Red Cedar Log



ASSOCIATED STUDENTS OF

ASMSU

MICHIGAN STATE UNIVERSITY

12
FALL

116
WINTER

210
SPRING

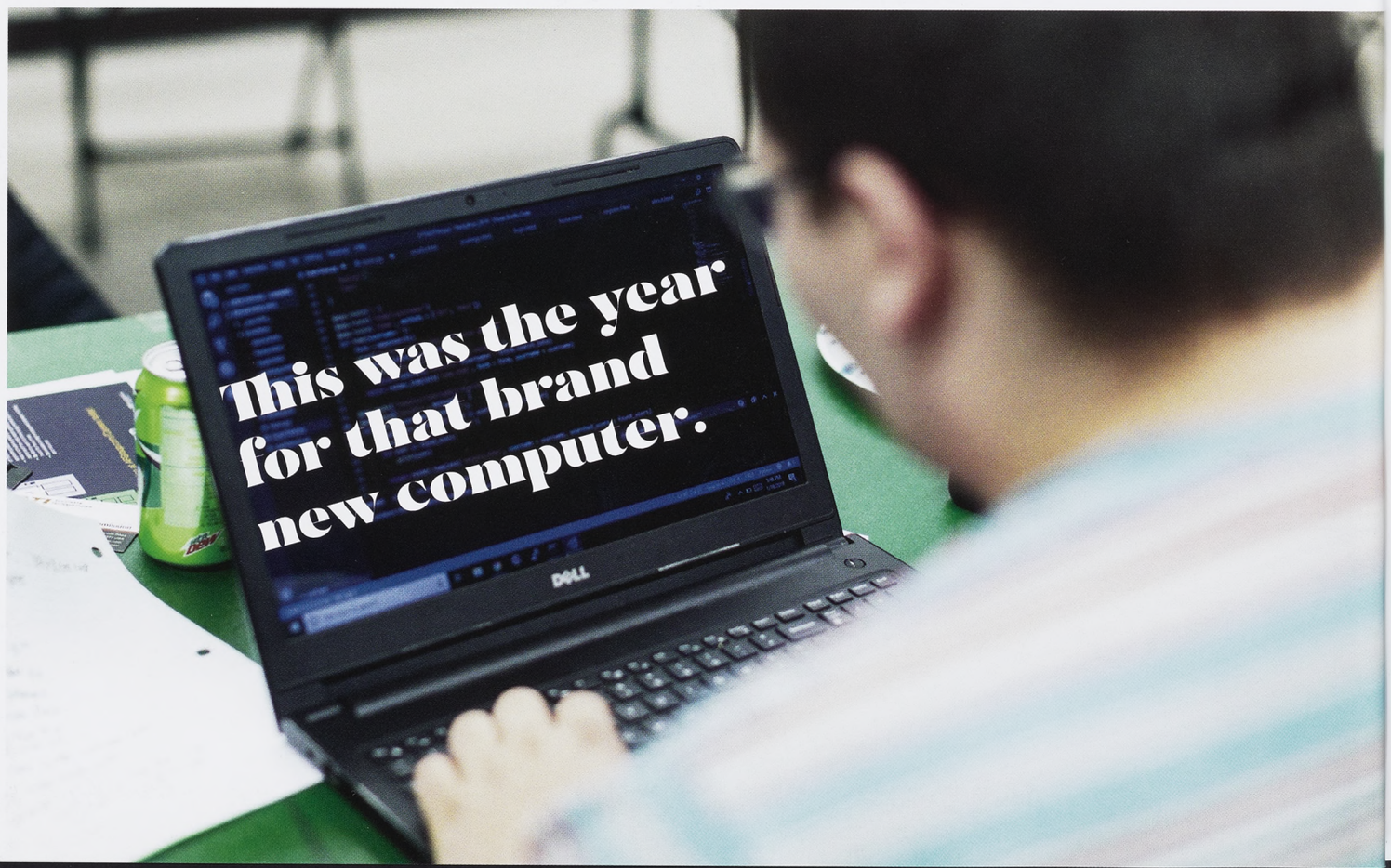
296
SENIORS

MICHIGAN STATE UNIVERSITY

VOLUME: 130
ENROLLMENT: 47,701
EAST LANSING, MI 48825

This was the year





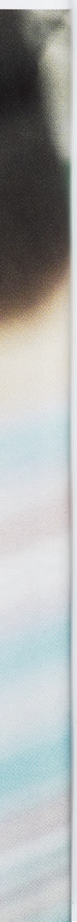




This was the year
it paid to play
video games.

This was the year after
#reclaim.





This was the year to join a new club.





This was the year you stood up.





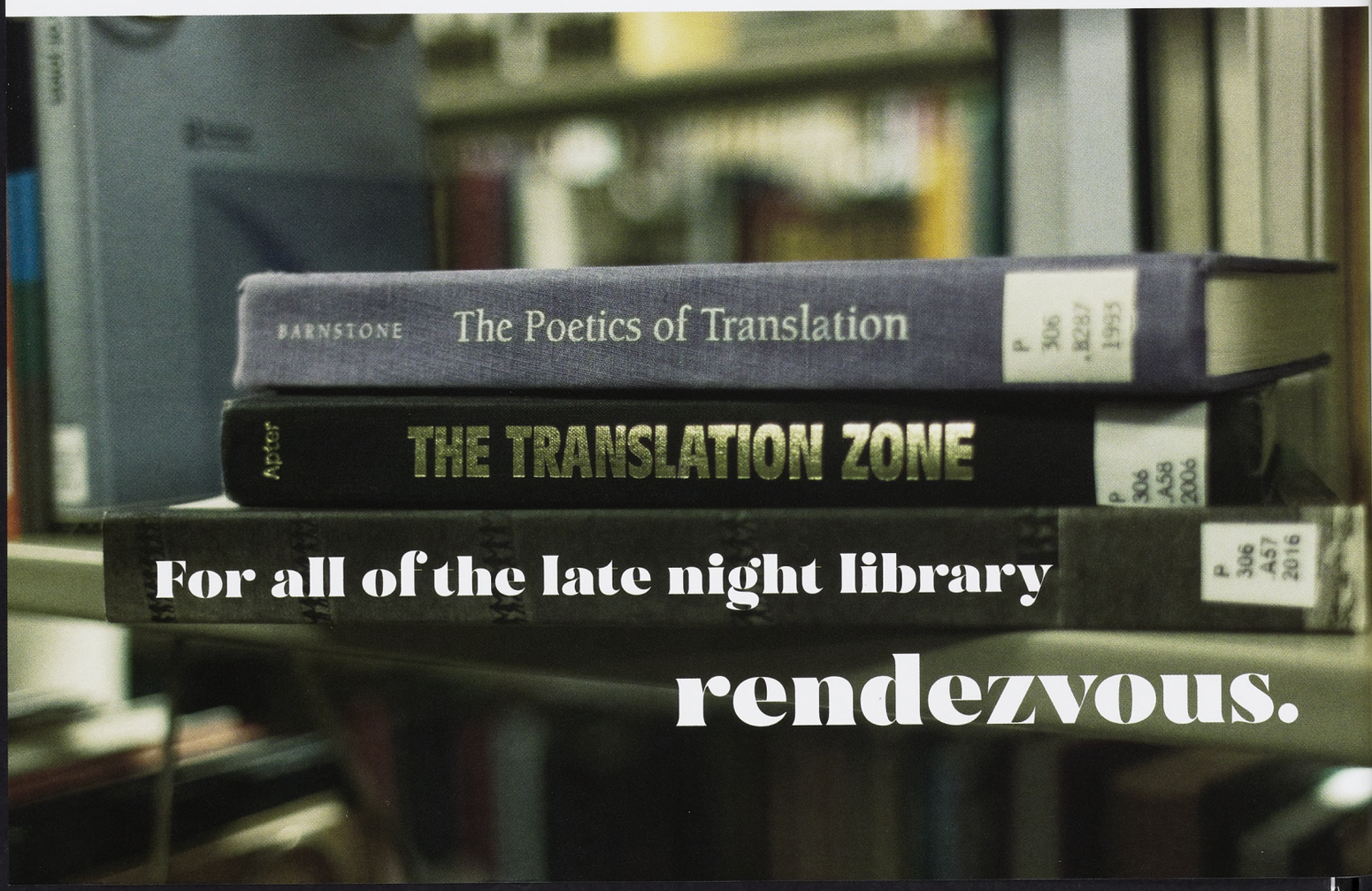
This was the year for survivors.



This was the year we aimed higher.




For all of the latte, mocha and frappuccino recipes you accrued.


BARNSTONE
The Poetics of Translation
THE TRANSLATION ZONE
Apter
For all of the late night library
rendezvous.

This was the year you stuck out.





This was the year you got through.


A year of applications,
aspirations and admiration.
This was the year you
graduated.


Go Green,
Go White.
Go MSU.

A Letter from the ASMSU President

Every Spartan has a story. It is unique from the moment they arrive at Michigan State University but marked by similar experiences from thereafter. We all had our different reasons for choosing MSU, yet we did not choose how this place was going to change us or how we would come to define our Spartan identity.

When I left my Greek family and journeyed to the United States, I knew I was coming to get an education, but was unaware of how it would change my world view forever. I had a peculiar interaction when I told my grandfather, who was born and raised less than an hour away from Sparta, Greece, that I was going to become a Spartan. His immediate response was "Well, yes, we are all from the Peloponnese!" It took some explaining, but he was soon shedding a tear. He left Greece and headed to Brazil after the second World War in search for a better future, and now his eldest granddaughter was getting ready to pursue her bachelor's degree abroad.

To this day, I will never forget my mom's startled face as we drove from the Detroit airport to East Lansing through miles of corn fields, convinced that she had made a mistake by letting her child go to college across the world. A couple of months later both of my parents visited. By then, I had joined many student clubs and was helping the Brazilian student organization, Brazuca, with its professional development conference. During that visit, my mom took a picture of my dad and I at the Spartan Statue. He turned to me and said, "Thank you for doing justice to our sacrifices." That moment is immortalized in a picture, marking my first sense of belonging at Michigan State.

I soon adopted the "Spartans Will" mentality. I embraced every opportunity with a smile and was eager to succeed. This resulted in numerous academic and professional experiences, which allowed me to see different functions of our campus community. My first job was as a referee for Intramural and Recreational Sports. I then worked as an usher at the Wharton Center for Performing Arts, where Broadway shows helped my imagination fly. The Spartan attitude of working for the common good with uncommon will pushed me to present a group research project at UURAF, serve as the student representative to the City of East Lansing, run for leadership positions within the student government ASMSU and work as a teaching assistant for the notorious MC 201.

I came to MSU because of the James Madison College for public affairs, a tight-knit community at a large Big Ten institution. Soon, the third floor of Case Hall became another home to me, with people eager to help and challenge me, prompting me to discover new passions. It is clear to me that our professors care about students and are committed to our wellbeing. I extend my deepest gratitude to the faculty, staff and administrators who have helped me grow — personally and professionally.

Choosing to attend MSU did not simply mean coming to East Lansing, Michigan, for this university took me places I never thought of traveling to, really cultivating the idea that the Spartan nation extends across the country and beyond. MSU took me to Ohio, Texas, Indiana, Washington, D.C., Minnesota, California, Cuba, Israel and even Greece for a study abroad to my home country. The stories of random Spartan encounters hold true — no matter where I went, a loud and proud "Go Green!" could be often heard nearby. Spartans are everywhere because being a global citizen is part of who we are, and while we may not know each other, we are proudly bound by this common identity.

Resilience and humility define us as Spartans. I discovered this during my closing years at MSU. While overcoming personal struggles, I found myself surrounded by incredible people who would not let me give up. They gave me strength as I pushed through to graduation day. I could not be more thankful for my sister, brother, boyfriend, family, friends and student government members, who supported me through my tenure as Student Body President.

These adventures and experiences, downfalls and successes, are responsible for my path in finding my Spartan identity. To my fellow graduating class of 2019, I encourage you to hold onto to your Spartan story — remember why you chose to come here and what makes you a part of this Spartan nation — as you join the over 500,000 Michigan State alumni. To current and future students, this community cannot wait to have an impact on you, and you must also look for ways in which you can help shape this community.

I do not know where life will take you next, but wherever you go ... Go Green!



Katherine Rifiotis
Student Body President, 2018-2019
Associated Students of Michigan State University
Class of 2019







FALL

More Than Ice Cream
BatBusters
All Aboard!
My T1D Hero
Creating a Community
This One's On Me
Fresh Faces and New Energy
Going to the Polls
Support of the Furry Persuasion
First Year. First Competition. First Place.
Spartans Illuminate Unwavering Courage
Terminating the Taboo
Grins and a Good Time
Go Inclusive!
Season of Promise
College of Arts and Letters
A Service for Everyone
An Environmental Echo
The Rules of the Game
Stretching it Out
More Than Their Sexuality
Inspiring Hope
College of Engineering
One Progression at a Time
Preserving a Campus Icon
Behind the Screens
Terrific Taxa (species)
College of Agriculture and Natural Resources
Leading By Example
An Affinity for Exploration
College of Nursing
Apparitions and Archeology
Defining a Generation
Theatre Students Go Bump in the Night
College of Busing
Triv at the Riv
Talking with a Younger Self
Got Veggies?
Creativity and Passion Collide
History of MSU Logo
Race you There
College of Music
Another Spartan Served



More Than Ice Cream

A peek behind the MSU Dairy Store counter

The MSU Dairy Store is a treasured establishment on campus, loved by students and locals alike. The moment visitors open the Dairy Store double doors, they are captivated by the aromas of the various sweets behind the counter. Smiles and warm greetings are exchanged by the pleasant employees who are hard at work scooping mounds of ice cream into mouth watering waffle cones. Any time is a good time for ice cream at the Dairy Store, and employees are ready to serve up the sugary goodness as soon as the doors swing open.

While the Dairy Store was known campus-wide for its delicious array of ice cream flavors, most people did not have the inside scoop about what happened behind the scenes. Bailey D'Haene, a junior dietetics major and employee at the Dairy Store, explained the secret behind the famous sweetness.

"It's local, and our cows are pasture-fed," said D'Haene. "It's all made right here, so there's no added hormones or preservatives in it. It's all natural, and we use really good cream that makes it so good."

From specialty ice creams like Buckeye Blitz and Sesquicentennial Swirl, to more common flavors like Cow Tracks and Blueberry Pie, the Dairy Store had a tasty treat for everyone. Cheese was another big seller at the iconic shop, and employees boasted about how tasty the numerous cheeses they created are.

"Chocolate cheese is a big one that people don't know that we have," said D'Haene. "It's like fudge, and it's really good. I had no idea that we made chocolate cheese here before I started working."

Zaven Markarian, an advertising management major, became a Dairy Store employee at the beginning of the 2018-2019 school year. He heard nothing but positive remarks from those serving up ice cream and slicing up cheese, so he decided to try his hand at scooping.

"I applied to be a part of this iconic spot at Michigan State's campus," said Markarian. "I met all of my coworkers ... it just seemed like we knew each other for a while. It's really a great crowd."

> "We put a lot of care into our products, particularly in terms of our high quality ingredients and the student employees who assist in the production process."

Brekelle Wiedenmannott, the MSU Dairy Store manager, has worked at the Dairy Store since May 2015. She began working for the store during her undergraduate years at Michigan State, and after she graduated in 2016, she applied for the manager position.

"We put a lot of care into our products, particularly in terms of our high-quality ingredients and the student employees who assist in the production process," said Wiedenmannott. "We really take our mission — teaching, research, and outreach — to heart in wanting to give our student employees the most exposure possible to ready them for their futures in the dairy industry."

Looking down from the observation deck of the Dairy Store, visitors could see how the ice cream they just gobbled down was created. Large machines whirred and spun, as dairy products were processed in and out. Employees made sure everything that came out of the machines would wow consumers, knowing that visitors from far and wide came to MSU for a bite of their delicious delicacies. An ice cream shop is only as good as its employees, and those who worked at MSU's Dairy Store had fierce pride in the sweetness they served—one scoop at a time.

RIGHT: MSU's Dairy Store features a variety of flavors with handcrafted names such as Dantonio's Double Fake Fudge, Buckeye Blitz and Sesquicentennial Swirl. All of the dairy products sold in the Dairy Store were processed on MSU's campus.

CONTENT: HELEN KORNEFFEL
PHOTO: LOGAN COLES
DESIGN: MEREDITH BIEBER







Bathusters

A mission to illuminate bat misconceptions

It's Sunday night — laundry time. Pulling each garment out of the dryer, one snags against a fluffy crew neck. Upon separating them, a small ball of fuzz is stubbornly sticking to the beloved fabric. Reaching out a hand to remove it, the ball suddenly starts to unfold and curiosity melts into shock as the sweater plunks to the floor. At the sound of a sharp cry, roommates in the house hover at the top of the stairs asking what is wrong. With collapsing lungs, a gasp falls from petrified lips: bat!

The Bat Association of MSU, established as a registered student organization in the spring of 2017, was an organization created to be an all inclusive resource center for bat activities on campus. Bat education was a critical focus of its members due to the high levels of euthanization, or humane killings, required in a college town.

"I think it's interesting that they [bats] are portrayed so negatively," said Leanne Sabo, senior and president of the Bat Association. "There's a lot of benefits that they have ... and a lot of things that people don't know. Did you know, they save the agricultural industry about 4 billion dollars annually? When I was catching bats, it was kind of sad because we weren't taking data on the bats. We have no idea about the population of bats on campus."

Sabo discovered her interest in bats after having the opportunity to catch bats on campus during one of her first summers at MSU. After learning the ropes of bat catching, she became somewhat of an expert. People expected her to show up in a heavy extermination suit, but she strolled up comfortably in a simple t-shirt, prepared to take on the furry mammals. Sabo, along with other members of the Bat Association, made bat catching sound easy.

> "The students who came to my house must have been here about five times. That was cool to me. They were friendly, personable, accommodating, and provided a lot of education. I recommended them to everyone I knew."

"What you do is you put up a trap — and it's kind of a mesh screen with PVC pipe coming out of the house — and then they can leave the PVC pipe and they can't get back in so they leave their habitat," said Peter Fowler, one of the founders of the association. "The idea is that you put up a big bat box nearby and then when they come back they move into the bat box."

Fowler, a fourth year graduate student in veterinary medicine, was always drawn to nature. After ten years of working in wildlife photography, he decided it was his

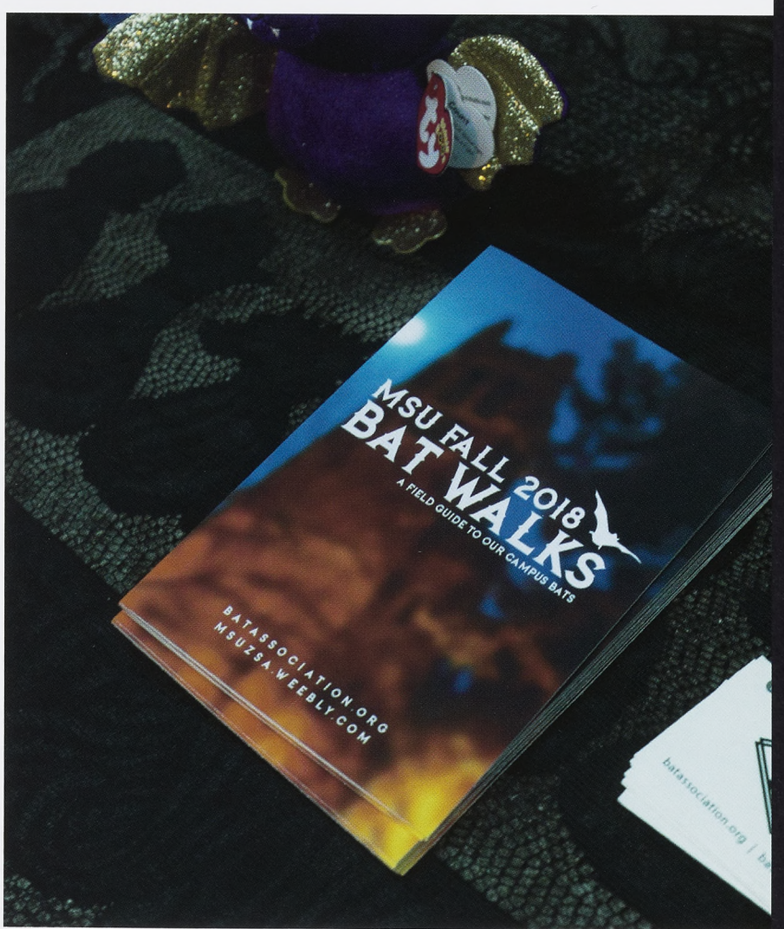
CONTENT: ADAM AUSTAD
PHOTO: LAUREN BATDORFF
DESIGN: MEREDITH BIEBER



turn to step in front of the camera. He started by learning how to craft 'bat boxes' from recycled wood in his garage for local community gardens. The first bat excursion he participated in was prompted by a call from an East Lansing local. The caller found "guano" — bat excrement — in areas inside and outside of her house.

"I originally knew nothing about bats," said Allison Hanks, the local resident who called about the guano. "When Peter knocked on the front door, he said 'do you see this?' and I said 'oh, that's chipmunk poop' and he said 'no, this is guano'. The students who came to my house must have been here about five times. That was cool to me. They were friendly, personable, accommodating, and provided a lot of education. I recommended them to everyone I knew."

With the start of the fall semester, The Bat Association of MSU — in collaboration with the Zoological Students Association — hosted the first "Bat Walk" event during the month of September, seeking to bring the community together in support of bat awareness. At the event, participants could connect bioacoustic devices to their phones and listen to the sounds of nearby bats. Halloween was definitely their night to paint the rock.



TOP LEFT AND BOTTOM RIGHT: A bat box leans up against a speaker and pamphlets sit on the table. The Bat Association gave away prizes to the community members that attended the event. **TOP RIGHT:** Leanne Sabo speaks with Peter Fowler. Fowler and Sabo led community members around campus on a "Bat Walk" event to promote bat awarenes


709
31 VIA VET MED
604
590
590

CONTENT: RYAN HOPPENWORTH
PHOTO: EMILEE NAZARETH
DESIGN: MEREDITH BIEBER

All Aboard!

Spartans Squeeze to Accommodate an Influx of CATA Passengers

As the winter chill descended on MSU's campus, students huddled into one of the many Capital Area Transportation Authority buses that endlessly roamed the East Lansing roads. Students looked for momentary deliverance from the slushy snow that blanketed the state. Suddenly, Spartans everywhere felt a ray of sunshine break through the bleak clouds overhead — CATA was offering free student transportation for all on-campus routes during the 2018-2019 school year. But these sunshine-y feelings did not last long. The bustling, infinite mass of MSU students poured into the very finite supply of buses, and students were feeling the pressure.

Abhinav Krishnaswami, junior human biology major, spoke about his mixed feelings regarding the new system. Krishnaswami thought that making the buses free was a progressive idea, but he also believed that the system might run into some problems when the snow began to fall.

"I think [the idea] is awesome," Krishnaswami said. "... The buses are a great way to get from class to class, and now that they're free, I'll probably use them more often. Come winter ... I think I would rather walk than deal with the flood of people looking for a warm ride."

Agila Abraham, a former Spartan, echoed the feelings of many current students who were skeptical of the transition. While she initially viewed the news as an obvious solution to her past monetary issues with CATA, she then thought about the day-to-day inconveniences that a change like this could bring. She remembered them being stuffed with students when the first frost came.

"Sometimes the buses were unreliable because of the weather, but overall it was a good way to get around campus," Abraham said. "Since it's free now, I don't know if I would be able to ride it because I think it would be too crowded."

