

The Oak Leaves

Manchester University Issue XV - April 12, 2013

'Five Women' Receives Campus-Wide Praise

Jacob Ray
Staff Writer

Last month, a tiny cast of five women and one brave man performed Alan Ball's play, "Five Women Wearing the Same Dress." The performances ran through the first weekend of March, and received high praise from faculty and students alike.

Courtney Greene, the director of Manchester's performance, felt the actors put on an amazing show and that the best part of the show was watching the audience's reaction. "I wanted the process to be more of a collaboration than me just directing people around," Greene said, "The cast always had great input and worked really hard to create our show. After putting so much heart into the show, it was great to present it to others."

Greene says directing a whole show was overwhelming at first. "I'm sure I acted half crazy and stressed for a couple weeks, but I was so proud of how everything turned out," she said.

The play revolves around five bridesmaids seeking refuge from the wedding reception and the respective bride, Tracy, whom all of the bridesmaids dislike. Interestingly, the audience never sees the bride or the groom; in fact, the only characters seen are the five bridesmaids and an usher for the wedding. All of the play

takes place in the bedroom of Meredith Marlowe, the bride's younger sister, with

is not a definitive lead character due to the small cast and dialogue-driven plot,

Weeks, is outspoken and nosy, but this is to hide her deep emotional problems.

the clumsy, lesbian sister of the groom – played by Kara Olson – is nearly the

around town, Tommy Valentine, has had a fling with every one of them, except Mindy, of course, and Frances. (He has, however, hit on them over the course of the wedding.) Tommy is also never seen in the play, forcing the audience to imagine his character completely through the bridesmaids.

During the middle of the second act, the only male character makes his appearance. Tripp, played by Zachary Pitts, has fallen for Trisha, and having also, like Trisha, been a promiscuous person most of his life, is looking for something more with her. The last third of the second act is a long discussion of life and love between Trisha and Tripp, in which neither makes any real ground on their point, but eventually come to the conclusion of spending the night together and seeing what comes of it.

In the final scene, the bridesmaids take a group photo on Meredith's bed, just to remember all that's been discussed, all the memories made and remembered, and what's been learned about each other. And like all best friends, it's not a particularly flattering photo, with all the ridiculous faces and poses, but it seems that's the point the play makes: despite the hardships of life, you've always got your silly memories with friends.



IT'S SHOW TIME Bridesmaids watch a peer during the performance of "Five Women Wearing the Same Dress," an Alan Ball play. The show was directed by Courtney Greene and the cast was very small, consisting of only six performers. Overall, the performance was highly acclaimed by Manchester students and faculty.

Photo courtesy of Kortney Jennings

the women alternating between smoking pot, drinking, complaining about the bride, reminiscing about the past, and discussing love and relationships.

Each bridesmaid exhibits her own unique personality and while there

the closest thing to a main character is Trisha. Played by Angelina Jung, Trisha used to be best friends with Tracy (the bride), has a bad reputation, and often offers monologues about the futility of love. Meredith, played by Kelli

Georgeanne, an old friend of the bride and played by Abby Niederman, is a middle-aged wife who despises her husband. Frances, cousin to the bride – played by Kortney Jennings – is a southern, deeply religious and naïve woman. Mindy,

funniest character in the play and works to ease some of the more serious topics of the play, which includes abortion, AIDS, and exploitation of minors.

By the second act, the bridesmaids have learned an old player

'MU Confessions' Impacts Students, Faculty

Emily Krabach
Co-Editor

Websites like www.post-secret.com or www.truu-confessions.com serve as a way for persons to experience some sort of relief, getting something off their chest. Oftentimes, these sites are tailored to suit certain people such as parents, brides or students. While such venues offer positive psychological benefits for the confessors and an ability to relate for the readers, such websites can be abused.

Such an occurrence recently happened at Manchester University through the Facebook page 'MU Confessions.' Created in mid-March, the page ostensibly was designed to provide Manchester students a venue to express thoughts and feelings normally left unsaid – but the page soon degenerated into a wall of often-hurtful statements.

From early in the page's virtual life, the Manchester University administration knew of 'MU Confessions' and many people already had mixed feelings about its creation. According to Will Patch, Senior Admissions Counselor, Manchester University had been working with the page's anonymous administrator to make the page comply with copyright laws as he or she was using the University's crest and

name without permission.

However, when the page began to be abused by those leaving 'confessions,' it soon began to get out of the control of the page administrator. "One problem with this type of anonymous forum is that anyone can interact and say what they want, whether accurate or not, and cause damage," Patch said. Soon people were being named or tagged specifically in rude comments or accusations and statements harmful to the University's reputation were being made.

The page was also being shared through the United Kingdom, allowing for some posts on the page to not even pertain to Indiana's Manchester University. "People from anywhere could post anything they wanted anonymously without the burden of honesty or accuracy," Patch added. Ultimately, it was the page administrator's choice to take the Facebook page down in late March to avoid any further problems.

The 'MU Confessions' page has sparked many discussions and opinions among students and faculty on the proper use and abuse of anonymity, especially when comments are made in a place like the internet where they can never really be erased. Many campus members were upset by the com-

ments that were left by page users. "I was very surprised by what I saw," said junior Gary Knable. "I thought that this site would have been used more for harmless humor and little confessions. While some of the stories were entertaining and uplifting, most were foul and inappropriate, especially since the school could be represented by these stories."

While many of the messages posted on the page have the potential to be exaggerations or comments left by people in the UK where the page was also circulated, no one is able to weed out the truth about the Manchester University community from the falsehoods.

