

## MU Welcomes Future Spartans to Campus

**Mackenzie Kopplin**  
Staff Writer

The annual Walk into My Future event was hosted by Manchester University on Friday, Sept. 27. Seas of children, grades K-3, poured onto the mall and spent several hours exploring the activities provided by clubs, departments and teams. Approximately 1,400 students, teachers and parents made the trip to campus to experience a fun-filled event put on by Manchester University and Wabash County schools.

Walk into My Future has been hosted by Manchester since

ing ground balls and simply playing catch. Several elementary students commented that the baseball station was their favorite.

Smiling faces were a very common sight when walking through the mall. Teachers, professors, students (both elementary and college ages), parents and countless other staff members were scattered about the mall participating in the events. The MU volunteer guides for the day were paired with a class and got the pleasure of leading them around the mall to spend 15 to 20 minutes at the different activities. “Getting involved with the kids at each activity was really fun,” said Destina Easley, who

The football team provided an obstacle course for students to partake in. Many students expressed their excitement for this station. Varick, second grade, and Kinley, first grade, both said the football station was their “number one favorite.” Groups begged to get to visit this station and once there, they sprinted through it time and time again gaining excitement with each journey.

The club We Are Board, which enjoys a good board game, played a game with the kids called Wizard, Goblin, Giant, which is similar to rock, paper, scissors but with a tag element added in. Members Trey Hicks and Mason Cross both enjoyed



Photo by Chloe Arndt.

Manchester University invited elementary students from across Wabash County to visit campus in order to encourage young students to begin thinking about college.

*“Imagination’ is my favorite word because when I close my eyes I see pretty things.”*  
--A first grader from Southwood Elementary

2013. It promotes children’s interest in attending college in the future, as well as allowing them an adventure outside of the classroom to participate in learning activities. Many Manchester University students volunteer for this event for all four of their undergraduate years.

“My favorite part of the day was seeing the kids’ smiles,” said Lewis Dilts, a MU baseball player.

Hunter Seegers, also a baseball player, mirrored Dilts’ thoughts on the day. The baseball team ran a station that got kids involved in catching fly balls, field-

served as a guide for the day. “The kids seemed to really enjoy their time spent on campus, and I’m happy that I got to be a part of that.”

The activities that were offered for the kids varied from educational to physical activity, but they all offered fun. Many different campus groups offered a station for kids. Some of these groups include the baseball, football, soccer, and track teams, the English, music, and science departments, the College of Pharmacy, the College of Business Club, We Are Board, and several more.

how excited and “raring to go” the students were when they arrived at their table.

An educational table was offered by the English department. Here the students all wrote down their favorite word, and then it was discussed for several minutes. Of course, there was fun involved with duck, duck, goose being played for the remaining time. However, this table was really interesting for many kids. A first grader from Southwood Elementary said: “Imagination’ is my favorite word because when I close my eyes I see pretty things.”



Photo by Destinee Boutwell.

Manchester’s honors program led a competitive game of green light, red light. Second-grade students raced to reach the line of college students while crab crawling.



Photo by Destinee Boutwell.

Manchester’s football team uses their equipment so that visiting students could experiencing tackling, throwing and kicking.



Photo by Destinee Boutwell.

MU’s music department teaches first-grade students how different instruments make similar sounds. They used a variety of instruments, including a trombone, a violin, an xylophone, a piano and their own voices.

## VIA Sparks Conversation about Violence against Women

**Erica Mohr**  
Staff Writer

He’s been called names from “man-gina” to “Katz-strated.” But Dr. Jackson Katz, a leader in the international movement of men who are working to prevent gender violence and promote gender equality, brushes aside those insults in his quest to educate and transform society. Known for his TED talk, “Violence Against Women—It’s a Men’s Issue,” and as the co-founder of Mentors in Violence Prevention (MVP), Katz brought his expertise and frank manner of speaking to MU on Sept. 26, when he gave a VIA in Cordier Auditorium at 7 p.m. Students listened to a 70-minute talk that analyzed how violence against women is not solely a women’s issue, and how gender impacts more than one may think.

The setting of the event was simple: there was a single wooden podium in the dead middle of the Cordier stage, with an easel off to the side. The light shone directly on Katz, calling one’s eyes to be on him at all times. As he spoke, his hands would grip the podium, his voice projecting with dedication and purpose.