Martha Spall, a senior English major, talked about the imperfections she saw in the on-campus bus system. She believed CATA should focus on mending its array of issues before leaping to offering its services for free to the on-campus students. While she relied on the buses for transportation, she loathed the prospect of adding new riders who otherwise would have walked.

"Students are stuffed into busses like sardines," Spall said. "Students with disabilities and injuries don't have the room they need to maneuver. I have limited mobility ... and it's been a drag to have to rely on the CATA system while it's in such a state."

While students with disabilities had significant issues with the bus system, CATA worked tirelessly to assist those riders. It implemented wheelchair lifts on the front entrance of the buses and retractable seats to make room for disabled commuters. It also recently started using a design that ensured that the floor of the vehicle was as low to the ground as possible. In the coming years, CATA hoped to better accommodate the visually and hearing impaired riders with improved visual and auditory features that would become standard on all buses.

"The buses are a great way to get from class to class, and now that they're free, I'll probably use them more often. Come winter ... I think I would rather walk than deal with the flood of people looking for a warm ride."

Printed on the side of each MSU CATA bus is the slogan "Voted #1 in America." While many students would have challenged that statement, during the 2018-2019 school year CATA seemed to gradually improve its practices. Moving more students than ever, CATA earned a reputation of being necessary, but still imperfect. Overpopulation was a problem that would remain for the foreseeable future, but for students brave enough to endure the spatial invasion, it was well worth it.

LEFT: The CATA bus system offers free rides for on-campus routes. Students no longer needed to buy a bus pass and they flocked to take advantage of the free rides.

My T1D Hero

Superheroes give kids with type 1 diabetes a helping hand

Teenagers all tend to have some things in common: growth spurts, hormone changes and acne. However, not all can relate to life with type 1 diabetes. Researcher and advertising and public relations professor, Dr. Bree Holtz, alongside her team of specialists, created a prototype mobile app called My T1D Hero, which helps adolescents with type 1 diabetes transition from parent-management to self-management of their metabolic disease.

"At some point, they will have to start taking care of their disease themselves, and they have to be on it (blood sugar levels testing) all the time," said Holtz. "To help encourage use from the kids, they get points every time they use the app, and those points go toward their little superhero avatar that they really develop."

> "Our mission as a land grant institution is to apply our knowledge and our research and to not just sit in an ivory tower and think."

Being an MSU alumna herself, working with the university gave Holtz's research a boost in opportunities. She was happy to be back, working toward a better future for struggling youth.

"With the support of Michigan State, I've been able to reach out into these communities through the hospitals, and we've really had the ability to get the word out about our project," said Holtz. "Our mission as a land grant institution is to apply our knowledge and our research and to not just sit in an ivory tower and think deep thoughts — we take those deep thoughts and actually help people."

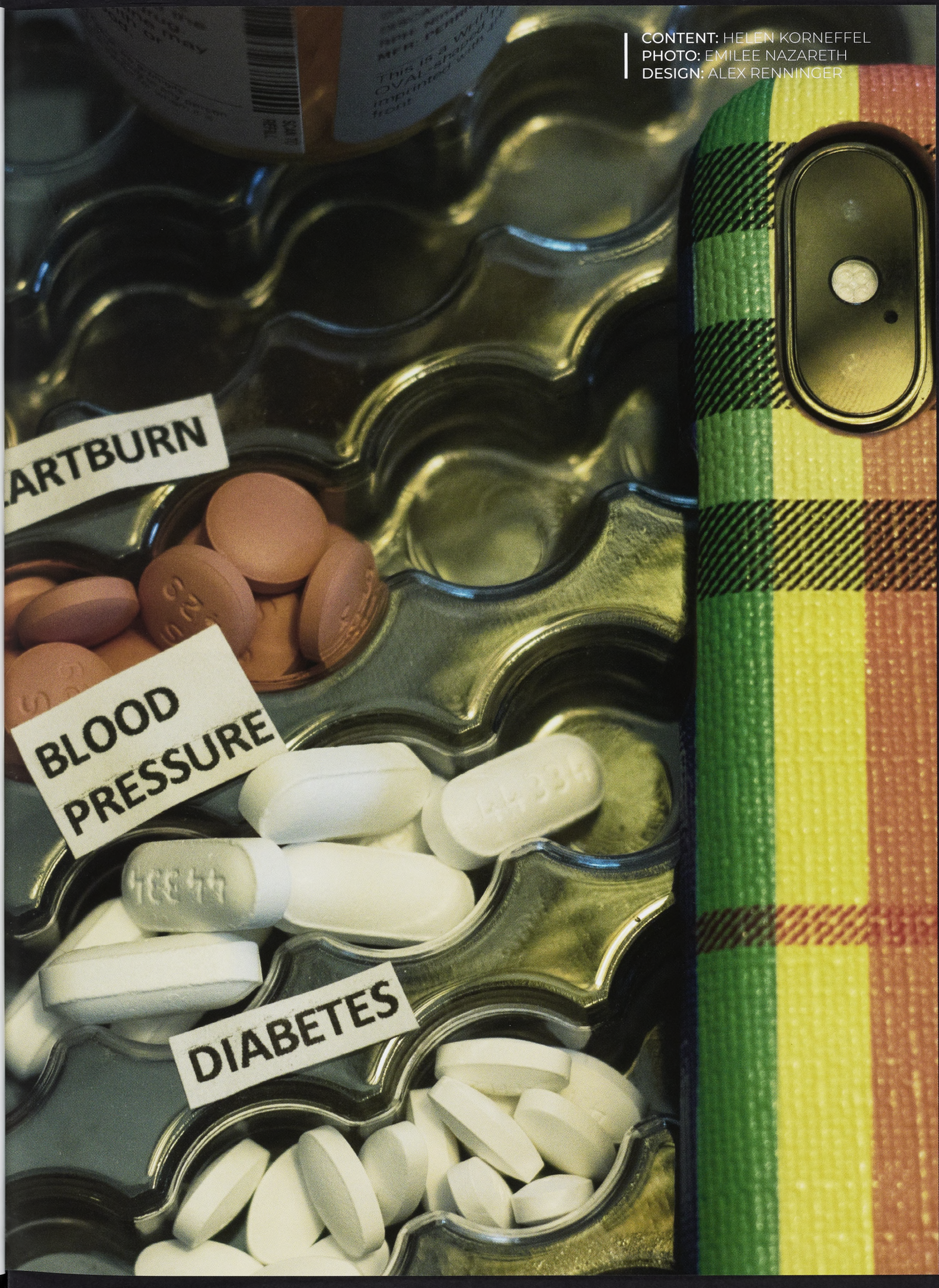
Katharine Murray, outreach specialist of the My T1D Hero team, followed participants through every process of the study. She was able to see the progress of users, and has shared many special moments with families partaking in the program.

"It is very fulfilling because I get to see these people one-on-one from the start, and I get to see them at the end as well and gather feedback on what they've thought about it," said Murray. "The point of the app is coming across very well with the families."

Holtz and her team were working tirelessly to help teens and families through difficult circumstances. My T1D Hero was bridging the gap between dependence and independence, helping kids become their own heroes.

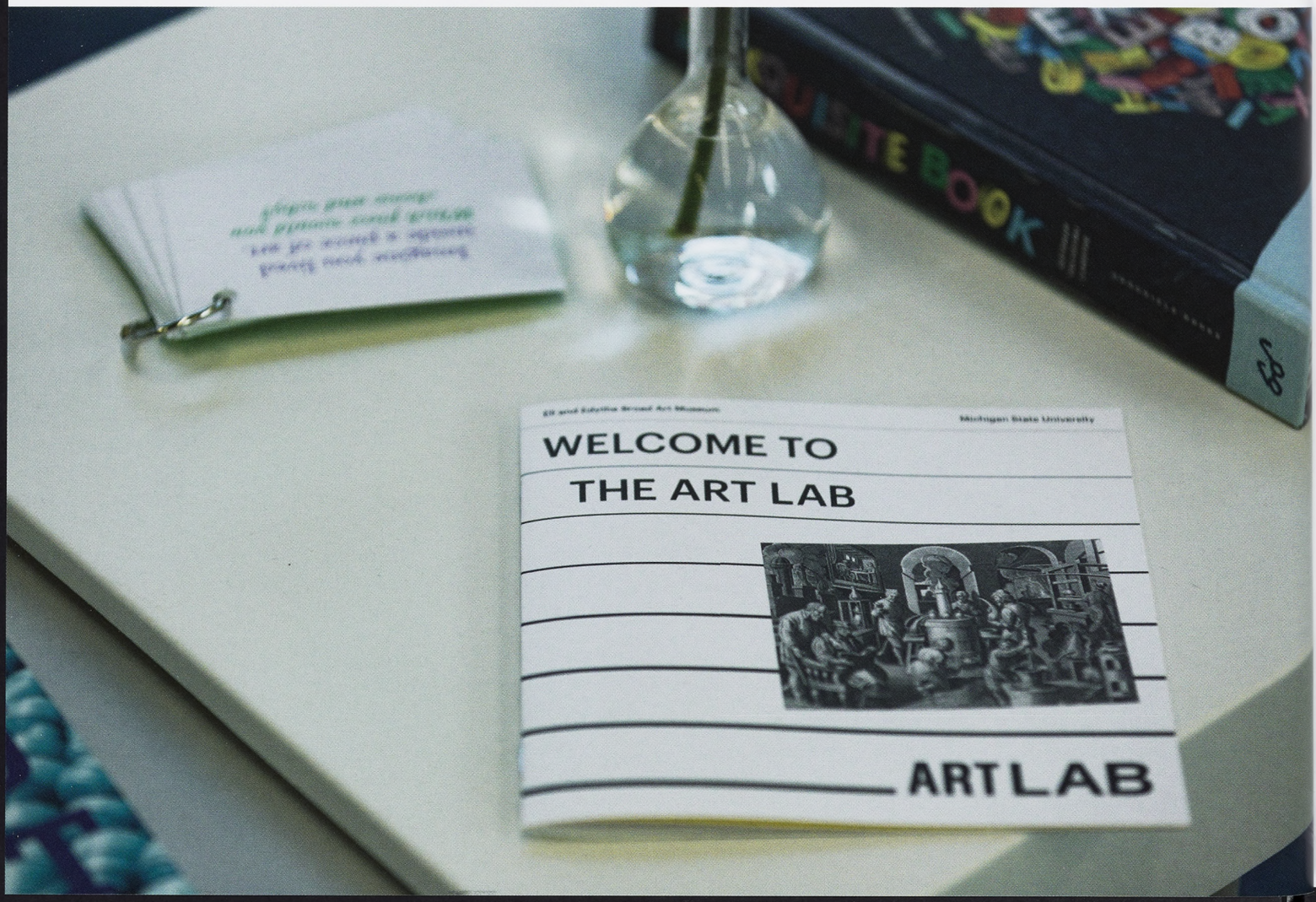
Graham McBride, a junior psychology major, had type 1 diabetes his whole life. He was impressed by the work Holtz and her team had done and recognized the importance of young children taking on their disease independently. "I have had it (type 1 diabetes) for 20 years now, so I've never lived without it, and I did start managing it at a younger age," said McBride. "I actually know a lot of people that have gone to college and have struggled with it, and I honestly think that this idea is one of the best that I've ever seen."

RIGHT: Dr. Bree Holtz and her team at MSU are developing and testing a cell phone application named MyT1D Hero. This development helped adolescents with Type 1 diabetes to transition into self-management.



CONTENT: HELEN KORNEFFEL
PHOTO: EMILEE NAZARETH
DESIGN: ALEX RENNINGER




WELCOME TO
THE ART LAB
ART LAB

CONTENT: AUTUMN MILLER
PHOTO: LAUREN BATDORFF
DESIGN: LILY RISING

Creating a Community

How one off-campus space is bringing together creative communities

Creativity. Collaboration. Community. At the Broad Art Lab, these principles held true. With blueprints for the space in the works since November 2017, it made its launch on Grand River Avenue in May 2018. The vibrant, window-lined space was much more than an average art gallery. Greeting all who entered in funky, clunky serif letters denoting its moniker, this extension of the Eli and Edythe Broad Art Museum craved the expressive partnership between both MSU and the Lansing community. Those who entered the Broad Art Lab were welcome to use the space freely, whether that meant working on calculus homework, finger painting like a child or crafting a masterpiece.

Open to the public Tuesday through Sunday, the Broad Art Lab housed art exhibits and paint-splattered tables with brushes, pencils and art tools for artists to get crafty — or just a creative space to study. The Broad Art Lab's weekly Thursday-night event, Studio In Process, gave those from both MSU and the Greater Lansing Area a space to create for only $8, with profits going toward the Broad Art Lab's funding. The space housed other various workshops and events run by guest artists of all ages and backgrounds.

Employees who worked at the Broad Art Lab also worked at the Broad Art Museum. While the museum sat comfortably on the edge of campus, the Broad Art Lab was just a short walk across the street. Located close to student life yet not being on university property created a dialogue between those who lived on-campus and off. Graduate assistant for the Broad Art Museum, Caroline Delahousaye, mentioned that their Open Call initiative would create conversation between these two communities through bringing in different individuals to showcase their performances, workshops, or series of events.

"We believe that all members of our community have something valuable to share. A creative talent. A personal story. A special skill ... we invite Mitten State creative thinkers to propose ideas, events, and collaborations inspired by their interests, obsessions, and projects in progress," said Delahousaye. "This ongoing series features members of the campus and local community as the Art Lab becomes a laboratory to play with ideas and ask questions.

The Broad Art Lab placed equal emphasis on attracting both MSU students and the local Lansing community. With its bright, open exterior and natural intrigue, passers-by had a hard timing staying away. Senior Azya Moore, studio art major and museum studies minor who worked at the Broad Art Lab, noticed the diversity of people who entered as a result.

"There's a lot of people who come in. We get older and younger adults, and they come in to work on the same thing. It's interesting to see people say, 'I'm not creative' ... create," said Moore.

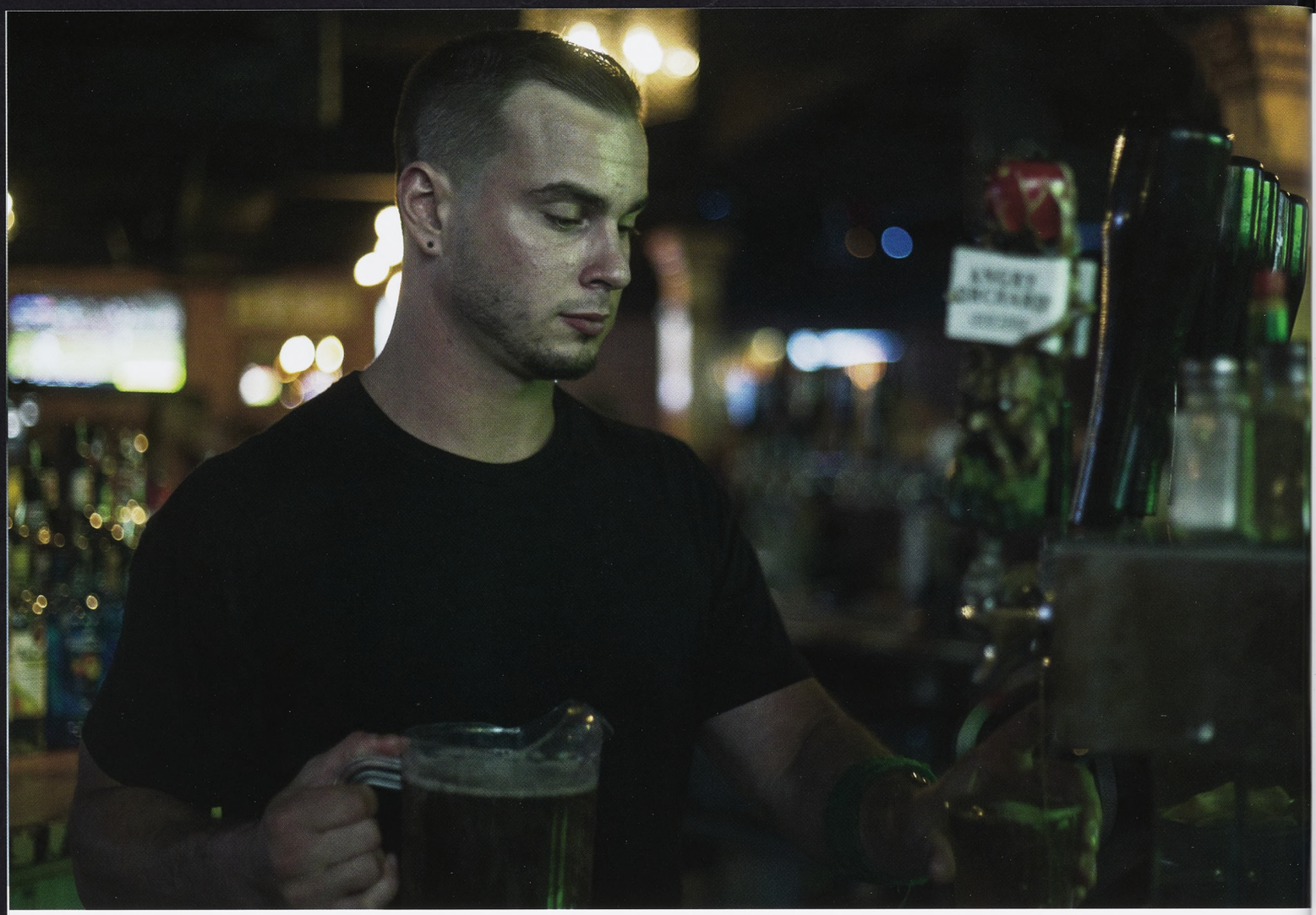
Whether it was a young high school student teaching attendees how to paint the perfect sunflower or a published Lansing author reading her latest novel, the Broad Art Lab put community members at the forefront of its events and workshops.

"We believe that all members of our community have something valuable to share. A creative talent. A personal story. A special skill ... "

"The majority of our personal focus is to get workshops, events and art-making nights where [employees aren't] the people in the front of the room, but other community members and students on campus are," said senior Christian Perry who works at the Broad Art Lab.

Whether individuals came to the Broad Art Lab to complete everyday homework assignments or to explore their inner Vincent Van Gogh, the space created a dialogue among the countless communities rooted within the Capital Area. Encouraging creativity and collaboration between members from all walks of life, the Broad Art Lab knew that unconventional ideas from different sources were needed for innovation to exist.

TOP LEFT: Two students look at slides with specimens. At the Broad Art Lab event, visitors made pins out of microscopic images. **BOTTOM LEFT:** A booklet sits on a table for people to look at. Everything in the Art Lab was centered around visitors and the community.



This One's On Me

Going behind the bar

In the late 1970s, East Lansing and Lansing experienced an explosive emergence of night crowds and activities. Dooley's, a local watering hole, had almost a thousand people out on the weekends. However, in 1996, owner Gary Foltz was forced to sell the bar and restaurant after city citings of brawls, rowdy teenage dance nights and underage drinking. Two decades later, the spot was known as Harper's Restaurant and Brewpub. Some traditions never die.

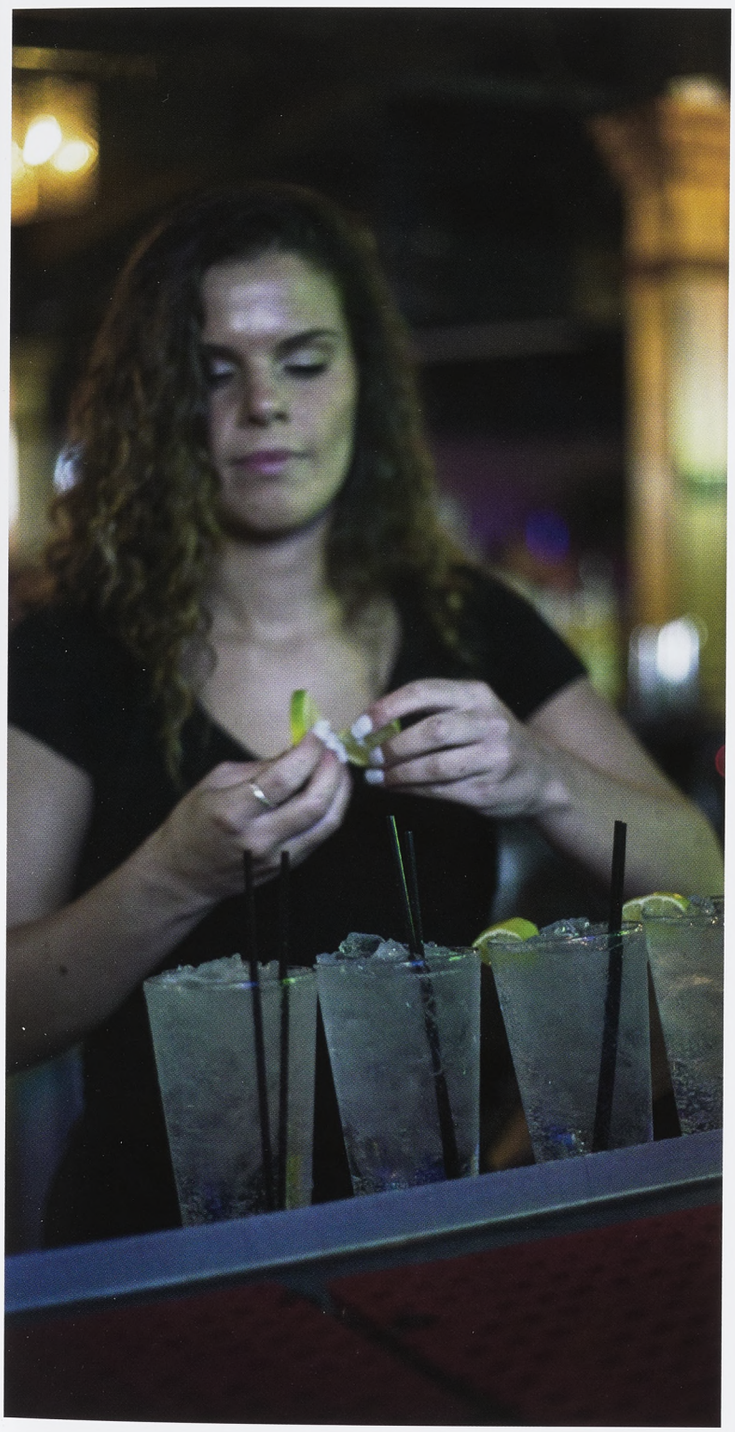
When Dylan Scher, a bartender entering his fifth year working at Harper's first moved to East Lansing, he started out making freaky fast subs at Jimmy John's. Eventually, after all of the raving coming from his friends, he took a bartending class in Livonia, Michigan and applied to Harper's. After some time learning the ropes he was able to assist other hopefuls in their passage from in front of the bar to behind it.

"It's kind of like throwing them into the jungle," said Scher. "It's a little stressful for them the first couple of times. But I'll tell you ... the amount of confidence you gain and the speed [they get] is just outstanding. It's pretty incredible. My buddy—I didn't know him prior to but we have become good friends—had no knowledge. Nothing. And he struggled. Next thing you know, three months later, he's one of the top bartenders. Just crushing it."

Samantha Habermehl, the most senior bartender at Harper's, was just starting her graduate program in medical neurobiology. Between her freshman and sophomore year of her undergraduate degree, she was hanging out with one of her friends, a promoter for Harper's, who told her she needed to apply. Habermehl, a dedicated and passionate steward, taught herself the ropes just by watching the bartenders when she was a hostess.

"It was completely by chance," said Habermehl. "When I got [put behind the bar], it was kind of like second nature because I already had six months in the building. The difference—surprisingly—isn't much in terms of

CONTENT: ADAM AUSTAD
PHOTO: LORA FARAJ
DESIGN: ALEX RENNINGER



energy. I was walking 13 miles a day just in this building, as a server. As a bartender, it's just as much activity but with different movements. I would compare it to working at Starbucks...but doing all the jobs."

