

Mount Mercy Times

A student publication serving Mount Mercy University

Issue 2, Thursday, Sept. 28, 2017

Inside the Times:



Reading from U.S. Constitution

See Page 4

No clowning:



IT is frightful:

MMU student reviewer says Stephen King's novel IT has been translated into a frightening, entertaining movie. (Detail of image from official movie web site)

See Page 4

When real hurts become part of fantasy

Attention Mount Mercy University fantasy football players: How are your teams shaken up when real life shake-ups shake real players? Sports Editor Collin Wiley reflects.

See Page 5

Heads up:

MMU to celebrate grand opening of Robert W. Plaster Athletic Complex

Check out the new athletic complex and celebrate the grand opening Saturday starting at 1 p.m. The day will entail men's and women's soccer games, along with baseball and softball alumni games. In addition, activities such as games and a photo booth will be happening on the plaza.

Outdoor 3-on-3 hoops tournament

Grab two buddies and head to the outdoor basketball court located next to the sand volleyball court on campus for a 3-on-3 basketball tournament. The tournament will start at 7 p.m. on Oct. 3. This will be the only basketball tournament of its kind until the Spring semester.

B-I-N-G-O gift card night announced

Join the M2AP Board on Tuesday, Oct. 10, at 7:30 p.m. for BINGO. The winners will receive gift cards to local restaurants and stores. Snacks and drinks will be provided.

Fly High at Skyzone night

MMU will be sponsoring an evening at Skyzone, trampoline park on Friday, Oct. 13 at 6:30 p.m. More information will be sent to student emails as the event gets closer. Transportation will be provided.

Click it:

Welcome to Instagram, MMU Times!

For behind the scenes insight about the production of the MMU Times and to keep updated on campus news, follow the MMU Times on Instagram.

Dramatic pause

Stage falls silent in McAuley Theater—plays on hiatus

By Connor Mahan
Web editor

Mount Mercy's theater program is being put on a one year hiatus for renovations and improvements to McAuley Theater. Additionally, changes

and adjustments to the program are being determined.

"It wasn't an easy decision," said Rob Callahan, Vice President for Administrative, Enrollment and Student Services. "What we really want to

do with the hiatus is take a year off from doing any productions this year and see how it goes."

One reason why the

◆ See Callahan: page 4



Connor Mahan/Times



Calif Arbuckle (above) is a theater student who is sad there will be no plays this year. The decision was announced by Rob Callahan, VP of student services (left).

Hot soccer



Hayley Gibson/Times

In sweltering heat Sept. 23, the men's soccer team faced Center Methodist University of Fayette, Missouri. The Eagles defeated the Mustangs 5-1. For more, see story, additional photos, page 6. The game was held at the Plaster Athletic Complex, which has it's official opening ceremony **Saturday at 1 p.m.**

Author says sense of history needed for Americans to heal racial divisions

Tim Wise says Trump's win and divisive language reflect long-standing attitudes

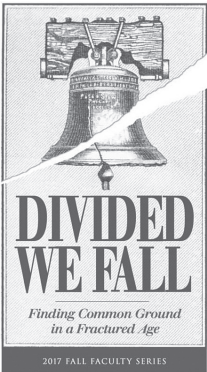
By Mahder Serekberhan
Opinion Editor

Tim Wise started off his speech by talking about a SNL skit that seemed to have relaxed the audience. He made sure to tell jokes and include humor throughout his speech, which kept the audience engaged. But his point was serious—Americans need to acknowledge their history in order to amend the relationship amongst races in the country.

Tim Wise is an anti-racism writer and educator, who has given speeches in universities across the U.S. Wise lived up to our expectations with a passionate and assertive anti-racism speech, which was well received by the large audience present Sept. 12 in the Chapel of Mercy.

He talked about racism and current uprisings of Neo-Nazi groups and white supremacists, while staying in accordance with his speech's subtitle "Trumpism." The speech was entitled "Great White Hoax: Racism, Divide-and-Conquer, and the Politics of Trumpism."

Wise kicked off his speech by talking about the current president of the United States. He said that, for many Americans, Donald Trump's victory and the explicit display of racism that followed came as a



Mahder Serekberhan/Times

Author Tim Wise spoke Sept. 12 in the Chapel of Mercy in an appearance that was part of both the Fall Faculty Series and the English program's Visiting Writer series.

surprise; but "there's absolutely nothing new about it."

"We were not white when we came here...whiteness became a way to divide" said Wise, appealing to White Americans like himself. He included the impacts of slavery, colonialism, the revolution, the American civil war, the Jim Crow era and issues of today to explain that "whiteness" is a flawed device that redesigns itself through time to keep certain people

dominant over others.

Wise said that compared to Americans of a different race, White Americans have been accustomed to privileges their whole life, which has led them to view America differently. "To people like that, equality feels like oppression" and that is what

◆ See: Opponents of progress page 2

Irma’s fury

Student from Florida says heavy flooding came close to family

By Madelyn Orton
Social Media/News Editor

Hurricane Irma showed no mercy on Florida, the Bahamas, and several other Atlantic coastal areas in early Sept. According to The Weather Channel, Hurricane Irma broke through to a category 5 as it made its way through Cuba towards Florida. Madelyn Irwin, a sophomore criminal justice and psychology double major, has lived in Jacksonville, Florida for 17 years before her family moved to Muscatine, Iowa in January of 2017. “Since we weren’t directly next to the Saint John’s River, the flooding wasn’t bad where I lived,” said Irwin. Although the flooding wasn’t extreme in the suburb Irwin lived in, she said

“The scariest part about a hurricane or a tropical storm is just not knowing.”

