

## Students Travel to Memphis to Commemorate MLK's Assassination



Photo by Zander Willoughby

MU Students, Faculty and alumni traveled to Memphis, Tenn. to commemorate the 50th anniversary of MLK Jr.'s assassination. The trip began with a visit to the National Civil Rights Museum at the location of the former Lorraine Motel, where King was assassinated on April 4, 1968.

### Virginia Rendler Freelance Writer

On March 9, 2018, a cohort of Manchester University students and alumni boarded a charter bus headed to Memphis, Tenn., as part of the remembrance events on campus for the 50th anniversary of Martin Luther King Jr.'s assassination.

The students and alumni first visited the National Civil Rights Museum. Established in 1991, the museum is located at the former Lorraine Motel, where King was assassinated on April 4, 1968.

The motel has been converted into a museum dedicated to King's legacy and the civil rights movement.

Manchester University alumna and current staff member, Tina Rieman '94, said that her visit to the museum was the highlight of the trip. "My favorite moment was watching two parents describing the Civil Rights Movement to their young children in the National Civil Rights Museum," she said. "They were white parents who clearly felt passionately about educating their kids about racism and injustice. At the time, I was standing in the room dedicated to the March on Washington. There was a video of Martin

Luther King Jr. giving his speech on a repeating loop. It was all very moving, and I got tears in my eyes.

"My parents were also white parents who felt passionately about educating their kids about racism and injustice," she continued. "They were involved in the Civil Rights Movement of the 1960s, participated in the Poor People's Campaign, lived in Resurrection City and got arrested multiple times for various acts of non-violent civil disobedience." Rieman said the trip was a way for her to connect with her parents and their passionate dedication to justice.

Jesse Langdon, peace

studies and political science major, said that the museum was an incredibly humbling experience. "The museum really put you in history," Langdon said. "Having the opportunity to be in the room where King was before he was assassinated was incredibly powerful. It was a monument to King's legacy that included the viewer in the story."

The students and alumni also visited the Stax Museum of American Soul Music, a museum that connected civil rights and soul music. "It was amazing to see a glimpse into American music history that we don't often hear about," said Sydney Abbott, software engi-

neering major. "I wasn't aware of these stories of revolution in music before visiting the museum."

Peace studies majors, minors, and those not connected at all to the program were also welcome to attend the trip. Rieman was not a major or minor when she attended Manchester in the 90s, but went on trips with the peace studies program then as well as now. "I always appreciated what I learned and was greatly impacted by those events," she said. "I appreciated how inclusive and accepting people were then and now. I was grateful for this opportunity to join another peace studies trip!"



Photo by Zander Willoughby

The trip attendees outside the Lorraine Motel, which is now the National Civil Rights Museum in Memphis, Tenn. Though led by the Peace Studies program, students of all majors and fields were invited to attend the trip in early March.



Photo by Virginia Rendler

As part of the trip, students visited Graceland, which is a mansion on a 13.8-acre estate owned by Elvis Presley.



Photo by Zander Willoughby

Students Katie Jo Breidenbach Wooding, Delaney McKesson, Lauren Rodts, Virginia Rendler and Jesse Langdon in Memphis.



Photo by Ciara Knisely

Purple ribbons are tied around many trees throughout both campus and in town. They were put up by students of Dr. Kim Duchane to promote cancer awareness and signal the arrival of the annual Relay for Life run.



## STUDENT CONCERNS COLUMN

Student Senate is currently working on a number of projects. In our four committees (Safety and Wellness, Statement Writing, Long Term Projects, Survey and Research). Those projects include the following: parking (reassigning parking tags), VIA feedback, cameras (parking lots) and more! We plan to make more detailed updates on these projects in this article. Please contact us if you have a student concern that you would like Student Senate to address!

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Have a student concern?  
 Send an email to [tawooding2018@manchester.edu](mailto:tawooding2018@manchester.edu) or contact one of your senators.

## Former Surgeon General Murthy Analyzes Opioid Use in America

**Avis McGovern**  
 Staff Writer

Manchester University heard Vivek Murthy, former Surgeon General of the United States, deliver the annual Harry '35 and Jeanette Henney Lecture as a VIA on April 2 in Cordier Auditorium.

Former Manchester Trustee Jane E. Henney, a 1969 Manchester grad and nationally recognized public health administrator and academic leader, endowed the Henney Lecture to honor her parents.

