke on campus, especially when it's so cold out," said one student. "Some people say it's my own fault, but that's an unfair thing to say." His/her identity remains anonymous due to the fear of receiving a fine, even though the policy — found online — clearly states the following: "All community members and guests will be treated with dignity and respect."

During the fall semester, a "smoker's table" existed outside of Schwalm Hall as a place for students to smoke on campus. However, students have heard it has been banned, because of secondhand smoke drifting with the wind.

Secondhand smoke is essentially the reason for

any campus becoming smoke-free. No-smoke.org presents several statistics as to why a university should become smoke-free. Many risk factors such as tobacco use peak from 18-25 years of age, making college a possible turning point in the choice to use tobacco or not. 24.8 percent of full-time college students aged 18-22 years old were current smokers in 2010, and the progression from occasional to daily smoking seems to occur by age 26.

Many students agree with MU's decision to prohibit tobacco. "Everybody smoked outside of East, and when I opened my window I could smell it drifting in," said senior Heather Talley. "I love the ban, they should have done it sooner."

First-year Josh Busenbark said he looks forward to clean air throughout his years at MU. "I feel bad for people addicted to smoking, but majority rules," he said. And he's right. Only 19.3 percent of the adult (18+) population in the United States smokes according to the Cen-

ters for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), which is another contributing factor in creating smoke-free universities.

However, just because it's banned doesn't mean people don't do it. "While I'm happy for the ban, people still smoke," said sophomore Aubrey Smith. "For track practice we run all over campus, and just the other day some guy was smoking right on the sidewalk. I then had to run through his cloud of smoke."

The Manchester smoke-free policy gives students, faculty and staff members the obligation to say something to those who break it. For the most part though, people don't enjoy telling others what to do. The student from the beginning explained that no one ever really says anything to him/her. "Most people completely ignore me if I'm smoking on campus," the student said. "If anything, they give me a look, and most of those are amused looks. Like it's funny I'm getting away with it."



Spartan Sports



Lady Spartans Advance to HCAC Tournament

Catherine Lange
Staff Writer

Manchester's women's basketball team had a strong season, and is moving on to the Heartland Collegiate Athletic Conference postseason tournament. The team won its games Wednesday, February 13, and Saturday, February 16, against Anderson University and Earlham College, respectively.

Playing Anderson determined whether Manchester made the HCAC tournament. "The game against Anderson was a must win game," said Head Coach Josh Dzurick. "We really needed the win. By winning we still have a shot in the tournament."

"Plus, it was against our rival, Anderson," said sophomore player Shelby Morphew.

Manchester was two games ahead of Anderson and eliminated the Ravens from the competition by their victory on Wednesday. Team captains Erynn Meiklejohn and Abby Lang scored the most points during the game against Anderson.

Motivation has been a challenge for the team, as there are no seniors on the team. "Seniors



TRANSY BOUND First-year Katie Arterburn reaches out for the basketball during Manchester's home game against the Transylvania Pioneers on Saturday, Feb. 9. The team finished its regular season with an overall record of 10-15 and a conference record of 9-9. The Spartans clinched a berth in the Heartland Collegiate Athletic Conference Tournament, which will take place at Transylvania University. Manchester will face the Defiance Yellow Jackets in the first game of the tournament on Friday, Feb. 22 at 6 p.m.

Photo by Felicia Nichols

bring that sense of energy, but we had a great crowd last night," Dzurick said.

Morphew agreed. "We've struggled at home this year," she said. "It helps being here having the pep band and students here—including the White-

out."

This season, the women's basketball team has had 15 games that came down to the last two minutes—and that is of the 17 conference games Manchester played. "One play here or there has turned

the tide of the game," Dzurick said.

During the season, the team worked on correcting mistakes and learning from experience. "We've had to play on the fly a little bit," Dzurick said.

Before Saturday's

game, the players created a video, as is tradition. This time they created a video to the Harlem Shake, a well-known dance. "It's pretty much what we do before every game," Morphew said. "We have a huge stereo system in the locker

room, so we turn it on and go crazy."

Manchester won Saturday's game, 61-43 against Earlham. The top scorer was captain Erynn Meiklejohn, with 12 points scored. Meiklejohn's average from the past two games was 16 points. Two other players, Jocelyn Hamilton and Caitlyn Ailor, scored nine and eight points, respectively. Alyssa Smith contributed six assists to the game.

Even though she is a sophomore, Shelby Morphew played her final game on Saturday. She received a standing ovation at the game. "I've had multiple concussions and I'm being forced to retire at the end of the season—so I'm just soaking up the experience," she said. "I'm taking in the last week and a half as a player and not a spectator."

The HCAC postseason tournament will begin Friday, February 22, at 6 p.m. at the Beck Center on the Transylvania University campus in Lexington, Ky., where Manchester will take on Defiance College. The winner will move on to play against Transylvania in the semifinals on Saturday, February 23, at 3 p.m.

Wrestling Approaches Final Stretch of Season

Hannah Schutter
Staff Writer

Although wrestling is on its way out of the Olympics, Spartan wrestling is still in full swing.