Madelyn Irwin, sophomore criminal justice and psychology double major,

heavy flooding occurred less than one mile away. Having been through Hurricane Katrina and Matthew, and several tropical storms, Irwin is no stranger to the hurricane mayhem, but that doesn’t make it any less scary. “The scariest part about a hurricane or a tropical storm is just not knowing,” said Irwin. Irwin also noted that most homes in Florida and other coastal areas are built

hurricane ready. In Irwin’s past experiences with hurricanes, her own family did not evacuate but she knew many others who were forced to leave their homes in search of a safe place. At MMU, spring break service trips are currently in the works to the locations most severely hit by the hurricanes. For more information about these service trips contact Jamarco Clark at jclark@mtmercy.edu

Mahder Serekberhan/Times
Author Time Wise speaks Sept. 12 in the Chapel of Mercy. His speech was part of the Fall Faculty Series, the Visiting Writer Series and was sponsored by Mount Mercy University Student Engagement, Mount Mercy University Residence Life, Coe College, and the African American Museum of Iowa.



Contributed image/Will Oprisko

Will Oprisko III, assistant vice president/dean of students.

New dean, Will, brings activity ideas to The Hill

By Marshall Muehlbauer
Staff Writer

Working as a part of student engagement services, Mount Mercy’s new dean of students says he has many new ideas for activities that will occur on campus. Will Oprisko officially started his duties at Mount Mercy on June 26, 2017. “Not everything has to be two hours,” Oprisko explained in his interview. Formerly the dean of students at St. Joseph’s College, Oprisko has new ideas for fun, short events to occur at Mount Mercy University. This, he hopes will create spontaneity at MMU. When asked about what strikes him about Mount Mercy, Oprisko explains that the spirit, heart and mission of the Sisters of Mercy spoke to him because of his personal experiences. Oprisko is excited to be working with students at Mount Mercy, who he hails as “real-time reminders” of interaction and fellowship. In his long list of duties on campus, Oprisko’s main purpose is to interact with students through residence life, student engagement, or coffee in Basille Hall. “You are always worth my time,” says Oprisko in an interview with Mount Mercy University. Oprisko said he aims to create a fluid barrier between students and administration at Mount Mercy. Oprisko notes he is excited to work with Mount Mercy faculty and students, saying Mount Mercy will be “only as vibrant as we all bring forth.” Oprisko’s office is located in student services, UC. He says he is always welcome to drop-in visitors or to grab coffee with students. He was dean of students at St. Joseph’s College in Rensselaer, Indiana. He earned a bachelor’s degree in pastoral ministries at Taylor University, and an M.S. Ed. in student affairs administration from Indiana University.

Opponents of progress use ‘nostalgia as sacrament’ to refer to fictional, ideal past

◆ Author says from page 1

Wise called the irony of privilege. The audience murmured in support when Wise said that some White Americans are trying to keep the whole table to themselves, while Americans of a different race have just been trying to get a seat at the table. He sympathized that having to realize that you are not a dominant group could be disconcerting. He believes that is one of the reasons why we are witnessing backlash from some White Americans today. Referring to many extremists who have been chanting about taking back their country and deporting people, Wise said they are “using nostalgia as sacrament.” He added what they are referring to is a fictitious time in America’s history and this “monster” of creating scapegoats for the problems in the country is the real history of the country. “Mexicans did not tank Wall Street,” added Wise, referring to the 2008 economic crash. Wise also got the audience to break out in laughter by stating that some White Americans are contradicting themselves by claiming black and brown people are lazy and are always on welfare, while simultaneously claiming black and brown

people are taking all the jobs in the country. When discussing jobs, Wise related it to current immigration issues. He said the ancestors of today’s White Americans came to America for the same reasons immigrants enter the country today. He mentioned the President’s crude remarks about Mexicans and asked “do you think Europe sent its best?” and stated that if anything the people who least want to immigrate are migrants. Because of different struggles migrants face in their homelands they come to the United States seeking refuge, freedom, democracy and economic mobility, just like those who came 400 years ago.

Fall Faculty Series continues with healthcare session

The 2017 Fall Faculty Series continued Monday with a presentation called “Let’s Talk: Finding Common Ground” by Dr. David Klope, associate professor of communication. The series continues through Nov. 14. Upcoming events include: “Putting the Care in Healthcare” presented by Dr. Danielle Rudd, assistant professor of biology, 7 p.m., Oct. 5, Flaherty Community Room. “From the Suffragettes to the Women’s March: Feminism For Everyone,” by Dr. Eden Wales-Freeman, assistant professor of English, 7 p.m. Oct. 12, Flaherty Community Room. “Protest 101: How to be an Effective Activist,” by Dr. Taylor Houston, assistant professor of sociology, 7 p.m. Oct. 24, Betty Cherry “Planetize the Movement: Ecology, Justice, Cosmology, and Democracy,” by visiting writer Dr. Drew Dellinger. 7 p.m. Oct. 26, McAuley Theater. An English program visiting writer, he will also have a poetry reading at 3:30 p.m. in the theater.

which is why it needs to be fixed. Wise comforted minorities who have to deal with a tough new presidency and its ripple effect, by saying that they have overcome “greater monsters than this.” He said many people in the country are struggling in their social and financial lives, but he believes that it is more reason to come together. “We have to do it together...we have to stand by our principles of liberty and justice for all,” he said.

MMU celebrates 89 years

Party also notes listing of school among nation’s best

Josh Harmon
Staff Writer

On Sept. 11 from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m., Mount Mercy celebrated its 89th birthday with a series of celebrations. Members of the MMU community had a chance to eat snacks and win birthday presents in honor of the university’s birthday.

This celebration came with two huge advancements for the university. The Mustangs got their first athletic complex, allowing teams to have home games. In addition, based on affordability, graduation rates, and variety of courses provided in the country, MMU was ranked as the one of “The 50 Best Colleges You Can Actually Get Into.”