Murthy's lecture focused on examining and explaining the opioid crisis in America. Audience members learned how the opioid issue has increased significantly since the year 1999. He explained that more doctors are writing more opioid prescriptions than in years past even though patients may not be in severe pain.

"I did not realize that opioids were such an issue in today's world," said India Ulshafer. "Murthy's lecture really helped me to better understand that even though we live in a society with more opportunity and technology to closely research the amount of opioid dosages that have been distributed, we still are having trouble to combat the issue."

Murthy did not only give information of the opioid crisis, but also mentioned an outlet for everyone to help reduce the outbreak. He helped to engage statistical information in his lecture by referring to the "Turn the Tide" campaign he runs from his website, [turnthetiderx.org](http://turnthetiderx.org).

"I really liked how Murthy was able to give us his expertise insight on the opioid crisis," said first year Macyn Lyon. "I think everyone who attended the lecture was able to capture how passionate Vivek Murthy is about finding a solution to dismantling how easy opioids are being distributed. When I was listening to him talk about how addictive opioids can easily become, I was hoping he would mention a way for me to get involved and help. I think hearing about his pledge page really allows students to help make a positive impact on his campaign."

Murthy's lecture, while focusing on the issue with opioids, also gave insight on how the problem can be eliminated. He spoke about how people who are feeling typical pain are often going to doctors to get prescribed stronger drugs than they necessarily need. One way to decrease this issue, Murthy explained, is patients assessing themselves before deciding to go to the doctor. Murthy hinted that most light pain that people feel is normal.

He also talked about speaking to colleagues and doctors about diligently looking into the patients' symptoms before giving them prescription medication that they could possibly be requesting for purposes other than pain. Murthy also touched on the risks of taking more than the recommended amount of dosage which could result in organ damage, or other permanent damage to the body.

"The lecture taught me a lot about opioids," said first year Than Soe. "Being a student who is looking into studying medicine, I think it is important to note that



Photo provided  
 Former Surgeon General of the United States, Vivek Murthy.

there is a problem with how often patients are receiving opioids to try and combat pain. Murthy brought a great, professional perspective on how the issue is prevalent in many hospitals and practices.

"Although not everyone here on campus is studying medicine," she continued, "it is helpful to all of us to know the signs of opioid addiction. Murthy gave an outstanding lecture about how to handle individuals who abuse the opioids given to them and I think that will further help to initiate a change just by hearing how we, as students, can do our part."

Murthy is currently a professor of internal medicine at Brigham and Women's Hospital and Harvard Medical School. He continues to work and advocate for the opioid issue on his webpage, where he has posted a pledge letter that is available to the public for signing.

## Spring Musical 'Breaks Stereotypes,' Presents Serious Topics

**Kaity Collins**  
 Staff Writer

Manchester University is ready to welcome spring with the Broadway musical "Spring Awakening." The story takes place in 1890's Germany during the Repressive Era, and describes the lives of several 14 and 15-year-olds. Following the story of several couples, "Spring Awakening" is a musical that covers some serious topics such as suicide, homosexuality and premarital sex.

The theatre program has made sure to put a warning on the musical about the themes that will be portrayed in the show. "It's a heavy show," said senior Clay Marcum, who plays Melchior Gabor. "It's a coming-of-age story."

Director Kira Lace Hawkins said: "It's a hard one to describe. But it's kind of like the difference of growing up in an oppressive bourgeoisie society." The musical will also feature a contemporary rock sound.

Performing the musical are 16 cast members, consisting of 13 Manchester students, two community members and one faculty member of Grace College. Each actor will be playing roles consisting of six male characters and six female characters, including various teenage couples and several adults.

"I am happy to see that community members and students alike are coming together to put on the show," said sophomore James Cash.

"It's very episodic," Hawkins said. "And I am thrilled with



Photo by Tiffany Byers  
 Emily Lynn, Addison Neher, Tiffany Phinezy and Kenzie Hare rehearse for their upcoming musical.

the kids' work."

Currently, the cast are preparing themselves for the upcoming premiere. Marcum added: "Things are really beginning to fall into place. We're starting to see things really click."

The theatre program's intent with this musical is to shed light on some of the issues presented. "The plot includes sexuality, youth revolt and the pressure for success," Marcum said. "The issues it deals with are pretty serious."

Hawkins said: "I hope it doesn't offend anyone. My biggest hope is to make people think."

