

Veronica Jons/Times

Mount Mercy President Laurie Hamen speaks in the Chapel of Mercy during the nursing program's white coat ceremony, marking the entrance of sophomores into their clinical rotations, Sept. 6.



## Hamen Reflects on Six Years Leading MMU

By Veronica Jons  
Editor-in-Chief

On May 22, students, faculty, and staff received an unexpected email from Mount Mercy's President Laurie Hamen announcing her plans to retire.

This news came after a challenging year for Mount Mercy University, which is struggling, as a tuition-driven college, to maintain enrollment and financial stability. In addition, a controversy over Safe Zone training and the suspension of that program took place.

However, Hamen says her

plans to retire are for personal reasons, not campus controversies.

Hamen sat down with the Times, eager to talk about her six years as MMU president. Meanwhile, the board has begun the search to find a new president.

She said her favorite experiences varied from Commencement weekend and honors convocation, to the Rinderknecht Athletic Center opening and Thanksgiving weekend.

At Commencement weekend and honors convocation, she says she enjoyed getting to see stu-

**"I will greatly miss the Sisters of Mercy: They gave me a real sense of compassion."**

President Laurie Hamen

dents' dreams come true.

"I am so incredibly proud of the work students have done to get here," said Hamen. "There are students with all sorts of backgrounds with honors. It reminds me of what students can do in the future. I have always been excited about our students."

Another fond memory for Hamen is Thanksgiving weekend. While taking a break from spending quality family time, she reads all the faculty tenure applications.

"Faculty does a beautiful job describing why they love teaching and students. I am so thankful for the commitment they have to teaching. Because of our faculty, we have such a high success rate."

Something that amazed Hamen and that she will miss is how much the Sisters of Mercy are connected to everyone and everything associated with the college.

"I have never been at a place that is so connected to the order it was associated with. I will greatly miss the Sisters of Mercy; They gave me a real sense of compassion. Our students are a hardworking group of people who go out into the world and will hold the Sisters of Mercy and what they stand for with them wherever they go."

When looking back at her first time at MMU, she recalls an overwhelming feeling of love

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## Heads up:

### Homecoming Events:

**Pep Rally:** Come to the cafeteria on Thursday, Sept. 26 at 9:30 p.m. to get free late-night breakfast, merchandise, and hear the announcement of the homecoming court!

**Takeover:** Gather on the Greenspace for a night of fun with inflatable laser tag, video games, and crafts at 8 p.m. on Friday, Sept. 27.

**Party/Tailgate:** Saturday Sept. 28 at 1:30 to 3:30 p.m. watch the women and men's soccer games at the Plaster Athletic Complex, featuring a dance team performance at halftime of the women's game and the court winner announcement at the men's. Enjoy food and music at the Party at the Plaza during the games. At 2 p.m. enjoy a tailgate on the deck of Hennessey during the volleyball game! At 6:30 p.m., buses will take students to either AirFX, ice skating, or Bass Farms!

### Interview Secrets

Head to Basile Hall at 7 p.m. on Thursday, Sept. 26 to learn tips and tricks for nailing any interview!

### Comedian Visit

Comedian Jeffrey Jay will be visiting MMU in McAuley Hall at 7 p.m. on Tuesday, Oct. 1.



Jada Veasey/Times

The First Amendment and its impact on politics was discussed Sept. 17 by a panel that includes Joe Sheller (left), associate professor of communication; Lyle Muller, retired editor/director of Iowa Watch; Zack Kucharski, executive editor of the Gazette; and Dr. Richard Barrett, assistant professor of political science. Panelists listen to Muller. Kucharski (right) makes a point.

## Panel Considers First Amendment, Politics

By Elaina Kinser  
Staff Writer

Local media professionals and MMU professors dived into First Amendment rights and their impact on today's news media in a Constitution Day panel on Sept. 17.

The panel consisted of Zack Kucharski, executive editor of The Gazette; Lyle Muller, retired executive director and editor of Iowa Watch; Richard Barret, assistant professor of political science; and Joe Sheller, associate professor of communication.

Sheller started off the discussion with a small presentation to introduce the different parts of the First Amendment and what rights it covers, including the idea of a marketplace of ideas.

The main parts of the First Amendment that were touched on included the freedom of speech and press. The panel mentioned that the press at our founding wasn't what we have now.

"Unfortunately, because our news is digital, we don't always know what we're looking at," Sheller said.

One issue the panel covered was how there are far less journalists now than 40 years ago, as well as a decrease in the number of newspapers. This leads to the idea that the nation is polarized because United States is not represented equally.

"When it came to cover Trump as legitimate news, the most inexperienced reporter was sent," said Muller.

The second answer explored how social media such as Twitter can be both a tool and enemy of journalists. The fast paced response available to Twitter users has led to credibility issues, from the ability to interfere with the last election, to the younger generation not being able to tell editorial or opinion pieces apart.

"The vast majority of Americans don't seek out the news and don't sort through it," said Barrett.

The conclusion of the panel was that fact checking and context are the most important

aspect of writing for our journalists today, and how applicable these skills would be to the general public.

"I believe there's more fact checking and vetting now than ever before," said Muller.

The panel discussion, Mount Mercy's official Constitution Day event, was called: "If You Can Keep It: The Election of 2020 and the First Amendment."