Antioch Retreat 2017
a non-denominational Christian retreat for college students held
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\$15 Registration Fee
that includes transportation, meals, lodging, and a t-shirt
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+

Contact Monica Steffen or Erin Broich for a link to register or with any questions.
msteffen1497@mustangs.mtmercy.edu | ebroich@mtmercy.edu

Heard on The Hill

By Doriann Whitlock

What people are saying on topics of interest

Harvey, Irma, Jose, Maria—it seems the killer storms keep piling up in this odd, hot, dry autumn. Is nature trying to tell us something?

Parts of the U.S.A., like Florida, Texas and Puerto Rico, are struggling to put the pieces back together after devastating hurricanes, even as Iowa baked in odd, summer like drought conditions, so the Times asked:

Do you think the way people treat nature helped the current natural disasters happen?

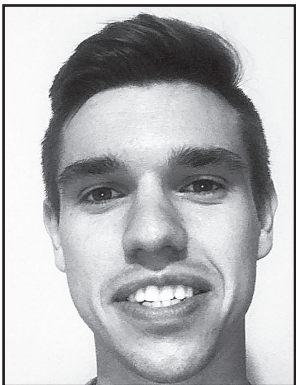
Donna Kalous, senior, English major:

“I don’t know; it’s the weather. Global warming is part of it, but weather has a mind of its own. Common sense things to do: respect nature!”



Joseph Hankins, freshman, music major:

“I think there is a direct correlation between the natural disasters and how we treat this planet. Stop thinking about personal prosperity and more about the Earth.”



Alec Decapria, freshman, education music major:

“I do believe there is a direct correlation between people and nature. If we cut down more on pollutions and unhealthy gas for the safety of the Earth, it might work.”



Chuck Uthe, junior, English major:

“Yes and no. I believe natural disasters happen because this is nature but we, humans, also treat Mother Nature like crap! People have started putting trash in recycling. Recycling needs to be reinforced.”



Shannon Gillespie, junior, education major:

“I would say a portion of the way nature has been treated, disregard of it, is our fault. Beware of your immediate waste, recycle and conserve water.”



Empty stage

Even as athletic fields open, unwelcome drama comes to theater

Recently, Mount Mercy opened the doors of its brand new athletic complex. The official grand opening is coming up Saturday at 1 p.m. and we hope most MMU students will be there to cheer and celebrate at the Mustang’s home field.

So, the excitement for the athletic complex is still here, since it is such a big step for our sports teams. But, what should happen next? As we look around campus and see so many facility needs—science labs, dormitory space, replacing ancient systems in old buildings, etc.—we can see that some clarity on priorities is needed.

Here is what we think. It would be really nice to have a new theater-fine arts building

After all, we felt a little sucker punched that the drama productions suddenly weren’t happening this year. Sports are important to MMU, but as a university, so are the arts, and right now, we feel it the arts that most need some TLC.

Our existing theater is literally falling apart. In fact, part of the reason MMU announced that there would be no drama productions this year is the trouble getting students enthused about live drama in a very shabby location.

Another reason may be that MMU has other programs—such as the new study table system—that eat away at students’ ability to either participate in or attend other programs—but that’s a subject for another day that we promise we’ll get to.

Staff Editorial

The opinion of Times editors

Anyway, in recent years, each semester, several students have gotten together with Jason Alberty, drama coordinator, to build sets and help clean up a little. Although what they do is helpful, it still doesn’t hide the fact that our theater is really old—and wasn’t really built just to be a theater. And it’s also obvious that music programs at MMU have rebounded in recent years—but sometimes music groups end up cannibalizing other spaces. A new theater-arts building could include purpose-built band and chorus rooms that would again make spaces like the chapel more readily available for their original purposes. A new theater building would help promote the drama program at MMU because it would bring more attention to it. It would also encourage students to participate more in that area. After all, who doesn’t love a new place to do something they are interested in? And no, it would not be a waste to renovate the McAuley Theater and keep it as a performance space—it’s great for improv and for many student life programs, but not really a venue for more elaborate live theater productions. We hope that the one-year drama hiatus is not a sign of the future. In the recent past, theater was part of

academic programs at MMU, and was moved into student activities. Drama is a basic and important academically related activity, like band or choir or the student newspaper. We do understand that there are other areas on campus that need improvement. Another big step would be having new dorms. It seems like each year we get more freshmen, and spaces keep getting crowded. It gets very difficult to live comfortably, and students have less personal space. And MMU needs to look at new art, science, or communication facilities—although some of those could be planned to be part of a theater-art building. We understand all of these things take a lot of time, money and planning to happen. It’s always easy to ask for something new—and MMU is a “make do” kind of place. But, in planning for the future, MMU needs to know the next new big thing. Sports are important, but aren’t the whole student experience, and sports fields don’t appeal to all of the students we would like to see on The Hill. So, congratulations, MMU, on the new complex. We do say that with gratitude to the donors and staff who worked so hard to make the dream of a Mustang home field a reality. The Plaster Complex is a huge effort, and MMU is to be commended for the opening of our new home fields. But all the world is a stage. We’d like a nice one of those here, too.

Related

Content: MMU announces theater hiatus, students react. Page 1, below

A blind man walks onto a campus ...

Finding scarce participants isn’t easy when most students are too busy

For over a year now, I have been the President of Mount Mercy’s Improv Club, but I’ve been a leader of the group even before I took an official position.

Since I first joined the group, I learned that one of the most difficult parts of the job is finding people to join Beggin’ For Mercy. Additionally, finding people to join groups and activities is just as difficult for all of the other Fine Arts groups on campus.

I visited Mount Mercy a few years ago because I was looking for schools with theater programs. It turned out that I was given false information. During my tour, the student guide showed me the theater and told me as much as he could about our drama activities on campus; it was futile.