This past Tuesday's wrestling meet at Trine University in Angola resulted in four wins for the Manchester Spartans. Although MU ultimately lost 28-16 to the Trine Thunder, first-year Kalib Jackson's win (8-0) over Trine's Nick Ader helped give Manchester a fighting chance. In addition to Jackson, Spartan wins from Bryce Roberts, Jason Pedigo and Chuck Holmquest ensured Manchester made its mark, and this match ceremoniously marked Holmquest's fiftieth career win.

Along with Trine's meet, the Spartans wrestled at Wabash College on Feb. 7, with Manchester being defeated 4-46. Jackson's defeat over Wabash's Robbie Carter resulted in the only points earned by Manchester. "I feel like a lot of guys didn't wrestle up to their potential," said Ray Wajda, a first-year Spartan wrestler. Due to injuries, three weight classes had to be given up.

The unfortunate medical circumstances mixed with a predominantly rookie team is making it a tough year for the guys. Manchester's wrestling roster lists 22 athletes, 14 of which are first-years. But, there is hope for a better Spartan wrestling future. "As long as that [first years] group sticks with it, the best is yet to come," Wajda said.

In order to prepare for the Mid-States Conference that was held at Alma College in Michigan on Feb. 16, the wrestling team did the opposite of what might be assumed: they made practices shorter. Although this seems to go against the norm of preparation routines, the decision was well thought out. "We were trying to peak at the right time," said Josh Jaurez, a first-year wrestler.

Although the team was hoping to reach their full potential, some Spartans did not peak. The men earned 20 points at the Mid-States Conference putting them at seventh place.

Next up for the Spartans is a home meet against the Mount Saint Joseph Lions on Feb. 21, the season concludes soon after with regionals and championships.

The end of the wrestling season also shuts the book on senior college wrestlers' careers due to the removal of wrestling from the Olympics, starting with the 2020 Olympic Games.

Because there is no minor or major league for wrestling, the Olympics are college athletes' only chance at continuing their sport after their education ends. The only chance wrestlers have at going pro is with organizations like the WWE, which as the name states, is more entertainment than a contest of athleticism.

With the removal of wrestling comes the removal of the chance to wrestle at the Olympic Center, limiting wrestling experiences for these athletes. Although wrestling was a founding sport of the Olympics, it does not seem to matter.

"How is speed walking an Olympic sport?" Wajda asked.

Although the removal cannot be explained, hopefully this unlucky occurrence will cause the Spartans to relish and maximize their potential at the limited amount of experiences they are given.

Men's Basketball Season Comes to a Close

Kaitie Kemper
Staff Writer

Feb. 9–16 marked the final week of the Manchester University men's basketball season. The team displayed determination and focus in home games against Transylvania and Earlham, as well as at an away match up against Anderson.

The first game of the week-long series on Saturday, Feb. 9, resulted in a Spartan loss to Transylvania. "Our lone victory of the conference season was at Transylvania earlier in the year," said Head Coach Brad Nadborne. "I think they came up here with a bit of revenge. We were a little flat right from the start, and they kind of jumped on us so we were never able to really get going. It was just a tough day for us."

Although defeat is never easy, Nadborne helped boost the team's spirits by having former Spartan basketball players Jordan Moss and Mitch Schaefer give the men a pep talk during practice on Monday, Feb. 11. "They talked from the heart

about how when they were younger players the program didn't have a lot of wins, and by the time they graduated they were one of the best teams in the nation," Nadborne said. "It was parables you hear every day, but I think the guys needed to hear them because when you're not seeing success sometimes doubt can creep into your

mind. These guys helped them believe that there's a reward to all of this hard work even though it's hard to see right now."

After another practice on Tuesday, the Spartan men travelled to their next game at Anderson University on Wednesday, Feb. 13. Despite another loss, personal victories were claimed. "We really

came out and played hard all 40 minutes," said sophomore guard Nate Feitshans. "We didn't win, but we talked about how it was a stepping stone that we played hard for the entire duration and never took a play off."

Nadborne reinforced Feitshans's sentiments. "It ended up being a five-point game, but

man, we played well," he said. "I'm just really proud of them. If you would have been in the locker room after the game, they weren't hanging their heads or giving off bad attitudes, but it was like 'Hey, we just played our hearts out, didn't win, and we feel bad about that, but we are doing good things.' It's all positive in my mind. We're just not getting

the wins as an affirmation of what the hard work is all about."

The final game of the season was played at the PERC on Saturday, Feb. 16, against Earlham. Although the Spartan men were hoping to send senior forward David House out with a win, a mere two points stood between a triumph over the Quakers.

Even with the season ending on a loss, the final week of competition encompassed positive actions and attitudes that strengthened the already solid bonds between the teammates. "The great thing about this team is that even though we have struggled in the win and loss columns, we have never quit," Feitshans said. "The team as a whole has stuck together through the entire season, and I believe that speaks highly of the character of our players. I know that even though the season has ended, we will be in the gym and weight room looking to improve both as individual players and as a team for next season."



SHOOTING FOR TWO Sophomore Grant Newlin takes a jump shot during last Saturday's home game against the Earlham Quakers on Feb. 16. The Spartans lost to the Quakers by a final score of 59-61. The men's team finished its season with an overall record of 4-21 and a conference record of 1-17.

Photo by Randa Gillespie