Sheller explains that the title comes from a famous story about Benjamin Franklin.

"As he was leaving the Constitutional Convention, Benjamin Franklin was questioned by a Mrs. Powell of Philadelphia, who asked, 'Well, Doctor, will we have a monarchy or a republic?'" Sheller said. "Franklin immediately replied, 'A republic. If you can keep it.'"

The event was co-sponsored by the MMU student Law and Politics Club and the Mount Mercy Times.

**"The vast majority of Americans don't seek out the news and don't sort through it."**

Richard Barret, assistant professor of political science

VeoRide images/Contributed

A publicity photo from VeoRide, the vendor running the city of Cedar Rapids Bike Share program, shows the electric scooters which, along with electric-assist bicycles, are available to rent on the MMU campus.

# New Wheels

## City Starts Campus Bicycle, Scooter Rentals MMU Decides Cost Too Much for Bus Program

By Jade Milota  
Staff Writer

Transportation changes—including new rental bikes from the city—are new to The Hill. But not free bus passes for students.

Unlike Kirkwood Community College and Coe College, Mount Mercy students will not be provided free transportation around town.

The city of Cedar Rapids approached Mount Mercy and proposed a free bussing opportunity that could have transformed the college student experience. After careful deliberation, the offer was denied by the Student Government Association because of unfavorable stipulations such as a \$5,000 investment.

The city also required a minimum of 1,000 campus participants enrolled. With 500 students living on campus, and many of them owning vehicles, meeting the demand seemed farfetched.

Students will not receive free city bus passes but they will have other opportunities to discover the city for a low fee. Cedar Rapids' scooter share around town is making transportation more accessible to those who don't have vehicles while encouraging sustainable practices and healthy lifestyles.

According to Sylvia Brueckert, community development planner for the city, bike share has been in the works in Cedar Rapids for several years. In 2017, the City had a consultant perform an implementation study for bike share, which provided insight on how to create a strong system that would work.

Within the first season, the bike system saw good ridership, and have received positive feedback. One of the largest successes has been developing a partnership with VeoRide who operates the share system at no cost.

"The City has used grant funds to provide infrastructure to support the system, including the stations that serve as designated parking areas for the bikes and scooters," Brueckert said.

To utilize a power scooter, VeoRide, a smartphone app can be downloaded. It requires creating an account, which then allows a QR code near the handlebar to be scanned. After verified payment through the app, the scooter then becomes available for \$1.15 a minute thereafter.

The scooter is active when the headlight flashes, taillight beeps, and speedometer illuminates. To engage, a rider places one foot on the scooter platform, while kicking off with the other so



that the scooter begins rolling. To move faster, a throttle mounted on the handlebars triggers an electric assist, which can propel the speed up to 12 mph.

"We hope the bike share system will contribute to the vibrancy of Cedar Rapids' core neighborhoods and serve as an amenity for residents and visitors," Brueckert shared. "The bike share system will also contribute to Cedar Rapids' already strong bicycling culture."

The scooters are allowed in bike lanes, travel lanes and recreational trails, but are prohibited from sidewalks in the downtown area.

To end a ride, the scooter must be within the Cedar Rapids city limits, and the fare ends through a button found on the app.

Accompanying the scooters, bikes are also accessible. With identical rental fees, the VeoRide app can locate available bikes for use in the downtown, New Bohemia, Czech Village, Kingston Village and the MedQuarter areas.

The bike share launched last fall with

45 electric bikes and 22 bike stations across the city. The program was anticipated to expand to 150 bikes and 90 stations by June. A surplus of 30 fat-tire bikes are expected to be placed at Mount Trashmore soon.

After hearing of the program, Mount Mercy extended an arm to the city and officials then met with Nate Klein, vice president for student success; Dave Dennis, director of facilities; and Jason Pershing, assistant athletic director and Jump Start director to examine locations for bike racks.

"I hope students see this as a simple way to get back and forth to the Rinderknecht Athletic Center and Plaster Athletic Complex- a fun way to stay in shape, and a great opportunity to spend time with friends exploring our city," Klein said.

E-bikes or e-scooters users must be 18 years old or have permission from a parent or legal guardian. The minimum age requirement is 13 years old.

## Students: New President Should Communicate

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present here.

"I felt that I was paying it forward from my undergraduate education at Saint Catherine University to the president position at Mount Mercy University," she said. "I have never been one to focus on accomplishments, I focus on my leadership role and better impact the Mount Mercy community."

After being asked about some of the challenges in the past year possibly contributing to her retirement decision, Hamen laughed and with a genuine smile said, "In leadership, lots of things happen that are positive and some that are tough.

Not everything goes the way you'd like it, but you should always stand for what you believe in. I think, last year, everyone was doing that."

Her reason for her retirement is for quality family time. Out of her eight grandchildren, four will be her neighbors after moving to the Twin Cities in the early summer. Her mother will also be close by, who she will be assisting to better her quality of life.

The university board of trustees is conducting a search for the new president by forming a Presidential Candidate Search Committee, which consists of student representatives, faculty, staff, and the board of trustees. The majority of members are from the board, which will make the hiring decision.

On Aug. 27, there was a meeting to discuss what the student body wants for the new president. At that meeting, students stressed that they want MMU to find a president who wants good communication and relationships with students while continuing Mount Mercy's values and traditions.