The reason I enrolled at Mount Mercy wasn’t because of some 23-year-old telling me about a play

that they had performed a year prior. I enrolled because after the tour, I got to meet the coach of the Improv Club during lunch. I was sold. When I moved onto campus a year or so later, the first thing I did was find him to sign up for the group.

Now, unlike everyone else under the sun, moon, and stars, I didn’t get an athletic scholarship for enrolling at Mount Mercy. From my observations, the majority of students on campus are either athletes or part of the nursing program, and that’s not necessarily a bad thing.

On the other hand, being an athlete means that you have to practice almost every night of the week, and being in the nursing program means that you need to study for several hours a day. As such, what I’m trying to say is that there really isn’t much downtime for these students.

Putting on a show takes a lot of effort from many people, which is nearly impossible for someone with so many responsibilities. You also have to put in more time the closer you get to the show date. With the majority of students

being stuck at practice or behind a book, that only leaves the minority of students to be a part of extra-curricular activities. What I’m trying to say is that the people in charge of any of these activities or groups

were never really given much to work with in the first place. Before it sounds like I’m placing the blame on the school’s administration, I must say that they’re just working with what they have, too. If Mount Mercy is getting more students here with athletics, then it makes sense to build a sports complex as an investment and a draw for any potential students. When there’s a demand, you create a supply. It’s simple economics.

However, when there isn’t a supply, you can’t create a demand. I say this because anyone interested in drama at Mount Mercy is going to find a fairly lacking supply. The stage used to be a basketball court, and parts of it still are. During the winter, snow sprinkles down from a grate in the ceiling.

And any time that it isn’t winter, it’s as hot as an oven. Mount Mercy will be installing a new heating/cooling system in the theater, but I have to say it again, there’s not much to work with.

Putting on a show takes a lot of effort from many people.

Campus events, groups, clubs, and organizations have trouble getting people to participate. Maybe what we need is less of a draw, and more of a push. I’ve toyed with the idea in the past of having a class for a play. You would learn and participate in the production and execution of a performance. Students are pushed to be in a class that would be fun, while also given credit, and as a bonus it would boost participation. This idea could be used for other things too, like classes or credit for being in a club or group on campus, especially if you were in a cabinet position. This incentive would force people to interact, while increasing campus involvement.

Mount Mercy Times

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The Mount Mercy Times is a biweekly student publication serving MMU students, faculty, and staff and those close to the Mount Mercy University community. The Times is published on alternate Thursdays during the school year (each issue has a Thursday date, but the paper is usually distributed Wednesday).

In addition, the Times maintains a student-run website for the dissemination of additional news in various forms, including Times TV video stories.

Membership on the staff of the Times is open to any MMU student, full- or part-time, undergraduate or graduate.

Please attend one of our staff meetings, which are all open to the public, or contact an editor or our advisor for more information. Meetings will be announced in the paper, via social media and with on-campus posters

Staff Writers are listed by name on

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The Times reserves the right to edit or omit submissions. Letters and other submissions may be sent to the Times via email, campus mail or brought to

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The Mount Mercy Times will not print material found to be in poor taste or that it deems detrimental to a person’s personal character. However, provocative comments on matters of public interest are encouraged.

Letters are due Friday at noon for consideration of publication the following Thursday.

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Fear IT

King tale of terror makes great movie experience

Over the past few decades, audiences have been treated to numerous film adaptations of Stephen King's classic novels and short stories. Some adaptations such as The Shawshank Redemption, Carrie, and The Shining become instant classics, while others like this year's The Dark Tower fail to meet expectations and easily become forgettable.



Cameron Junge
Guest Writer

Fortunately, that is not the case with this adaptation of Stephen King's IT as director Andy Muschietti not only succeeds in giving fans a frightening horror movie, but delivers one of the best Stephen King adaptations since The Shawshank Redemption.

Just like the novel, IT takes place in the fictional town of Derry, Maine, where a group of seven misfit kids known as the Loser's Club are each terrorized by a shape-shifting entity who takes on the form of a clown that preys on their own personal fears. As various kids within the town of Derry begin to mysteriously vanish, the Loser's Club realize that they must band together to defeat this supernatural entity, while overcoming their own personal demons in the process.

All of the child actors did a phenomenal job with their roles as the Loser's Club, with the standout performances coming from newcomers Sophia Lillis as Beverly, Jack Dylan Grazer as Eddie, and especially Finn Wolfhard as Richie. However, it is Bill Skarsgard's haunting performance as Pennywise the Dancing Clown that stood out throughout the movie.

Skarsgard's performance is almost on par with Heath Ledger's Joker from The Dark Knight.

Muschietti presents his interpretation of Pennywise as more than just a supernatural creature who feeds off a person's darkest fears or manipulates them to fulfill other dark intentions. Rather, Pennywise is essentially a predatory animal driven by its sole purpose to feed and enjoy the thrill of the hunt.

This adaptation succeeds in showing the audience how dark and horrifying the world can be through the perspective of children, as the adults in the movie are completely oblivious to the dangers the children deal with. Plus, without relying on an adult figure for guidance and protection, you feel the tension and isolated fear when each member of the Loser's Club is on their own facing their darkest fears which Pennywise is able to manipulate.

The story, however, depicts that the power of unity and friendship can truly overcome fear, as the Loser's Club finally stand together at the height of the film's climax.

Finally, Muschietti knew how to make this adaptation feel genuinely scary and terrifying without relying too much on typical jump scares and gore (trust me though, IT is still incredibly bloody and violent).

Muschietti finds unique ways of making Pennywise's presence feel haunting even when he's not on screen, such as the hints of bright red balloons that appear on screen to the disturbing yet unexpected forms, which Pennywise takes on that have a psychological impact on the characters.