The "Spring Awakening" musical will be taking place tonight and tomorrow night, April 14, at 7:30 p.m. in Cordier Auditorium, as well as a final performance April

15 at 2 p.m. "I'm a little nervous to share it," Hawkins said. "This really breaks all the stereotypes of usual musical theatre."

Cash added: "I feel it's a good experience for those who can relate."

Marcum had nothing but praise for the show. "This is the most groundbreaking show the town has ever seen," he said. "The Theatre program really brings people together."

Admission is \$12 for the general public, \$8 for high school students and senior citizens, and free for Manchester students, faculty and staff.

"I am really thankful for the group of students and community members," Hawkins said.

## MU Business Students Create Consulting Company

**Teresa Masteller**  
 Staff Writer

Upper-level business students at Manchester University have worked hard to create and run a business this semester called Spartan Digital Marketing as part of a capstone Case Studies class that all business majors are required to take.

Spartan Digital Marketing provides digital media consulting to businesses via seminars, in addition to selling shirts. "We can set up websites, social media pages, etc., and we are also holding seminars to teach those businesses the best way to run those accounts and how to analyze the effectiveness of their media marketing," said junior Marissa Deetz.

Approximately 68 students are a part of this course taught by Professor Timothy Ogden, who tries to remain hands-off throughout the process.

"It is student-led," said junior Carissa Comstock. "We function just like a normal company. We have a president (Brandon Eck) who oversees the entire class, six vice presidents who have managers under them and the managers' staff under them."

This service-driven business needed little-to-no funding, meaning that any fees charged on the marketing portion of the business goes straight to profit. Every year, the class gets to choose what their profit is going toward. This year, the students tried to think of out-of-the-box ideas in the hopes of gaining the biggest profit yet.

"Our class wanted to be able to have the biggest impact possible for our chosen charity, and a service-led business seemed to be the way to do it," Deetz said.

The class chose to have all profit go toward Bridging the Gap Globally, an organization run by Kenny Doss, a student in this course. "The organization helps kids escape from the struggles of daily life in inner-city Chicago," Deetz said.

In previous years, many classes have chosen to sell some sort of product, such as coffee mugs that the business "Joe for Joe" ran last year.

"We wanted to do something outside of the box that utilized the knowledge and skills that we have learned during our time at Manchester," Comstock said.



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## International Fair Brings Excitement, New Experiences

**Evan Harris**  
Staff Writer

Grab your passports, appetites, plates and forks, as you are about to take a trip to the biennial International Fair this Sunday, April 15, from noon until 4 p.m. in the main arena of the PERC.

As is tradition, this year's fair will represent 15 to 20 different nations. Students from these nations will present different foods and cultural expressions, such as live entertainment.

The International Fair has its origins in the mid-1970s when it was a dinner that celebrated the international cultures present at then-Manchester College. In the early 1990s, the first International "Fair" was born as part of International Education Week.

As time progressed, the Fair grew in size and moved to the spring semester of even years to ensure that international cultures are recognized and celebrated.

Indeed, this fair took a "fair" amount of planning. Director of Intercultural Services Michael Dixon oversees all aspects of the event. "I have convened the meetings to discuss all of the separate but related pieces of the fair," he said.

Arpan Paul, East Hall resident and international student from India, has culinary plans for the Fair. "I am the lead cook preparing Indian dishes," he said. "My friend, Richard Anthony, and Professor Uma Ganesan are going



Photo courtesy of MU Marketing

As part of the decoration for the International Fair, the flags of represented countries are displayed. 15-20 different countries will be represented, but Director of Intercultural Services Michael Dixon hopes to expand the fair to include cultural acts from other parts of the United States.

to help me with food preparation also."

Paul is particularly excited about cooking food for everyone who will attend the fair. "They will get an opportunity to try authentic (my native) Indian cuisine," he said.

Dixon is looking forward to the event as well. "Visitors will

learn more about foods, cultural experiences, and other interesting things," he said. "My favorite part of the fair is when it's in full swing and people are interacting at the booths, tasting new foods, seeing old friends and watching and engaging with the cultural acts."

Once the fair ends, plans will begin for spring 2020. What

is Dixon's outlook on the event? "My hope for 2020 is that we do something big and extravagant," he said. "Our next fair will hopefully include new cultural acts from various parts of the nation, including other states like Michigan, Ohio and Illinois."