Hamen's advice for any of the future candidates was: "Don't go to the place you won't fall in love with. Be completely focused on improvement on campus. Help it grow and see it change in positive ways. I hope the next person to take on this important role cares for this campus as much as I have."

President Hamen's last day at Mount Mercy will be June 30, 2020.

**"I hope students see this as a simple way to get back and forth to the Rinderknecht Athletic Center and Plaster Athletic Complex- a fun way to stay in shape, and a great opportunity to spend time with friends exploring our city."**

Nate Klein, Vice President for Student Success

President Laurie Hamen



Jada Veasey/Times

Ann Davidshofer, assistant professor of nursing, likes the symbolism of bicycles that she uses to decorate her office. She says learning nursing is a linear process, a bit like learning to ride a bike. However, she adds that she is not a person who rides bicycles as a hobby.

## New Nursing Professor Loves MMU Mission

By Jada Veasey  
Opinion Editor

Ann Davidshofer, new assistant professor of nursing, has an interesting perspective on what it means to be a Mustang – she was a student here before she was a faculty member.

After earning her BSN in 1994, Davidshofer furthered her education with a Masters in Nursing here at Mount Mercy back in 2010. She said, "when I was a student here getting my Masters, I recognized that the professors were very much invested in the success of students." This is one of the reasons why Davidshofer was interested in teaching here on the Hill.

In past years, Davidshofer served as an adjunct faculty member and a clinical instructor within the nursing program. For Davidshofer, the transition from practicing nurse to nurse educator was a natural one. She was "already teaching at the bedside with patients

and families," so the jump to academia was not a difficult one.

She said that she "... observed great collaboration around the faculty," and she loves that the nursing program is "all about the journey." Davidshofer loves the culture of Mount Mercy and loves "the mission of the nursing program." She said that the department's dedication to its mission of mercy is really a "wow factor" for her.

Before coming to Mount Mercy, Davidshofer taught for three years full time at another liberal arts college. Before she started teaching, she worked in ICU and emergency department settings, and spent some time working in management.

One of Davidshofer's favorite parts of teaching is the many opportunities to share her knowledge with others. She said, "I have a lot of experience and knowledge that I want to share with others, so they can care for others." She also said she enjoys getting to help "nurture and groom novice nurses."

Davidshofer has the opportunity to do just that here on the Hill. She teaches three classes at the sophomore level: a holistic health assessment course, a pathways to professional nursing course, and the J-term skills course. She also gets to perform clinical site visits for one senior level course.

According to Davidshofer, the best part of her job is getting to work with students. She loves watching students grow and learn, and she has "an open-door policy." She loves meeting with students and talking about their progress.

When she isn't spending her time teaching future generations of nurses, Davidshofer enjoys spending time with her husband of 34 years, and her children and grandson. She also likes to go all out when it comes to decorating her home for the holidays.

Davidshofer is looking forward to what is to come for the rest of the school year. She is excited to build more relationships on campus, and overall is really "glad to be here!"

### New Faces on The Hill

Introducing  
faculty

# Changing the Price Game?

## Central College Slashes Tuition Sticker Price by \$20,000, is Cut Real?

No one would be shocked if we were to tell you that college is expensive, especially if you attend a private college. For the most part, those prices can't be helped. Professors have to be paid a fair wage, buildings have to be kept up, and it's nice when activities are planned.

However, when we see colleges like Central College drop their tuition \$20,000 by fall of 2020, it makes one wonder whether they are paying too much for school or not.

Comparing college costs has always been difficult for students, and not because the price isn't advertised. The so-called "sticker price" of each university are clearly labeled. The question is: what's the actual cost?

Most colleges struggle providing this answer. For example, all Mount Mercy freshmen coming in for fall 2020 will receive at least a \$10,000 scholarship for the year. Mount Mercy's tuition cost for

the year is \$32,862 for the 2019-2020 school year, which seems like a lot more than Central College's proposed \$18,600 cost for 2020-2021. However, there's a catch.

If 100 percent of students coming to Mount Mercy get at least \$10,000 off the top of their bill, brings the actual cost of tuition down to \$22,862, not including any state and federal aid, or other Mount Mercy aid, students will receive.

The majority of Central College's decrease isn't a result of decreased cost to run the college, but rather restructuring how they present that sticker price. Many schools, as Central was, run on a "high tuition, high student-aid model" as stated in Des Moines Register's article about the tuition decrease.

Having a high tuition cost associates the college or university with a high-

**As we see it, having a more accurate sticker price is more open and honest with the university and college's students.**

quality education. Having high student-aid tells the student that the college wants them that much. Essentially, the colleges are saying we want you so much

we're giving you \$15,000 to attend our school while still costing you \$15,000.

Central's new cost simply better reflects the actual cost of attending the college. This is a very important distinction.

We acknowledge that how to present the sticker price of any university is a difficult choice, and that the amount of scholarships and lower costs are a good marketing strategy.

With that being said, we hope to see a more accurate representation of what the cost of attending actually is; cost calculators are not enough. As we see it, having a more accurate sticker price is more open and honest with the university and college's students.

As a student media publication, we appreciate as much transparency between the student body, administration, and faculty as possible. Every relationship is built on a foundation of trust and showing a more accurate cost would help the university or college start on that foundation.