Also, when Pennywise does appear, he does so in ways that will catch audience members off guard. Overall, IT is a genuinely terrifying and surprisingly heart-felt film adaptation of Stephen King's novel that's guaranteed to make people even more afraid of clowns.

5 out of 5 Mustangs—For being both terrifying and remarkably entertaining.

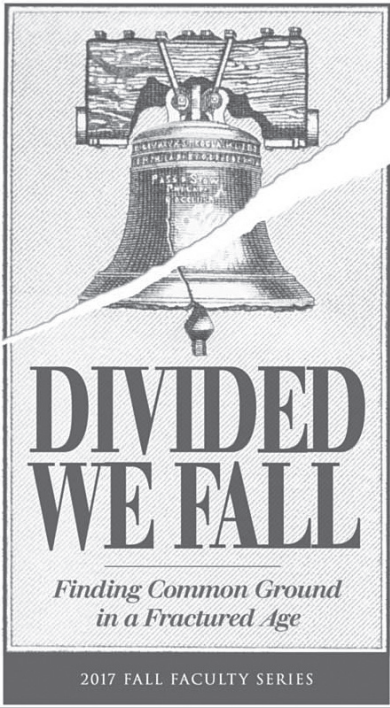
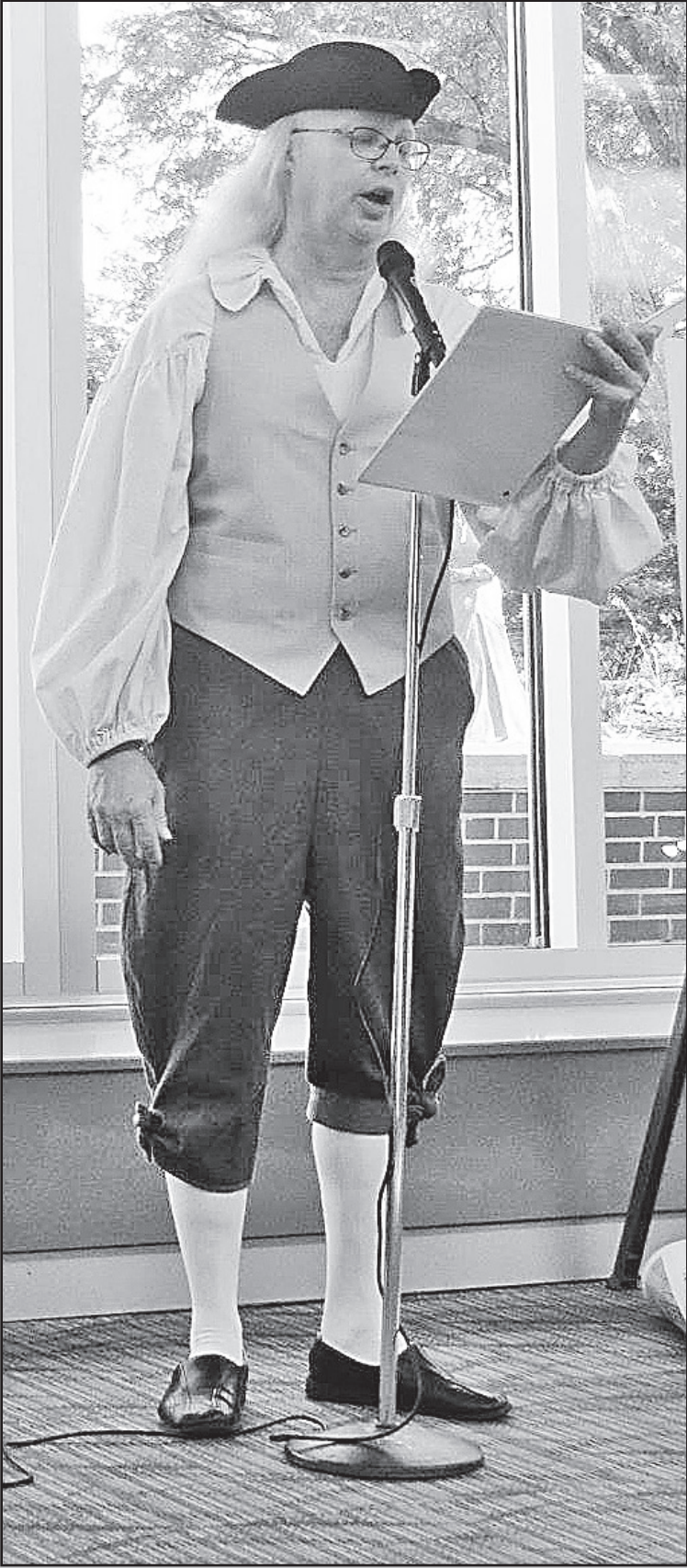


Contributed images/Joseph Hendryx

We the people

As part of the Fall Faculty Series, the United States Constitution was read Sept. 14 in the Sisters of Mercy University Center by students and staff. Among the readers were Chuck Uthe, English major (above) and Bill Krebs, catering director for dining services, as Benjamin Franklin.

See related story, page 1.



Callahan: Students who are receiving drama scholarship will be able to keep it

◆ **Dramatic pause**
from page 1

theater program is being put on hiatus is due to the lack of student interest when it comes to participating in the program.

"We just have not seen a lot of student interest in participation here at Mount Mercy," said Callahan. "There was a point in last spring's production, where we only had—I believe it was two Mount Mercy students and we had to go out and get three other community members just to do that production."

The second reason for upholding the hiatus is because students were interested in other co-curricular activities.

"Mount Mercy has a new partnership with the National Society for Leadership and Success that has 175 students who are already signed up to be part of it," said Callahan.