“It was clear that he was speaking from a passionate place and I think the crowd’s reactions showed that what he said resonated with a lot of people,” Erin Brock said. Indeed, oftentimes,

if Katz made a point that resonated with parts of the audience, his speech was interrupted to lots of cheers and clapping from the audience.

Along with getting the audience to respond positively to what he was saying, Katz also dressed professionally, wearing jeans, brown shoes, a grey button-up, with a black suit-jacket over his shirt. His clothing did not overwhelm or distract from his message.

First, Katz spoke about the long-standing problem of sexual assault and domestic violence. He stated how men have been assaulting women, children and other men for thousands of years. He told the audience about women’s leadership and the impact it has started to have. For example, the 1970s was when rape crisis centers started to pop up. This was not an accident; these centers emerged because of women’s leadership and their allies. Katz spoke of the big landmarks women’s leadership has had on the modern day; and the audience showed a lot of appreciation for what he said.

Katz did not only speak of the accomplishments of the women’s rights movement, but also noted how far women’s rights activism still has to go. “He spoke a truth that not many people are aware of or like to hear,” Brock said.

Katz did not shy away from hard-hitting and heavy topics, but instead embraced them. “Your generation is sadly the school-shooting generation” he said. “A lot of people are afraid to say

school shootings are a gender problem. If it was about guns and mental illness, why aren’t 50 percent of school shootings done by girls? Girls have every bit the mental health challenge that boys do, and they have every bit the same access to guns.”

Throughout the VIA, Katz identified himself as an ally to the women’s rights movement. He spoke many times about how he understood the part men have played in classifying women as “second-class citizens.” One student, Kara Heckmuller, found his position to be refreshing. “It was so nice to know we had someone on our side,” she said. “It was so great because he was really getting the message across.”

But Katz’s objective was to offer solutions to these problems. He gave ways for the people in the audience to begin taking action against sexism. For example, one tip he gave was about watching the language individuals use. Instead of asking “How many girls got pregnant this year?” he suggests asking “How many boys impregnated girls this year?” Instead of asking “How many girls were sexually assaulted?” Katz urges people to ask “How many boys sexually assaulted girls?” to highlight their responsibility.

Katz also spoke at length about bystander intervention, which is at the heart of his educational program. He calls on male peer leaders in the community—such as athletes—to speak to their peers if they hear them making



Photo by Bonnie Wong.

Dr. Jackson Katz stands at the podium and speaks about gun violence, rape culture and men’s role in making positive changes for the future.

inappropriate comments, such as rape jokes or sexist comments. He suggests that the men could say to their peer, one on one, that they are concerned about the joke or comment, and that it’s not cool. Katz said that rape culture is built on such comments, and that speaking

out to one’s peers will do a great deal to dismantle that culture.

Katz was brought to MU by the Gender Studies Program, in cooperation with the College of Arts and Humanities and the VIA Program.



# Spanish Professor Makes Learning Language Tasty

**Carly Greaves**  
Staff Writer

Eager minds and equally eager stomachs were fed on Sept. 27 by Dr. Scott DeVries, a Spanish professor who decided to add some spice to his teaching style, much to his students' benefit and delight.

Spanish 111: Food Cultures is an introductory Spanish course offered at Manchester that meets three times a week. Classes on Monday and Wednesday offer the expected lessons on Spanish vocabulary and grammar. But each Friday students are treated to a Spanish dish or snack which is then incorporated into the lesson.

This past Friday was a particularly special session for the class. Behind the Calvin Ulrey Hall, DeVries prepared an Uruguay-Argentine style barbeque for the students. One grill was loaded with foot-long logs that were burned until they were glowing embers. These embers were then transported to another grill to be used for cooking. Smoke and flecks of ash spun in the wind while plump sausages sizzled on the charred bars of the grill. Once thoroughly cooked,

the sausages were wrapped in bread and coated with chimichurri sauce, a tangy dressing made of parsley, olive oil, garlic and salt. This dish, known as a choripan, was served to the hungry students.