If universities foster trust with their students from the moment the students look up the university, they are more likely to stay year after year. Additionally, not as many would have to drop out because they could no longer afford college. Both of these would help with retention rates, which most colleges struggle with in the first place.

It will be interesting to see if other colleges follow Central's lead and change their stated price. However, if it doesn't reflect a real change in what students pay, it may not add as much clarity as we would like. Clear pricing—getting what you pay for—that would be a nice goal for all colleges.

Hasbro/YouTube  
A screenshot from a promotional video on YouTube shows the new "Ms. Monopoly" game.



## New Ms. Game is a Ms.-take

I have a confession to make-- I am a little bit addicted to the classic board game Monopoly.

Or maybe addicted is not quite the right word. Perhaps it would be more accurate to say that I am obsessed. I have spent several family Christmases huddled around a Monopoly board, wiggling my eyebrows at my sister from across the table, as we plotted to team up and beat our cousins.

My senior year of high school, I handmade a personalized version of the game for my friend group, which I dubbed "Squadopoly" (the chance cards contained way too many Vine references, just for the record). Upon moving back to campus at the beginning of the school year, I realized I'd left my family's copy of Monopoly at home, so the first time my mom came to visit me, she offered to buy me my very own copy. I literally shrieked with delight.

So yes, I love Monopoly. There, I said it!

What I do not love, though, is the newest edition of the game, a monstrosity that parent company Hasbro is calling "Ms. Monopoly."

In this newest installment of the classic game, players won't purchase properties, but will instead buy inventions created by women; including Wi-Fi and chocolate chip cookies. In addition, when women "pass go," they will collect \$240, while men will collect only the

usual \$200. Hasbro is advertising the game with the slogan "the first game where women make more than men." Yikes.

The irony is not lost on me. For one thing, Monopoly is a game; it takes place within its own fictional universe. A fictional board game world where women are given more advantages than men does nothing to help women in the real world. Plus, women don't want to make more money than men, they just want to be paid equally. The same way they are paid in regular Monopoly.

Hasbro has missed the boat on a more meta level, as well.

Monopoly was invented by a woman, and yet everyone seems to credit the Parker brothers.

According to a 2015 New York Times article by Mary Pilon, the original concept for Monopoly was called The Landlord's Game, and it was created by progressive Elizabeth Magie. This version of the game had two sets of rules: monopolist rules and anti-monopolist rules.

Magie herself was an anti-monopolist, and she created the game to show the many dangers of monopolist economies. Unfortunately for her, though, the monopolist version of the game was the one that gained popularity. Magie's idea was stolen and repackaged by a man named Charles Darrow, who then sold it to the Parker Brothers and made millions.

Ms. Monopoly may very well be "the first game where women make more than men," but Hasbro should remember that Magie was not paid for the idea the original game was based on.

Hasbro's blatant cash grab at a feminist game concept is an insult to Elizabeth Magie, and an insult to women in general. Sure, it's great to show that women have made significant contributions to society with their inventions and other efforts, but Ms. Monopoly is a painfully tone-deaf way of doing so.

And anyway, I've been beating men and boys at regular Monopoly for years. Maybe they're the ones who need an in-game advantage.

## Showing Mercy Means That We Relieve Others' Hearts of Misery

Mercy. It's a word we hear a lot around here. I mean, after all, it is in our very name. But how many of us have really reflected on what 'mercy' truly means?

To start off, let's go back to some roots in the Latin language. The word 'mercy' in Latin is *misericordia*. 'Miserere' meaning misery and 'cor' meaning heart. In essence, mercy means 'heart of misery' so when we have mercy on others, we are relieving them from having a heart of misery.

Or a better way to look at it is to put your sympathy into action. God put his sympathy into action when He sent His son to die on a cross for our sins. He wanted to relieve us from our misery of dwelling in our sin. He wanted to save us.

Jesus' mercy for us is so great that He even describes it to St. Faustina this way:

"I am love and Mercy Itself. There is no misery that could be a match for My mercy, neither will misery exhaust it, because as it is being granted – it increases. The soul that trusts in My mercy is most fortunate, because I Myself take care of it."

What great joy there is knowing God's mercy is inexhaustible for us.

In the Gospel of John, you will find Jesus showing mercy to a woman caught in adul-

**Faith on the Hill**



**Kasey Kaimann**  
Columnist

tery. This woman is about to be stoned to death until Jesus says, "Let the one among you who is without sin be the first to throw a stone at her." They all went away one by one until it was only the woman and Jesus left. Jesus then finishes by saying, "Neither do I condemn you. Go and from now on, do not sin any more." These words are full of mercy, but not only that, but a call to repentance and conversion. God is forgiving and merciful and yet so patient with us that if we sin again and again, as long as we come forward with a repentant heart, He will always be ready to pour out His mercy upon us.

Although God's mercy is great, we must be careful not to fall into the trap of believing that mercy means God doesn't really care if we sin or not since His mercy is 'so' great. This is what you would call abusing God's mercy. We must not take God's mercy for granted and justify our spiritual laziness with it. Archbishop Gerhard Ludwig Müller says, "God's mercy does not dispense us from following his commandments or the rules of the Church."