It appears as though the anonymous quality of the page sparked an interest in individuals to leave messages that could harm both the University as an institution and specific individuals. This quality has sparked many opinions about the situation as well. "I have always believed that when a person has something to say they should be willing to have their name attached," said Susan Klein, chemistry professor. "If I have something good to say, I am willing for it to be known that it was me that spoke. Likewise, if I have something critical to say, I am also willing to have my name attached to my

words. I believe anything less is cowardice."

However, there are also voices on campus who see fault more in the actions, or inaction, of the page administrator. "I think the confession page was a good idea in theory as it allowed students a

ally posting it."

Beate Gilliar, English professor, speaks to both the administrator and the page users in her reaction to this event. "My hope is that the student administrator and those posting messages will have learned a grounding



Photo courtesy of www.punchstock.com

way to vent and share their thoughts in a safe way," said sophomore Kortney Jennings. "However, no one should have called other people out by name or said anything that should potentially slander others. I blame the administrator for not censoring the page before allowing posts to be made visible, not the students themselves for actu-

lesson for life since such actions must not ever go professional," she said.

While sparking opinions on the use or misuse of anonymous forums, the 'MU Confessions' page has also caused people to take a closer look at campus-provided avenues where students can speak out anonymously. The University is now looking to

better advertise services like SuccessNet, a tool where a person can anonymously report when one of their peers is suffering from any kind of problem, or bring back campus forums that used to be offered to campus-members.

While 'MU Confessions' is no longer active, the trend of anonymous confession pages continues as many high schools and other universities who have similar confession Facebook pages or Twitter accounts. Several pages or accounts have been taken down by their administrators, but those that remain active usually follow the same general code of conduct. These pages, created with a positive intention, clearly ask that those who comment keep the posts civil while also screening messages so that racist, sexually illicit or homophobic statements and stories about drinking and drug use never appear on the page. There are even high schools who have successfully created sites where people can post anonymous compliments to people.

Although there are success stories of confession pages for students to vent their feelings or opinions, it does not appear as though Manchester University will have a similar venue any time soon.

Inside: SALT Challenge ~ Harlem Shake ~ Softball



Around Campus

Students Receive Rewards for SALT Challenge

Holly Pawlak
Staff Writer

Some people restrict salty foods from their diets. But with the help of SALT, a program created by the American Student Assistance non-profit organization, MU students are able to navigate the financing of a higher education, build money skills and manage any resulting debt.

The university offered prizes as an incentive for students to sign up and complete lessons. "The Sunday dinners were especially enticing to me as we don't have Sunday night dinners," junior Jeremiah Sanders said. "Also, money is a good motivating factor. It's not about the

'money, money, money,' but literally, it is."

Junior Emilie Hunt was among the winners of the prizes, awarded a dinner for four people at the local Mexican restaurant El Mesquite sponsored by Professor Falkiner. "I first found out from a text from a friend saying 'You won! so my first instinct was to say, 'Won what?'" Hunt said. "Then I read the email and was excited."

The prizes may have instilled the motivation needed to begin utilizing SALT, but the features of the program have kept those in the running for the prizes educated about their loans. "I think SALT just knows a little bit more about my loans than I do,"

Sanders said. "The fact that they know the information is one of my favorite things. It allows me to plan my life after college better." The individualized graph produced by SALT also attracts many users. "I like that I can adjust the variability and see my options on payment plans," Hunt said.

Reaching out to students and motivating them to sign up for the free program was the highest hurdle. Emails from President Jo Young Switzer were only one of the ways the information reached students, especially the graduating class of 2013, in an effort to get the initial 75 percent needed to make the first drawing, which

took place in March. "I really liked having the tangible things to take away with me to remind me," Sanders said.

"I thought the candy accompanying the computer sign-ups in the Union was clever, but that push didn't help those who had already signed up. I wasn't discouraged from using SALT, but I think it was unfair."

Hunt added: "They promoted to start the campaign, but they didn't promote to utilize it as much after sign-ups were met.

"SALT is beneficial if you use it correctly," Hunt continued. "It only goes so far and shows you your loans, but doesn't help you pay them. It's mainly an

organizational tool. I'll use it closer to graduation, but not right now."

Still, the use of SALT is encouraged. "It's a necessity for students to anticipate their financial predicaments and help prepare them for any financial ailments they may experience and are currently unprepared for," Sanders said. "SALT is helpful to me because it allows me to see all the loan money I have and helping me budget effectively. Just helping me prepare for life after school is generally helpful."

The use of the Residential Life Department also helped to achieve the goal of initial sign-ups. Resident Assistants were encouraged to

sign up for SALT to better lead floor meetings held regarding SALT, including a laptop available to encourage residents to sign up on the spot. "I'm one of those people that feel leading by example is best and I wanted to figure out what SALT was all about before recommending it," Sanders said.

Hunt added: "I originally signed up for SALT because it was a way for me to track [my loans] and see them grow."

'Appeals on Wheels' Hears Case on Campus

Charlaine Grosse
Staff Writer

"Appeals on Wheels," the roving Indiana State Court of Appeals, came to hear a case on Manchester's campus on March 12.

Because the Indiana Constitution provides "an absolute right to one's appeal," the Court of Appeals considers more than 2,000 cases per year. The Court of Appeals of Indiana, which celebrated its centennial in 2001, is the state's second-highest court. The court's 15 members hear cases in three-judge panels that rotate three times per year.

A panel of judges, Paul D. Mathias, Terry A. Crone and Cale J. Bradford, came to Manchester University last March to hear the criminal case of Scott v. State on appeal from Lake Superior Court.

"Appeals on Wheels" helps Hoosiers learn more about the judiciary's indispensable role in Indiana govern-

ment. "It's always our goal to help make the process of an appeal more understandable to the general public," Judge Mathias said. "It's also to make our jobs, what we do and how we serve the people of the State of Indiana, more understandable, so they know we're real people making those difficult decisions."