DeVries cheerfully tended to the fires and assembled the food. Although he originally proposed the idea of a food-based Spanish course, he gives credit to his wife, a Spanish teacher at Elkhart Central for helping him come up with the topic. Seeing that a common use for Spanish was to order food at Spanish or Mexican restaurants, the DeVrieses realized that students would be far more interested in a course that promised to help them in these real life scenarios than in a typical Spanish introductory class. "It really motivates the students," DeVries said. "They are learning the content, but they are also really motivated to do it, because they're doing it in this different way."

This motivation shined through at the barbeque. While the students enjoyed the choripan, their main goal was to complete an assignment. At one point Shayla Welch, first-year student, walked up to the grill to ask DeVries a question.

"Como se dice 'sausage' en Español?" she asked.

"Chorizo," DeVries replied. This was how the students practiced asking questions in Spanish—asking their professor and peers about the food and how it was prepared. Previous lessons from this year included the students learning new vocabulary by discussing tacos and learning simple verbs by comparing Mexican and U.S. Coke. This unique form of study both instructs and intrigues the students. "It's just really cool to use Spanish in a practical sense," Welch said.

This method of teaching students Spanish, along with a friendly personality, has made DeVries popular among his students. "He's a great guy," said Kaleb Newton, sophomore. "He really engages the class and if you need help, he'll help you one-on-one."

Welch agreed. "He's the best," she brightly confirmed. "He's also very willing to answer questions and he encourages us to not be afraid to just try and fail because that's kind of what you have to do in a language. He's really encouraging."

Mastering a new language can certainly be difficult. But DeVries has served up a class where active learning, fun activities and tasty treats are sure to be on the syllabus.



Photo by Bonnie Wong.

Professor Scott DeVries invites one of his Spanish 111 students to try some of the food he prepared on the grill.



Photo by Bonnie Wong.

Professor Scott DeVries adds something to a green pepper while sausages sizzle on the other end of the grill.



Photo by Bonnie Wong.

Choripan is a sausage wrapped in bread and coated with chimichurri sauce, a tangy dressing made of parsley, olive oil, garlic and salt.

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**Editors-in-Chief**  
Destinee Boutwell and Noah Tong

**Web Editor**  
Maddie Jo Shultz

**Faculty Advisor**  
Dr. Katharine Ings

**Staff Writers**  
Carlos Argueta, Alex Baker, Ryan Daine,  
Carly Greaves, Jacob Hamilton, Erin Hickie, Jarred Hubbard  
Mackenzie Kopplin, Chloe Leckrone, Erica Mohr

**Photographers**  
Chloe Arndt and Bonnie Wong

**Delivery Manager**  
Chloe Arndt

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To contact the editors:  
[oakleaves@manchester.edu](mailto:oakleaves@manchester.edu)

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## BSU Organizes All-Star Basketball Game

**Ryan Daine**  
Staff Writer

Manchester University's All-Star Basketball Game, put on by the Black Student Union, was a big hit this week, with many excited fans showing out to watch the spectacle. The event consisted of an all-but-casual pickup game, played between two all-volunteer teams, a White and Black team. Teams were randomly selected, based on a roster consisting of eager student-athletes who signed up several weeks prior to play in the event.

Stepping into the main gymnasium of the PERC, the excitement was prevalent, as around 100 attendees consisting of students, North Manchester residents, and even Pres. Dave, all shared the wooden bleachers. Energy gripped the gym early on, as it was clear that this was not going to be just any light pickup match. Both teams played aggressively to start the event wanting to edge each other out early on. The players focused on driving the ball up and down the court while putting points on the board, with some swaggers to boot, throughout the match.

The competitive nature of the game was all in good fun, however, as both teams enjoyed taking risky three-point shots, driving hard in the paint, and even, on several occasions, punctuated the game with

dunks. Both sides wanted to get the upper hand as early as possible. The close competition continued on into halftime, where the score was nearly dead even, with the White Team leading 62-59.

Back on the court after halftime, the Black Team wasted no time trying to claw back into the lead. The risky play only got more intense, with both teams vying for possession, trying to wear each other down to the last minute. At the conclusion, the White Team's efforts were rewarded, as they pulled away with an exciting and close win, besting the Black Team 116-111, in a very high scoring match. The whole competition was all in good fun, however, as no hard feelings were evident between the two teams, following the conclusion of the game.

Following the match, first-year student and member of both the MU basketball team as well as the losing Black Team, Tyler Wilburn, was happy to offer his take on the night. "It was largely a pickup game between mostly current basketball players," he said. "All in all, just good, fun competition."