"It's a little stressful for them the first couple of times. But I'll tell you ... the amount of confidence you gain and the speed [they get] is just outstanding.."

For Sandra Kue, senior computer engineering student who was just starting her first year as a bartender, it was not easy. In her first couple of days she had to memorize the names of all the drinks on the menu along with the varying liquor and soda combinations. Gleefully, she admitted that her background in computer engineering did not hurt the technical process of crafting the titillating concoctions.

"There's different counts for all the liquors and we have to memorize formulas of like—half ounce of this, a fourth ounce of this, one ounce—depending on how many drinks," said Kue. "So there's a lot of quick math because people want their drinks fast. You want to make them think that you're a good bartender so giving good recommendations, making good drinks—these all contribute to a bigger tip which is bigger pay."

It was noisy but not overbearing. Crowded but relaxed. The place wasn't full yet, but the energy was palpable. High-hats and syncopated rhythms emanated from the elevated dance floor. A constant flux of voices fed the electric ambiance. It felt like anything could happen. Underneath the social activity, a trifecta of savvy mixologists handed out potent refreshments to create the magic of what would be a very good night.

TOP LEFT: Harper's bartender Dylan Scher hustles from customer to customer, serving beer pitchers and handling the register on a busy night. A busy weekday night was nothing but multitasking for bartenders. **TOP RIGHT:** Bartender Lyndsay Pjesky prepares four vodka tonics at the peak of her Wednesday night shift at Harper's. The hustle usually began around midnight when students and locals started rushing in.

Fresh Faces and New Energy

Tenacious freshmen join the women's soccer team

The sounds of laughter and cleats clicking on the pavement filled the cool, autumn air. Women robed in shinguards and athletic tape made their way toward the soccer field. The comforting feeling of being at home enveloped the women's soccer team as they waited for Head Coach Tom Saxton to begin practice.

The 2018 women's soccer team featured 10 new freshmen that brought energy and ambition to the team. According to Coach Saxton, having a young team meant there was always room for improvement. The overall record of the season was five wins, 10 losses and three ties. The team's five wins took place in the non-conference portion of the fall season.

"In August, before school started, they took a very professional approach to the game as young players," said Saxton. "They're really hard workers. They have a lot of talent and they're quick learners. The team this year has a willingness to learn, grow and maintain their confidence. After you lose a few games in a row, it's easy to put your head down, and we haven't seen that at all."

Camryn Evans, one of the star freshmen forwards on the team, was nominated to the Big Ten All-Freshman Team by the Big Ten Conference. Evans was awarded the prestigious accolade after the league's coaches witnessed her hard work and determination on and off the field. Evans started 17 games and scored seven goals during the season. In her first year on the team, it was an easy transition to college as the friendships between herself and her teammates quickly blossomed.

"Going into games, something I always think about is that we need to play for the team and for each other," said Evans. "It was really nice to come to the team and have nine new best friends. Because so many of us freshmen contribute to the team, it's really amazing to have our class be a part of something."

Other players on the MSU women's soccer team, such as junior Reilley Ott, recognized that the team did not accomplish all their goals in the 2018 season. Ott knew, however, that they would return next year with tenacity and talent. She believed in her fellow teammates, and was especially proud of the freshmen for bringing a revitalized spirit to the team.

"We had a really fantastic group of freshmen coming in this year," said Ott. "Across the whole board, the freshmen have really lifted us up. We've definitely shown improvement after having them on the team. Sometimes it takes a year or so for players to find their way in, but thankfully, the freshmen really found their way as soon as the season started."

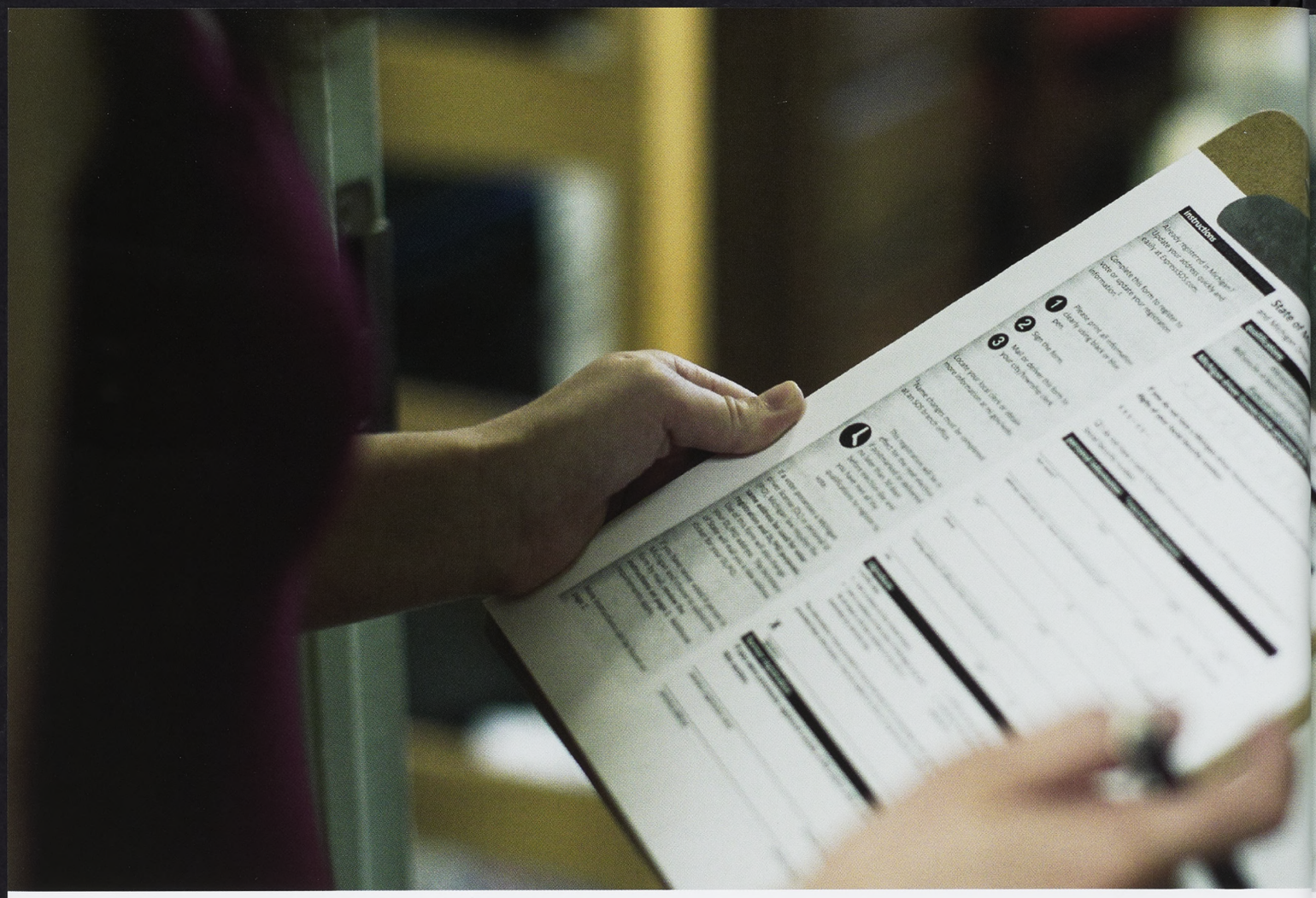
"Because so many of us freshmen contribute to the team, it's really amazing to have our class be a part of something."

The freshmen class brought new perspective, talent and dominating expertise to the 2018 women's soccer team. Despite the challenging season they had, the team was ready to lace up their cleats and prepare for next season. Perhaps new faces would join the team in the 2019 season to add even more perspective to the sport.

Freshman Camryn Evans beats Ohio State to the ball for a final kick to the goal. MSU had a tough loss against Ohio State, 0-1.



CONTENT: HELEN KORNEFFEL
PHOTO: EMILEE NAZARETH
DESIGN: ALEX RENNINGER



Going to the Polls

Volunteers help Spartans register to vote

Every fall, MSU's campus was flooded with volunteers from trade unions, student groups and political clubs with the singular goal of getting students registered to vote. Due to the state of Michigan's restrictive voting laws, university students struggled to find time in their busy schedules for a drive back to their home districts to vote. This rule was precisely why volunteers, such as students at the Associated Students of Michigan State University, were vital to the success of Michigan's democracy. Regardless of political affiliation or ideology, these clipboard wielding volunteers worked tirelessly to register every eligible student.

Eli Pales, a senior pre-law major, sat at a desk with his clipboard ready to pounce. As hundreds of students filed past Eli's booth, not giving it a glance, he stayed determined. The Associated Students of Michigan State University voter registration department had one succinct objective. The members of the groups were to venture out into campus, talk to students and get them registered for the upcoming elections.

"Because of Michigan voter laws, if it's your first time voting, you have to vote in person," Pales said. "Because of that we are focusing on getting students registered to vote in East Lansing. A lot of what we're doing is going through the dorms and knocking on doors to get them registered ... we're at a lot of events and registering the students that come through."

> "I think that when you become a Spartan you are engaging for four years in a community and investing in that community through your taxes ... "



CONTENT: RYAN HOPPENWORTH
PHOTO: KAITLIN GRANT
DESIGN: TAYLOR PHILLIPS



Following the highly polarizing 2016 presidential election, students from across the political spectrum vowed to participate in voting opportunities. Politics was no longer a beast that could be ignored. Kumaran Arivoli, a senior neuroscience major, recognized his civic duty and joined the Associated Students of Michigan State University voting board with the desire to make a difference.

"... everyone's lives are connected to politics in general." Arivoli said. "I want to be a doctor, but now the healthcare industry is more and more intertwined with politics. So, I think it's necessary to know what is going on."

As important as it is to vote in national elections, many people believe that all the real change happens at a local level. Justin Baldwin, a senior political science major, aspired to give Spartans a voice at city hall. Baldwin was the community liaison of this department and worked tirelessly to reach out to students and produce change.

"[The community liaison] is the link, a bridge and a lobbyist on behalf of the students in terms of the city of East Lansing," Baldwin said. "I think that when you become a Spartan you are engaging for four years in a community and investing in that community through your taxes ... it only makes sense that if you are going to participate in this community you should have a say in who represents you and policies that might affect you."

On the first Tuesday in November, Spartans will go to their local polling location to cast their ballot. As always, the decisions made will have a major impact on Americans' daily life. Student volunteers were determined to be a guide in this process. Students from all backgrounds and political leanings came together to make sure their fellow Spartans were informed and ready to participate. Their devotion to civic duty exemplified the best the MSU community had to offer, and why Spartans have always been a positive force in their communities and in their country.

TOP LEFT: A student fills out a form to register to vote. The number of students registered on MSU's campus in 2018 were higher than ever. **RIGHT:** Eli Pales knocks on students' doors to register them to vote. Pales along with students from the voter registration department of the Associated Students of Michigan State University worked for months to register freshmen to vote.

Support of the Furry Persuasion

Helping victims one tail wag at a time

Walking into the Sexual Assault Program office at MSU, visitors are immediately greeted by a little black tail wagging rapidly behind the receptionist's desk. A furry head pokes out from behind the corner, and a happy bark echoes through the office. A ball of energy rushes to greet anyone who wanders through the door.

The Sexual Assault Program had only recently employed this new furry friend; her name was Justice, fitting for a sexual assault support dog. The fluffy, black labrador greeted office visitors with happy barks and boundless tail wags. Justice was a puppy when she began her work at the Sexual Assault Program, and her energy was a welcome addition.

"Justice is our main greeter — you will hear her when you walk into the office," said Katelyn Maddock, a therapist for the program. "She's great for grounding. It can be really overwhelming for people to talk about those things, so to have a dog physically be there to kind of tune in is really positive. She is very empathetic as a dog and knows when people need support."

The Sexual Assault Program offered abundant services including crisis intervention, advocacy services, individual therapy and support groups. The idea of having a support dog transpired when Justice's owner and Sexual Assault Program office supervisor, April Dennis, reached out to the Canine Advocacy Program. This program allowed dogs to attend court with children who had been sexually abused, and the Sexual Assault Program aimed to do something similar with adult survivors.

"Justice wasn't able to do stairs in her training at Leader Dogs for the Blind, so they career-changed her," said Dennis. "Our name was on the list for a dog, so we were able to adopt her on April 20, 2018. A person had to assume responsibility for her, and that was me. I became her mom."

Dennis was in charge of Justice's care, including grooming and veterinary visits — expenses that were covered by Southside Animal Hospital and AnnaBelle's Pet Station. In Fall 2018, Justice went viral on a Twitter page called "We Rate Dogs," and as packages for Justice began to pile up, Sexual Assault Program visitors flooded in.

"People started sending packages to her," said Maddock. "We've had probably more than 50 packages with self-care items for clients, like fuzzy socks, facemasks and toothbrushes. There has also been a bunch of dog toys and peanut butter, so she got a ton of new stuff."

MSU graduate student Rebecca Morse was a former Sexual Assault Program intern. Hired in summer 2018 as a student employee to speak at the Academic Orientation Program and participate in the resource fair, Morse expressed her support for the program and why she believed students should come visit the office.

> "She's great for grounding. It can be really overwhelming for people to talk about those things, so to have a dog physically be there to kind of tune in is really positive."

"I just want survivors to know that we are here as a resource for them, in whichever way they need," said Morse. "We work very hard to create diverse groups that can appeal to any student as well as have an amazing, welcoming, non-judgmental staff and ... they can hang out with Justice whenever! Even if they don't have a therapy, advocacy or group appointment, they can come and relax in our survivor lounge, play with Justice or just do homework in a quiet, safe space."

Justice the sexual assault support dog brought joy to MSU students who needed it most. The Sexual Assault Program Office was a brighter place with her there, and the program was able to reach more students with her on their side. Students entered the office with heavy hearts, but left with smiling faces. Justice was a cherished icon on campus, and she was a true Spartan.

RIGHT: Justice spends her days with MSU's Sexual Assault Program, comforting survivors of sexual assault. Before finding her calling at MSU, she spent her time training to be a Leader Dog for the Blind until she was unable to master stairs.



CONTENT: HELEN KORNEFFEL
PHOTO: MATT ZUBIK
DESIGN: ALEX RENNINGER



First Year, First Competition, First Place.

A look at the all-male Bollywood fusion dance group at MSU

Spartan Badmaash. That's pronounced Spartan "bud-mahsh." In Hindi, one of the many Indian languages, it essentially means "clowney" or "rowdy" and refers to the reckless behavior of hooligans — a fitting title. The all-male Bollywood fusion premier dance group at MSU stood in the center of the room and waited for the music. As the first notes emerged, they lifted up what appeared to be portable white fences, and brought them together with a sharp 'clack.'

Spartan Badmaash was founded in the summer of 2017 after a few members from Spartan Zaariya, MSU's first Filmi-Fusion co-ed team, decided it was time to create an all-guys team at MSU. Filmi-Fusion was based on the experimental fusion between electronic music and Bollywood-inspired Indian music. The collegiate dance competition scene was iconic for merging Indian dance styles with western hip-hop influences.

"Some are only Bollywood," said Pramod Kashyap, lead choreographer and junior in supply chain management. "A lot of California teams, they don't do the other styles we do — like Bugarra and south-Indian. They just name it Bollywood. There's like a whole other circuit for Bugarra, and it's like a seven minute bungarra routine. Our circuit just combines all of them into a fusion style."

Desi Dance Network, founded in 2014, aimed to foster a community amongst artists engaging in competitive South Asian dance. Bollywood fusion was used to shed negative stereotypes of eastern music. By centering the performance around a theme and combining elements of eastern and western pop culture, the dances exploded with nuanced forms of body expression.

> "How fast we all got to know each other and how fast we united as a team last year was something that just blew my mind"

"Last year we did The Lion King," said Trishul Kalapuram, a sophomore in neuroscience. "We have dialogues, leads — we had a Simba, Mufasa and Scar — and each song has to be centered around that theme. We had Scar's intro song, which was like a very evil hip-hop beat. If you look at the original song, it's very slowed

CONTENT: ADAM AUSTAD
PHOTO: LAUREN BATDORFF
DESIGN: TAYLOR PHILLIPS

down; very traditional. What the DJ does, he takes the a cappella — normally the voice of the song — puts in some hip-hop beats, his own gimmicks and a couple of lyrics from American songs to make it sound way more interesting."

A major motivation in starting the all-boys team was focused on bringing more students to MSU with a passion for fusion dance culture. In the past, few people associated MSU with dancing, and it became the driving force for the team to change that narrative. Before they even entered the circuit they always had a dream of first year, first competition, first place.

"It's cool to see a bunch of guys working together to reach one goal," said Ashish Tripathi, a senior in physiology and avid member. "How fast we all got to know each other and how fast we united as a team last year was something that just blew my mind."

For underclassmen, it provided mentorship; for upperclassmen, it provided a reason. Practice was dancing and dancing was passion. Many members shared dreams when they were in high school of running on stage holding up the first place trophy — envisioning the moment ever since they were young. Now, that dream was a reality staring back at them in the reflection of the gold trophy, showing them just how far they had come.

TOP LEFT: Thye members of Spartan Badmaash start their practice by running through by running through one of their choreographies. They showed off their in-sync moves and ingenious use of the saap. **BOTTOM:** Pramod Kashyap, one of the group's captains, practices his dance moves. At times the dancers would practice alone in the beginning as some members were still trickling in.















TOP: The MSU Marching Band trumpets play the fight song. **MIDDLE:** A Spartan figure waves and rides on a chariot. **BOTTOM:** The International Student Association carry themselves with pride down Grand River Avenue.

TOP: Homecoming Grand Marshal Ernest Green waves to the crowd. **MIDDLE:** The MSU Marching Band file down Grand River Avenue. **BOTTOM:** The Spartan Tubas march their way down Grand River Avenue alongside the band.

CONTENT: HELEN KORNEFFEL
PHOTO: EMILEE NAZARETH
DESIGN: ALEX RENNINGER

Spartans Illuminate Unwavering Courage

MSU Homecoming took on a new meaning in 2018

Walking down Grand River Avenue, passers-by can see the seemingly endless group of people wearing iconic Spartan green and white. Banners and signs are held high above children's heads. Smiles are flashed, and the famous cheer "Go Green!" is answered by the echo "Go White!" Today is homecoming day, and everyone is ready to enjoy the energy Spartans have when alumni return home. This year, though, homecoming takes on a new meaning. Among the sea of green and white, a strip of teal appears, a symbol of Spartans' unwavering courage.

Ernest Green, a distinguished civil-rights activist, was the grand marshal of the homecoming parade, and his story truly conveyed the 2018 homecoming theme of unwavering courage. Green was one of the Little Rock Nine, a group of African-American students in 1957 who were the first to integrate into an all-white, segregated school in Arkansas. The students were initially denied entry, but Green and his cohorts continued fighting for their right to education. U.S. President Dwight D. Eisenhower sent federal troops to escort the students for their protection. Green graduated in 1958 and was awarded a scholarship to MSU, where he earned his bachelor's and master's degrees in sociology.

> "Seeing all of the survivors stand up and speak out about what happened to them really showed me how strong Spartans can be."

Green believed that he could help change the way African-Americans were treated during a time of racism and prejudice. His activism made the idea of integration possible in schools, and it sparked change in the U.S. This courageous spirit still reigned true in 2018 as survivors of sexual abuse fought for reform in how matters of sexual assault were handled within the university in response to the Larry Nassar scandal. Spartans showed bravery, strength and unwavering courage when they broke their silence and stood up for change.

"Spartans are not Larry Nassar," said Linda Bernhardt, an MSU parent. "We cannot judge the students that go here based on the actions of one man. Michigan State has handled many serious situations in the past, and I truly believe that the university can overcome anything."

The theme of unwavering courage was proudly displayed on the various banners, floats and spectacles featured in the parade. Students, alumni and community members came together in collaboration, discussing how the MSU community can rise above the events that took place in 2018.

"Time heals all wounds," said Anthony Russo, an MSU sophomore. "Many institutions, including Michigan State, really have to invest the time to see where they can improve so situations like what happened last year do not happen again. I definitely think that MSU is developing a new way of handling situations like what happened last year. It's time we said 'enough.'"

Students not yet present on MSU's campus during the scandal stated that their desire to become a Spartan had not been diminished. The long-standing reputation MSU had garnered over the years had not been destroyed, and they knew the future of the university was bright.

"Seeing all of the survivors stand up and speak out about what happened to them really showed me how strong Spartans can be," said Cassie Jones, freshman and pre-medical major. "Ernest Green being the grand marshal this year really shows this year's theme. He definitely showed courage before, during and after his time as a Spartan at MSU."

Spartans young and old displayed a deep sense of Spartan pride in the annual homecoming parade. There was no aggression on this day, no sadness — just courage. MSU students and alumni knew the university was moving on from the events of 2018, and the parade was a symbol of their breaking free from the chains of the past. Spartans are fighters, and survivors showed true, unwavering courage each and every day.

Terminating the Taboo

Breaking the Silence on "That Time of the Month"

Locking herself in the Wells bathroom stall, a woman quickly realizes something — it was that time of the month. Reaching into various nooks and crannies of her purse, she fumbles for a tampon, but comes out empty handed. As a last-ditch effort, she calls out to the girl in the neighboring stall for a tampon. After a few seconds, a hand darts under the stall wall gripping a colorfully wrapped cylinder of cotton relief in its palm. Finally, she is at ease.

This scenario is all too familiar for women across the world. Luckily, the national group, PERIOD, was working to provide hygiene products free of charge to women in need at MSU and in neighboring communities. The local chapter of the movement, PERIOD. @ MSU, was formed in September 2018 by Nama Naseem, junior biosystems engineering major. When Naseem heard about PERIOD, she was immediately interested in the cause and the story of the organization's founder.

"A high school student started PERIOD, and she is now our age," said Naseem. "She was homeless when she was in high school ... she would notice in homeless shelters that women were using rags or paper bags to soak up blood, which was not sanitary in any way. That really motivated her to collect products through her high school, and it became one of the largest youth nonprofits in the world. Now there are chapters all across the U.S. in high schools, college campuses, communities and even more internationally."

> "It is important to educate people who have never menstruated before and tell them how this impacts the daily life of anyone who menstruates."

Naseem and her executive board brought PERIOD to MSU because they recognized the campus-wide need for its services and ideology. Not only did the organization provide free products to women, but it also helped spread information to break the silence and release the stigma surrounding the monthly menace. The organization's three pillars — service, education and advocacy — drive the chapter's initiatives on campus.

"This semester we're focusing more on service, so we're going to run a lot of drives and have packing parties and try to get products out to shelters and to women who need them," said Minhal Ansari, junior computer science major and treasurer of PERIOD. @ MSU. "Female students shouldn't have to feel like they have to miss class just because they're on their period or don't have a period product with them."

PERIOD. @ MSU was working with the Associated Students of Michigan State University and the Residence Halls Association in their pilot program — Emergency Menstrual Hygiene Products. This program was started by the Women's Advisory Committee to the Provost, which advised the Provost at MSU on important issues related to women within the university. As part of the program, all product dispensers in Wells Hall, the Student Services building and the International Center were free of charge. Period.'s role in the initiative was to be the primary supplier of hygiene products.

"It is important to educate people who have never menstruated before and tell them how this impacts the daily life of anyone who menstruates," said Sarah Chaudhry, junior neuroscience major and secretary of PERIOD. @ MSU. "Within the male population, menstruation is definitely a taboo, and we need to make it less of a taboo."

PERIOD. @ MSU was an organization working for the benefit of all students at MSU, men and women alike. They hoped to educate and service those who needed it most, on campus and off. With PERIOD. @ MSU's help, women on MSU's campus will never again be stuck in the Wells bathroom stall, desperately searching for that non-existent tampon in their purse.