The court has conducted more than 355 Appeals 'on Wheels' since 2001. "If we're asked and if we can find a case, we will find a way to come," Judge Mathias said. Oral arguments are not trials or hearings, thus they do not include witnesses, evidence or testimony. Instead, attorneys for the parties present legal arguments to the court on behalf of their clients.

Dr. Leonard Williams, professor of political science at Manchester University who took the initiative to contact the Indiana State Court of Appeals for this VIA, commented that it was a decent case with interesting legal issues. "However it is not as sexy as a case that you could have had, but most cases that get to this level are

argued on procedures grounds," Dr. Williams said. "It's a question of how do you interpret the law to be applied." He insisted that an appeal is not a trial court level like what we see on television. Dr. Williams thinks that the biggest hurdle for people to overcome was learning the difference between the trial court level, where there are witnesses and testimonies, and the appeal of court level, where there are just legal arguments.

"The case that we had, to me was extremely interesting," said Jake Burns, political science major. "Especially seeing the way the different judges interpret the law differently, and what attorneys think about it too." He enjoyed seeing the attorneys arguing what was wrong with the law because they both had totally different viewpoints and arguments with what was wrong with this case.

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Case Studies Helps 'Project Night Night'

David Lloyd
Staff Writer

What have you done to give back this year? As the spring semester comes to its midway point, Dr. Ogden's Case Studies class members can firmly say they have done their part to help out the community, specifically the San Francisco-based non-profit organization Project Night Night.

Developed in 2005, Project Night Night has been eliminating bad dreams with the help of "sleeping essentials" for abused children, including a blanket, canvas bag, book and a stuffed animal. These items help promote comfort, security and literacy, as well as give these children a nighttime friend.

Each year the class is expected to start and run a business that not only simulates the inner-workings of a company, but also benefits the community, which is where their business, H2.0 Drinkware, comes about.

The business, which is run solely by the students in the class, has been selling three types of water bottles. All profits go towards Project Night Night, which will in turn help a local children's homeless shelter in Indiana. On average, each water bottle, which sells for between \$15-25, will provide one bundle for a child, with an overall goal of \$15,200 by

the end of this semester.

There are three types of water bottles: "Permafrost," which freezes and helps keep drinks cool, "Flavor It," which allows fruits and vegetables to be used to enhance the taste of the water, and a "Hot Press, which has a built-in coffee press and keeps drinks hot for 6-8 hours. Selling for \$15, \$20 and \$25 respectively, they will be on sale for the rest of the semester as the class strives to reach its goal.

H2.0 Drinkware,



Photo courtesy of www.wadleighlibrary.org

led by President Katie Konik, has thus far raised around \$4500 in profit towards Project Night Night, through both sales as well as donations. The nearly 60 students in the class, except Konik, who was chosen by Dr. Ogden, were interviewed by Konik for the positions in the company they desired.

"I'm really into community service back home in Maryland, so this project really interests me," said Junior Accounting/Finance Major Jared Allen,

who earned the position of "Sales Director" in the business. "My brother is a teacher, so he is working with kids both privileged and underprivileged each day. It hits home, and it's great to help run a legitimate business in a college course."

Project Night Night has been the recipient of numerous awards throughout the recent years, and has been recognized as one of the best charities in the nation. Supporting hundreds of charities across America and eight alone in Indiana, they have been going strong ever since the project was established.

Donations to Project Night Night can be blankets (new), books and stuffed animals (new or like new), and the donations can be dropped off at or mailed to locations in Michigan, Ohio, and California. Although the water bottles are not affiliated with Project Night Night, the entire profit earned by H2.0 Drinkware will be donated to them.

Water bottles can be purchased during lunch and dinner at the Union from now through the rest of the semester, and donations can be made out to Manchester University. More information can be found out at <project-nightnight.org> as well as <h2odrinkware.com>.

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Around Campus

Consequences of Alcohol Emphasized at VIA

Ariel Smith
Staff Writer

Manchester University's VIAs give students learning experiences that they can use and relate to their own lives. The VIA in the Upper Union on March 11 – 'Don't Underestimate the Influence' – upheld this tradition with a presentation about the consequences of drinking at school. A panel of Manchester alumni told their stories and how they are still being affected by the consequences of their actions.

Though MU is a dry campus – meaning that no alcohol is allowed – students can still be still tempted to party and have fun with their friends. According to studies done by the Center for Alcohol and Other Drug Studies, some students consume up to 12 drinks a week while in college. Along with this, a Colorado State University study showed that students find all kinds of reasons to justify their drinking, from breaking the ice at social

events to relieving stress.

The VIA gave insight into the consequences for those who had been drinking on campus. Panel member

a hard time accepting an application or resume with felonies listed. Applicants can explain what may have happened in an interview,

years ago are still affecting him today. "I'm cautious, I'm careful about every decision," he said. "I do not put myself in situations that

due to some vandalism that occurred after he had been drinking. Though he finally found a job, he had a rough time getting inter-

to the point of alcoholism and addictive tendencies. "I have that addictive personality," Case said. "I'm constantly reminded of that on a daily basis," he said in reference to an addiction to Diet Coke. "But as to the specific choices that I've made, those have made me who I am. Not to say that I'm proud of them, but I'm proud of the perseverance I've demonstrated."

'Don't Underestimate the Influence' the matter in perspective for students, showing just how their lives can be affected by mistakes that are made due to intoxication. Having the alumni speak reinforced the idea that a person can pay for his or her mistakes for a long time. However having willpower can help a person overcome these challenges as well. Long story short, if students stay sober, it may keep them out of trouble in the long run.