Wilburn himself had several highlights from the game, including several big 3-pointers, a steal, and a well-executed fast-break dunk. How did he feel this game could translate to the upcoming basketball season? "Pleased," he said. "Pleased and excited for what's to come."

"Some skills are just best developed in a game type setting like this one," he continued. "It's nice to be back on the court, playing live against other guys."



Photo by Noah Tong.

Stauffer-Wolfe Arena, the main gym inside the PERC, was the location of the Black Student Union All-Star game.





# Students and Alumni to Sing Together during Homecoming

Erin Hickle  
Staff Writer

“Orange Juice with Attitude” is one of the various songs that will be heard during the annual Alumni Choir and Band Performance. As part of the many festivities on campus for Homecoming, the Manchester University choir and band put together a concert where alumni are welcome to attend or even participate during the performance themselves.

Every year Manchester University welcomes many alumni

back to campus with a variety of activities. Dr. Debra Lynn, Manchester University’s choir director, and Dr. Scott Humphries, MU’s band director, come together to create a concert for Homecoming every year. Those alumni who enjoy singing or playing an instrument are welcome not only attend the concert but be a part of the performance as well.

Students on campus have been preparing for this performance for weeks, but the alumni who choose to participate in the concert will only have one rehearsal the day of the concert to prepare. Alumni can arrive early on Friday, Oct. 11, to Wine Recital Hall for a choir or band rehearsal before taking the stage in

Cordier at 7:30 that same evening. “It’s a little bit tricky because the current students are rehearsing now but the alumni members have to come in and sight read the music,” Lynn said. “It’s kind of a mad rush to get the rehearsal done.”

The music is different every year. This year the choir’s music has a multinational theme. There is a French piece, an African piece, an Irish piece and many other pieces of music from various countries. The Jazz band will also be performing at the concert with their opening number titled “Orange Juice with Attitude.” The Manchester University band and choir will also come together to perform “My Fellow Amer-

icans” written by Lynn herself. She has included words from President Abraham Lincoln’s and President John F. Kennedy’s second inaugural speeches within the lyrics of the song.

The band and choir have had success in the past with drawing a crowd to this performance, as many families and alumni that are on campus have attended the concert in the past as a part of the Homecoming festivities. They also have had success with alumni participation within the concert.

The music department encourages all alumni to join in on the performance, regardless of their graduated field of work or partic-

ipation in the music department during their time here. “To me one of the neat things about this concert is that it shows how well trained our students are here,” Lynn said. “You know they graduate and come back and are able to pick up the music an hour before the concert and are able to perform it. It’s a testament to the kind of music we do here in the music department. It’s something that is unique about Manchester’s music ensemble is that we rely on our music and nonmusical networks.”

The concert is scheduled for Oct. 11 at 7:30 p.m. in Cordier Auditorium. The performance usually runs about 60 to 70 minutes long.

# MU Dining Hosts Pumpkin Painting Contest

Jarred Hubbard  
Staff Writer

To usher in Halloween, Manchester Dining hosted a pumpkin painting event on Sept. 23. Then the following day the pumpkins were judged inside Haist Commons. The dining service provided the pumpkins and the paint, and over 20 students participated.

Students could enter their pumpkins into the competition or just enjoy the creative process. “I had a lot of fun painting my pumpkin,” said Clarissa Williams. “I didn’t want to even be in the competition; I wanted to have fun and come out of my shell.

“My pumpkin didn’t have a set plan,” she continued. “I was just flowing with it.”

Hannah Imes, however, followed a theme. She painted an image of Sally and the mayor from “The Night Before Christmas.” “This is my favorite movie of all time and I feel these characters were the easiest to create and bring to life,” she said.

Imes also enjoyed the process of the pumpkin painting, “I loved how there was no rush to finish and get the pumpkin done,” she said. “I felt that everything went smoothly.” She didn’t enter her pumpkin into the competition because she just wanted to, “have fun and bring out her creative side.”

On Sept. 24, diners including students, faculty and staff were able to view and vote on the pumpkins in the café. Crystal Phillips, MU Dining’s marketing coordinator, who was in charge of the event, was glad that students got involved and took some pride as well as showed some school spirit. “I loved to see all of the neat artwork that everyone worked hard to create,” she said. Phillips awarded the prizes to Lauren Sponseller, Erin Hickle and Molly McClure.