There are people, clubs and activities like the National Society for Leadership that really could use the McAuley theater's space. However, with the theater program, sets and costumes take up space which make it difficult for others to utilize the space efficiently.

"Students who are currently receiving a scholarship through the theater program will

Related Content:

Times editors say theater-arts building should be next new MMU building. See editorial, page 3.

be able to keep it," said Callahan.

Cali Arbuckle, a junior nursing major, is one student currently receiving a scholarship through the theater program.

"I think it's good

that we are using the theater for multiple purposes, and I think it would be beneficial to the school," said Arbuckle. "At the same time, I think it's very sad that we are getting rid of the theater program altogether because every school has a play."

Arbuckle believes theater is a huge part in every school's life and the program draws people to Mount Mercy.

Kick off the Sunday shoes

Saturday Old Creamery performances of 'Footloose' to include dance party

By **Brooke Woolley**
Staff Writer

Students looking to have fun have several days left to see the 80s classic, Footloose, on stage at the Old Creamery Theatre.

When Ren moves to a small town from Chicago, he's in shock when he discovers that there is a local ban on dancing. Struggling with the ban, Ren finds friends and together they try to loosen up the conservative town. But one man stands in the way—Reverend Shaw Moore.

While tickets are normally \$31 for adults, students can purchase tickets

for \$19.50, or get student rush tickets (available 30 minutes prior) for \$12.

This show not only brings music from the 80's film, but new songs for the stage musical, as well. If students purchase tickets for Saturday, they'll have the opportunity to cut loose with cast members after the show at a Saturday Night Dance Party held in the courtyard of the venue.

Performances are Friday and Saturday at 7:30 p.m. and Sunday at 2 p.m. For more information and ticket purchases visit oldcreamery.com.



Hayley Gibson/Times

The Mount Mercy Mens Soccer team fought hard in the blistering heat against Central Methodist on Saturday September. 23. Temperatures reached 90 degrees with estimates on the brand new turf to be over 100 degrees. The Mustangs lost 5-1 against Central Methodist.

MMU men lose in blistering heat

By: Hayley Gibson
TV Editor/News Editor

Last Saturday at 4:30 p.m., the Mustangs hosted the 16th ranked Central Methodist in 90-degree heat. A very tense and physical match left many emotions on the Robert W. Plaster Athletic Complex. Overall, the Eagles were the ones to walk away with the undefeated record

posting a 5-1 victory over the Mustangs. Filip Kovecevic scored the first goal against the Eagles since their season opener on Aug. 24. The Eagles have only allowed two goals all season. Starting goal keeper, Hunter Hermesen, made way for two saves before Dane Lee came in the second half to tally five saves over the

45-minute period. The Mustangs face a full week ahead. Their travels start with Grandview in Des Moines on Tuesday at 7:30 p.m. and end with a conference match up against 7th ranked Baker on Saturday at 4:30 p.m. at the grand opening of the Plaster Athletic Complex.

New offense formation aids women’s winning season

By Mahlon Reilly
Staff Writer

The Mount Mercy women’s soccer team has their eyes straight ahead as they have another half a season to play until Nov. 4 when they look to make the conference tournament. The Mustangs’ overall record this year is 6-3 with a 4-2 record at home and a 2-1 record on the road.

The team is led by seniors Amy McGlynn, Meleah Baloch, Maggie Murphy, Annie Feltes, Cally Salter, and Ashley Burns. Hannah Schroeder, volunteer coach, is another senior but is unfortunately out with an injury. The Mustangs’ are playing with a new offense formation this year and are switching things up from past years. “We’re a new team playing with a new formation we’ve never learned before, so we just need to improve on connecting as a team and working together to achieve our goals,” McGlynn said.

The season started very strong for the women as they forced 29 goals against their first two opponents. Since then, they have put up 16 goals against their last seven opponents. The only losses for the girls this year has been shutouts coming at the hands from Coe College, Culver-Stockton College, and 13 ranked Central Methodist University.

“We need to play possession soccer and be more creative in the attack to score a lot of goals this season.”

Amy McGlynn, senior

“My goal for this season is to make this season my best one yet,” McGlynn said. “It’s my last one and I want to make sure I give it everything I have before

I’m done.” “Our team goal is to make it to the conference tournament by finishing eighth or higher in our conference.” McGlynn said. “To do this, we need to play possession soccer and be more creative in the attack to score a lot of goals this season.” The next time to see the women’s play is on Saturday, at 2 p.m., as they help kick things off at the opening of the new Plaster Athletic Complex.

Fantasy Football gets complex as players get hurt

That QB Luck isn’t proving a lucky PUP for the many who picked him

The NFL is going into week three which means fantasy football is too. Every fantasy owner fears one of their draft picks are going to get hurt or isn’t going to perform like they did the season before. Who is doing just that this season? Let’s start with the quarterback position. Since coming off the Physically Unable to Perform List (PUP) on Sept. 2, one of the key starting quarterbacks since coming into the league, Andrew Luck, has yet to practice, let alone play for this coming season. According to ESPN Fantasy Football, Luck has been picked up by 81.5 percent of fantasy teams, hoping he will come back at some point this season.

Who do you pick up to replace Luck? Trevor Siemian, quarterback for the Denver Broncos, has been playing exceptionally well even though he’s only been picked up by 38 percent of teams. Siemian would be a huge free agent pick up averaging 22 fantasy points a game and looks like it will be one of those “sleeper” pick-ups for the rest of the season.

When I say the name David Johnson, every fantasy owner who drafted him will begin to cry again. Johnson went down with a dislocated wrist in the Cardinals season-opening loss to the Detroit Lions. Johnson is expected to be out for 8-12 weeks, and will undergo surgery to repair his dislocated knee according to Ian Rapoport, NFL Network reports. Johnson is eligible to play come November 9 against the Seahawks, but it’s more than likely for him to return against their week 13 match-up against the Rams.