DUI at VIA A panel of Manchester alumni speak frankly with current MU students about the way that alcohol affected – or continues to affect – their post-graduate lives. The panel members stressed the fact that an alcohol-related mistake in college has the ability to follow them throughout life, and that students should always think about the choices they make.

Photo by Emily Krabach

Ryan Spiess, discussed how hard finding a job was after having a criminal record. He spoke about employers – especially in the field of education – having

but it is hard to get employers to interview such applicants at all.

Spiess explained that his actions and decisions he made those many

could possibly go to another extreme because I've been there and don't want to experience it again."

For him, acquiring a teaching job was very difficult

views and explaining why he had a felony.

Stephen Case, another member of the panel, discussed how he is still affected by alcohol problems

'Appeals on Wheels' cont.

This VIA was an excellent learning opportunity for Manchester University's students, faculty and staff members interested in law or to just witness the judicial system in action.

"I really liked it," Burns said. "It's definitely more interesting than watching a normal local court. It's more argumentative and it feels like it's a little bit more informal. You understand the law a little

bit more when you end up leaving, so I really enjoyed it a lot."

Burns had a previous basis for the understanding of the judicial vocabulary. However, previous knowledge was not required to understand the audience, as the primary goal of the 'appeals on wheels' is to bring the court to the people.

"I thought the judges did a very good job

asking the attorney to slow down and explain some of the points of law and the vocabulary," Williams said.

Katie Skeen, a first-year majoring in political science and economics, appreciated the VIA as well. "Anyone who attended the VIA saw the seriousness of a real live court case and the different roles that the lawyers and judges played," Skeen said. She added that, to her the VIA

was more than instructive because it made her realize that she is not cut out for that particular career field.

The judges seemed to like Manchester University as much as the audience liked the VIA. "This is a terrific venue for us to visit," Judge Mathias said. "All of your questions were really interesting and there were lots and lots of good questions!" He added

that Manchester University is a wonderful place and that the judges felt very pleased to have been asked to come.

After the hearing, a private reception for invited guests honoring panelists of the Indiana Court of Appeals was held in the Beauchamp lounge. "Luckily enough, Professor Williams invited me to go to a dinner afterwards with the three judges," Burns said.

"I got to talk to them and they helped me out with my future and what I wanted to do. They were really helpful and it was an overall amazing experience".

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Around Campus

Wade Visits Campus, Discusses Drag Photos

Catherine Lange
Staff Writer

Cara Lee Wade, an art professor at the University of Saint Francis, came to visit Manchester for a VIA convocation Tuesday, March 26 and a small lecture in Flory Auditorium Wednesday, March 27. The subject of the Flory lecture was her photography collection housed on the second floor of ACEN.

The photographs on the second floor of ACEN have caused some contention, as the photographs depict the world of drag queens – both in full drag and preparing for a show. Wade's lecture covered some of the terms used to describe the various types of drag queens, including those less accomplished queens, often referred to as "Sunday performers."

Wade's display is the result of a class she took on photography while studying in Savannah, Georgia. While taking the class, Wade was working at Club One Jefferson, which regularly held drag shows. Wade, looking for an opportunity to take photographs for her class, began photographing the stage for its effects of light and dark. Later, her inter-

est turned to the people on the stage. "[I] wanted to show beautiful drag

table figure in Savannah, Lady Chablis was among the landmarks of the book.

some have undergone multiple surgeries to appear more feminine in fig-

procedures.

The collection in ACEN was first displayed

graphs.

For Wade, a recurring theme of her photography is beauty. "Natural beauty doesn't exist for drag queens," Wade said. "They love over-the-top femininity."

Students who attended the Flory lecture learned more about what it means to be a drag queen. "I learned what a drag queen really was," said senior Carson McFadden. "I think most of us there had a general idea—that is, we knew that a drag queen was a man dressed as a woman—but we learned a lot more about the culture and lives of drag queens where Cara Wade went to school."

For some students, the lecture gave them more insight and understanding of the process of being a drag queen. "It gave the women in pictures more than just a face or body," said senior Kelsey Barta said. "I never had a problem with the pictures, but I actually grew to like them more."

Wade's photographs are still on display on the second floor of ACEN.



THE 'UGLY PRETTY' During her VIA convocation on Tuesday, March 27, Cara Lee Wade discusses her journey as an artist, especially in the development of a photography series that questions normal beauty conventions. Wade also conducted a smaller lecture the following day discussing her photographs drag queens which are currently displayed on the second floor of the ACEN.

Photo by Felicia Nichols

queens," Wade said.

Among the drag queens photographed is the Lady Chablis, made famous by the publication in 1994 of the best-selling "Midnight in the Garden of Good and Evil." As a no-

The drag queens of Wade's photographs tend toward "high camp drag," which Wade described as "a drag of glamour that embraces women." The photographs in Wade's collection depict queens of a wide variety:

ure, while others work with their natural body type. Some have even undergone procedures done by people without medical degrees. Wade shared that some drag queens have died from these 'backyard'

in the Fort Wayne Museum of Art in 2009 after Sarah Aubrey approached Wade about hosting a collection of Wade's works. She only takes film photographs in black-and-white, and rarely takes digital photo-

Mukhopadhyay Lectures on Gender, Media

Kaitie Kemper
Staff Writer

Nationally renowned feminist blogger, lecturer and author Samhita Mukhopadhyay's VIA presentation "Change the Conversation, Change the Culture" drew in a large crowd of Manchester University women and men on Apr. 3. The event was held in the Upper Union at 7 p.m. with a turnout that was larger than anticipated, which called for more seating for students and faculty who were left standing along the wall in the packed room.