RIGHT: PERIOD. @ MSU is an organization that educates the community on menstrual health and advocates for free menstrual products on campus. Donation boxes were placed around campus in order to collect products and donate to those in need.

CONTENT: HELEN KORNEFFEL
PHOTO: KAITLIN GRANT
DESIGN: TAYLOR PHILLIPS



Grins and a Good Time

The founding of the MSU Roundnet Club

It was something in the way they held regard for each other. Something in the way they asked a new-comer to join a game. "Good rally!" someone would shout after the ball went out of play. The room felt massive. Bright lights on the ceiling enveloping everything below. Their shoes catching against the 25/32" thick solid maple on top of a subfloor with resilient rubber pads. Four athletes jumping, bending, serving and swatting. Engaged on the flow of play, carefully timing their hits perfectly before sending the ball hurtling down toward the net.

Normally, the MSU Roundnet Club, in its inaugural year at MSU, would play on turf or grass, but that February evening it was too cold and the turf had already been reserved. They chose the next best thing — a racquetball court. It was fully enclosed and rectangular — 40 feet long, 20 feet wide and 20 feet high with red lines defining the serve reception area. Although for this game, they were not going to need them.

"There's this small net, this small volleyball-type-thing, with four people around it and you're on a team of two," said Karolina Soltys, freshman with a business-preference and newcomer to the club. "It's like volleyball but you only get three hits before you have to spike it into the net for the other team to go. It's like if four-square and volleyball had a baby."

The founder of the sport, Chris Ruder, discovered the game in a Toys R Us in the late 80s. Twenty years later, he thought about repackaging the game for a wider





CONTENT: ADAM AUSTAD
PHOTO: LAUREN BATDORFF
DESIGN: ALEX RENNINGER

audience and acquired the rights. The game itself found considerable popularity with coastal beachgoers but spread to inner-states after being introduced to students vacationing on spring break who could not wait to take it home.

"It's like if four-square and volleyball had a baby."

"I've been playing the game for about three years," said Travis Ambrosio, junior in international studies, "Over spring break, a friend brought it, and they taught me how to do it. I've loved it ever since. It's my favorite game. I like how crazy it is. You're just flying and diving around. Chaotic would be a good word."

The idea to start the club at MSU came from senior finance major Myles Aucamp. While interning in D.C. over the summer and in his hometown in Florida, Aucamp met the president of the Spikeball Club at Virginia Tech and the president of the club in Florida. Each strongly encouraged Aucamp to start a club at MSU to join in the national tournaments. Come Fall, he was ready.

"We just showed up at Sparticipation with a bunch of nets, passed around a sign-up sheet and got about a hundred names," said Aucamp. "We weren't really supposed to be there but we just kind of did it. Honestly, there's a big community behind it. Over the summer in D.C. I didn't know anyone when I moved there and all the sudden I had an instant group of friends."

Spikeball's tagline for the game was "The Next Great American Sport". "Summer Olympics 2024" was a comedic slogan used by casual players of the game. Regardless of its potential at a professional scale, it was something to watch. Students walking past the glass window panes in IM West could not help but stop and tilt their head and wonder what was going on below. Something never saw before and yet, something so familiar. Maybe in five years, it would be an Olympic sport but for the meantime, it was all grins and a good time.

BOTTOM LEFT: A player steps forward and reaches out to catch the ball. This was the inaugural year for the Roundnet Club **TOP:** One of the players slides on the ground to save the ball from hitting the ground. Spikeball is an intense sport that requires quick thinking and fast movement.

Go Inclusive!

Delta Lambda Phi redefines the definition of masculinity

When the word "fraternity" was mentioned, the next thing that came to mind tended to be "brotherhood." However, many fraternities at MSU presented a hypermasculine lens, leaving men who identified as LGBTQ+ out of most Greek communities. Founded by those seeking a safe space of inclusive comradeship, boundless trust and endless nights of binge-watching The Office, MSU's Delta Lambda Phi chapter was born in 2009.

Part of the Multicultural Greek Council, Delta Lambda Phi was the only fraternity on campus founded by gay men, for all men. It did not matter if someone wore a

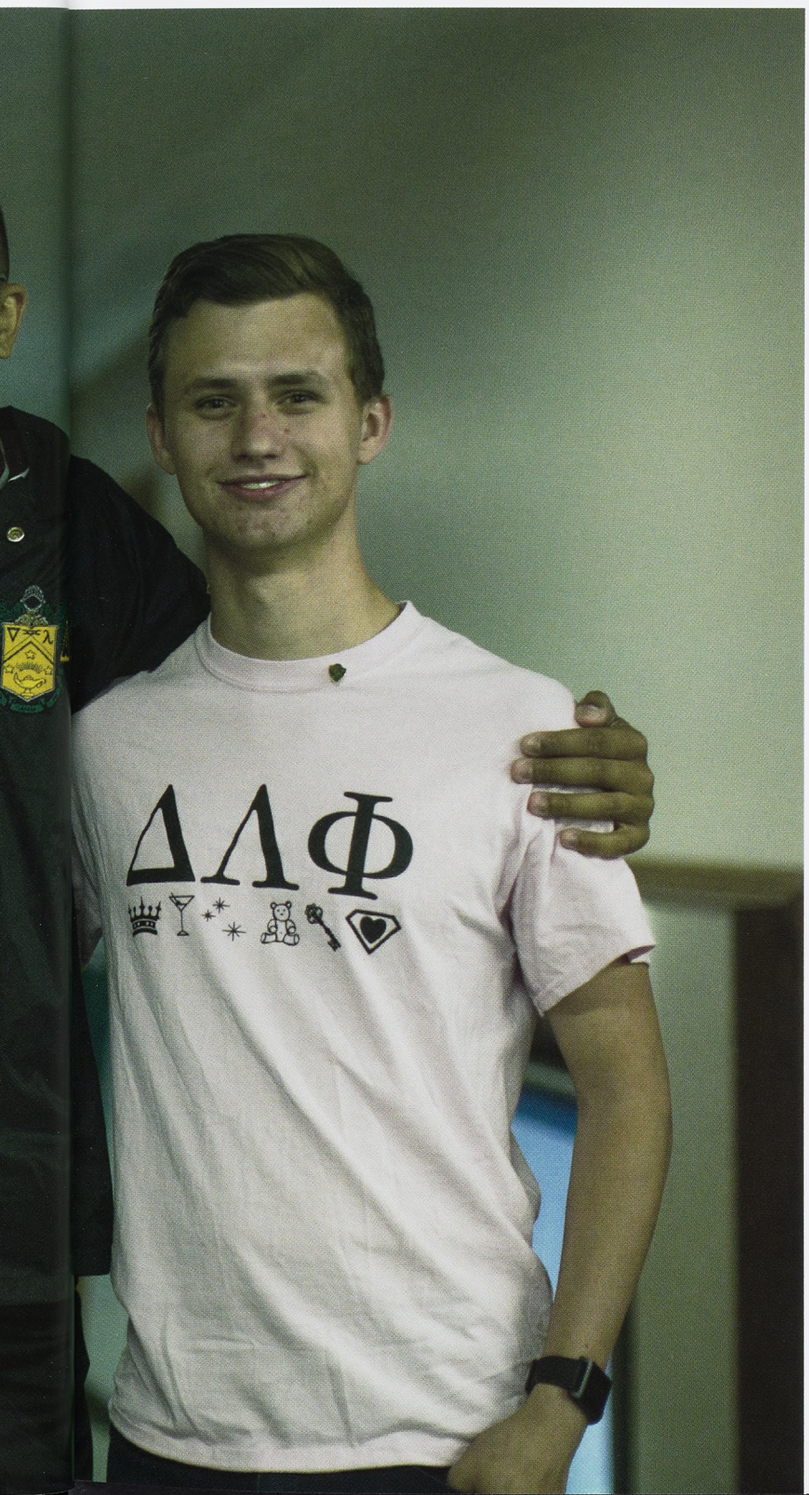


CONTENT: AUTUMN MILLER
PHOTO: KAITLIN GRANT
DESIGN: TAYLOR PHILLIPS

purple dress on Tuesday and khakis on Wednesday, Delta Lambda Phi's mission was to embrace all forms of masculinity.

Sophomore Tristan Devries, junior political science pre-law major and president of the MSU chapter of Delta Lambda Phi, came to campus freshman year hoping to find a home amongst 50,000 students. Exploring different campus organizations in support of the queer community, he came across Delta Lambda Phi and immediately knew this was his place to start fresh.

"I came from a very conservative town where I was the only openly queer kid at my high school, and it was hard to come to terms with that," said Devries. "Finding this organization was promising lifelong brotherhood [and] a safe space to be a queer man ... it was kind of a no-brainer."



While Delta Lambda Phi brothers spent ample time giving back to LGBTQ+ charities like the Trevor Project and the Ruth Ellis Center, they also placed extensive emphasis on what it meant to be a man. Being that campus fraternity culture was associated with binge drinking and rampant partying, Delta Lambda Phi wanted to share how they personally measured masculinity. Brandon Crawford, brother of Delta Lambda Phi and sophomore advertising management major, recognized that manliness did not equate to being tough.

"Being a man to me is owning your truth and owning when you made a mistake ... you make sure you treat everyone with respect because they deserve it," said Crawford. "We're all humans, we all have the same feelings, we all have the same emotions. Typically masculinity is 'don't show that'...at the end of the day, you feel what you feel."

> "Being a man to me is owning your truth and owning when you made a mistake ... you make sure you treat everyone with respect because they deserve it."

Delta Lambda Phi brothers were encouraged to express their individuality. Whether that was by painting their nails or joining an athletic team, it didn't matter as long as they were comfortable with who they were. The fraternity recognized that many men who wanted to join Greek Life felt that they didn't belong because of their sexual identity. Brendan Larose, brother of Delta Lambda Phi and junior packaging major, appreciated this struggle often faced by members of the LGBTQ+ community.

"There are a lot of individuals who will come here with different paths and different life experiences that might not feel like they fit into Greek life because of that reason," said Larose. "They see an organization like this that is predominantly queer, and they know that they do have a home."

It did not matter whether an individual was bisexual, transgender or non-binary — anyone who identified as a man in the slightest was greeted with open arms at Delta Lambda Phi. Instilling the virtue that masculinity was so much greater than just being macho, the brothers of this inclusive fraternity focused on celebrating each other for their differences as opposed to masking what made them unique.

LEFT: Delta Lambda Phi is a fraternity at MSU founded by gay men, for all men. Brothers were encouraged to embrace their individual personalities as well as form their own definition of what it means to be a man.



Senior John Freitag steps over the soccer ball in an attempt to block out the players on Akron's team. The MSU men's soccer team had a tough loss against Akron with a final score of 1-2.



PHOTO: KAITLIN GRANT

Season of Promise

Men's soccer team comes up ahead in 2018 season

On a cold, November evening, the men's soccer team was heading out onto the field. Practicing outside would give the players the opportunity to adjust to the winter conditions they would soon face during their biggest game of the 2018 season to date: MSU versus James Madison University. Both teams were fighting in the Elite Eight tournament for the chance to compete in the College Cup tournament, also known as the Final Four.

Having a home field advantage during the game on Dec. 1, 2018, was a bonus for the Spartans. Playing at the DeMartin Field gave the team two things —drive to succeed and affirmation from the green and white crowd — especially the Red Cedar Rowdies in the student section.

"Playing in front of the Rowdies is great," said senior leading scorer Ryan Sierakowski. "They're super supportive, and they really get rowdy. We know we can compete with anyone and we're ready to do so. I know myself and all the seniors have been through a lot. We've been through adversity, and we're here to help the guys on the team who haven't had the experiences we've had. We're ready to finish the season off strong."

"The energy of the team is the highest it's been all season. We went to the Elite Eight last year, and we lost, so everyone wants to take it one step further. The team knows that we're good enough to beat anyone in the country, and we're ready to prove that."

Before the game, team members and Head Coach Damon Rensing spoke about the excitement for the upcoming home game. If the Spartans won, they would go on to play in the College Cup in Santa Barbara, California, in mid-December 2018.

"We're grateful to be one of eight teams in the country to still be playing," said Coach Rensing. "We feel good and confident going in, but we know we're playing a really talented James Madison team and it's really about how the ball bounces at game time. This is not like any other game because the players know the season could end at any time. I'm very proud of our guys, and I think they will relish this very exciting moment. "

In a hard game with cold and rainy weather, the Spartans came out on top of James Madison with a score of 2-1. The team ended the regular season with an overall record of 14 wins, four ties and four losses. This record was not achieved without the hard work and dedication of the team and coaching staff. With a team of 23 total athletes, 10 of those being seniors, the taste of success was sweet for the men's soccer team.

"I think it's crazy to see how far I've come since freshman year," said senior goalkeeper Jimmy Hague. "It all went too fast. It seems like just yesterday that I started playing at MSU. Being able to play during my senior year in another Elite Eight game is just such an honor. The energy of the team is the highest it's been all season. We went to the Elite Eight last year, and we lost, so everyone wants to take it one step further. The team knows that we're good enough to beat anyone in the country, and we're ready to prove that."

"Victory for MSU" definitely applied to the men's soccer team. Having been to the Elite Eight four times from 2012 to 2018, the men's soccer team was ready for their big win. Moving into the Final Four was an achievement for the 2018 team that will remain in the MSU history books for years to come.

PHOTO: Junior Michael Wetungu jumps for a header. The Spartans held their weight, but ended losing 1-2 against the Akron Zips on October 9, 2018.

CONTENT: HELEN KORNEFFEL
PHOTO: KAITLIN GRANT
DESIGN: ALEX RENNINGER



College of Arts and Letters

ing Magazine gives students the opportunity to create

A fresh and exciting class emerged on campus, one with a creative twist on the tired class structure. ing Magazine, or WRA 480, was a professional writing class that catered to inventive students hoping to branch out and create something original. While the magazine itself had been around since the early 2000s, the professional writing department organized a class around ing in 2016. Students created articles about everything from "Celebrating Freedom: Juneteenth Commemorates the Liberty of All" to "Freshman Girl's Guide to Tailgating Outfits."

Ing was an East Lansing culture and lifestyle magazine. Distributed all across campus, it aimed to entertain and enlighten the community it featured. If community members wanted to find a fun event to attend, hear unique local perspectives on national holidays or discover that a local creative was finding wild success, ing could tell it all.

"When I was taking the class, I always enjoyed the creative freedom that it gave me," Maggie Morgan, a senior professional writing major said. "ing is definitely a unique class because it's a real work setting in the way it approaches deadlines, but it also allows its students to explore their own interests ... not a lot of people know about ing right now, but they should."

Kate Birdsall, the professor leading the class, took over as head of the then-struggling magazine in the fall of 2016. Having forged an expanded online presence and a re-invigorated professional relationship with M3 Group, the magazine's publisher, Birdsall was confident in the future of ing.

"All of our content is written, brainstormed, edited and curated by the team that is in the class," Birdsall said. "We do four issues a semester and I think ing is unique because it's tied to a classroom, so there's a lot of hands-on experience which is really rare in a class."

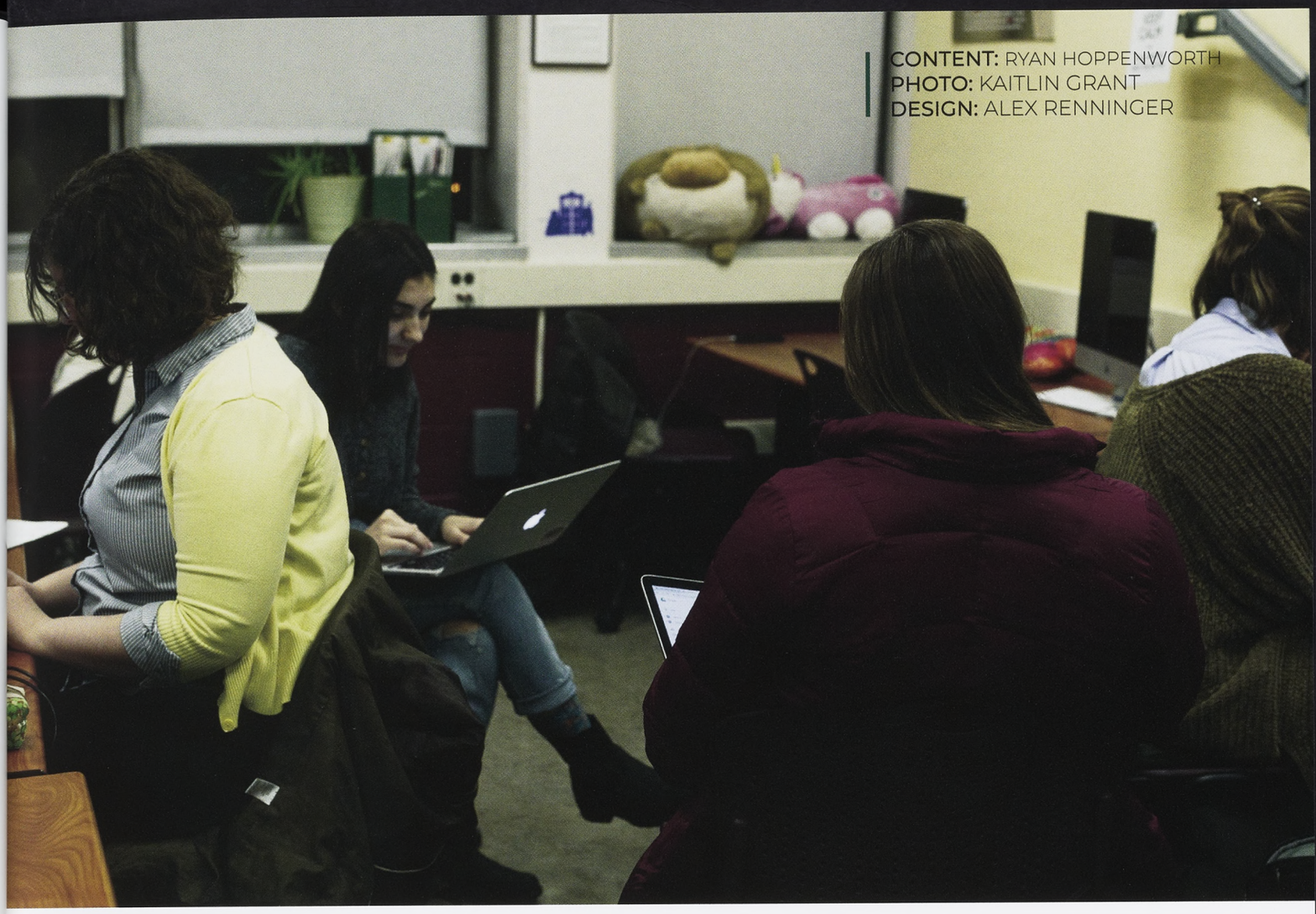
ing was more than just a writing and editing opportunity. Students in the class also ran and produced a blog on their website, managed multiple social media accounts, and gained experience working with publishers. ing offered something far beyond the scope of a typical program at MSU.

"ing is definitely a unique class because it's a real work setting in the way it approaches deadlines, but it also allows its students to explore their own interests... not a lot of people know about ing right now, but they should."

"I think it's also something to think about if you have a busy schedule, need a lot of credits or already have a lot of extracurricular activities," senior professional writing major Allison Bertram said. "Joining ing is a great way to build your portfolio while getting credits at the same time."

By merging a real-life work setting with the learning atmosphere of a classroom, ing Magazine successfully created a place where students broke through the traditional restraints of a lecture hall. Sleepy students were replaced with eager ones, ready to create something of their own.

RIGHT: Students work on ing magazine, an arts and cultural magazine designed to expose students to the publishing world. Students were able to write about the local community while fulfilling their WRA 480 requirement.



CONTENT: RYAN HOPPENWORTH
PHOTO: KAITLIN GRANT
DESIGN: ALEX RENNINGER




WANT A RIDE???
HOP ON IT'S FREE!!


SKOOP
MEDIA CO. | PEDI CAB CO.

CONTENT: ADAM AUSTAD
PHOTO: EMILEE NAZARETH
DESIGN: ALEX RENNINGER

A Service for Everyone

Ride Skoop reinvents public transportation

Walking down the sidewalk toward Wells Hall, the autumn sky is ablaze with pink and orange swirls over Spartan Stadium. Heading home from the library, a student stops at the end of the bridge panting and exhausted. As if on cue, a magical cycle rickshaw glides past pedestrians walking the path and stops right in front of the tired man. The gentleman on the vehicle smiles and asks, 'need a ride?'

Skoop: the name of the innovative, free transportation vehicles had reinvented travel in the Greater Lansing Area. Drivers pedaled a bicycle attached to a cart that could seat two people. Attached to the backs of the carts was a digital billboard advertising local brands. Skoop not only offered free rides, but also promoted local businesses — a huge step for bringing money back into the local economy.

"I oversee the whole property and the day-to-day operations at Campus Village," said Bradley Johnson, community manager for the apartment complex. "We saw a pedicab out on the street and we were like 'what is that?!' We signed up and we've been using them ever since. The drivers interact with the students, it's very eco-friendly — which is what we promote — and it's just good for everybody."

Josh Cooper, sophomore in advertising management and chief executive officer of Skoop, hatched the idea after one too many nights of leaving a fraternity at three in the morning and hopping into Ubers that charged a small fortune for a quick ride; that's when he went searching for a better solution. During his research he stumbled upon the pulled rickshaw, a concept originating in Asia in the 1800s, where a person would pull a two-wheeled cart sitting one to two people.

"They aren't pedicabs, they aren't rickshaws, and they aren't toot toots—they are Skoops," beamed Cooper. "We are the first to do any of this. Our greatest success has been staying true to doing things our own way. I chose MSU because I think East Lansing is one of the hardest places to do this in. We're no Grand Rapids and we are no Detroit. If we could prove the concept here, we could do this anywhere."

Eli Weil, junior in media and information, was one of the first drivers for Skoop. Weil grew up in the same area as Cooper and was one of his closest friends. During the spring of his freshman year, Cooper relayed an idea he had been working on to get people from 'point a to point b' for free, and he immediately wanted to join the Skoop family.

"It sounded genius at the time and now that I'm actually seeing it play out, it just makes so much sense," said Weil. "It's an amazing thing that Michigan State has needed and now we have it. As a driver, it brings so much excitement. Acts of kindness are what drive me everyday. It makes my day to be able to give people free rides. Helping people get home safe from the bar or get to class on time — driving Skoop encompasses all of those things."

"I chose MSU because I think East Lansing is one of the hardest places to do this in. We're no Grand Rapids and we are no Detroit. If we could prove the concept here, we could do this anywhere."

Although East Lansing wasn't especially known for any single entrepreneurial gift to humanity, there was no shortage of dreamers. People who stood on flag poles asking for change. Creators unimpressed by current ways of doing things. For Skoop, it was about the community. Whether in seeing a dapper peddler gliding past or reading the trailing billboard providing a friendly reminder to eat locally, it was clear that this was a service for everyone.

TOP LEFT: Josh Cooper, founder of the pedicab business Skoop, gets ready to take a pedicab out to give students free rides around East Lansing. Cooper founded Skoop in 2018 after realizing he wanted to create a solution to expensive transportation. **BOTTOM LEFT:** Josh Cooper shows off the famous logo displayed on all their cabs. The new business took students from Brody Complex all the way over to Hagadorn Road.



A

CONTENT: AUTUMN MILLER
PHOTO: LAUREN BATDORFF
DESIGN: TAYLOR PHILLIPS

An Environmental Echo

Environmental journalism is niche. Great Lakes Echo brings it into conversation

Journalism, at the university level, is usually filled with political commentary and local news stories about student culture. While these were all relevant to the campus climate, there was one sector of the journalistic sphere that wasn't often discussed — the environment. Seeing a lack of dialogue from news hubs in the Lansing area regarding the surrounding ecosystem, environmental journalist David Poulson launched Great Lakes Echo, an online environmental magazine based at MSU with a focus on the Great Lakes Region.