In essence, he is making the same point Jesus did with the woman. He is pointing us to a deeper conversion: to sin no more. May God grant us the graces we need to have a repentant heart to receive His great mercy and not abuse it in any way.

May He also give us the graces to have mercy on others and be a witness of His great love.

## Food and Art Both Make Latest UC Takeover Event One to Bring Me Back

On Sept. 7, I went to the second UC Takeover of the year. Out of all the UC Takeovers I have gone to; this was one of my favorites.

M2AP board went with a very creative tropical theme. They had many activities to choose from. I saw many enjoying the inflatables that were set up, but my favorite things were the food and the art activity.

The food was amazing. We had our very own froyo bar that night, and it was delicious. As the crafty portion of the night, a group of my friends got to pick out little wooden surfboards and paint it any way they wanted. It was a very calming break from studying. Instead of sitting in my dorm, I got to paint with friends while snacking on some froyo, and met some freshmen new to college life.

My highlight of the night had to be the drawings for prizes. However, before the winners were picked, I already got a M2AP board

**Opinion**



**Nicole Carl**  
Club Editor

tropical-themed t-shirt, an adorable sun hat, and a surfboard I now have hanging up in my room. On top of all of this, I won a pair of Beats Solo 3's wireless headphones, so all in all a pretty good night for me.

While you may have missed the Tropical UC Takeover, M2AP Board is having another Takeover for homecoming week on Sept. 27. I recommend going; I had a great time and would want to experience a good time with friends.

M2AP Board is mixing it up a bit for Homecoming week and having the takeover on the patio instead of indoors. I am very excited to participate, because some of the activities to do are inflatable laser tag, a mobile gaming trailer, and you get to make your very own fall wreath.

I feel there are a lot of activities that can appeal to many people with different interests. I normally am not one to use any of the inflatables but for this next takeover, I am looking forward to the inflatable laser tag the most. Hope to see you there!



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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 the stories they write, photographers are credited on photos.

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Letters to the editor are encouraged. Letters should be concise, 300 words or less, and preferably emailed. The author's name, phone and address must be included. The name is addressed with the letter. Longer commentary, in the form of guest columns, is also encouraged. Besides the name, a photograph of the author is published with guest columns.

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 the Times office in the lower level of the Busse Library.

The Times sells advertising space.

Advertisers are responsible for their own content, but the Times reserves the right to refuse an ad at its sole discretion.

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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Brianna Ostwinkle/Times

Associate Professor Kristopher Keuseman spoke about rationing, consumption, and sustainability. Kuseman, below right, spoke to about 40 people Sept. 19 as part of the Fall Faculty Series.



## Food Rationing of World War II Remains Relevant in 2019

By Brianna Ostwinkle  
Web Editor

On Sept. 19, Dr. Kristopher Keuseman, associate professor of chemistry, spoke on how food rationing was essential to survive during World War II.

Keuseman talked about how rationing connects to today saying, “Having the will to look at what we consume and how we live our lives can really support sustainability efforts.”

While food rationing isn't regulated or limited to what we can and can't use today, there are few things that can be learned from that era.

World War II rationing is related to rationing food that began in 1918 due to World War I.

When the first war began, no one expected a long war. As a result, coun-

tries didn't do much until a shortage in food began and food prices went up 130 percent. Since food started to get too expensive, the lower class was unable to purchase any, which caused people to riot.

The United States had a slightly different take on food rationing during World War II. The only food rationed was sugar, the rest was voluntary. In order to get more people to participate in the efforts,

they advertised things like “meatless Mondays” and the “clean plate club.”

Rationing began in World War I, and was continued during World War II.

The United Kingdom came up with a new rationing scheme. They had ration books to determine what meals would be made during the eat. The United States came up with their own form of ration books as well. The United Kingdom had to

**“Having the will to look at what we consume and how we live our lives can really support sustainability efforts.”**

Kristopher Keuseman



ration to survive, while the United States rationed to send food across seas.

Because of these rationing efforts, life expectancy increased and death rates decreased. More people were also able

to eat more homegrown fruits and vegetables. These rationing efforts completely transformed the countries' morale, greatly impacting the public's perception of the war.



Ekaterina Rangelova/Times

Sister Kathy Thill delivers her talk on asylum seekers.

## Sister Kathy Thill Addresses the Struggles of Asylum Seekers

By Ekaterina Rangelova  
Editorial Editor

Last Wednesday, Sister Kathy Thill gave us a look into the lives of immigrants and their constant struggles with reality.

Sister Kathy has passion for helping the poor and she loves responding to their needs. She has

established and administrated a center for families with AIDS and HIV in Chicago, supported the underserved through the House of Mercy in Waterloo, and has served as a minister director for the Sisters of Mercy.

Sister Kathy also volunteers in the community health free clinic, Catherine McAuley center, along with the sacred heart convent.

The reason she spoke in Flaherty was to spotlight the issues regarding the border and those trying to get into the United States. She spoke of the Asylum seekers who flee their country because of

the dangers and abuses to seek an asylum for protection.

“They are fleeing extreme poverty, violence, threats of death by beatings, drug cartels, they are fleeing corruption in their home country,” Kathy said.