Hosted by MU's gender studies program and introduced by Dr. Katharine Ings, the self-proclaimed former "punk rock grrrl's" talk focused on feminist issues such as grrrl's rape and victimization, and how these topics are handled by the media. She also touched on her own Indian heritage and upbringing, which was the initial motivating factor that caused her to question and analyze numerous so-

cial concerns.

Although Mukhopadhyay spoke with a visible sense of humor, she delivered powerful messages about taboo matters—like the Steubenville rape case—in her presentation. "It was very enlightening," said junior Aubree Wadkins. "She talked about things that women regularly deal with because of the media blowing things out of proportion. She also talked about how people on social networks are making things worse because they are playing the 'blame the victim' card, and how the rapists are the actual victims because they are 'so young and had such potential.'"

Other students were equally moved by her address. "I'm happy that she was able to bring attention to national news that I don't think many people were aware of beforehand," said senior Kelsey Barta. "She brought up topics like rape culture with the case in Steubenville, Ohio, and the issue concerning Zerlina Maxwell on

FOX stating that women shouldn't need to think about having to prevent rape. Instead, we need to teach men not to rape."

Along with these gender concerns, Mukhopadhyay emphasized the impact of victimization and race as well. "She talked about the Trayvon Martin case and how he was made out to be a danger and not the victim because he was black," Wadkins said.

Even though she lectured on issues that might often be swept under the rug due to their uncomfortable nature, Mukhopadhyay's passion toward these controversial matters was recognized by audience members. "I liked how she connected her life story to her activism," said senior Jonathan Ulrich. "It's clear that Samhita lives out her values and social analysis through her activism at feministing.com and as a web strategist. I especially appreciated her emphasis on the intersectionality of race, class and gender."



Photo courtesy of <http://www.samhitamukhopadhyay.com/>

For those who are interested in argumentative social issues, Mukhopadhyay offers a variety of material to inform readers on her perspectives in relation to questionable topics. She serves as the executive editor for feministing.

com, where she has written blogs about pop culture spectacles from "Sex and the City" and "Girls" to Kanye West and how they tie into to current gender arguments.

For people who are feeling particularly am-

bitious, her book "Outdated: Why Dating is Ruining Your Love Life" provides more commentary about the on-going gender battle for equality in today's society.

Ganeshananthan Previews Upcoming Novel

Mike Dixon
Staff Writer

V. V. Ganeshananthan, a journalist and fiction writer who graduated from Harvard College and the Iowa Writer's Workshop, read a section from her book in progress, tentatively titled "Hippocrates," in the upper Student Union at 7 p.m. on Thursday, April 4.

She was introduced by English Professor Stacy Erickson who met Ganeshananthan, or as she calls her Sugi, at the University of Iowa while they were both training to be professors. Erickson fondly remembers playing tennis together and eating burgers immediately after. Ganeshananthan's first novel, "Love Marriage," covered the Sri Lankan civil war between the oppressive Sinhalese government and the radical opposition, the Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam, in around 300 pages. Her next book promises to expand on the conflict, from its early stirrings in the 1980s to its end in 2009, in 400 pages or less.

The story Ganeshananthan read was from the

perspective of a girl with the Tamil Tigers as she discovers that her friend, Sabi, had just attempted to blow herself up along with a Sinhalese official and her unborn child. Sabi was a member of the Black Tigers, a part of the insurrection specializing in tactics such as suicide bombing. She had joined the Tigers after Sinhalese soldiers had raped her and killed her four brothers. The narrator also lost four brothers: one to the war, one went overseas, one killed himself, and one died for the Tigers.

Judging by this brief section, it seems "Hippocrates" will not be light-hearted romp but a gritty tale of a torn nation and its people.

Inspiration for Ganeshananthan's stories come from her research into the Sri Lankan civil war. This particular story was inspired by an article and video of a suicide bomber. She also has several friends who were ex-Tigers that now criticize the rebellion's methods. Although she writes from a purely fictional standpoint, many of these friends are able to point out incidents identical to the ones she has written.

Ganeshananthan said that readers often ask

her whether the Sinhalese government or the Tamil Tigers should be considered "the bad guys." The answer is difficult given the violent tendencies of the Tigers. They became the leading force by eliminating all other oppositions and terrorizing those who did not pledge themselves to their cause. At one point, the Tamil Tigers were responsible for more suicide bombings than any other militant organization.

Both the tigers and the Sinhalese army are guilty of heavy war crimes and in many cases they match each other atrocity for atrocity. Ganeshananthan's answer to whom the blame lies is "all of them."

Although the civil war ended in May of 2009 with the utter defeat of the Tamil Tigers, there have been no political changes promised by the government during the conflict. "Far be it from political evolution," Ganeshananthan said. "If anything, politics have gone backwards."

As of now, Ganeshananthan does not know when her next novel will be finished. She was encouraged though to have found multiple copies of "Love Marriage" waiting to be signed at her reading.

Around Campus

Students Partake in 'Harlem Shake' Hysteria

Kate Rosebaum
Staff Writer

There's a whole lot of shaking happening on as MU students jump on the Harlem Shake bandwagon. The campus radio station, WBKE, created its own version of the Harlem Shake dance after junior Brandon Curry, DJ, found out about it through social media. Curry did not take much interest in the Shake until he spotted it on the Today Show.

"During one of our e-board meetings we got this plastic tub and got the zaniest costumes and for the first part of the video it had one of our WBKE news director, Michael Paynter, just doing his thing there inside of the studio," Curry said. "The rest of the people in the lobby acted bored, but jump cut fifteen seconds in and all of us are dancing.

"We had some people with fairy outfits," Curry continued. "We had a gorilla and a batman costume. Somebody was jumping around in his nightie. It only took 15 minutes to make."