“I was honestly surprised that I made the top three,” McClure said. Her design of Lilo and Stitch was very dear to her. “I grew up watching Lilo and Stitch, and as I grew up the show became more meaningful to me,” she said. “I also love how ‘Ohana’ means family and I have that tattooed on me.”



Photo by MU Dining Facebook.  
Lauren Sponseller, Erin Hickle, and Molly McClure were declared the winners of this year’s pumpkin painting contest.



Photo by Bonnie Wong.  
Page Magner, Kendal Torrence, and Mallory Sands paint pumpkins at the Union.



Photo by Bonnie Wong.  
A row of pumpkins greet guests as students celebrate The First Day of Fall Celebrations.



Photo by MU Dining Facebook.  
Students and pumpkins alike were smiling during the pumpkin painting contest this year.



Photo by Bonnie Wong.  
Students got creative and showed off their artistic skills while decorating pumpkins.

# Sodexo Replaces Chartwells as Food Provider

Carlos Argueta  
Staff Writer

There is a new provider at Manchester University this year, looking to freshen things up on the menu for students, faculty and staff.

Manchester University has signed a new five-year contract with the food provider Sodexo, looking to improve the food on campus and to add variety to the menu. The university chose to switch to Sodexo after being with the previous food provider, Chartwells, for 20 years, believing that it was in the best interest of the

university. Sodexo has invested in the university by adding enhancements to the Haist Commons and the Funderburg Library. With the change of the food provider, there will be two additions to the campus with Lounge Twelve—a 24-hour convenience store and Cru5h, a new chef-inspired dining location.

Sodexo has brought new meal options to add variety to the Haist Commons. “What students will notice the most is the change in food quality and variety,” said Alexis Young, director of Conference Services. “Sodexo is committed to having a dedicated gluten-free and allergen safe.” So far, the move towards gluten-free and allergy has been a hit

among students. “I am not allergic to anything, but I like the allergy-free station because it has great options and sides,” said Isaac Miller, junior.

There is also much excitement over Lounge Twelve for students who look for a late-night option without having to leave campus. “I am excited about the new 24-hour store, and it is going to make late-night studying so much better if I do have snacks,” said Dylan Leininger, first year.

Lounge Twelve has pre-packaged meals, to-go options, packaged chips, snacks, candies, bottled beverages and Starbucks coffee. Cru5h, on the other hand, will have five different options from wings,

fresh Mexican food, hand-made burgers and milkshakes. Sodexo will also offer theme days, which include the social pop-up events, trending tastes, cityscapes and national holidays.

Although there have been benefits from this transition, there are still some concerns. Many students who are a part of sports teams and clubs miss dinner, causing them to have to leave campus for a warm meal. Students would like the hours for dinner to be extended to save on time and money. Students would also like to bring more food options near or on campus without having to drive to the nearest fast-food restaurants.

In different colleges and universities around the country, many students complain about the food available to them. Although at Manchester with the new food provider students, faculty and staff have reacted positively with the latest changes and the new additions coming. “I personally have noticed an improvement in the quality and variety of food,” Young said. “I’m excited about the new retail locations opening soon in Funderburg Library, and I think students and employees on campus will appreciate the added amenities and variety of food these two new locations will bring.”



# Spartanettes Hope to Raise Awareness of Team on Campus

**Chloe Leckrone**  
Staff Writer

The Spartanettes, Manchester's dance team, is a dedicated and talented group of dancers who often support their fellow athletes during halftimes.

Most recently the Spartanettes performed at Manchester's first All-Star Game hosted by Black Student Union, but they also dance at home football and basketball games. They generally perform to newer music—Beyoncé, for example. Jayla Sharp, senior art major and co-captain of the Spartanettes, described their style of dance as “a mix between hip-hop and jazz.” Currently there are eight members of the dance team, though their goal is to have a “bigger and better” team, as Sharp put it.

Chynna Miller, senior business major, has been a Spartanette for three years. She was initially drawn to dance after injuring herself during her sophomore year, making her unable to run track that year. The year before Miller joined, the Spartanettes was a super small dance team, according to Sharp. “They performed once or twice a year and not many people knew about it besides upperclassmen,” she said.