Chris Johnson, Washington Redskins running back, looks to be the free agent replacement for the time being. He has averaged 20 points in the past two weeks, but hasn’t gotten the touches a running back should. The Redskins are using him more as a receiving back, which has been racking up more points for Johnson. Look for him to be a free agent pickup until David comes back.

Another heart-breaking loss for the wide receiver position is Julian Edelman. Being one of Tom Brady’s number one receivers in their Super Bowl winning 2016 season, Edelman racked up 98 receptions for 1,106 yards, but only 3 touchdowns. Edelman went down in the pre-season with a season-ending torn ACL.

Devin Funchess, Carolina Panthers wide receiver, looks to be one of the key free agent replacements going into week 3. Greg Olson went down in their week two matchups with a foot injury, which means Cam Newton will need a reliable target for the weeks to come. Look for Funchess to get targeted a lot while Olson is on the sideline.

Like I said earlier, Greg Olsen suffered a foot injury in week 2. Olson is expected to miss 6-8 weeks for the Panthers, which if you own Olsen it forces you to put him on the bench for the 2 months. Since Olsen is so reliable when healthy, I’m not quite sure if it is worth getting rid of him.

Charles Clay, Buffalo Bills tight end, looks to be a healthy pick for a replacement. Clay averages 10 points a game coming into week three and if the Bills get into a passing rhythm, look for Clay to be major target for quarterback Tyrod Taylor.

Opinion



Collin Wiley
Sports Editor

When I say the name David Johnson, every fantasy owner who drafted him will begin to cry again.

Sports shorts

Rough second half costs women’s soccer

Mount Mercy faced Culver-Stockton on the evening of Sept. 20 in Heart of Conference play. Culver Stockton scored just before halftime to take a 1-0 lead over the Mustangs. MMU started the second half shaky as they allowed three goals in a matter of 10 minutes, which put Culver-Stockton up 4-0 and eventually took them to victory. Sarah Johnson (Fr.) had six saves while Culver-Stockton shot the ball 13 times. The MMU Women’s Soccer team helps open the brand-new Plaster Complex on Sept. 30, as they face off Baker at 2 p.m.

Men’s soccer captures heart opener win at Avila

The Men’s Soccer team came into Avila with a record of 3 wins and 2 losses, hoping to get their first conference win. The Mustangs ended up outshooting Avila 11-9 with six of those shots being on goal. Matheus Alonso (So.) scored for the first time this season as the Mustangs took a 2-0 lead. Ljubisa Palic (Fr.) added an insurance goal with seven minutes left in the game to prevail Mount Mercy over Avila, 3-0. Hunter Hermesen (Jr.) blocked Avila’s two shots on goal to complete the shut-out for the Mustangs. The MMU Men’s Soccer team will help open the brand-new Plaster Complex on Sept. 30, as they face off against Baker at 4:30 p.m.

Men’s and women’s CC compete at the Missouri Southern Stampede

The Mustangs’ traveled to Joplin, Missouri to compete in the Missouri Southern Stampede on

Sept. 17. Although it was a warm afternoon and it was the longest race of the season so far—both groups placed in the top half of the meet. The men’s team placed 4 out of 22 and the women’s team placed 7 out of 22. The next meet for both groups will take place in Rock Island, Illinois on Sept. 22, with the women’s cross country starting at 3 p.m. and the men’s team starting at 5:30 p.m.

MMU women’s volleyball sweeps Avila, led by Bell’s 10 kills

MMU Volleyball held a 2-0 record at home coming into their conference matchup with Avila on Saturday, Sept. 23. The Mustangs’ never trailed in a set Saturday winning (25-11, 25-11, 25-17) advancing their undefeated record at home to 3-0 on the year. Maddie Bell (Fr.) led the Mustangs with 10 kills along with 3 blocks. Junior Lauren Stopko led the team with 4 aces along with 19 digs which also gave the team a lead. MMU led all team statistics against Avila hitting an amazing 0.250, along with 6 blocks, 61 digs, and 7 aces. The Mustangs next game at home will be on Friday, October 3, and they are set to take on Waldorf University at 7 p.m. in the Hennessey Recreation Center.

Upcoming Home Games:

- Sept. 30- W Soccer @2
- Sept. 30- MSoccer @4:30
- Oct. 1- J.V. W Soccer @ 1
- Oct. 3- W Soccer @5
- Oct. 3- W Volleyball @7

5k for Sr. Shari

Mahder Serekerhan/Times

Mercy Week 2017 concluded Sunday with the Sutherland Stroll, a 5K run and walk named for Sister Shari Sutherland, VP/Mission and Ministry. Walkers and runners braved unusually warm summer like temperatures to participate.



Mercy Week class speaker says refugees only want a good life

By Connor Mahan
Web editor

Refugees have two basic goals: to understand how to live in the US and not to be perceived as negative figures in society.

A microeconomics class listened to the presentation Wednesday, Sept. 20, as Mike Poulin, Justice Coordinator for Sisters of Mercy of Americas, talked about how the biases generated by politics makes life harder for these individuals.

“There’s a lot of talk about fear,” Poulin said. “Fearing who immigrants or refugees might be; some of them might be terrorists crossing the borders from Mexico.” He added that some also wonder what type of people refugees might be.

Poulin was one of several visiting speakers and events held Sept. 17 through Sept. 24 to celebrate MMU’s heritage as a Sisters of Mercy institution during Mercy and Mission Week. The week, which the title “Mercy: Embrace it,” kicked off at Sunday Mass Sept. 17 and concluded with the Sutherland Stroll, a 5K run or walk named for Sister Shari Sutherland, who plans to retire as VP/mission and ministry.