Poulson, a professor within the school of journalism, had always been enamored with the environment. Beginning his educational career at MSU as a biology major in Lyman Briggs, he changed his degree to journalism with a cognate in environmental studies after exploring different classes.

Five years after beginning his career with MSU, he decided campus needed to give the environment a greater voice. As a program within the Knight Center for Environmental Journalism, Great Lakes Echo had a reporter base of mainly undergraduate and graduate students, along with some faculty members. As the magazine developed, Poulson noticed that younger Spartans reporting on stories did not necessarily bring in different perspectives, but brought in different mediums of storytelling, creating greater diversity within such a niche topic.

"It's not so much the angle as it is the literary mechanism — what are they using to tell the story? We've got some students who are pretty handy with video, I've got a couple of good podcasters who are really good at interviewing people on a podcast...[the younger generation] is very agile with the media," Poulson noted.

Brian Bienkowski, senior editor at Environmental Health News and Daily Climate, was one of Great Lakes Echo's first reporters. He looked back on his experience writing at Great Lakes Echo and compared himself to the younger generations working there.

"I think environmental stories are the most important stories of our time because there's nothing more tangible or important than water, air, food — it touches all of our lives," Bienkowski said. "It's not whether you're an environmentalist or not, and I think the younger generation has a far more firm grasp on the kind of communication tools [needed]. They know how to get more information out...quicker than people like myself, who are maybe 10 years older than them."

Andrew Younker, junior environmental studies and sustainability major, saw a lack of conversation between environmental journalism and student reporting. As a writer himself, he recognized the power words could bestow on the state of the ecosystem.

"I think environmental stories are the most important stories of our time because there's nothing more tangible or important than water, air, food — it touches all of our lives"

"We need a group of young and passionate writers confident enough to disseminate environmental knowledge to their peers," said Younker. "They can make an impact without being head staff writer at a fancy paper in one of the three popular cities in America."

Whether they walked through lush trees of a forest inhabited with a rare type of cicada or explored the sandy shoreline of Lake Erie, reporters at Great Lakes Echo found a unique way to bring light to environmental journalism. As scientific as the topics it reported may have been, this publication found a way to bring literary diversity to MSU that it was previously lacking.

LEFT: The pine trees that make up the Munn Pinetum have been around for hundreds of years. These towering trees were once part of a larger forest that was eventually downsized due to campus growth.

The Rules of the Game

Bird electric scooters stir-up the MSU community

Walking to class on MSU's mammoth campus could be a laborious process. With no car and a crowded CATA, what else was there to do? It is not like there were rechargeable electric scooters that moved faster than the thirty car pile-up on Grand River. If only there were a sleek and sexy means of transportation that could get you to class on time!

Bird Rides, Inc. offered a technological solution to the fundamental need for campus transportation. The electric vehicle sharing company dedicated itself to bringing safe, low-cost, environmentally-friendly transportation to communities across the globe. MSU was one of the first universities given a fleet of scooters that could be used simply by scanning a QR code — similar to UPC barcodes — with their phones.

"I heard about Bird from my friend who likes to ride them around at night because she thinks it's fun," said Talia Beckman, a freshman studying criminal justice. "She said it was really convenient if I didn't want to take the bus. I hate using the bus. I can't even reach the rails. Birds get you there in less time than the bus. It's kind of like having your own car. Except it's cheap and affordable!"

> "We will continue our commitment to growing sustainably to help ensure everyone in the community has access to affordable and environmentally friendly transportation options."

Unfortunately, the impromptu introduction of the scooters constituted a period of belligerent campus activity. Scooters parked inconveniently in the middle of the sidewalk or submerged in the Red Cedar River forced administration to respond. Brian Quinn, acting deputy general counsel, addressed several issues the appearance of the scooters on campus presented in a letter to Bird Rides, Inc. Even the MSU Police Department had to intervene.

"The reason they are being impounded is they are either obstructing pedestrians on the sidewalks and they are being abandoned on the sidewalks, streets, and even handicap parking spaces," said Doug Monette, captain of the MSU Police Department. "The scooters will be issued a parking violation if they are obstructing traffic — whether that's cars, people, or bikes. They are a fine mode of transportation as long as they are being operated appropriately under state and university ordinances."

However, the unprecedented success of Bird Rides, Inc. overshadowed the issues university officials had with the vehicles. In its first year, Bird Rides Inc. became the fastest startup to reach a $1 billion valuation, demonstrated by their lack of local reactivity. Despite pushback from the city of East Lansing regarding the nonchalant dropping of birds on campus, Bird Rides, Inc. took a passive position in the public sphere, focused instead on growing its brand and improving public transportation.

"Bird respects the university's role in enforcing all traffic and parking rules, such as towing illegally parked cars and returning them," said a Bird spokesperson. "We will engage with city and university officials with the goal of developing a fair process to review the reasons for confiscating Birds and have them returned. We will continue our commitment to growing sustainably to help ensure everyone in the community has access to affordable and environmentally friendly transportation options."

Bird Rides, Inc. set a new precedent for introducing products on campus in a way that shocked and stirred the community. It was clear the solution had been made with environmental considerations, but were they ethical? The Bird scooters became a symbol of modernization while also representing an act-first-ask-second approach that left MSU officials with a sour taste in their mouths. It appeared that if Bird scooters were going to stay, they would have to play by the rules.



RIGHT: MSU is 1 of 17 universities across the country to currently have Bird Scooters. The scooters cost one dollar to unlock and 15 cents per minute to ride. **FAR RIGHT**: CJ Whitford uses a Bird Scooter to quickly get across campus. The scooters began appearing on campus at the end of August 2018.

CONTENT: ADAM AUSTAD
PHOTO: LOGAN COLES
DESIGN: ALEX RENNINGER






NIKE

CONTENT: MEGAN LANDON
PHOTO: LOGAN COLES
DESIGN: TAYLOR PHILLIPS

Stretching it Out

MSU Acro Yoga members stretch themselves to their limits — literally

On a crisp autumn afternoon, laughter echos through Adams Field. There are a dozen bodies, twisting and turning as they work together to create their own human jungle gym. Taking a collective deep breath as they release from their pose, this MSU club is doing what it does best: acro yoga.

Acro yoga is exactly what it sounds like — a perfect blend of acrobatics and yoga poses. This uncommon activity requires a base: someone who lays on their back with their hands and legs in the air to support their partner, and a flyer: the partner who is lifted into the air and does a majority of the maneuvering into miscellaneous poses. A spotter is included for more elaborate poses. Surprisingly, the activity didn't require much background in yoga, acrobatics or athletics, and anyone was free to join MSU's Acro Yoga Club.

"It's such a weird thing to do, and you never expected to say in your life, 'your foot is tangled in my hair' or 'please unhook your shirt from my toe' but these things happen on a regular basis," said Michelle Freers, senior communication major and Acro Yoga Club President. "It's often very silly and it's very good comic relief and a social outlet from daily life."

> "There's this level of communication and knowledge that you and your partner have to know to understand how to shift weight and move next."

Freers had done acro yoga for more than two years, and founded the club in fall of 2016. Freers coordinated all the club's "jams" (acro sessions). She pumped members up, welcoming them with open arms and helping them reach their personal and team-oriented goals in acro yoga.

"Acro yoga is typically partner acrobatics, although group poses are also incorporated," Freers said. "You go through a sequence of poses and it is about connecting to yourself and letting go of stress or anything holding you back from contentment. In acro, you have a unique ability to connect with others in a special way, forming trust and friendship in your first interaction. You can't do acro if there is no trust."

There are countless benefits to acro yoga, making it an advantageous activity to do and club to join. Aside from being fun, participants made connections with others, increased their balance, and bolstered their strength and motivation. Senior accounting major Colton Bretschneider saw acro yoga as a creative way to test his limits and improve his athleticism.

"It's a good way to build muscular strength and endurance because a lot of the poses you'll be going through for a couple minutes," Bretschneider said. "You'll be flying the person for a minute or two, so it's definitely a really good workout and it helps you with your flexibility on top of that."

Acro yoga required an immense need for trust and communication. There were an infinite number of intermediate and advanced poses members could try in the Acro Yoga Club, such as the illustrious "Dirty Dancing" pose, where one participant used their strength to lift their partner off of a jump, holding them over their head. The flyer was truly in flight

"There's this level of communication and knowledge that you and your partner have to know to understand how to shift weight and move next," sophomore journalism major Meghan King said. "Communication is huge because a base may feel like they're solid, but the flyer might not be balanced right and that won't let the two shift to a new pose because the unbalance will make them tip when they shift weight."

Regardless of what brought members to the club, the impact it left both physically and mentally was unmatched. It impacted everyone in a different way, and for active members like Freers, this passion was something special. It provided her relief from daily responsibilities and everyday stressors. It brought people together and pushed them to be their best. For once, they were not writing a paper or studying for an exam; they were just rolling around in the new-fallen leaves, stretching themselves to their limits.

LEFT: Colton Bretschneider lifts Alyssa Schilthuis during acro yoga practice. Practices typically took place in the Yakeley lounge on Tuesdays and Sundays.

More Than Their Sexuality

A safe space for intersecting identities

Identity was something many college students struggled with. Whether it was the process of choosing a major or searching for an organization to join, the journey to self-purpose was difficult to navigate. This was even more difficult for LGBTQ+ students searching for their place on campus while dually nurturing their sexual identity. Spartans needed a place where they could explore themselves safely on campus — thus, the LBGT Resource Center was born in 2006.

The center focused on giving LGBTQ+ Spartans the support and confidence to get involved on campus and be open about their identity. The LBGT Resource Center worked as a middle-man, giving students the comfort and knowledge they needed to pursue clubs and attend events on campus. It was a safe space, pushing students to grow and explore their university with confidence and courage, regardless of their sexual preference.



"It's good to have this area where you could be safe, you could have the space to question if you need to question your sexual orientation or gender identity that you don't usually get at a regular center."

"We intentionally created a space that people could be their full selves without threat of heteronormativity, cisnormativity, homophobia and transphobia," said Assistant Director Oprah Revish. "I like to think we created a space that was safer than other spaces on campus and in the community because we were actually having conversations about those things and actively addressing [them]."

The center was focused on more than just sexual identity. Respecting race, religion and origin, the center recognized that a student's sexuality was not their only identifier and honored the students' other roots as well. Supplying resources online and in person to cater to all

CONTENT: AUTUMN MILLER
PHOTO: MATT ZUBIK
DESIGN: ALEX RENNINGER

needs, the center's priority was to guide LGBTQ+ Spartans to a place of security in their lives.

Crystal King, senior finance and administration assistant at the center, was initially hesitant to come to the center as an African-American. There was a lack of racial diversity in employees, but eventually King found a place for diversity in the center. In turn, they brought in more black LGBTQ+ students, making the LGBT Resource Center just as safe a haven for people of color.

"It's changed over the past three years. I was the only person that was black that was working here ... now, the staff has changed where it's a majority black population," said King. "It's not just one person carrying that load, it's several people who contribute to the space, who exist in the space, and bring their culture and identity with them to make it comfortable for other people who are of color and queer too."

Finding confidence in one's sexual identity was a struggle within itself. Many places on MSU's colossal campus didn't offer LGBTQ+ Spartans a comfortable space to interact with others on the same identification journey. The birth of the LGBT Resource Center allowed students to ask questions without judgment. Junior Quinn Harrison fought to come to terms with his own gender identity, but found it was easier to when he found a spot where his uncertainty in sexuality was accepted, and his questions were welcomed.

"It's good to have this area where you could be safe, you could have the space to question if you need to question your sexual orientation or gender identity that you don't usually get at a regular center," said Harrison. "Having these resources available made that questioning journey safer."

Whether it was seeking out other organizations to nurture their intersecting identities or find a place to relax during class breaks, the LGBT Resource Center leads LGBTQ+ students to campus organizations that nurtured their specific needs. Finding oneself in college was difficult enough, but having a distinct support system through it all made it that much easier.



LEFT: The LGBT office is run entirely by students besides the assistant director Oprah Revish. One of the student employees, Mo, worked as a receptionist in the office. **RIGHT:** A welcome sign directs visitors to Oprah Revish's office. Oprah was the director of the LGBT Resource Center.



PHOTO: KAITLIN GRANT

The MSU field hockey team meet in a huddle on the middle of the turf to celebrate a win. The team ended their season in the Big Ten Quarterfinals against Maryland.



Inspiring Hope

Field Hockey athletes contribute to local charities

The life of a student athlete consisted of constant action. Going to class, practices and games, athletes often had nearly every second of their day occupied. While players had an unforgiving schedule, some used their sliver of free time to give back to their community. Athletes from the MSU field hockey team utilized their time to volunteer for charities in their hometowns.

The women's field hockey team saw many accomplishments on and off the field during 2018. Not only did they have the Division I National Academic Team Award, but many players also participated in a community outreach program called Athletes for Hope. The organization was created by elite athletes as a way to serve their communities. Sawyer Post, junior special education major, gravitated toward the organization to support schools in her community in Southern California.

"It was a really good experience," Post said. "I worked on a lot of outreach opportunities for different campuses that are just like ours. I worked a lot with the schools that are in [Los Angeles County] and also I worked looking up grant resources for people to be able to fund Athletes for Hope programs throughout the country."

> "Everyone looks up to you, and if you're not giving back to the people that look up to you, there's no point in what you're doing."

The organization made it a priority to service the community since its founding in 2007, and student athletes acted as the backbone of the charity. For those involved, the key was supporting the communities that raised and supported them as they continued to achieve.

Bailey Higgins, senior kinesiology major, saw Athletes for Hope as the perfect opportunity to inspire those who followed in her footsteps.

"Athletes for Hope is important because athletes are people that people look up to, kids especially, so if they can make a difference in people's lives and encourage them to stay active then I think it's really important," Higgins said. "Athletes for Hope works for that connection between athlete and community together."

Even as the season began to heat up, the pressure didn't deter the field hockey athletes from fulfilling their work with the organization. Hannah Ackers, junior human biology major, viewed service to one's community as an obligation of elite athletes like herself.

"Everyone starts somewhere and to go back to where you start and give back to the people who helped you to get where you are is really important," Ackers said. "Everyone looks up to you, and if you're not giving back to the people that look up to you, there's no point in what you're doing. It's really important to give to the little kids that could be you and are going to do the same thing for other people."

As the puck hit the back of the net for the game winning goal, the crowd erupted into cheers and, for the first time that night, forgot about the icy chill that had descended over MSU's campus. The MSU field hockey team beamed with pride as they saw the community that had braved the frigid conditions to support them. For Hannah Ackers, Sawyer Post and Bailey Higgins this was what it was all about. Their communities had built them up into confident student athletes, and these three Spartans made it their mission to inspire and lead.

RIGHT: Senior Madison O'Neill lunges for the ball in a game against Monmouth. The team won the game with a final score of 2-1 after a shootout, 4-3..



CONTENT: RYAN HOPPENWORTH
PHOTO: KAITLIN GRANT
DESIGN: LILY RISING

College of Engineering

Spartans foster diversity through engagement

At the College of Engineering, there was a unique division of professionals focused on helping underrepresented students accomplish their goals and achieve success in their chosen field — the Diversity Programs Office. Opened in 1968, the office was continually a driving force in bolstering academic and professional success for students of various backgrounds.

> "When our office first opened, very few students of color ventured away from MSU. That has now changed ... "

While advisors helped students navigate the complicated process of selecting a program best suited for them, at the Diversity Programs Office, Maggie Blair Ramsey was in charge of providing additional help to underprivileged and underrepresented students. Giving them the confidence to go abroad and providing services in-house, the office changed the way students approached their college career.

"When our office first opened, very few students of color ventured away from MSU. That has now changed. Students of all backgrounds are going abroad and encouraging others to do the same," Ramsey said. "Underrepresented students need the support of their college. I am happy to have been a part in seeing the progress made in this area."

As the Diversity Programs Office helped students overcome obstacles and accomplish objectives, many gave back to the program long after graduation. Kyle Foster, the current director of the office, was fostered by the program, ultimately guiding him to two degrees in the engineering field. He was confident in the mission and believed diversity was key to a better world.

"We just don't have enough engineers in this country so we've got to pull from everywhere, especially if we want to maintain a competitive edge in science and engineering," Foster said. "I'm a former DPO [Diversity Programs Office] kid, and it has definitely given me an opportunity to be successful and it provided a lot of services for me and other students."

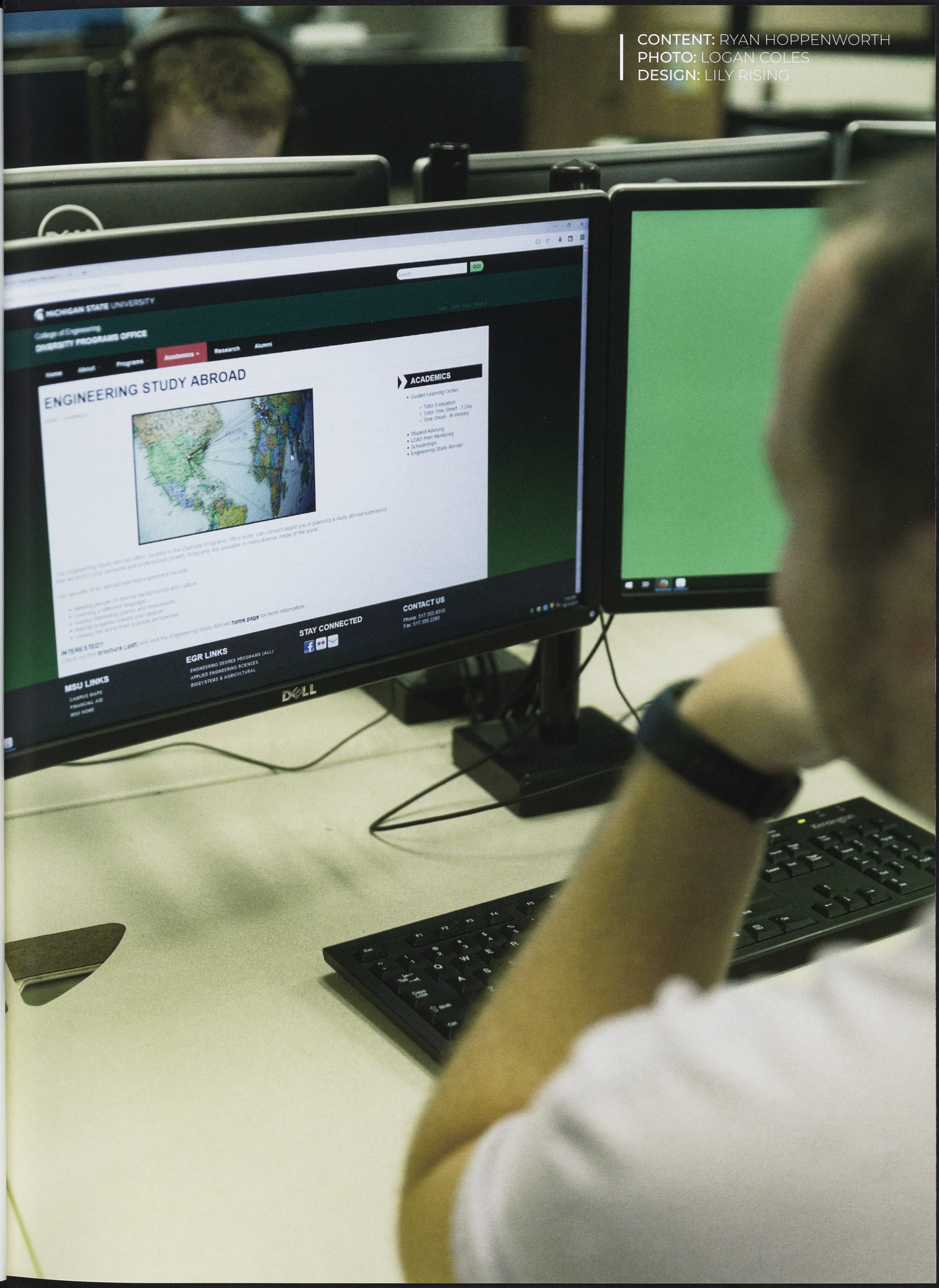
The advisors at the Diversity Programs Office never lost sight of their mission — to help students succeed. Martin Green, junior electrical engineering major, was academically guided by the staff at the office. He lauded their commitment to the students and the programs that assisted his success at MSU.

"Coming in as a freshman, I did their summer program called Engineering and Science Success Academy," Green said. "The program helped students get a foot in the door and helped them get acclimated to college life. That was a good program that was very beneficial because I got a scholarship at the end."

The Diversity Programs Office had the important responsibility of encouraging Spartan minorities to pursue a major in the field of engineering. This was undoubtedly a large task, but the staff were determined to see students shed their Spartan green and suit up for the professional world.

RIGHT: Ben Kittendorf explores education abroad programs through the Diversity Program Office's Website. Studying abroad allowed students the opportunity to meet people from diverse cultures.

CONTENT: RYAN HOPPENWORTH
PHOTO: LOGAN COLES
DESIGN: LILY RISING





One Progression at a Time

Parkour and Freerunning Club's approach to conquering doubt

As the chilling wind whipped across campus, a silence fell over the school grounds as eight team members darted along the sidewalk, ninja-like. Something in the way they glided through the air made it seem as if they had dominion over the very breath that emanated from the nearby bystanders. What was it that seemed to mimic the same ulterior force that sent crispy leaves beckoning from their place among the trees? It definitely wasn't the running team — it was parkour.

Parkour is an art of movement, focused on combining different forms of motion and flow, and channeling that into the environment. At its core, it meant moving from one spot to another as efficiently and smoothly as possible. Freerunning was about gaining control over all extremities of the body by adding style, flow, flips and tricks. The activity was a constant process of fusing efficiency and freedom for the Parkour and Freerunning Club at MSU.

"I'm really into strength stuff," said Kieran Nehil-Puleo, sophomore in statistics and active club member. "Anytime I can challenge people to something that is not skill based — that's what excites me. I think it's exciting to

CONTENT: ADAM AUSTAD
PHOTO: KAITLIN GRANT
DESIGN: MEREDITH BIEBER



do some crazy ass stuff and somehow it works out and you don't slam your face. It's a combination of an art and efficiency which is kind of a cool aspect I think."

Across campus there were a myriad of locations to practice parkour. The Union, Williams Hall, the Kresge Art Museum and the Psychology building were spots that offered variety in terms of staircases, walls, gaps and railings that allowed for various technical styles to be employed. MSU also offered a number of distinct locations that an expert could tailor their styles to — if they had the eye for it.

> "Parkour gives me something else to focus on when everything gets overwhelming. For me, the expression of the parkour lets me go out, try new things and really focus on myself and my own improvement"

"If I'm just biking and I see a specific spot I can do a specific thing in, I'll write it down," said Brendan Canavan, sophomore in environmental biology. "This campus is just beautiful for parkour. I'm not the most athletic parkour athlete but my favorite thing to do is making a line, taking a spot and trying to observe from all angles asking, 'how can I maximize this area using what I know?'"

Aside from what parkour allowed a person to do, its underlying importance lay deep within the purpose it served for the individual. It was a daily process of facing a daunting challenge and going against it head-on to break down the mental walls surrounding that obstacle. Parkour was used to take control of one's fears and overcome them, ultimately allowing the individual to achieve the most satisfying form of acceptance: self-validation.

"It's obviously not a competitive sport in any way — although you certainly can make it that way if you want to," said Riley Annis, masters student in computer science and club president. "Parkour gives me something else to focus on when everything gets overwhelming. For me, the expression of the parkour lets me go out, try new things and really focus on myself and my own improvement."