She joined the Mercy Delegation to El Paso to see, those issues for herself. She revealed the conditions in which

these people lived. The cells where immigrants lived were referred to as freezers because of how cold they were, and they were also very crowded. Two women shared their experiences in the cells with her. Their food consisted of frozen burritos and juice boxes, which were slid into the cells. Women had a hard time feeding their children. Another woman asked a border patrol agent if her children could see their father before they left because he was not being released. He screamed at her that she is unwelcome here. In fact, the cells are so crowded, that a man staying

there shared that he and his friend had to take turns sharing space in a cell with one standing and the other sitting for a while.

Another case Kathy mentioned was that it has been reported that children who are two years of age continue to be separated from their parents. A mother and her baby requested asylum, and the mother presented the baby's birth certificate and other documentation. The agent did not believe that she was the baby's mother and separated them. The birth certificate was validated by lawyers, but it was too late because the mother had been deported and her child remained in the United States. Sister Kathy was shocked to learn that there are 13 detention centers for children with the capacity of holding thousands of children.

“Imagine for a minute, you being in a place you don't know, having no money, no phone, no food, and not being able to communicate,” said Kathy.

“Our name is Mercy our spirit is compassion; these words are deep in my heart as I focused my talk today on the experiences of the asylum speakers,” Sister Kathy said.

## 2010 Novel Resonates with Student Who Also Journeyed to a New Land

Imagine your parents moving you to a different country. Imagine not speaking the country's native language, but still needing to go to school. Imagine having to leave your parents, siblings, and friends only to need to adjust to the new country and environment on your own. This was what happened to the main character of the book “Anna and the French Kiss” by Stephanie Perkins.

Perkins is an American author who was born in South Carolina and has been nominated for many awards. She known for her books “Anna and the French Kiss,” “Lola and the Boy Next Door,” the New York Times bestseller “Isla and the Happily Ever After,” and “There's Someone Inside Your House.” Perkins has stated that she wears a different scent

for each book that she writes and that she wore lychee rose while writing “Anna and the French Kiss.” The story begins when the main character Anna is sent to a boarding school in Paris, France by her father unexpectedly. Before being sent away, Anna was looking forward to stay home with her family and friends in Atlanta.

While she was in France, she had a hard time adjusting to the new environment and also had a hard time with the language barrier, though in school her classmates spoke English. To add to this, she also had a hard time mak-

### Review



Safi Birindwa  
Staff Writer

ing new friends because she did not know anyone there. But eventually, she met a girl named Meredith, who lived next door from her room, who introduced her to her friends. Over time, they all became close friends, but Anna became especially close to a boy named Etienne St. Clair.

Anna developed a crush on Etienne, but he had a girlfriend at the time and Anna had a hard time coping with that. Throughout the school year, Anna was involved in a lot of drama because of her crush on Etienne. She also did not get along with some of her classmates. In the end though, Anna adjusted to the environment and learned new and interesting things about the country, and even eventually grew fond of it.

I liked the book overall. One of the main reasons was I could relate to it. When I first moved to the United States in 2010, I had a hard time adjusting to the country because it was so different from the country I came from, Kenya. Even though it took time to adjust to the country, I adjusted to it and found its unique beauty.

This was the same for the main character, Anna. Though she was new to the environment, she tried her best to adjust to it. The other reason was because the story contained life lessons that anyone could use. Another reason why I enjoyed it is because it contained different aspects in the book that I look for when searching for a new book to read, like romance, drama, and humor. I would definitely recommend this book to everyone because it is easy to read, it keeps you intrigued, and it contains interesting characters

**I liked the book overall.**

**... I could relate to it.**

**When I first moved to the United States in 2010, I had a hard time adjusting to the country because it was so different**

# Mustangs Split

## Mustangs Dominate in Win Over Wesleyan University Tigers

By Dennis McKinney  
Staff Writer

The Mount Mercy Mustangs gained a large lead against the Iowa Wesleyan Tigers during their match at the P.A.C. on Sept. 7 and never looked back.

The Mustangs took a 1-0 lead early in the game at the 13th minute with a goal made by senior Nikola Petrovic. The Mustangs continued with two more goals being scored by senior Kevin Kastl, one his goals being assisted by sophomore Oguzhan Bozkan.

Kastl has been on a tear recently, scoring most of the goals on the team and keeping the hot streak going in this game. "I just want to keep working, keep scoring, and help the team out to win some games," he said.

After the Mustangs dominated the first

half with a 3-0 lead, the Tigers responded with a goal at the 51st minute of the game, making the score 3-1. From there, the Mustangs pulled away to close out the game by scoring six more goals, three of those goals being scored by senior Nolan Armstrong.

This dominating win is something that will help as they head into conference play. "It's good for our confidence that everybody scored some goals," said Kastl.

This game gave them the confidence boost they will need heading into conference.

"We want to get off to a good start and set us up to be confident in the games against ranked opponents," said Kastl.

The next home game will be their homecoming match against Central Methodist University on Sept. 28.

**"We want to get off to a good start and set us up to be confident in the games against ranked opponents."**

Kevin Kastl



Dariyus Wooten/ Times

Mustangs work to pull out a win against Wesleyan Tigers on their Sept. 7 game.

Taylor Petersen/Times

Mount Mercy sophomore Isabel Alvarez makes a play for the ball Sept. 11 against the Coe College Kohawks. Coe College won with a score of 4-2.