When the senior captains graduated, the club seemingly died off. Seeing that she could not run track, Miller, along with Sharp, decided to revamp the team during their sophomore year. Both have been involved with the Spartanettes for three years, and currently serve as co-captains. Ashly Deleon, junior exercise science major and treasurer of the Spartanettes, decided to join the

team last year. “I’ve been dancing forever,” she said. “I’ve been in gymnastics, I’ve been in cheerleading, I’ve been in dance. This sounded fun!”

The team practices three times a week—not including the e-board practice where they choreograph their dances. Rehearsals begin with the team warming up by running outside. Then, the e-board runs choreography or teaches it to the other members when they have new dances to learn. These practices typically last around two hours, while the e-board practice runs for about one to one and a half hours. These hours, added to the time they spend actually performing, come out to around 10 hours a week.

The Spartanettes have run into some issues involving support and funding on campus. While they are considered a club, they believe they do the work of a sports team, and should be recognized as such by the administration. Besides practices, the team performs at events when they get the opportunity and is even expected to recruit incoming first-years. “They want us to behave like a sport, but they don’t treat us like one,” Sharp said. “We buy our own uniforms, we make our own music, we pick out our own uniforms, we choreograph our own dances, make our own schedules and flyers. We do everything.”

Senior business management major and Spartanettes secretary Jaelyn Bell believes that even being recognized as much as other clubs on campus would help tremendously. “I feel like that’s why we’re such a small club,” Bell said. “We’re not really helped or sponsored in ways that other clubs are. Any sponsoring, advertising, anything, we do ourselves.”

The club is advised by



Photo by Chloe Arndt.

Spartanettes manage their school schedules while also choreographing their own performances, making advertisements, creating schedules and performing during athletic events.

Michael Dixon, but it is almost entirely student led. “If we were recognized as a sport and we had a coach, that would make things so much easier,” Deleon said. As students, the e-board members have many duties other than the Spartanettes. They must be responsible for their classes and jobs, as well as running the club and creating and teaching their choreography all by themselves. A coach, they believe, would take some of the pressure off of them. “If someone was hired to do this, we could focus more on school,” Delon said.

Many of these grievances involving support, funding, and advertising can be linked to Student Involvement, which handles club activities on campus. “Student Involvement respects and supports all clubs and organizations on

campus,” said Samantha Alley, Director of Student Involvement, in response to the Spartanettes’ assertions. “Whether a club wants assistance with getting started, marketing, driving membership, problem solving or executing an event—we are here to help!” As far as being recognized as an official sports team goes, Alley said that Student Involvement “cannot speak on behalf of the Athletics Department,” but suggested that Rick Espeset, Athletics Director, may have more information.

Whether the Spartanettes are recognized as a sports team or just a club, its members agree that the group is an important addition to Manchester. Because the university does not have a marching band, half-time during football and basketball games can get dull

at times. Having a group like the Spartanettes perform can get not only the crowd excited, but also the players.

Dancing also gives students a chance to boost their confidence and express themselves. “For people who aren’t comfortable with dancing or feel like they can’t dance, the dancing gives them the opportunity to perform,” Miller said. Additionally, the team serves as a creative outlet for students if they do not find themselves drawn to other clubs or sports teams.

As Bell said: “even though we aren’t recognized as a team, the Spartanettes get to feel like a team because we work together.”

# Manchester Community Prepares for New Stadium

**Alex Baker**  
Staff Writer

On Homecoming Saturday, MU will officially break ground on its new athletics stadium. With the track currently being deconstructed and a large pile of dirt on the extra practice field, the scenery is changing, and soon for the better: Student athletes and coaching staff are eagerly anticipating the new athletic stadium.

They are not the only ones. Pieter Naragon, director of physical plant, is ready to see the outcome of the project. “This stadium has been in the planning and design phase for the past several years and it is always exciting to see these projects come to fruition,” he says. “I am excited that we can provide a better facility and experience for our student athletes that will be competing in this venue.”

Melanie Harmon, vice president

for advancement, is also enthusiastic about the project. “The stadium will enhance the overall student experience and relieve a lot of pressure on the PERC,” she says. Not only will be more resources for students to utilize, but also there will be more space to roam around in in the PERC when sports teams will transfer to the new stadium.