The Parkour and Freerunning Club at MSU lived by a central motto: exercise was nature's stress reliever. If something seemed challenging in life, one of the best ways to put it into perspective was to work up to it. Parkour was not just about sophisticated flips or maintaining proper form one-hundred percent of the time. It was about addressing the intrinsic self-doubt that everyone carries and progressively working to get over those invisible obstructions, one progression at a time.

TOP LEFT: The MSU Parkour and Freerunning Club trains together in areas around campus for an hour every week. They often met at the Union, Williams Hall, Kresge Art Center and the Psychology building because the architecture of these buildings allowed for a large variety of tricks to be performed. **TOP RIGHT:** Members of the Parkour and Freerunning Club pose for a photo. Riley Annis, club founder, helped the team overcome obstacles both physically and mentally.

Preserving a Campus Icon

Spartans join to cleanup the Red Cedar

The MSU fight song begins with the phrase, "On the banks of the Red Cedar..." Every Spartan knew these legendary words and recognized the iconic river the song referred to. Fame does not always earn respect though and sometimes the Red Cedar needed a little help. Every year, the Fisheries and Wildlife Club hosted a river cleanup. Spartans from the Outdoors Club to the Scuba Club threw on their waders and threw their efforts into reducing waste in the Red Cedar River. The students submerged and then emerged with everything from Bird Scooters to an old microwave. Without the cleanup, these items would have made the bottom of the river their home for decades.

This event drew dozens of students out on a chilly Sunday afternoon in October. The river was finally low enough for safe entry and the Fisheries and Wildlife Club wanted to capitalize on the good fortune. Monika Werbanowska, a junior fisheries and wildlife major, planned the event for the first time in 2018. She went through many channels and spent hours advertising the event to classes and clubs.

"We have a wide variety of politically minded people from the Sierra Club, we got the Outdoors Club, we got the Scuba Club and even the zoology sorority," Werbanowska said. "This event is important to our river and keeping our environment clean. We try to educate people about how we treat our earth and why we should do a better job of it."

While advertising and planning the event itself was a challenge for the club, the real challenge was making sure that the cleanup operated smoothly. Organizing the volunteers in the middle of a river was the task of senior fisheries and wildlife major Tara Mojzuk. Her leadership kept the kayaks afloat, the waders safe and the volunteers dry — mostly.

"Experience is very important for fisheries and wildlife majors," Mojzuk said. "We try to give students experience through, for example, cleaning up the river and using grappling hooks to pull bikes out of the water. We try to get students out in the field in a fun and involved way."

Thanks to the promotional efforts, the turnout of students was greater than expected with more than 30 students showing up to put in work. Luckily, enough waders, grappling hooks, canoes and kayaks were supplied to keep every Spartan occupied. Students such as senior plant biology major Sara Campbell joined the cleanup out of her love for the environment. Campbell was the vice president of the Outdoors Club and intended to spearhead the involvement of her group.

"The Outdoors Club uses the Red Cedar River for events such as Campus to Coast," Campbell said. Since our club uses the river we think it is important that we come down as a club and help the Fisheries and Wildlife Club cleaning up the river. With all the trash from tailgating and such, it's important that we come down every once in a while to clean all the junk out of the river to help the [river and surrounding areas]."

"This event is important to our river and keeping our environment clean. We try to educate people about how we treat our earth and why we should do a better job of it."

As the day wrapped up, trails of mud marked the sidewalk as students emerged from the river with bikes, longboards and scooters coated in a thick layer of muck. Some students wanted to cleanup the treasures and take them home; while others were ready to rid themselves of the trash they had fished out of the river. The teams converged in a central location and celebrated, sharing stories about everything from tipping their kayak to unearthing a cooking appliance. In the coming years, the Fisheries and Wildlife Club aimed to make this an annual event in the hopes of preserving the aesthetic quality and health of the famed Red Cedar River.





RIGHT: Students of several clubs around campus, including the Outdoors Club, Scuba Club, and even fisheries and wildlife majors work together to clean up the Red Cedar River. The students pulled bikes, kitchen appliances and even Bird Scooters from the river.





CONTENT: RYAN HOPPENWORTH
PHOTO: TOMMY MASSA
DESIGN: LILY RISING



Behind the Screens

Spartan Vision: more than just an image on a jumbotron

Six busy people filled the tightly-packed control room as the switchboard lights blinked brightly of green, blue and red. The computer system equipment flickered, indicating it was ready to get to work. Nearly a dozen TV and computer screens were being used to put together the finishing touches to the videoboard show that would possess the jumbotron at Munn Ice Arena in just two short hours. To outsiders, it may have looked like chaos; to the staff members of Spartan Vision, it was just another game day.

Ever since freshman year when she saw a video ad for Spartan Vision showcasing highlights of athletic events and exciting opportunities, senior media and information major Andrea Uglietta was hooked on Spartan Vision. Current student director for the production, she had high hopes to one day pursue a similar role for a national sports team or athletic network. Working with Spartan Vision helped her to succeed in an increasingly male-dominated industry.

> "When directing and producing, you're in charge of people so you've got to make the right calls. You're in charge of what's happening out there on the screen, so it's just a lot of responsibility and a good challenge."

"I get to experience a bunch of different positions," Uglietta said. "We have a really talented crew and talented leaders that give us the opportunity to try anything we want and let us work through, learn on our own, learn from experienced vets and find out what we actually love doing since there's so many different aspects of live production."

The Emmy award-winning video production team at Spartan Vision had taken strides since its start in 2007. In the 2017-2018 year, Spartan Vision generated various production programs, including the Spartan All-Access show and Big Ten Network Student U, the student-run segment of the network. Spartan Vision faculty taught students how to create what they called "videoboard shows" that included visuals created on graphic machines, sounds programmed on a soundboard and switchboard equipment that determined what showed up on the jumbotron during Spartan athletic events.

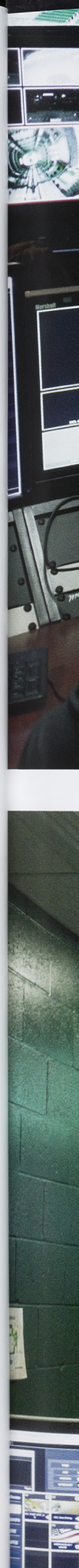
Junior advertising major Clay Woodard was in his second year with Spartan Vision. He produced videoboard shows, worked on production graphics and interacted with athletes. The best part of Spartan Vision wasn't just the opportunity it gave Woodard to hone his craft; it was the way the production allowed his creativity to shine.

"[The faculty] give us a lot of responsibility," Woodard said. "Especially when directing and producing, you're in charge of people so you've got to make the right calls. You're in charge of what's happening out there on the screen, so it's just a lot of responsibility and a good challenge."

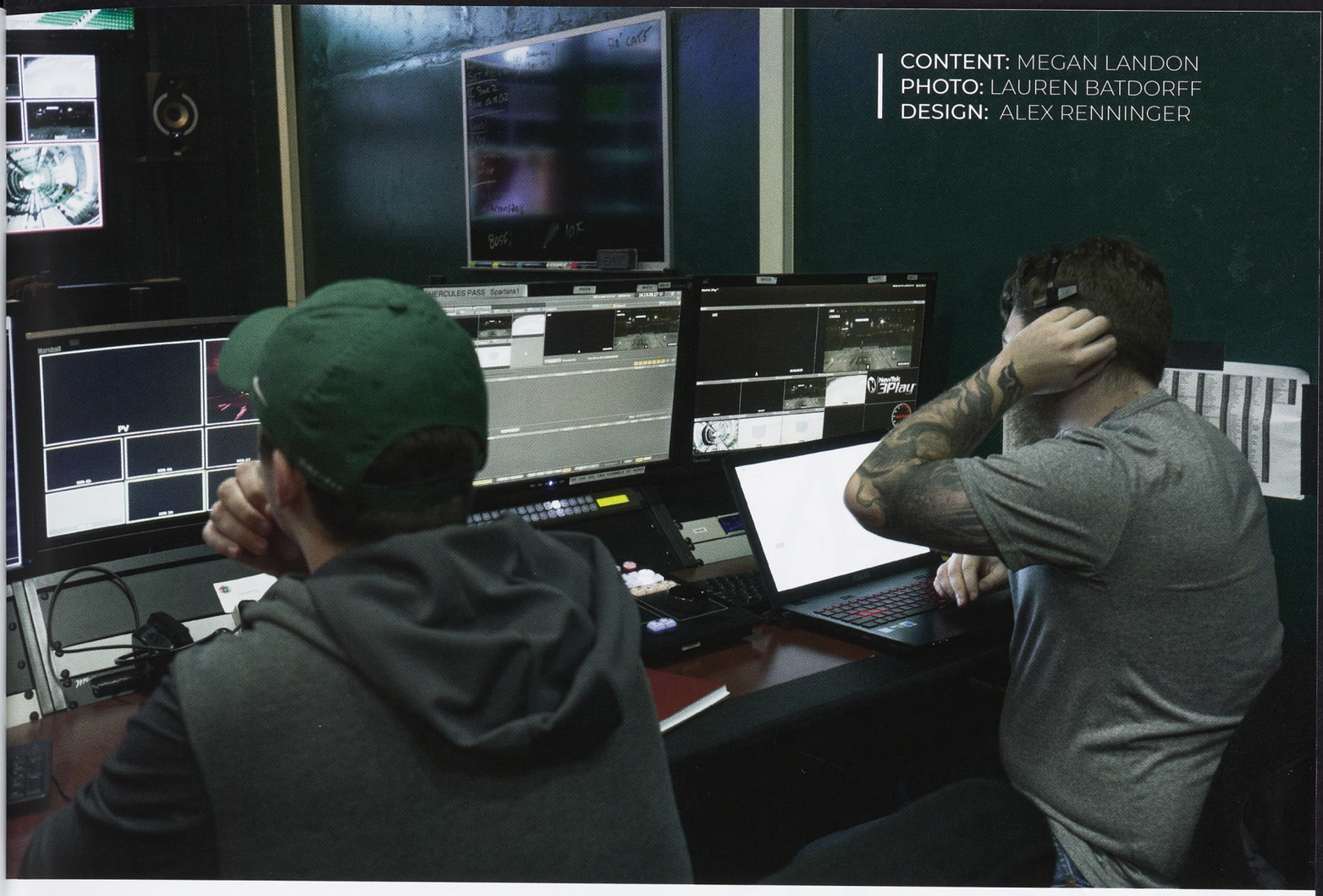
In his sixth year with Spartan Vision as a full-time staff member, Spartan alumnus Nick Baker got the opportunity to work with students of his alma mater by developing their skills both in the control room and out on the field. As the director of digital production, his job was a mix of live production, post-production and helping student staff members prepare for the real world.

"The biggest difference is you don't get to experience this in a classroom," Baker said. "[Communication Arts and Sciences] has a very similar switcher; they have a very similar graphics machine, but you're doing it based off of a curriculum ... here, you're going to experience things that go on that you can't get elsewhere. No professor is ever going to be able to replicate that experience for you."

To these students, Spartan Vision was so much more than just an award-winning show. It was more than just a picture on the jumbotron, and it was more than just a job — it was a collection of individuals making it possible for Spartans to gain hands-on experience in a strenuous yet rewarding field. Through the mayhem, mistakes and memories, they got the chance to pursue their passion for sports and media production all at the same time.



TOP RIGHT: Video prodcuer Bob Armstrong oversees the finalizations of the graphics for the Northern Michigan hockey game. The group used an entire wall of television screens to see what they were controlling.
BOTTOM RIGHT: Two Spartan Vision producers test the graphics for a hockey game. One producer was often responsible for two or three screens at a time.



CONTENT: MEGAN LANDON
PHOTO: LAUREN BATDORFF
DESIGN: ALEX RENNINGER



Terrific Taxa (species)

Dr. Frank Telewski was a professor of plant biology and curator of the W. J. Beal Botanical Garden and Campus Arboretum. Dr. Telewski had an extensive knowledge of plants and he gave insight to the different taxa (species) around MSU's campus.

1. How many trees in total are on MSU's campus?

The total number of recorded trees, not including trees in the formal beds of the W. J. Beal Botanical Garden, Forest Aker's Golf Course, woodlots, the farms area south of Mount Hope Road and off-campus locations is 20,850 with a total number of taxa (species) of 950.

2. How many plants?

By "plants" I assume that you mean the trees plus any other recorded plants, such as shrubs. The total number of plants, not including formal beds of the W. J. Beal Botanical Garden, Forest Aker's Golf Course, woodlots, the farms area south of Mount Hope Road and off-campus locations, is currently 50,545 with a total number of taxa (species) of 2,036.

CONTENT: ADAM AUSTAD
DESIGN: TAYLOR PHILLIPS

3. What is the oldest tree on campus? Where is it located?

The oldest recorded and verified tree on campus is the Quercus alba, White Oak, located on the West Circle Oval between the Museum and Linton Hall, next to the Class Gift of 1900, the horse trough and drinking fountain. The tree was significantly damaged in the July 2016 wind storm at which time most of the tree was lost. The remaining portion is a small section of the original trunk and one branch, which is growing and healing at a rapid pace. Dr. Frank Telewski, Director of W. J. Beal Botanical Garden and Campus Arboretum and Professor of Plant Biology, was able to obtain a cross-section of the trunk at approximately 20' above the ground and was able to determine a ring count of 347 resulting in a possible age of 400 years old, depending upon the growth rate when the tree was young.

4. How many rare trees?

Given that there is a diverse collection of trees with many of them from different parts of the world, there are a number of rarer trees located on campus both from a geographic perspective and an endangered or threatened perspective. A few of the rarer trees are Quercus mongolica, Mongolian Oak, collected by Dr. Frank Telewski from South Korea in 1993. Fraxinus chinensis var. rhyncophylla, Chinese Ash, collected by Frank Telewski from South Korea in 1993. Metasequoia glyptostroboides, Dawn Redwood, obtained from The Arnold Arboretum, Harvard University, in 1953, originally collected from a rediscovered site in China approximately 1944.

You may also want to know about historic trees, such as the Pinus strobus, White Pine, located at the northwest corner of the Cowles House. The Pinus strobus, was collected by then State Agricultural College President Theophilus C. Abbot on the banks of the Red Cedar River near the Beal St. bridge and planted in 1863 to commemorate the birth of his daughter Mary. Twenty years later, Mary was married in the shade of the tree.



College of Agriculture and Natural Resources

The Department of Horticulture is all about hands-on student work

Being a land-grant school meant more than just having acres of foliage. The MSU Horticulture Gardens surrounding the Plant and Soil Sciences Building weren't merely beautiful to gaze upon and relaxing to saunter through. The gardens, including the Michigan 4H Children's Garden, the Judith A. DeLapa Perennial Garden, greenhouses and more, provided a space for horticulture students to learn physically.

The Department of Horticulture, a branch of the College of Agriculture and Natural Resources, focused on giving its students hands-on learning experiences that they couldn't find by sitting stoically in a lecture hall. Senior Cheyenne Sloan, a horticulture major, found that learning in the gardens was more beneficial than simply taking notes.

"Hands-on learning is just so much more practical. I can sit in a classroom all day and think I can properly prune an apple tree but until I actually do it, I won't know," Sloan said. "Since everything in horticulture is so dependent on the situation, it's hard to rely on theory alone. You have to see and feel the plant."

Even when the school year was not in session, horticulture students were encouraged to engage with the gardens. The more time they spent with the greenery, the more likely they were to acquire jobs in the field. Dr. Kristin Getter, Director of the MSU Horticulture Gardens and professor with the Department of Horticulture, noted the importance of spending time outside of class in the gardens.

"We encourage them to work for us ... in the summer to get more experience to make sure that is the area of horticulture they want to focus on," said Getter. "A few students who have worked for us in the summer while they were a student went on to work at other major public gardens, like Frederik Meijer Gardens."

The gardens, staffed with employees and volunteers,



CONTENT: AUTUMN MILLER
PHOTO: LORA FARAJ
DESIGN: MEREDITH BIEBER

even hired horticulture students to tend to them. Dan Bulkowski, greenhouses and gardens manager for the Department of Horticulture, saw the effort these Spartans put in.

> "Since everything in horticulture is so dependent on the situation, it's hard to rely on theory alone. You have to see and feel the plant."

"They help with everything, from sowing seeds and transplanting in the wintertime … come spring we're planting and maintaining the beds. Right now we're in the process of removing and pulling out all of the tender perennials that we want to keep," said Bulkowski.

The Department of Horticulture offered its students a participatory way to interact with plants as they explored the lush gardens at MSU. Through taking care of blooming trees and growing grapes in the greenhouse, horticulture students got down and dirty with flora others only read about on paper.

TOP LEFT: Leaves fall to the ground in the entrance pavilion of MSU's Judith DeLapa Perennial Garden. This garden alone houses ten island beds of perennials totaling 6,500 square feet. **RIGHT:** One of the Horticulture Garden's many perennials. Perennials are plants that usually live for more than two growing seasons.



This bright pink plant is one of the hundreds found on MSU's campus. There was a total number of 2,036 species on campus between flower beds, Forest Aker's Golf Course and woodlots.



PHOTO: LAUREN BATDORFF


MICHIGAN STATE
17
SPARTANS

CONTENT: RYAN HOPPENWORTH
PHOTO: MATT ZUBIK
DESIGN: TAYLOR PHILLIPS

Leading By Example

Upperclassmen help freshmen adjust to college life

Coming to MSU as a freshman was overwhelming for the majority of students. The pace of life was faster, navigating campus required patience and sometimes catching the CATA meant sprinting after its tail lights. Aside from learning to function at MSU, some freshmen had the added responsibility of playing for the MSU volleyball team, competing on the highest level of collegiate athletics. In the 2018 season, the team consisted of almost exclusively underclassmen. The upperclassmen of the team saw this disparity and immediately stepped up into mentorship roles for young members.

As the team made it further into the playoffs, they owed much of their success to the veteran strikers. When they took the court every Saturday night, newcomers were confident that the upperclassmen would have their backs. Maggie Midget, junior packaging major, used her status to assist the freshmen players both on and off the volleyball court.

My role as an upperclassman is to make the younger girls feel more at home," Midget said. "Helping them with their adjustment, with school and helping them manage their daily schedule is important to me. I love driving them to class or the grocery store...I'm just here to help them."

The head coach of the team, Cathy George, was proud of the way the upperclassmen had become mentors. As a coach, she had seen many players pass through her team, yet this crop of players seemed special.

"The freshmen have a lot going on between academics and athletics," George said. "When our freshmen came in this summer there was a strong push by the upperclassmen to bring them into our team and teach them. Coaches cannot work with the players until the seasons start, so they had about a month to work with them and I think they did a really good job even though they are young themselves."

Being the oldest player on the team came with added leadership responsibility. Maddie Haggerty, sociology major and sole senior on the team, had become a guide for each and every athlete. She recalled back to the times when she was beginning her volleyball career and attributed her mentor role as an emulation of her own mentors when she was a freshman volleyball player at the University of Nebraska.

"I'm trying to be the mom of the team and lead by example," Haggerty said. "When you're a freshman, everything is so new and looking up to the older girls really helps you get through it and know what to expect. It's cool to see the freshmen grow even from just this summer to now."

As the season closed out with a hard fought game against the University of Michigan Wolverines, the members of MSU volleyball team gathered together to reflect on a season that shattered expectations. For Maddie Haggerty, this would be her last time playing the sport she loved for the school she called home.

"When you're a freshman, everything is so new and looking up to the older girls really helps you get through it and know what to expect. It's cool to see the freshmen grow even from just this summer to now."

The world seemed to slow as the janitors started sweeping up the court and turning off the lights in the empty field house. While Haggerty was emotional as the players and coaches wished her well, she was confident that the team was in good hands. She had helped teach the new players what it meant to be a true Spartan athlete.

LEFT: Sophomore Alyssa Chronowski attempts a last second dig while her teammates watch on. Chronowski led the Spartans in kills over the course of the 2018 season.

An Affinity for Exploration

MSU Sailing Club on and off the water

The clouds part, allowing the sun to shine through. A strong current of air flows from the east of the Long Island Sound. There is a perfect view of the New York City skyline. The waves lick the sides of the watercraft on course for the finish line. A captain from at the helm yells, "Head up!" indicating to the person on deck to turn the bow of the boat closer to the wind. It was going to be close, but they were going to make it.

The MSU Sailing Club was a club sport at MSU. It was completely student-run with a board of nine student volunteers and one faculty advisor. They practiced in the MSU Sailing Center, a recreation center in Meridian Charter Township, Michigan, twice a week during their fall and spring seasons. To test their skills, the club would participate in several regattas — boat races — throughout the country.

"We travel almost every weekend during our seasons to various schools within the Big Ten as well as outside of the Midwest conference, like Annapolis and St. Petersburg," said Rachel Rantanen, club member and senior in interior design. "We sail competitively, but in addition we promote teaching sailing and racing to MSU students who would like to be involved. You can join as a total novice or world-class expert. We cater to all experience and knowledge levels."

> "Traveling to regattas connects us with other sailors across the Midwest, and the possibilities are endless."

Most of the club's senior and club leaders worked as coaches during the summer and were certified instructors with US Sailing. Becca Meyer, senior in environmental studies and sustainability, had been sailing ever since she could hold the ropes. She grew up cruising on Lake Michigan and found an interest for competition after she got to MSU and joined the MSU sailing club.

"Growing up, I used to sail from my hometown to Chicago with my parents on the weekends and I didn't



TOP LEFT: Two MSU sailors warm up before Cedarfest, MSU's annual regatta, begins. The Spartan sailing team won fourth place after a strong team effort. **TOP RIGHT:** MSU sailors Becca Meyer and Rachel Rantanen handles the jib. Each boat in the regatta featured a team of two sailors per race. **BOTTOM RIGHT:** Two Spartan sailors cruise ahead of their competition. The Spartans hosted a total of 12 teams at Cedarfest, all of whom traveled from their home universities to Lake Lansing for the competition.

CONTENT: ADAM AUSTAD
PHOTO: MATT ZUBIK
DESIGN: ALEX RENNINGER

really become interested in racing until I was in high school and my dad started racing keelboats," said Meyer. "In the same way a tournament has multiple games, we have several races that make up one competition; a regatta. Our home regatta is called Cedarfest and our goal is for every team to have more fun on and off the water than at any other regatta."

The Sailing Club took its members to incredible seascapes and allowed them to foster friendships through competitive arenas on the water, maintaining warm regards for their opponents. Members on the club would often meet up with competitors from the Ohio State team and grab a local delicacy while away from home. The nature of sailing allowed adversaries to still enjoy each others' company after all was said and done.

"My favorite thing about the MSU Sailing Club is I can sail with my best friends," said Pete Atkins, senior journalism major. "The sailing community in the Midwest is big. Traveling to regattas connects us with other sailors across the Midwest, and the possibilities are endless. Sailing is a great sport and hobby to pursue. It's been a fun four years on the team!"

The MSU Sailing Club provided a relaxing but competitive outlet for Spartans. The search for wonder and discovery didn't end when they docked their boats. It was a part of each members' personality extending to every decision they made. The club cultivated freedom in a way that motivated their lives and pursuits.





College of Nursing

Leading high school students down the path of opportunity

Many high school students enter college with an undeclared major, general education courses engulfing their schedules. Some, however, find themselves enrolled in college courses before they even see campus, filled with a sense of clarity in their educational direction. MSU College of Nursing's Achieving Culturally Competent Education and Student Success (ACCESS) program allowed high school students from low-income and minority backgrounds to take MSU nursing courses prior to graduation. The students could declare the pre-nursing major their freshman year, providing them a seat in the competitive College of Nursing early.