Most of the dances that have been created on campus are free-style

created when the camera starts rolling. "Everyone just did their own thing,"

co ball." Overmeyer views the Harlem Shake as a

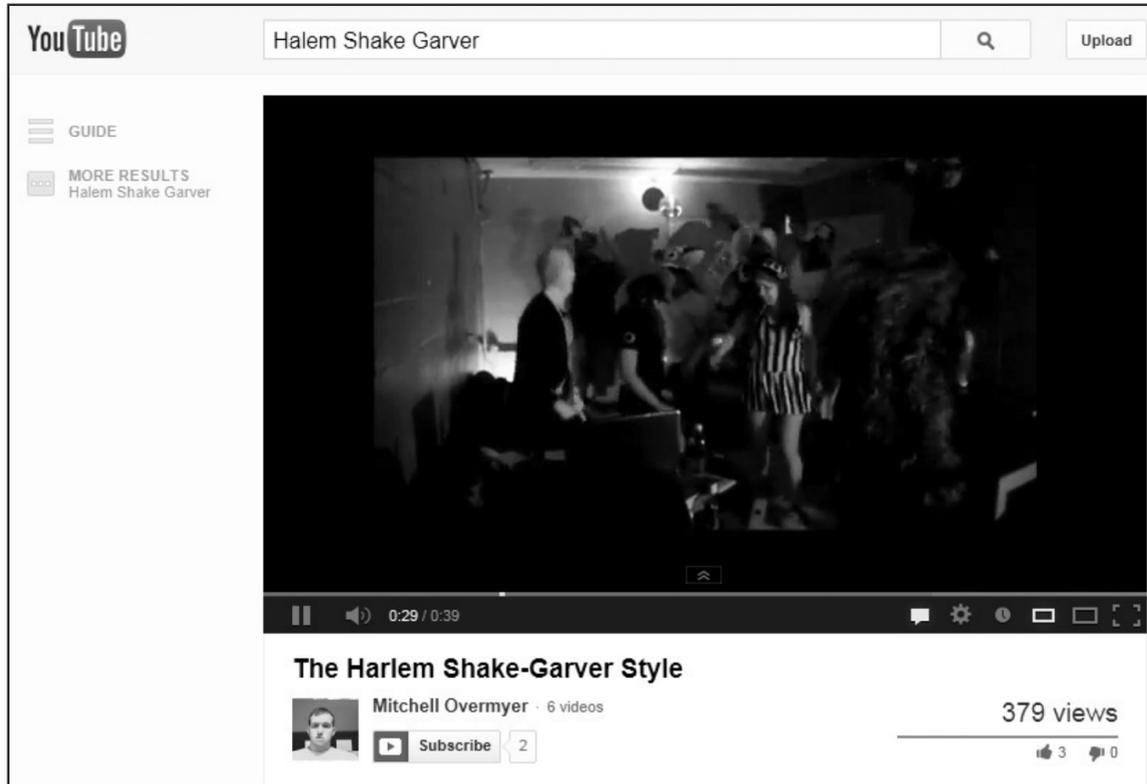
dom funky articles of clothing and I got a new camera for Christmas and I just

the Union as a way to bring attention to RA Hiring. Similar to Overmeyer's, it

glasses fall off," said Sophomore Emily Krabach. "Someone was fist pumping. I was just making it rain with fliers." The group decided to do the routine in order to let people know that RA's are "a fun group of people" and that the position can be a desirable one for those who may be interested in the future.

As the Harlem Shake is now widely known and becoming immensely popular it will not be a long-lasting trend. "I view more as a passing trend similar to Gangnam Style of last year," Curry said. "But I think it's right now weighing in popularity because all the videos have a similar type of tone to it and the sequence of events but after a while they start to get a bit boring. Although, it probably won't take long for the next mean to take form. Or to make us all act a fool."

"It has become more of a trend because that song has been out for years and it has now become more popular," Overmeyer said. "I have been trying to figure out why it became popular."



SHAKE IT LIKE A POLAROID PICTURE Mitchell Overmeyer's Harlem Shake video featuring several first-year Garver residents has gained viral success in the past few weeks. Overmeyer is not the only MU student to take part in this freestyle dance phenomenon as members of both WBKE and Residential Life have created their own video or live performances.

Photo courtesy of <http://www.samhitamukhopadnyay.com/>

said first-year Mitchel Overmeyer about the video he and fellow Garver Hall residents made. "Ours was in the dark with a dis-

way to take a break from studies. "It was a way to procrastinate on studying for a biology exam," he said. "I had a bunch of ran-

filmed my friend and then filmed us all."

Another Harlem Shake was performed by the Resident Assistants in

was a freestyle routine that required the RA's to begin dancing once the music started. "Some people did the Bernie and made their

Deitrich Studies Bacteria, Football Equipment

Caleb Noffsinger
Staff Writer

For a biology major, senior year means one of two things: an internship or a research project. Audrey Deitrich pursued a research project in bacteria.

She studied bacteria colonies located on the equipment and clothing of a group of contact sportsmen. Deitrich wanted to see if weather and temperature had an effect on what bacteria was where and what exactly the team should be focused on cleaning the most thoroughly.

She studied the MU football team for three weeks and randomly selected three players to take samples from. She took samples from mouth guards, cleats, jerseys, pads, and helmets right after practice. "I was

looking for Staphylococcus epidermidis, which is part of the normal skin flora, Staphylococcus aureus, the bug responsible for MRSA, Streptococcus mitis, a normal flora in the mouth, and Streptococcus pyogenes, which can be found on the mouth or skin and causes impetigo and streptococcal pharyngitis (strep throat)," Deitrich said.