Students are eager to start training in the new sports complex. Track and field athlete Madison Haines struggles to contain her excitement. “I know I am really excited to be getting a new facility because our track was so run down,” she says. “It will be nice to actually be able to have our own home meets instead of traveling to other schools all the time.”

There are plenty of features that Spartans can look forward to with the new stadium. It will have a synthetic-turf field, an eight-lane track with new field resources, new bleachers, a new press box and LED lighting. Students will have the opportunity to start practicing in their new stadium by fall 2020.

Football and track and

field will use the facility the most. However, there will be opportunities for academic programs to embrace the new stadium as well. “Outside of our traditional sporting events for football, track and field, and potentially soccer, the new stadium can also serve our club sports and the exercise science and athletic training departments,” Harmon says.

Even though it is designated as a sports facility, there are many events outside of sports that will take place in the new stadium. “It can also serve our community as a site for a local charity events, the annual Walk into My Future, Special Olympics and more,” Harmon says. “The new facility should better position us to host more camps and clinics too.”

At the groundbreaking ceremony on Saturday, Oct 12, students and staff will speak to the audience about what everyone can look forward to with the new stadium. Athletics Director Rick Espeset and students Hannah Wappes and Alex Downard will share their thoughts on what’s to come for student athletes, coaches and the cam-

pus as a whole, according to Megan Sarber, manager of donor relations.

Alumni will be in attendance as well. One of the major donors, Todd Saylor ’87, is going speak about the advances of his alma mater. “After we hear from the speakers, we will officially

break ground with a special ‘turning of the dirt’ ceremony,” Sarber says.

The ceremony will be taking place behind the PERC at 9 A.M. on Oct. 12. When construction is complete, the stadium is set to be located east of the PERC



Photo provided by MU Marketing Department.

Manchester’s old track was torn up and piles of dirt lie on the practice field in preparation for the ground breaking on the new athletic stadium.



Photo provided by MU Athletics Facebook

MU football players huddle together between plays during the Manchester vs Rose Hulman game.



Photo provided by MU Athletics Facebook

The offense gets ready to snap the football.

# Football Eager to Make Homecoming Statement

**Carlos Argueta**  
Staff Writer

Manchester’s football team is getting ready to battle it out Homecoming weekend against defending co-conference champions Mount St. Joseph.

On Oct. 12, there will be a significant and special game for the football program. With a big crowd expected to attend and alumni coming back to campus, the players are excited about the Homecoming game. While the players are enthusiastic, they are focused on getting a win against a strong Mount St. Joseph team. “In terms of preparation, it is no different; we do the same things,” said Alex Downard, senior. “We practice hard, even more so because it is a more special game. We know that there is going to be a lot of people and a lot of alumni.”

“For us older guys,” he continued, “it is always really cool

to see all of our old friends, the guys we looked up to and were leaders during our first, sophomore, and junior years.”

Manchester is looking for a win to gain momentum heading into conference play, and a win at home during Homecoming week will boost confidence for the team. “Football is like any other sport where gaining moment changes the pace of the game,” Downard said.

The group started the season with a 1-3 record with a recent loss against Rose-Hulman 52-35. Meanwhile, Mount St. Joseph is beginning the season 3-0 and looking to defend their conference title this season. Even with the tough start of the season, the football team is confident that they will be a tough opponent to face, believing they can win. “We just have to be the tougher team out there mentally and physically,” said Nate Jensen, head coach. “If we can do that, the game will play into our hands.”

The team believes that being home will be a critical factor in the performance of Mount St.

Joseph. “They have to travel three-and-a-half, four hours away, and they are probably going to have to stay at a hotel the night before,” Jensen said. “That is just difficult for any team.”

Manchester will look to their seniors and captains as anchors against Mount St. Joseph, as many of the seniors are crucial players. The team will also lean on their offense, as their offensive line is made of returning players, and also has experienced and talented running backs and wide receivers. “We lean on our seniors because they have been here, they have done it, and they know what to expect,” Jensen explained.

The team is going to have a bye week before the game against Mount St. Joseph and will look to recover and rest in preparation for the game. “We are coming off a bye week, getting on the field, and playing someone is a big thing for us,” Jensen said. “It gives us a chance to figure things out but at the same time rest and get healed up.” With the advantage of being at home and rested, Manchester looks to get their season back on track.