> "People try to marginalize African-Americans all the time and I have to work to a certain standard to prove people wrong. The ACCESS program shows high school kids that the high standard is possible to achieve and that they can do it too."

"The College of Nursing needs diversity, and we need to care for the growing population of patients that are of diverse backgrounds," said Kendra Elam, associate director of the Nursing Workforce Diversity program. "By the year 2043, the majority of people in America will be minorities. Nurses are at the forefront of providing needed care."

Students could apply to the program if they were from an economically or educationally disadvantaged background. Once accepted into the ACCESS program, students were offered tutoring and mentoring from graduate assistants, a stipend of $2,000 and a cherished spot in MSU's nursing program. ACCESS program mentors supported these students until after they passed their nursing license exam.

"The College of Nursing works to make this program available to all types of students," said Carol Vermeesch, Bachelor of Science in Nursing program coordinator at the College of Nursing. "We don't have enough spots for all qualified applicants, so it's important to know how hard they work for their spot and their place in the program. "

Marlin Till, senior nursing student and ACCESS program participant, was provided unimaginable opportunity upon acceptance. Only a handful of students were accepted into ACCESS each year, and the number of selected participants often decreased due to the high-intensity academics and associated course load that came with being a nursing student. Till's ACCESS cohort group originally had about 10 members, but as a senior only three students remained.

"It is very difficult in society to get chances, and I knew that for me to get an equal chance, I'd have to work harder," said Till. "People try to marginalize African-Americans all the time and I have to work to a certain standard to prove people wrong. The ACCESS program shows high school kids that the high standard is possible to achieve and that they can do it too."

Students from disadvantaged backgrounds, like Marlin, worked vigorously to validate their belonging in the nursing program. This hard work over the years proved just how essential their place in the program was. ACCESS was the stepping-stone for students everywhere who wanted to reach their fullest potential, despite their setbacks.

RIGHT: Marlin Till, senior nursing student and a student involved in The College of Nursing's Achieving Culturally Competent Education and Student Success (ACCESS) program, graduates Spring 2019 along with two others. This program allowed students from low-income and minority backgrounds to take MSU nursing courses while they were still in high school.

CONTENT: HELEN KORNEFFEL
PHOTO: KAITLIN GRANT
DESIGN: TAYLOR PHILLIPS





CONTENT: ADAM AUSTAD
PHOTO: KAITLIN GRANT
DESIGN: ALEX RENNINGER

Apparitions and Archeology

A Haunted Campus Tour

More than 50 different groups of people crowded around Beaumont Tower the night before Halloween. Children hid from each other in the bushes while parents admired the golden leaves on the trees. Students met up with friends, excited to challenge their skepticism. A young boy observing the older attendees complained, "why is it only bigger kids!?" All of a sudden, the clock tower struck seven and the air fell silent.

It was an evening of history and haunting. Organized by the MSU Campus Archaeology Program alongside the MSU Paranormal Society, the fifth annual Apparitions & Archaeology: A Haunted Campus Tour gave children, students, parents and grandparents a night of excitement and fright. There were six locations on campus that tour groups could find on their maps to hear mystifying historical narratives followed by eerie tales of the supernatural.

"One of the main legends surrounding the botanical gardens is of a wandering apparition that seems to be from the 1920s — based on clothing and appearance," said Ben Goldman, sophomore in journalism and chairman of social media for the MSU Paranormal Society. "Since professor Beal died in the 1920s, many think it could be him. When students cut through the gardens, often times at night, they'll hear a scream but when they go to investigate it they'll either find no one or they'll see shadow figures moving in the distance."

One of the ways in which the MSU Paranormal Society attempted to determine if the famous William James Beal, American botanist and founder of the W. J. Beal Botanical Gardens, was really out walking the gardens late at night was to use various technologies associated with ghost detection. One of the devices used to detect the metaphysical was called a spirit box. A spirit box, or ghost box, used AM and FM radio frequencies to continually cycle through radio stations to produce white noise. If a sound came through, it was highly suspect that it was a spirit communicating on multiple frequencies at once.

"Our club is mainly interested in investigating supposedly haunted places and deciding for ourselves whether we can find evidence to support or disprove the places as being haunted," said Carly Finegan, senior in environmental geosciences and co-president of the MSU Paranormal Society. "Our club includes people across the spectrum of beliefs in the paranormal and afterlife, so we have healthy debates and conversations on the things we experience."

While the night was thoroughly enjoyed by the curious and imaginative, it also provided an informative evening for the skeptical spectator. Each of the stations had a resident expert from the MSU Campus Archaeology Program who offered a brief history of the location. Perhaps even more terrifying than the spirit of Beal, was the nature of the fire that destroyed his laboratory. While the fire was later attributed to a novice graduate assistant, the history of the garden's origin was no less enticing.

"One of the main legends surrounding the botanical gardens is of a wandering apparition that seems to be from the 1920s – based on clothing and appearance."

"Beal's lab is the oldest and continually-running botanical garden in a university in the nation," said Jack Biggs, member of the Archaeology Program and doctoral student in anthropology. "Beal also started the longest running continuously-monitored scientific experiment. In 1879, the same year that the lab was built, he started a seed-viability test where twenty vials of seed mixed with sand were buried throughout campus. It's a very long experiment that will continue long after we are gone."

Whether it was the Beaumont Tower or the Beal Gardens, there was history to be revealed on Oct. 30, 2018 and mysteries to be solved. Each of the locations on campus had their share of ghost reports. From the late 1800s to the present, the sightings of the supernatural seemed to have correlatorational significance. One thing was certain: don't traverse the spooky night with a cowardly buddy.

LEFT: The W.J. Beal Botanical Gardens are beautiful in the daytime, but spooky at night. There have been sightings of ghosts emerging through the ground and some students have heard screams coming from the gardens.

Defining a Generation

Spartans speak out against sexual assault

From the anti-war movement of the 1960s to the LGBT movement of the early 2000s, generations of young Americans have often been defined by the revolutions they lead. In 2018, the defining cause of this generation of Spartans was bringing an end to sexual assault and domestic violence. It's On Us was a movement that aimed to achieve this goal through education, social involvement and public demonstration. Leading the movement on campus were The Prevention, Outreach and Education Department and the Associated Students of MSU (ASMSU). In addition, sorority and fraternity houses showed their solidarity with massive banners urging students to take responsibility for the safety of their fellow Spartans.

The It's On Us campaign was over 300,000 people strong and growing steadily as of 2018. It swept through college after college and was even endorsed at the Academy Awards by former Vice President of the United States Joe Biden. For students such as Kathrine Gray, junior microbiology major, being active in this movement was imperative.

"The movement is important especially with all the things that happened last year," Gray said. "I was so frustrated with the way sexual assault cases were treated, and that motivated me to work to change that. I like the idea where everyone's working together to foster a sense of community where everyone is out to protect everyone else."

Throughout the week, members of ASMSU used their leadership positions to advertise events taking place across campus. Leah Hashisaka, senior advertising management major, kept Spartans informed about how they could participate in the cultural revolution. Through close communication with the community, ASMSU was able to plan 10 unique events with more than 500 students participating throughout the week.

"The movement is about bringing something that is talked about so much on the news and online to campus," Hashisaka said. "We bring those resources to campus and make them tangible for the students. We contributed to the program through our kick-off event at the rock as we handed out t-shirts, stickers and schedules of daily events."

The standout event of the week was the speech by Beverly Gooden, a leading voice in the fight against domestic violence. Gooden created a groundbreaking movement in 2014 called "Why I Stayed", designed to shift the blame from the survivors of domestic violence to the perpetrators. Students crowded into the Union Ballroom to hear Gooden tell her powerful story. Members of ASMSU including Anna Waldron, senior marketing major, made this event possible. The event created a positive environment and gave survivors a chance to vocalize their struggles.

"I was so frustrated with the way sexual assault cases were treated, and that motivated me to work to change that."

"Student government acts as a voice of the students," Waldron said. Whether it be choosing a new president that will support sexual assault victims or planning events on campus, we want to be involved in the important conversations. This year we shared responsibility for planning the week of action with the Prevention, Outreach and Education Office. Through our coordination, we were able to plan an incredibly informative and fun week."

As the week came to a close, banners draped outside Greek Life houses acted as an echo of a successful week of action. Survivors brought their stories to light, students were able to learn how to protect their fellow classmates and ASMSU was a leader in the defining movement of this generation. The week was a call to action for Spartans from every background. It was an assurance to survivors that MSU unequivocally supported victims of sexual assault and domestic violence.

RIGHT: MSU hosts It's On Us week of action, which consists of workshops, self-care nights and other activities. The ultimate goal of the week was to unite students while working together to end sexual assault.

CONTENT: RYAN HOPPENWORTH
PHOTO: KAITLIN GRANT
DESIGN: TAYLOR PHILLIPS

IT'S ON US



Sophomore Heidi Kowynia plays a jack-in-the-box at this year's Haunted Auditorium. Kowynia was one of the many theater students who participated annually in the creation of the Haunted Auditorium.



PHOTO: LORA FARAJ

Theatre Students Go Bump in the Night

The 10th Annual Haunted Auditorium takes Halloween into its own hands

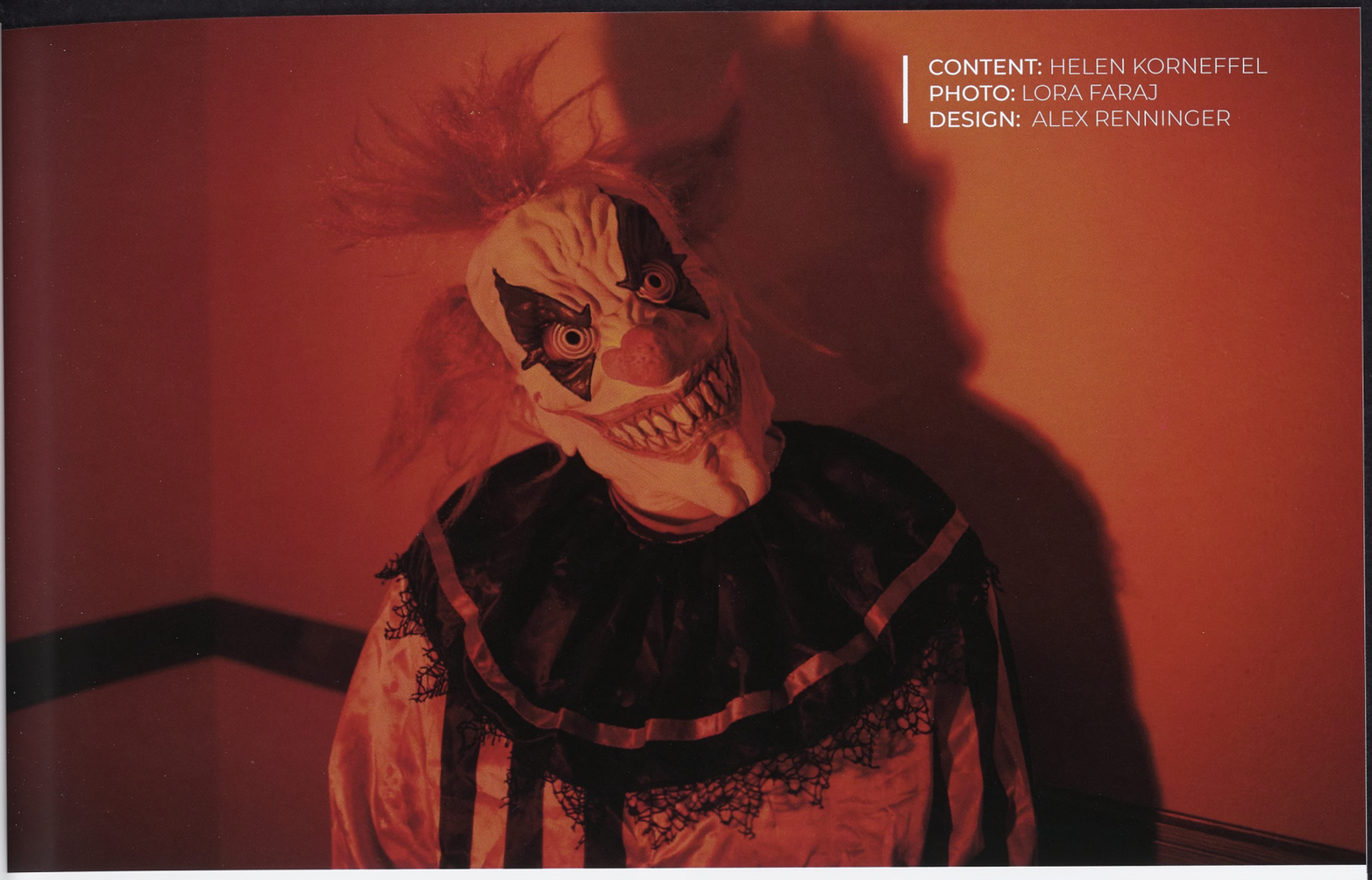
The phrase "Do you want to play a game?" echoed through the otherwise silent halls of the MSU Auditorium. As chills were running down their spines, visitors walked hesitantly through the narrow halls while theatre students with bloody faces stalked them left and right. Dark hallways filled with screams transformed into pitch-black rooms illuminated by blinding strobe lights disorienting guests. It was the night all theatre students waited for — the moment to show off how truly terrifying they could be.

The MSU Theatre Department celebrated its 10th Annual Haunted Auditorium event during the Halloween season. The theme of the event was Carnevil, and the auditorium was completely transformed into a carnival-esque scene. This event was MSU Theatre Department's biggest fundraiser of the year; ticket sales benefitted the theatrical resource team that worked to fund upcoming shows, costumes and numerous events within the department. Theatre students impatiently awaited this haunted mayhem, grateful for the opportunity to shed their everyday costumes and makeup to acquire a spookier look.



"The auditorium is already pretty creepy though, so it's cool that we're able to turn it around and show it off to everyone and have them see how scary it is."

"Haunted Auditorium is a huge haunted house and all of us really go all out for it," said Heidi Kowynia, junior theatre student. "It's so cool to see how scary the auditorium gets; I already think it's haunted, so when we put all of the lighting and sets together, it's terrifying. It's really nice to be a part of something like this because you're there until around one in the morning with all of your friends just scaring people and wearing fun costumes."



CONTENT: HELEN KORNEFFEL
PHOTO: LORA FARAJ
DESIGN: ALEX RENNINGER

Students in the theatre department were involved in every process of the event: acting, makeup, set design, prop building and producing. Students who had worked on the event in previous years were asked if they wanted to be on the production team for the 2018 Haunted Auditorium. Two particular students stepped up to the challenge: Shelby Eppich and Rachel Aho, both junior theatre students.

"Volunteering to be a producer of Haunted Auditorium was really an opportunity for me to further my experience in production management and get more on the producing side of things," said Eppich. "I wanted to learn more of how to be a production manager rather than as an actor because I recently switched over from acting to stage management. I really enjoyed acting, but management is where my passion is."

This year, rather than the usual one available route, three eerie paths were created for attendees. When visitors walked through the double doors they were greeted by students dressed as carnies who welcomed them to participate in everyday carnival games — with a gruesome twist. Guests played ring toss with "human" hands and shot baskets with plastic skulls while they prepared for entry.

"The auditorium is already pretty creepy enough, so it's cool that we're able to turn it around and show it off to everyone and have them see how scary it is," said Aho. "It also gives more people on campus the opportunity to see the auditorium because not enough people get into the building. Also, it's an opportunity for everyone in the department to work together on a project, unlike the usual shows where we have a smaller cast."

A night of terror greeted all who entered the Haunted Auditorium while theatre students delighted in the screams and shivers that overcame its brave attendees. With the haunting tune of "ashes, ashes, we all fall down" still ringing in their ears, visitors to the enormous haunted house fled the building to return home where they knew they were safe — or were they?



LEFT: Freshman Nadia Tyson stands in an abandoned room at this year's Haunted Auditorium. This room was the highlight of one of three paths visitors could take within the event. **TOP RIGHT:** Freshman Ally Martin haunts the halls of MSU's Auditorium in her clown costume. Martin was one of the first thing students haunting the hallway after the tour started. **BOTTOM RIGHT:** Sophomore Isabel Rodriguez acts as a ventriloquist doll. Rodriguez was in a desk in an abandoned classroom.

Eli Broad College of Business

Spartans adapt to a revolution in finance

From purchasing items off the deep web to making legitimate financial transactions, cryptocurrency was revolutionizing the business sector. Dollar bills and loose change were no longer the only methods of payment as Bitcoin grew into a popular currency method for the tech-savvy. As with many burgeoning technologies, MSU moved quickly to cater to its students that were ready to delve into this new financial scene. Student interest was so high that the Eli Broad College of Business introduced a new 2018 course: Special Topics in Management.

Cryptocurrency was a digital currency under no control of any country or business existing solely online. Its value was based on speculation. Blockchain acted as a digital ledger that kept a record of cryptocurrency transactions and added security to trading. Business Professor Neil Kane led the class in its first semester and attempted to teach students approaching the concept of Blockchain and cryptocurrency from various skill levels and experience.

"Being successful at Blockchain requires a vast array of skills," Kane said. "You have to have an understanding of computer science, law, economics and business to really get ahead. That's why the class draws students from many majors and backgrounds. Some are already mining [collecting] Bitcoin and others are eager to learn."

Created in 2009, Bitcoin attracted many young investors looking to get on the ground floor of new investment opportunities. Josh Marquardt, supply chain management junior, started Spartan Blockchain, a student group whose mission was to educate students about trading cryptocurrency.

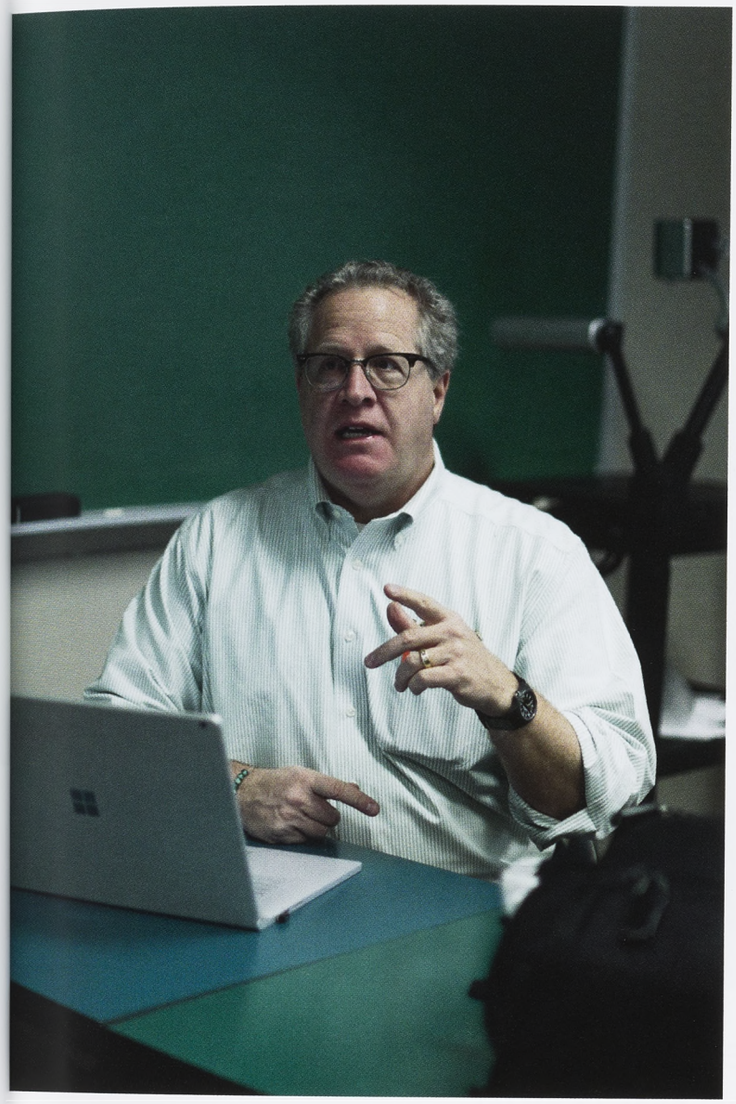
"We're a student group on campus and we communicate with professor Kane about how to improve the class," Marquardt said. "Our focus is educating the public about Blockchain technology and cryptocurrency as well. Next semester we're planning to work on application development for Blockchain."

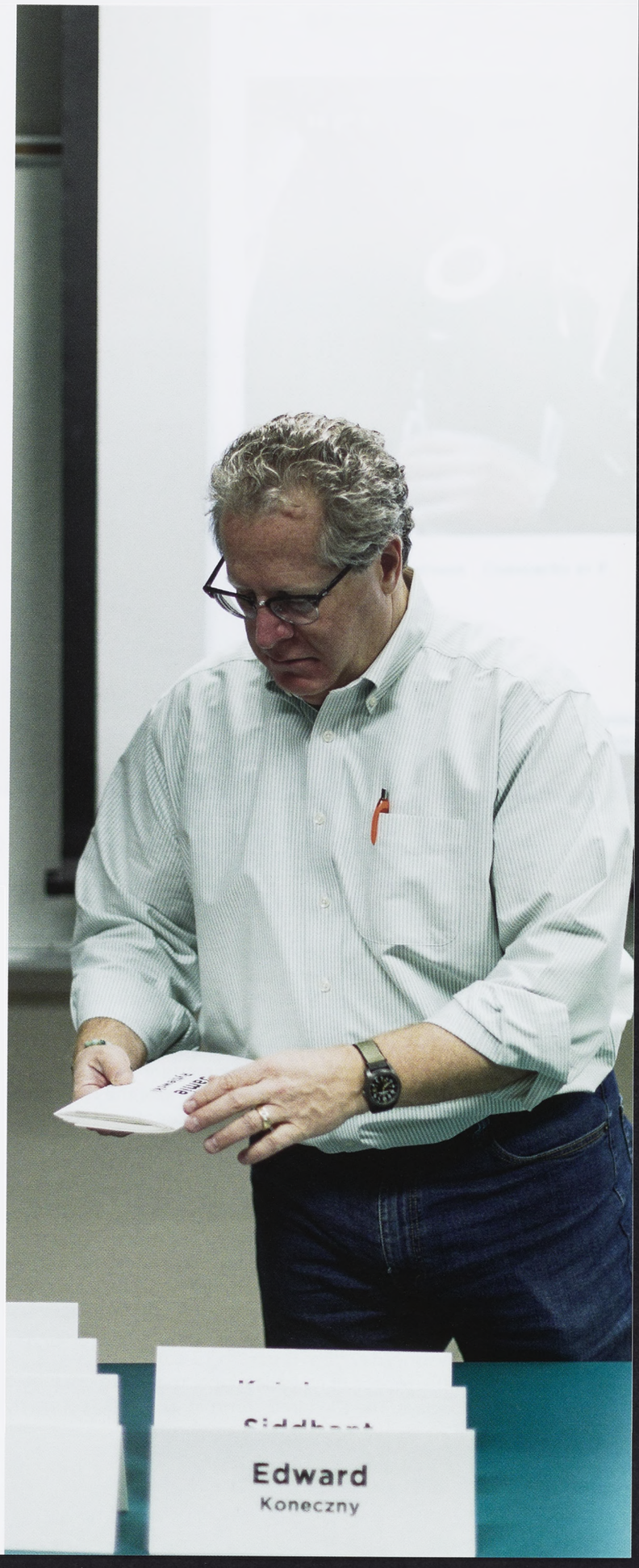
"You have to have an understanding of computer science, law, economics and business to really get ahead. That's why the class draws students from many majors and backgrounds. Some are already mining [collecting] Bitcoin and others are eager to learn."

As the technology progressed, it slowly gained widespread acceptance among the international finance community. Junior finance major, Charlie Kolacki, was the chief marketing officer for Spartan Blockchain and another student in Kane's class. He specialized in laws involving cryptocurrency and how to navigate the red tape that surrounded it.