During her experiment, she mainly found S. Epidermidis and S. Mitis, which is to be expected and normal. However, she did find several colonies of S. pyogenes on mouthguards through her research, which raised some questions. Overall, Deitrich found that the mouth guards held the most contaminants while the pads held the least. Even though she only conducted the study for three weeks, she has researched and reviewed her findings semester long trying to find some kind of connection that someone else may not have seen. To

prepare for the study, she had to wait for approval by the biology department to pursue this project, and she had to gather the materials necessary to conduct her experiment.

Deitrich worked with Dr. Polando on the project. "She and I came up with the question," Polando said, "and now she has taken it all on herself. I'm just here to check her data and to make sure she is on the right track."

MU Students Reflect on Spring Break 2013

Heather Elson
Staff Writer

During Manchester University's spring break, students enjoyed a variety of activities.

Since the majority of students are without money, a lot of them went home to look for summer jobs. Riley Bannon, first year, went back to his hometown of Warsaw, IN, in hope of finding a summer job. He applied to many places, including Warsaw Community Church, where he also is a member. When not applying for summer jobs, Bannon, like many basketball fans, watched a lot of March Madness. "I am an IU fan," Bannon said.

Students who already have jobs, like Hannah Miles, sophomore, worked over break at a Subway in Plainfield, IN. However Megan Garner, sophomore, who is an assistant manager at Chick-fil-A, took the week off and went to Florida to visit her cousins. "I was supposed to go on a mission trip to Haiti, but then it got cancelled," she said. "So instead of working, like I usually do, I decided to go to Florida with my sister."

While most students were taking the

week off for some needed relaxation, others went to Maryville, Tennessee, to

la, first-year, decided to do Habitat because her grandfather works with the

dent Orientation Leader, Abby Birnell, took her to the first Habitat meeting.

fore because I have never helped out a community in that way."

break, so she decided helping others was a better option. This was her second year doing Habitat and she made new friends from other colleges. "It was great," Birnell said. "I built a floor!"

This was Assistant Professor of English Stacy Erickson's fifth year of going to Habitat with Manchester. She started participating in the activity back in college and when she came to Manchester she learned of the local Habitat from Professor Brad Yoder, and decided to do it. She likes that the habitat group always goes somewhere warm. "I really enjoy doing something that's not just sitting and thinking," she said. "You get to build stuff. This year, I put up siding!"

For her first spring break as a college student, Chloe Webber went to Chicago, IL, with some friends. "[We decided to go because] my mom had a free room at the Marriott and it was a very expensive trip," she said. Webber and her friends had a great time in Chicago because they went without parents.

"Spring break means a time to relax from school and experience new things," Davila said.

work with Habitat for Humanity. Kaylene Davi-

Habitat group at the university in her hometown of Findlay, OH, and her Stu-

"It went well," she said. "The group was something I never experienced be-

Birnell, junior, was tired of being stuck at home doing nothing over



SPRING BREAKERS Manchester volunteers take time to pose for a photo while working with Habitat for Humanity. The group spent spring break 2013 in Maryville, Tennessee, where they helped out with house-building. Besides volunteer work, several students spent the break at work or on vacation. Also, many decided to simply relax at home.

Photo courtesy of Stacy Erickson

Spartan Sports

MU Spartan Baseball Continues Winning Ways

Kari Cottingim
Staff Writer

So far Manchester's baseball has been a hit. The team is currently 20-3-1 on the season, including a 10-1 record in the HCAC. They went 6-0 during their trip to Myrtle Beach, SC, and are getting effective help from the coaching staff, as well as from supportive teammates.

The team has worked hard for their record and plans to continue playing at a high level for the remainder of the season. "We treat every game the same and everybody in our league is good so we've got to show up every day ready to play," said Dan Sprunger, associate head baseball coach.

The team began their season in South Carolina, which was also the first practice that they had outside because of the weather. "That first game was by far the hardest game to overcome," said pitcher Caleb McAfee. Nonetheless, the team won all six of its games, giving them a confident start. "It gave a boost to our confidence pitching wise and then once we did get into our conference we found out that we're actually really good at pitching," McAfee said.

A new arrange-

ment in the coaching staff may play a part in the success of the pitchers. "The

Bryce Murphy. One of two new assistant coaches, Mark DeLaGarza, pushes

ers in the game longer.

The second new assistant is coach Jeremy

little rules that he knows can affect our game. He can change an umpire's

six seniors with eleven returning seniors. "The veteran groups work hard, care about the game, and have good leadership both in the classroom and on the field," Sprunger said.

McAfee said: "The rest of the season looks pretty promising." They beat Anderson last week, who are rivals and a good team in the conference. They also found it surprising that they beat Franklin because they're normally in the conference tournament at the end of the season.

Also, the Earlham games last weekend were tough, but not too much to handle. "Earlham's record does not indicate how strong of a team they are," Murphy said. "They played us competitively for three games, but we were fortunate enough to come out on the winning end on all three."

This might once again put Manchester's baseball team in a tournament spot. "We make one goal each year: to win our conference championship," Bryce Murphy said. "If we accomplish that goal, we advance to the regionals." McAfee said: "It's a whole team effort for how we get our wins."

The next games will be played against Hanover on April 12 and 13 at Gratz Field.



WARMING UP Spartan baseball players huddle up during a recent practice at Gratz Field. Currently, Manchester's baseball team is ranked no. 14 in the NCAA Division III national rankings. Manchester is also the top team in the Heartland Collegiate Athletic Conference with an overall record of 20-3-1 and an HCAC record of 10-1. On Friday, April 12 at 4:15 p.m., the Hanover Panthers will visit Gratz Field for the first game of a three-game series against Manchester.