Paul also shares his hopes for the next International

Fair. "I hope they will continue to focus on and celebrate diversity, in addition to including more cultural programs for all visitors to experience firsthand," he said. "I hope more students and faculty from different regions of America could reach out to help us instead of this fair just being planned by people on campus."



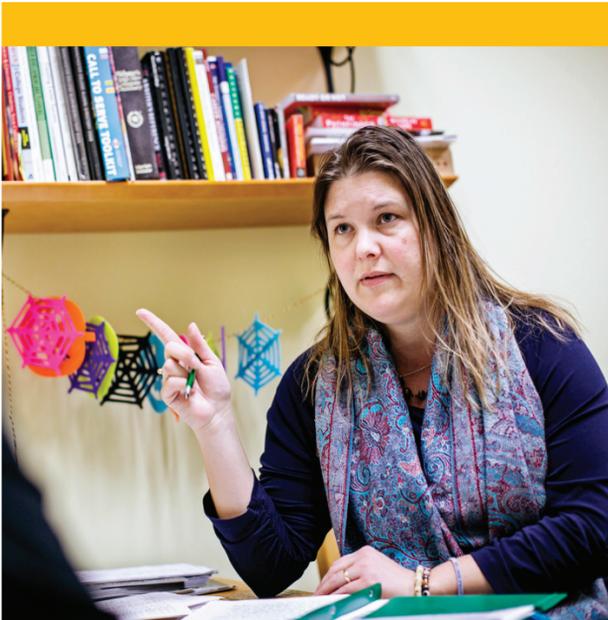
Photo courtesy of MU Marketing

Annika Harley and Ashton Krider '17 participate in a past International fair.



Photo courtesy of MU Marketing

The International Fair features food of other cultures, but also other parts of cultures, such as traditional dances.



## Students!

Do you need help in a class or with a paper? Do you like free stuff?

For the remainder of the semester, all students who attend study tables or the Writing Center will be entered in a weekly drawing for prizes.

The Writing Center Hours are:  
Monday – Thursday: 9 am – 10 pm  
Friday: 9 am – 5 pm  
Sunday: 5 pm – 10 pm



# SPARTAN SPORTS

## Manchester Softball Splits Double-Header with Franklin College

**Kody Smith**  
Freelance Writer

Manchester University spring sports were in full swing on Sunday, April 8, as the baseball and softball squads hosted HCAC opponents on their respective home fields. On the softball side, MU split a double-header with Franklin College, falling to the Grizzlies 4-1 in game one, only to rally back to a 5-3 victory in game number two.

The offense was quieted in game one, as MU only tallied two total hits in the loss. Senior Sydney Thompson went 1-3 with a double in the contest, while sophomore Makenzi Nyland went 1-3 with a run batted in, as she plated Thompson in the bottom of the seventh inning.

On the mound, senior starting pitcher Madisyn Walter pitched all seven innings in the contest, allowing three earned runs on 10 hits. Walter fell to 4-5 on the year with the loss in game one.

The bats awoke from the short slumber game two, as five runs on seven hits was enough to secure a 5-3 victory for the Spartans.

First year Alexis Mokos came through with a huge three-run double in the bottom of the fifth inning, as the bases emptied following her clutch hit. Junior Kate Skeens went 2-3 with an RBI, while



Photo by Caraline Fearirheller

Spartan Softball travels to Alma College tomorrow, April 14, and returns home for a two-game set against Kalamazoo on Sunday, April 15.

senior Lauren Ladwig continued her impressive 2018 with a pair of hits as well.

Junior Haley Perez impressed on the hill, as the starting pitcher compiled six innings on the hill. Perez allowed only four hits and struck out one Franklin batter in route to her third win on the sea-

son. Walter found her way to the mound once again in game two, this time in a relief role. The senior shutdown the Grizzlies in the seventh inning to secure her first save of the season.

MU is back on the road on tomorrow, April 14, for a

non-conference clash with Alma College beginning at 1:00 P.M. Game two will beginning at approximately 3:00 P.M.

The Spartans return home for a two-game set versus Kalamazoo on Sunday, April 15, with the first pitch slated for 12:00 P.M. with game two to follow.