## Inter-City Rivals Coe College Defeat Mustangs

By Taylor Petersen  
Sports Editor

The Mount Mercy women's soccer team lost 2-4 against the Coe College Kohawks in a non-conference game on Sept. 11 at the Robert W. Plaster Athletic Complex.

Coe took control in the first half by taking a two goal lead with goals made by freshman, Amanda Hiebert assisted by senior, Morgan Petsche, in the 17th minute, and junior, Sydney Schroder assisted by Hiebert in the 27th minute of the match.

Towards the end of the first half, Mustang senior, Holli Jones connected with senior, Melany Roggow, in the 40th minute, closing the

gap 1-2.

However, Coe's strong offense resulted in two more goals made by Kohawks Katelyn Evans, freshman, assisted by Schroder in the 50th minute and Petsche assisted by Schroder in the 79th minute, giving the Kohawks a comfortable two-goal cushion with a score of 1-4.

Last minute, with time running out, Mustang Carly Walker, senior, assisted by Jones, found the back of the net in the 87th minute, making the final score 2-4.

Overall, the Mustangs took 11 shots with 4 shots on goal during the match, while the Kohawks took 14 shots overall with 8 shots on goal.



Mustang Keagan Ovenshire stated, "We got to work on finding feet and finding passes," in review of the game.

The next home game will be during Alumni Reunion Weekend, Saturday, Sept. 28 at 1 p.m. against Central Methodist University at the Robert W. Plaster Athletic Complex.

**Note:** Staff Writer Dennis McKinney contributed to this article.

Dariyus Wooten/ Times

Mount Mercy Mustang #7 passes the ball away from a Clarke University defender at the Robert W. Plaster Athletics Complex Sept. 17. The Mustangs lost to Clarke 0-3.



## Mustangs Rally from Behind, But End Up Falling Short

By Dennis McKinney  
Staff Writer

The Mustangs welcomed the 7th ranked Grand View Vikings to Hennessey Recreation Center for a highly competitive game that went down to the last set.

On the very first play of the set, the Mustangs' leader in kills on the team, Alyssa Weldon, senior, went down with a knee injury. She was carried off the court and the set continued. The Vikings went on to take control of the first set 17-25, even though the Mustangs tried to call multiple time-outs to stop the run.

Grand View took the momentum in to the second set as they started with the lead and the Mustangs called a time out in

hopes of a distraction to the Vikings. They then began to battle their way back in the set slowly with every play. Sadly, it was not enough to get them the second set.

In the third set the Vikings looked to have the game all but settled, until the Mustangs called a time out to regain their composure. Coach Deb Marlin said, "Once they realized we can continue to battle, they stepped up and continued to fight. That is what the Mustangs needed to get back into the match."

They had seemed to have settled in the game. After starting the

set 4-9 they slowly battled their way back into the set they took it 25-22.

The Mustangs took all of that momentum in to the fourth set as well. They jumped out to an early lead and never looked back in that set.

"There is something to be said about just going out and making plays and they did when they needed to," said Marlin.

They went on to take the fourth set 25-14.

The fifth set was one that went down to the last two plays. Grand View jumped out to a 0-4 lead

before a time out was called. Out of the time out they were able to settle back into the way they were playing as they slowly battled back into the match to take it to 15-15 a team had to win by two in order to take the match.

"We can play with anybody in this conference," said Marlin.

In the end it was Grand View who took the match 15-17. The Mustangs will head into the weekend against another conference opponent in Mid America Nazarene.

"We need to play focused and get stops on defense and make defensive plays," said senior outside hitter, Madelyn Orton.

These things will be key as they head deeper into conference play as the season goes along.

**"There is something to be said about just going out and making plays and they did when they needed to."**

Coach Deb Marlin

### Sports in Short

#### Women's Golf Places 2nd at Clarke Fall Invitational

The Mount Mercy women's golf team competed in the Clarke Fall Invitational hosted by Clarke University at the Eagle Ridge Resort South Course in Galena, Illinois on Saturday, Sept. 14 and Sunday Sept. 15. In two days, the Mustangs placed second with a score of 674 (+98). Mustang senior Valerie Davidson earned

medalist honors after shaving nine strokes off her round-one score, she finished first individually with a score of 161. Fellow Mustang Allyson Wertz, senior, placed in the top 5 finishing fourth with a score of 167. Also, finishing in the top 10 were Mustangs Casey Noble, sophomore, (171/7th), Natalea Cook, sophomore, (175/8th) and Kayla Stammer, senior, (185/10th).

#### Mustangs Place Fourth at the Warrior Challenge

The Mount Mercy men's golf team competed in The Warrior Challenge hosted by Indian Hills Community College at The Preserve on Rathbun Lake in Moravia, Iowa on Monday, Sept. 16 and Tuesday, Sept. 17. The six teams who participated in the tournament played 36 holes in two days. The

Mustangs finished in fourth place with a team score of 872 (+8). Freshman Roger Lianto, and senior Philip Nelson finished in the top 10 individually, both finishing with a score of 214 (-2). Fellow Mustangs Nile Happel, junior, finished 18th with a score of 222, Kaleb Hagge, sophomore, finished 20th with a score of 223, and sophomore, Grant Case placing 29th with a score of 230.