Photo by Vivien Carter

biggest change between last year's team and this year's team is the improvement of our pitching staff," said pitcher/outfielder

the pitchers toward their goals and likes them to have first pitch strikes and low three ball counts, which help keep the starting pitch-

Hochstedler, who graduated from Rose-Hulman." Coach Hock is an outstanding coach," McAfee said. "It's insane how the

call by pointing something out."

Another contributor to the success is the replacement of last year's

Softball Hits Hot Streak During HCAC Games

Hannah Schutter
Staff Writer

As the weather has begun to warm up, the same can be said for Manchester University's softball season.

The Spartans kicked off their conference season Easter weekend with two home games against Mt. St. Joseph. Pitching a perfect game, sophomore Maureen Lund led the Spartans to their first victory of 8 to 0, with first-year Kalie Niezgodski also hitting her third home run of the year. The next game, with pitching from sophomore Ashlea Nash, resulted in no runs by Mt. St. Joseph as the Spartans won by nine. Sophomore Emily Willman helped the Spartans with her three-run homer. These wins helped Niezgodski and Lund subsequently earn Heartland Collegiate Athletic Conference players of the week status.

Keeping the season rolling, the Spartans faced their rivals of Anderson University on Tuesday, April 2.

Continuing with their winning streak, Manchester beat Anderson 5 to 4 during the first game and 6 to 5 during the second game. Lund opened and was able to gain her seventh win of the season. Meanwhile, in the second game against Anderson, some team bests were earned with three being the lucky number. Junior Kylie Planck received a team best of 3 runs and Niezgodski helped with 3 RBIs.

Not showing any signs of slowing down, the Manchester softball team continued playing with multiple games this past weekend, April 6 and 7. On Saturday, the Spartans played a doubleheader against Franklin College. Manchester's winning streak was brought to an end though, suffering from two defeats by Franklin.

In the first game, Franklin won 12 to 1. The second game, while closer in score, was still a loss with Franklin winning 11 to 8. Turning it around, the Spartans had a doubleheader at Hanover College in which they won their

first game, 6 to 4. During the game, Niezgodski brought her season home run total up to 5 and managed to score a grand slam. This win was also the eighth of the season for Lund. The second game against the Panthers was a close one with the Spartans in the lead until the very last inning. Ultimately, Manchester was edged out, 6 to 5 by Hanover.

Although the team suffered some losses this past weekend, disrupting the victory streak the women were on, the team is not letting it get them down. "Although we did suffer some losses, we have a great team this year," Nash said. "We are going to continue to work hard and play hard."

The Spartans will have a chance to redeem themselves with a six-game schedule for the week of April 8. The Spartans will kick off with a double header Wednesday at Defiance College in Ohio.

Opinion: Referees Receive Unfair Treatment

Matt Harter
Sports Columnist

Coaches are criticized time and time again for making the wrong play call at the wrong time. Players are yelled at by coaches and fans for making lackadaisical decisions. Athletic directors sometimes receive flack for coaching-change decisions. On many occasions, these reactions are justifiable, but the reaction referees receive during games is often unfair.

In my opinion, referees have the toughest job of anyone standing on the basketball court. Yes, the players have to work extremely hard in practice and in the weight room in order to prepare for upcoming games. Coaches have to spend numerous hours drawing up plans for practice and game planning for their next opponent.

Also, if it's a college coach, there are several hours spent on recruiting future roster fillers on top of their other duties. However, the "easiest" part of a basketball team's season is the

games, not the practicing and preparing. When the game begins, player and coaches are, or should be, relaxed because they know the game plan they want to follow and have looked at tape of their opposition.

Referees on the other hand, really don't have a way to prepare for a game. They don't have any idea what types of plays will occur on the court that might cause his or her brain to swirl around trying to decide if a whistle should be blown or not. A player or coach can lose focus a couple of times throughout a game without causing the team to lose in the end.

Additionally, players are subbed in and out of games to take mental and physical breathers. Referees don't have the luxury of taking a break or making a mistake. They have to be focused from the start of the game till the clock hits zero. Referees can't make a mistake. If a player makes a mistake, fans might express their anger quietly or in their head, but they get over it very quickly. On the

other hand, a referee simply can't make a mistake. When a referee makes a call, or fails to make a call, fans yell as if the president just turned the nation into a dictatorship. Some fans might start yelling "he's getting paid off," "this game is rigged," or several other phrases that can't be mentioned in this article.

I have the upmost respect for referees. Yes, they make bad calls. But in reality, they are right probably 95 percent of the time. They have to give their best judgment on the spot during a game that is extremely fast-paced. No matter what call is made, one team's fans will be screaming.

I can't imagine the amount of mental toughness and focus referees must possess. I would think they would have to do something like Kevin Costner's character does in the movie, "For the Love of the Game," where he mentally blocks out the crowd as he delivers his next pitch. Referees also can't dwell on a call they just made and instead must concentrate on



Photo courtesy of http://img.bleacherreport.net/img/images/photos/001/547/341/1891198_crop_exact.jpg?w=650&h=440&q=75

the live action.

Referees have a tough job; they are nobody's friend when they're on the basketball court. We must step back and realize the demands that are attached with their position and treat them more fairly. I can't say that I've never screamed nasty comments directed toward referees, because I have; sometimes

during the heat of the moment, you can't help but yell. However, I understand they are doing the best they can.

We also have to realize why they decided to be referees in the first place. For most referees, it probably wasn't about the money. NCAA Division III basketball officials earn anywhere from 50 dollars to

150 dollars per game, while NCAA Division I basketball officials take in somewhere between 750 dollars and 1,000 dollars per game. This makes for a nice side job, but I think most decide to go through the training to become a referee because they love the game of basketball, just like the fans, players and coaches.