### Softball Schedule

#### April

- 14 @ Alma
- 15 vs. Kalamazoo(H)
- 18 @ Rose-Hulman
- 21 vs. Hanover (H)
- 24 vs. Calvin (H)
- 25 vs. Bluffton (H)
- 28 @ Transylvania

## Spartans Sweep Rose-Hulman in Key HCAC Showdown

**Kody Smith**  
Freelance Writer

The Manchester University baseball squad fought the bitter, cold weather on Sunday, April 8 in route to a double-header sweep over HCAC foes, Rose-Hulman. MU shutout the Fightin' Engineers in game one, taking a decisive 4-0 victory. In game two, the Spartans tallied four runs once again, clinching to a 4-3 win to earn the Sunday sweep.

Game one was capped off by a brilliant pitching performance by senior Brandon Eck. Eck threw a complete game gem, which allowed only five hits and two walks through his nine grueling innings of work on the mound. The senior is now 3-2 in the 2018 campaign, and is looking to be a key component to the MU pitching staff as the season progresses.

The offense got the job done at the plate as well, as four runs on eight hits concluded the contest. Junior catcher Matt Pritz was 1-4 at the dish along with two runs batted in, which included an RBI double in the bottom of the sixth inning. Junior Tyler LaFollette was 1-3 in game one, including a triple and an RBI. This performance by MU catapulted the team to a game two with every drop of momentum on their side.

Another great starting pitching performance and ten hits on the offensive side led the Spartans to a 4-3 win to lead to a sweep



Photo by Caraline Fearirheller

Senior Brandon Eck pitches during the game against Rose-Hulman on April 8, winning 4-0. Eck is now 3-2 in the 2018 campaign.

of Rose-Hulman. Senior Taylor Kopplin continued his impressive 2018 campaign, as he pitched eight quality innings, allowing three earned runs while striking out six batters. Kopplin is now 4-1 on the year.

Junior John Magers secured his second save out of the

bullpen on Sunday, relieving Kopplin in the ninth inning. Magers struck out one hitter to close out the ninth inning of play.

On the offensive side of the baseball, sophomore Nick Rush powered the squad, drilling a solo homerun in the bottom of the sixth inning. Pritz put together another

solid offensive performance at the plate, going 2-4 with a pair of runs batted in. Junior Christian Smith was 2-4 as well, which included a double.

The Spartans return home to Gratz Field on Saturday, April 14 with another HCAC showdown, this time with the Franklin

College Grizzlies. MU hosts the conference opponent for two games on Saturday, with game one slated for a 12:00 first pitch.

### Baseball Schedule

#### April

- 14 vs. Franklin (H)
- 17 @ Defiance
- 21 vs. Mt. St. Joe (H)
- 22 vs. Wabash (H)
- 25 @ Indiana Tech
- 28 @ Transylvania

#### May

- 1 @ Taylor
- 4 @ Earlham

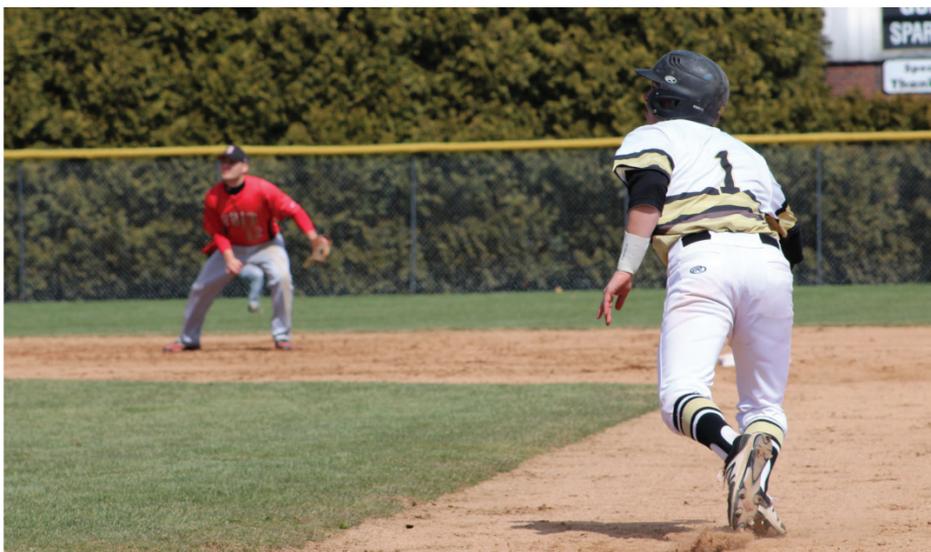


Photo by Caraline Fearirheller

Senior Hunter Lane runs for the next base.



Photo by Caraline Fearirheller

First-year Michael Pinarski is up to bat.