On Sept. 19, Dr. Matthew Ashley, theology professor at the University of Notre Dame, spoke on Pope Francis and the Message of Piece as the keynote of the week—and event that was also part of the Fall Faculty Series.

Two Mount Mercy nursing faculty members, Anne Showalter Hartman and Darcy Rosenblum, spoke Sept. 21 about their work in a refugee camp in Greece.

In Poulin’s Sept. 20 class presentation on refugees, he said negative messages prey upon people’s internal fears about protecting themselves, which is a natural instinct. As the other side of the argument, Poulin spoke about his volunteer experience in relocating and giving aid to refugees through a parish group.

“I want to counter the narrative that’s out there that we hear a lot about immigrants and refugees to the United States,” said Poulin.

“I can’t tell you about all of the immigrants and refugees that have come to the U.S—but the only ones that I have ever met are the least scary people that I have ever known,” said Poulin. “I want to show you the other side.”

Some of the many challenges that refugees



Connor Mahan/Times

Mike Poulin speaks to an MMU microeconomics class. Sept. 20.

gees encounter when moving to their new lives include learning a new language, figuring out a new mechanized world with electricity, motors and automation as well as blending within a whole new culture.

Poulin emphasized that refugees, for the most part, have one basic goal and that is to move their families to a safe place to live. They are very busy with learning how to live within the U.S. and their new surroundings, not to commit crimes and bring havoc to the U.S.

Poulin used the analogy of a bowl of

skittles representing the number of refugees and then explained that the number of refugees or immigrants that had committed crimes would represent only a few skittles in that bowl.

Poulin added that there is more danger from some of our own U.S. citizens within our own country than from immigrants and refugees from other countries. He cited the Oklahoma City bombings of 1995 and a shooting in Omaha, Nebraska, which were carried out by U.S. citizens within our own country, not refugees or immigrants.

Poulin also touched on several events regarding DACA and the impact and potential impact on many immigrants and refugees within the U.S. as well as the negative economic impact that deportation would have on the U.S. economy and job force.

“The parish that I belonged to a few years ago decided to welcome a refugee family to Omaha,” said Poulin.

Mount Mercy University/
contributed

MMU Provost Dr. Jan Handler.

Provost to retire at the end of year

By Gabriela Kreinz
Editor-in-chief

The Mount Mercy community will say goodbye to Dr. Jan Handler, provost, as she plans to retire at the end of this academic year.

Handler has been working at Mount Mercy for 30 years. She spent 20 years teaching in the educational program and 10 years as provost.

A provost is a university’s chief academic officer. Their job is to take care of the creation and execution of the institution’s priorities. In addition, they take care of the allocation of resources for such priorities.

Handler’s favorite memories made at Mount



“I loved being in a classroom. I used to do a lot of hands on activities with them.”

Jan Handler, Provost

Mercy trace back to her students.

“I loved being in a classroom. I used to do a lot of hands on activities with them,” she said.

She strived to teach them to be the best teachers they can be.

“As I got further along in my career, I could see a lot of those students’ accomplishments and sometimes their children also enrolled at Mount Mercy,” Handler remembered.

“That’s always a real favorite memory.”

As Handler moves on,

she will miss some things about Mount Mercy: the friendly and energetic faculty and staff members.

“Everybody was open to new ideas and the students were very open to work together,” said Handler. “I will also miss being on this beautiful campus,” she added.

After retirement, Handler wants to keep working with people and learning. She said she is also excited for a possible relocation to northern Michigan, where her two sons live.

MMU requires some athletes to attend study tables

By Savannah Oler
Staff Writer

A new study table program has been implemented this year for the benefit of helping student athletes succeed on and off the playing field.

“I think the study tables help because you can’t make the excuse of studying later and you also get the chance to get help from peers or peer coaches”, says Kenzi Kipling. Kipling is a sophomore cheerleader who has been able to see what it was like as a Mount Mercy athlete before and after the study tables were created.

Basketball players Barry Doe (sophomore) and Jacob Perks (freshman) said that the study tables give them “a space and set time to do homework.”

The study table program was required at the beginning of the year for freshman student athletes, transfer athletes, and returning athletes with a GPA under 2.8. Students under this criterion must check in for 8 hours a week, with the times ranging from 7 to 10 p.m. in the cafeteria. This program was explained to athletes in the beginning of the year.

A Mount Mercy official explained why the study table program was created. Barbara Miller, Director of Ace, says, “Information shows us that freshmen

Study table program created for benefits

Barbara Miller, Director of the Academic Center for Excellence, says that benefits for the new Study Table program include:

- Increasing the GPA's of students that utilize the program
- Creating a collaborative learning environment for student athletes and peers supporting each other with their academics
- Developing positive study habits and time management skills
- Increasing in the persistence and eligibility of student athletes due to the program
- Decreasing the stigma of athletes not being academically minded
- Providing a study space available to all students.

often struggle with their transition to the University... implementing the Student Athlete Study Table program provides a consistent and productive means of academic support.”

Miller also talked about how the program sets the students up with valuable time management skills and creates a good support system for the students. When asked how study tables have benefited other universities, Miller brought up the success of such programs at universities like Ohio State and the University of Iowa.

“These programs have high expectations of their student athletes just as we have (for student athletes) here at Mount Mercy,” Miller said.

When the student athletes

listed above were interviewed on what the study tables could improve on, they all had fairly similar responses.

“I don’t like the location or how loud it is in the cafeteria”, says Kipling. Barry and Jacob also agreed that “there’s too many people and it’s too loud.”

Barb has since responded to these issues and said that steps have been taken to address issues as they arise.

“The study table program is discussed daily on ways we can improve the setup for students,” Miller said.

While the program itself won’t go away, Miller said that modifications might be made to it in the future to benefit the students, such as its location and hours.