### Upcoming Home Games:

#### Thursday, Sept. 26

JV Women's Volleyball v. Coe College 6 p.m. at Hennessey Recreation Center

#### Saturday, Sept. 28

Women's Soccer v. Central Methodist University 1 p.m. at Plaster Athletic Complex

Men's Soccer v. Central Methodist University 3:30 p.m. at Plaster Athletic Complex

Women's Volleyball v. Peru State College 2 p.m. at Hennessey Recreation Center

#### Sunday, Sept. 29

Women's Volleyball v. Graceland University 12 p.m. at Hennessey Recreation Center

#### Tuesday, Oct. 1

Women's Volleyball v. Culver-Stockton College 7 p.m. at Hennessey Recreation Center

#### Friday, Oct. 4

JV Women's Volleyball v. William Penn University 5 p.m. at Hennessey Recreation Center

Women's Volleyball v. William Penn University 7 p.m. at Hennessey Recreation Center

#### Saturday, Oct. 5

JV Women's Volleyball v. Clarke University 12 p.m. at Hennessey Rec. Center

Women's Volleyball v. Clarke University 2 p.m. at Hennessey Recreation Center

#### Sunday, Oct. 6

JV Men's Soccer v. Kirkwood C.C.. 3 p.m. at Plaster Athletic Complex



Aaron Golding/Times

Participants who attended the "Beyond the Margins" workshop created "artifacts" that would tell the story of their life.

## Series Takes on Diversity and International Conversations

By Aaron Golding  
Business Manager

Everyone is welcome to join the Diversity and International Student Success Department conversations as Director Keesha Burke-Henderson leads this series. Burke-Henderson introduced her series called, "Beyond the Margins" on Thursday, Sept. 12.

She said, "it will contain a series of workshops that will explore social justice and activism."

She continued, "this series is mainly meant to focus on the intersectional, creativity, and social justice side of a person." It is intended to push people to the margins of their minds and will test creativity and power within the world. Burke-Henderson also said that, "creativity is the

way of life in which it will make you explore every part of your brain."

The first speaker was Sharon Lee De La Cruz, a well-known artist and sculptor from New York City.

Lee De La Cruz titled her workshop "How to Build a Universe." She wanted people that attended her workshop to "investigate the future within

their minds." Audience members used their imaginations to create an "artifact" that would speak to the universe in the story she created.

The workshop was very interactive and brought people together with different backgrounds. When the audience members were broken into groups, they had to create artifacts that would explain their

stories. This part of the workshop was interesting because it let people see other peoples' imaginations and how they would solve problems.

The Diversity series lectures will continue with other speakers: Donney Rose on Oct. 3 at 9:30 a.m. in Betty Cherry and Dr. Ndirangu Wachanga on Nov. 14 from 3-7 p.m. in the Chapel.

## Poli-Sci Student Gets a Taste of Her Lifelong Career Dream

By Barry Doe  
Staff Writer

Maggie Peterson is a senior, majoring in political science and psychology. She just had the internship of her dreams this past summer.

Peterson had the chance to campaign and intern for presidential candidate Beto O'Rourke by being a part of a group that reached out to potential voters, and get campaign details to the people.

"It was a once in a lifetime opportunity," said Peterson.

Her first memory of being interested in politics was when Barack Obama won the 2008 presidential election. Peterson became very interested in the 2018 senate election when Beto O'Rourke decided to run. Although he didn't win, she felt that the things he believed in would really make an impact on her life.

"I was amazed at how he was this nobody from the house of representatives that was running up against one of the biggest names in Texas politics."

Politics was not Peterson's first choice for a career path. Initially she was a biology and chemistry double major, but she changed



Maggie Peterson/Contributed

Maggie Peterson (above) worked for Beto O'Rourke this summer. O'Rourke and Peterson (right) pose.

her mind weeks before her freshman year. Peterson chose political science because of her past experiences. She loved her high school American government class even though it challenged her and a political science class at Mount Mercy motivated her to pursue the major. Maggie Peterson is

from Wapello, Iowa, a small town of about two thousand people in the southeastern part of Iowa. Peterson is set to graduate in just three years of attendance at Mount Mercy. She left high school with almost two years of college credits.

Aside from politics, Peterson loves music. She is in the choir and band on campus. With the little free-time she has, she likes to hang out with her friends and watch Netflix.



## Heard on The Hill

By Matt Mumm

What people are saying on topics of interest

What's one study habit that works for you and where do you study on campus?



**Graham Brinkmeyer**, freshmen, sports management major.

"Group studying and using flash cards, I like to study in my dorm room."



**Max Rieger**, senior, psychology, business and human resources management major.

"When I am at work and in the library, I go through class handouts and I pay attention in class."



**Abbie Barr**, freshman, elementary education major.

"I like to study in the area ministry lounge of the chapel, rereading my notes repetitively."



**Trinity Schnor**, freshman, elementary education major.

"I like to study in the UC and rewrite my notes before a test."



**Orlando Clark**, senior, English major.

"I like to study after taking a power nap and having something to snack on."



**Abby Kinnaird**, junior, elementary education major.

"I study in Hennessey or in the library. What helps me study is color coordinating my notes."



**Jacob Perks**, junior, criminal justice major.

"I like to study in the library and having all of my things organized and turning off my cell phone."