"The amount of regulations keeps growing as the government keeps identifying how to correctly tax the coins as either a currency or an asset," Kolacki said. "Across

CONTENT: RYAN HOPPENWORTH
PHOTO: MATT ZUBIK
DESIGN: MEREDITH BIEBER





the Blockchain space, everyone's recommendation is to make sure you're working with someone who knows the Blockchain laws of your area. It will all be smoothed out in the long run."

Students in the Eli Broad College of Business intended to keep pace with the rapid changes in business and capitalize on their technological proficiency. As the kinks were gradually worked out of Blockchain technology, the currency flourished into an investment with potential to make participants wealthy. For that reason, Special Topics in Management was a class that unlocked a student's ability to trade cryptocurrency and be successful in the business world.

TOP AND RIGHT: Professor Kane prepares materials for class before his students arrive. Both graduate and undergraduate students attended the class to learn about blockchain technology; the most well known application to use this technology was Bitcoin.



Triv at the Riv

The Riv's "Parks and Recreation" trivia night transforms the bar scene

Bars and college campuses go together like waffles and Leslie Knope. At MSU, the culture of clinking drinks with pals after a long week of strenuous exams was no different. Going through the routine of meeting at the same place and seeing the same people provided comfort, but grew mundane. The Riv saw the monotony present in bar life coupled with the countless inquisitive students that flocked in each night, and put on a "Parks and Recreation" trivia night to give Spartans a challenge while sipping brews.

Situated on the corner of Albert Ave. and M.A.C. Ave., The Riv was one of the most populated bars off campus. With neon green lights lining its exterior and pool tables, big screen TVs, giant Jenga and darts making the inside just as inviting, it was a go-to spot for Spartans. Seeing a lack of trivia nights around campus, it rebooted its own every Wednesday from 8 p.m. to 11 p.m.

In the reboot of its trivia nights that were once held on Mondays, The Riv hired Jammin' DJs, a DJ company based out of Lansing, to make Wednesday trivia possible. Seeing enormous success after its launch of throwing a "The Office"-themed trivia night, The Riv and Jammin' DJs decided to stick with NBC shows and use "Parks and Recreation" next. Hannah Lantis, a bartender at The Riv, knew this decision would bring success, laughter and competition.

> "Certain people will quiet down first but then when you answer the question, everyone quiets down."

"It really brings in a lot of people because everyone loves TV shows and everyone's watching Netflix nowadays. It brings in everyone who's a big fan," said Lantis.

CONTENT: AUTUMN MILLER
PHOTO: EMILEE NAZARETH
DESIGN: MEREDITH BIEBER



Team names like Mouse Rat, Duke Silver and Jean-Ralphio made Spartans feel like they were in the city of Pawnee itself. With 20 questions divided into two rounds, the trivia progressively got harder, moving from questions like "where was Pawnee located" to "what was the theme of Ben's birthday party at the roller rink?" John Raber, a DJ at Jammin' DJs, noted that it was easy to see the difference between fans and superfans at an event like this.

"Certain people will quiet down first but then when you answer the question, everyone quiets down. You can really tell because [super fans] really maintain eye contact," said Raber. "Plus, sometimes the trivia questions we get need clarification or they're actually incorrect, and people will come up and be like 'in season 3, episode 4, on the left of the frame was really X, Y, Z — really miniscule stuff like that."

Rachel Vankeuren, a senior human biology major, came out to play with some of her friends. While not an avid viewer of "Parks and Recreation" herself, she was familiar with the show's humor and major plots. As a first-time trivia goer, she saw how adding that element to the bar scene made it more social — and competitive.

"It kind of adds a theme to it, so everyone's here for the same reason. It just gets a lot more fun, because everyone's here interacting with each other and trying to figure things out, and it just makes it more exciting," said Vankeuren.

Revamping a normative nightlife scene into one built on casual trivia shaped The Riv into a space that made drinking with friends a bit sweeter. Reeling in folks who knew how Leslie and Ben met to what city Tom Haverford grew up in, it was a welcoming event for a wide range of fans. Ringing with the sound of laughter and fiery debates, it was clear that trivia nights would become The Riv's staple.

TOP: Students pack The Riv for Parks and Recreation trivia night. TV themed trivia nights became very popular and were hosted in bars across East Lansing nearly every week.



LEFT AND BOTTOM RIGHT: Senior wide receiver Darrell Stewart Jr. prepares to throw the ball to senior quarterback Brian Lewerke. Lewerke caught the ball in the endzone for the Spartan's sole touchdown against Michigan. **TOP RIGHT:** Sophomore Xavier Henderson holds the ball as he is taken down by a Michigan player. The Spartans had seven wins and six losses during the 2018 season.



PHOTO: TOMMY MASSA



Talking with a Younger Self

Seniors reflect on life lessons after playing football at MSU

Three men in a room. They are big, really big. They look strong, really strong. They sit on chairs side by side facing a glass wall. The only thing looking back at them are their reflections. Powerful expressions that embody fervor. Each one has a different experience on the field but they all share the same tenacity for the game.

Despite the tough seven and six season for The Michigan State Spartans football program, at its core it still represented the culmination of years of dedication to valuing work ethic and improvement above status. The Spartans fought hard that year, and although the season did not go the way they wanted, they took with them the lessons that paved their journey.

"Live each day in the moment," said Matt Sokol, senior tight end. "Just take in each day, good or bad. Take in everything you can get from it. Enjoy every moment moving forward. My time in East Lansing has come to a close. It has shaped me and molded me into a better man. Take every day in and don't look too far ahead. Take each day at a time. Just enjoy every second."

Sokol graduated December 2017 with a bachelor's degree in economics and earned a master's degree in marketing research in December 2018. He played five years with the team, earning the MSU President's Award, given to a senior who showed the most perseverance on the team. His favorite memory from his graduating season was the Penn State game and being able to watch some of his teammates have highlight performances.

"Personally, I felt like my freshman self was overwhelmed," said Chase Gianacakos, senior tight end. "I want to say I knew everything. I would just be real with my younger self. You're going to get there. You're going to keep learning. Don't get down on yourself. The only thing to do to face adversity is to attack it. You're inevitably going to get knocked down. The worst thing to do is to take it lying down and not get back up. Just keep plugging along and keep trying to figure out a way to get through hard times."

Chase Gianacakos finished his career with 260 tackles, including 15 for loss, 16 pass break-ups, two forced fumbles, three fumble recoveries and one interception. He earned his master's degree in marketing research in December 2018 and his bachelor's degree in supply chain management in May 2018.

"For me, I wish I would've started off stronger academically," said Andrew Dowell, senior linebacker. "Luckily, I was able to turn to my brothers for support. You're an 18 to a 19-year-old kid. You're trying to make an impression. You have to remember to not put too much stress on yourself trying to be great. You gotta trust that things will happen naturally. Remain strong throughout the process. Trust yourself and trust God."

> "The only thing to do to face adversity is to attack it. You're inevitably going to get knocked down. The worst thing to do is to take it lying down and not get back up."

Andrew Dowell finished his career with 260 tackles, including 15 for losses, 16 pass break-ups, two forced fumbles, three fumble recoveries, and one interception. He earned his bachelor's degree in advertising management in December 2018. Not only was he named honorable mention All-Big Ten but he also earned the MSU Tommy Love Award for most improved player on defense.

Along the road to glory, there will be obstacles. There are going to be things intending to derail or push off course. Despite all this, the most important thing is to not let them control the course. Merely allow them to design it. These Spartan footballers showed nothing more than grace in defeat. They radiated Spartan spirit.

TOP RIGHT: Linebacker Andrew Dowell prepares to tackle a Michigan player. MSU had tough lost against Michigan, 21-7. **BOTTOM RIGHT:** Quarterback Rocky Lombardi runs with the ball. Lombardi played 304 snaps at quarterback during the 2018 season.



CONTENT: ADAM AUSTAD
PHOTO: TOMMY MASSA
DESIGN: ALEX RENNINGER





Got Veggies?

Living animal-free is easier than Spartans think



As a Spartan, having a meal plan was synonymous to living on campus. From roasted chicken to cheesy garlic bread, dining halls offered options to cater to a variety of diets. For vegans and vegetarians, there were meat-alternative options and plenty of veggies. However, some anti-meat Spartans still felt they were being underrepresented, with no clubs existing that catered to their dietary needs. Wanting to fill this gap, senior economics major, Samyuktha Iyer, decided to start the MSU Veg Club in 2018.

With meetings taking place every other week, the MSU Veg Club set up round-table discussions to explore different elements of vegetarianism and veganism. From the environmental impacts of going animal-free to trying unique foods, the Veg Club took what they talked about in meetings to the world around them.

"... we've had cruelty-free makeup events where we have a list of cruelty-free cosmetics that you can buy, and we did face masks that day," said Iyer, who was also co-president of the club. "Another time we had an environmental table unit, and we just basically talked about how animal agriculture impacts the environment, so we try to focus on different aspects of it during our events and center whatever activity we plan on that specific niche topic.

Though anyone was welcome to join, the Veg Club naturally consisted mostly of vegans and vegetarians. Michael Bachleda, sophomore engineering major, found the club gave him solace. Starting off the school year as a vegetarian, he slowly transitioned into a full vegan with the support of the club. Noting they offered mentorship about veg diets that he had not previously found, the Veg

CONTENT: AUTUMN MILLER
PHOTO: KAITLIN GRANT
DESIGN: LILY RISING

Club gave him a space to talk about his choices without judgement.

"Sometimes people can be rude about your decisions, but for me personally I don't really tell people I'm vegan ... most people don't really take the time to think about why people would choose to be vegan, so they don't really understand deeper concepts," said Bachleda. "They just think, 'oh I need to eat meat, I need this in my life.' If they're not willing to have a thoughtful debate about it, then I don't really talk to them about it."

> "Obviously we all care about our future and about the environment ... college students may feel like it's not feasible, but that's what resources are for, that's what our club is here for."

While also learning more about their chosen diets, many members of the Veg Club wanted to erase the stereotypes associated with eliminating meat from their plate. Gabrielle Alarie, junior environmental biology and zoology major, saw the fallacies surrounding her lifestyle choice to cut out all animal products, especially in regard to food.

"There are a lot of misconceptions out there about veganism, such as veganism is restrictive, but I've actually expanded my palate by going vegan because instead of eating the same four dead animals at every meal ... I actually learned how to cook by going vegan because I started making fresh meals instead of just eating pizza rolls and bagel bites all the time," said Alarie.

Iyer understood that vegetarianism and veganism were a lot to handle at once and saw that many students felt they could not make a huge difference on their own. She wanted to correct their thinking.

"A lot of times, when you learn about environmental issues, it's the corporations fault, or oil drilling, or things that individually are a lot harder to influence," said Iyer. "If you look at individual actions that you can take to help the environment, easily cutting out meat and dairy will be one of the highest impact. Obviously, we all care about our future and about the environment ... college students may feel like it's not feasible, but that's what resources are for, that's what our club is here for."

BOTTOM: A few members of the MSU Veg Club meet up for an impromptu meeting at Williams Hall. The club was able to assist vegetarians, vegans and others with restrictive diets navigate meals on campus with ease.



Creativity and Passion Collide

Comic art minor shows comics are about more than superheroes

Imagine a discipline where you can be whoever you want to be, do whatever you want to do and create what you want to create. Something that allows you to express yourself using words and pictures, connects you to others and allows you to build your own world. In 2016, MSU established a comic art and graphic novels minor within the College of Arts and Letters that allowed students to do what they often do not have the chance to do: create.

Assistant professor Ryan Claytor was the driving force to implement the comic art and graphic novels minor at MSU. Claytor felt that it was important to have this field of study available because when he was a child he struggled with reading, so comics were his way to improve. Since they connected words with pictures to reach a greater audience, he felt there was no limit to what a person can do with them. By teaching students about comics, Claytor was able to share his passion and teach what comics are truly about.

> "... you don't have to be an artist to make a great comic, as a great comic will come from someone with a great idea."

"We have a world-class resource at MSU, the world's largest public comic book collection, which is the hook that I largely hung this sales pitch on, as it something that we need to use and showcase," Claytor said. "Comics are a valid art form, as a combination of fine art and literature even though people think that it is less than that. It is a very diverse medium. People think that it is just superheroes in capes and tights, but it much more than that."

Since comics involve both words and pictures, the minor was incorporated within English classes and studio art classes. English professor Julian Chambliss was able to help students who already knew a significant amount about comics broaden their understanding of the topic when they walked into his classroom.

"Comics are a really important American art form," Chambliss said. "Comics in the United States have very impactful visual narrative in history whether it was through political cartoons or others. In the minor students can study comics in the community, as there are several artists connected to Michigan. [Comics] ... are intrinsic to the American experience."

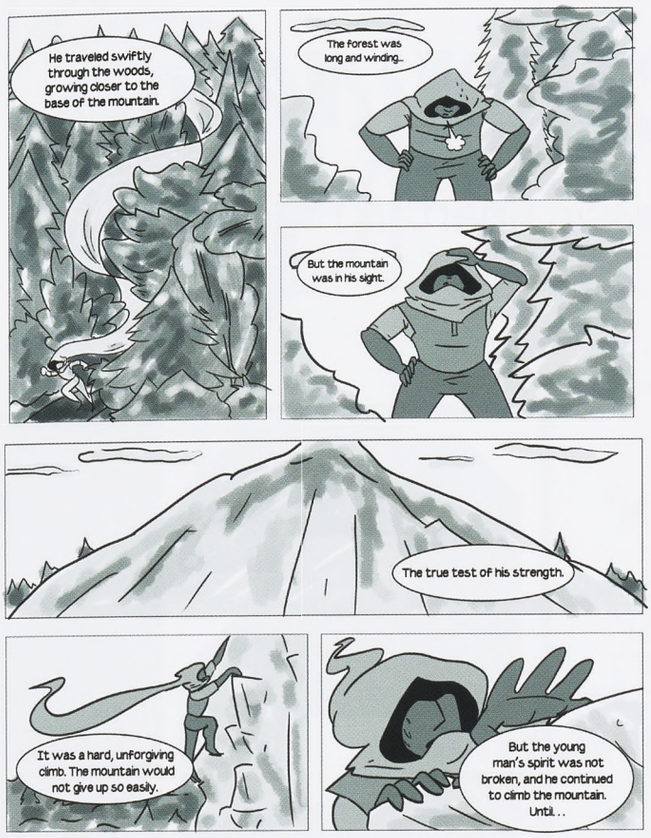
Mary Mitchell, senior graphic design major and MSU Graphic Novels Club President, was thrilled to have a comic art and graphic novels minor as a way to introduce future readers, editors, publishers and creators while promoting creative writing. Since the minor was rare, it was something special that MSU was proud to boast.

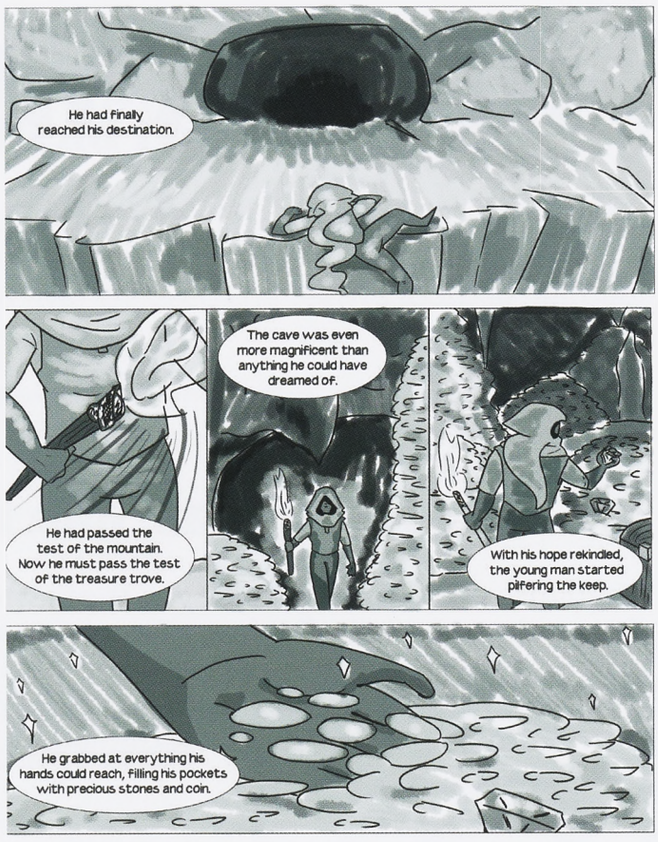
"I think the best thing about comics would be the fact that anyone can take an idea and place it into a world where your characters exist and react. They are free to do whatever they want and develop as a person could," Mitchell said. "... you don't have to be an artist to make a great comic, as a great comic will come from someone with a great idea."

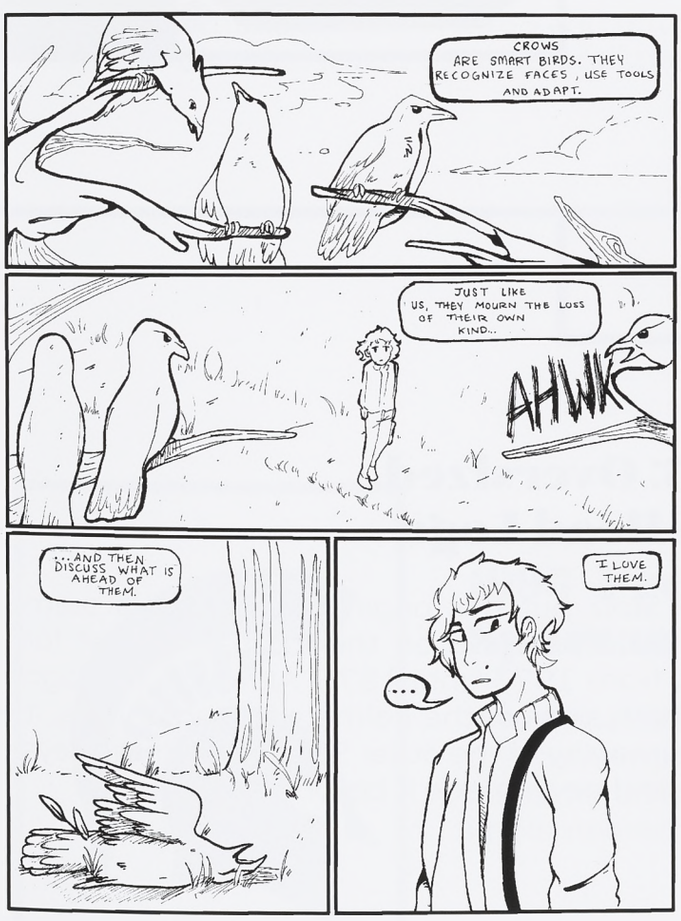
The comic arts and graphic novels minor allowed students to connect pictures, words and important topics to give them the opportunity to maintain their creativity. They were not confined to creating comics about superheroes like most would assume — they covered real world issues to make something different and beautiful.

TOP LEFT AND RIGHT: Comics by Jacqui Tonks. The comic art and graphic novels minor was created in 2016. **BOTTOM LEFT AND RIGHT:** Birth of the Crow by Mary Mitchell. Mitchell created comics that she could show to future readers and publishers.

CONTENT: MEGAN LANDON
PHOTO: VARIOUS ARTISTS
DESIGN: TAYLOR PHILLIPS







1.



2.

History of MSU Logo

The evolution of the classic Spartan helmet

1933: Block 'S'

Charlie Bachman's 1933 team was the first to rock the original block 'S' on their helmets. The logo was on the front of the helmets and remained there for over a dozen seasons throughout Bachman's whole career until he retired in 1946.





1973–1975: Oversized Spartan Head Logo

Coach Denny Stolz put this original design by a team member named Mike Hurd on the football helmet for three seasons, from 1973 until 1975. Although the logo appeared on both sides of the helmets for those years, it never made it into any of the other Spartan teams jerseys or equipment and never made it beyond the Stolz era.

CONTENT: MEGAN LANDON
PHOTO: MSU LICENSING
DESIGN: ALEX RENNINGER



1965–1966: Original Spartan Head Logo

Ahead of the 1965 season, Michigan State University held a campus-wide contest to design the very first Spartan head that would ever be used the team's football helmet.

1967–1972: Black Trimmed Spartan Head Logo

1967 came around and football coach Duffy Daugherty took the original logo that was created and voted on during the on-campus contest in 1965 and trimmed it in black instead of white. It was used up until the 1973 season.





1995–Present: Contemporary Spartan Head Logo

When Nick Saban was head coach, he decided to put the contemporary Spartan head logo back onto the helmet in 1995 amongst several other changes that he implemented to the Spartan uniforms.



Redshirt sophomore Lindsey Rudden and sophomore India Johnson lead a pack of Spartans at the annual Spartan Invitational at Forest Akers Golf Course. Both men and women placed first at the invitational, which was their second meet of the 2018 season.



PHOTO: LOGAN COLES

Race you There

Cross Country proves that running is anything but solitary

Tennis shoes smacking against dirt and grass, legs gliding past tall trees and sweat dripping down foreheads: this was the race trail for the men's and women's cross country team. Even in the hot September sun, fifth-year senior Erin McDonald set a personal record by more than 20 seconds at the 2018 Nuttycombe Wisconsin Invitational. Though she put in intense effort during her personal workouts and long runs, an individual endeavor, she cared more about the success of the runners overall.

"For the team, we're seeing [personal records] across the board," said McDonald. "Everyone seems to be continuing to get better each race and each workout as well, and it's been really cool to see the group come up as a pack and it's not just one or two really elite people."

> "It's individual in the aspect that you get an individual medal, but it doesn't mean anything unless your team is running well and if they get to go with you as well,"

Though cross country may appear to be an individual sport from the outside, it was anything but. From the immense success at the Big Ten Championships, with the men's team placing fifth and the women's second, the credit was given to the team's collective work. Matt Thomas, senior runner on the men's cross country team, was a strong athlete on his own. However, he credited plenty of his triumphs to racing alongside fellow runner, fifth-year senior Justine Kiprotich.

"It's individual in the aspect that you get to stand on the podium and that you get an individual medal, but it doesn't mean anything unless your team is running well and if they get to go with you as well," said Thomas.

The men's and women's cross country director, Walt Drenth, saw significant improvements in both teams overall this season. Drenth credited much of this success to his fellow coaches, Lisa Senakiewich, Aaron Simoneau and Chris Collier for a stellar season. The mentality of working within a team for group victory, however, didn't solely stem from lifting heavy during weight-training days or running the fastest miles during practice.

It was about the character behind the competitor. "I don't think you grow as a runner if you don't grow as a person ... you're looking for ways to be successful, and the characteristics of someone who's a good student and a good athlete and a good friend — there are a lot of commonalities there ... embracing those characteristics of success doesn't matter," said Drenth. "A lot of what they're learning will translate to their workplace and interactions with their peers ... we're trying to get all of that encompassed in here.

On and off the course, the men's and women's cross country teams were devoted to not only working on their own race times but the mutual gain of their fellow runners as well. Whether it be in jogging beside them on tough routes or supporting them during 15-mile practice runs, the encouragement from fellow Spartan athletes led the teams to victories that could only be collective.



Junior Kayla Wiitala strides through the last 800 meters of the race with another runner right behind her. Wiitala finishes the 6k race with a time of 22 minutes and 47.9 seconds.



CONTENT: AUTUMN MILLER
PHOTO: LOGAN COLES
DESIGN: LILY RISING

College of Music

The Women's Chamber Ensemble sings for sexual assault survivors

2018 was a transformative year for Spartans. Learning how to adapt in the wake of the Larry Nassar scandal, students experienced a wavering university government body and were exhausted by rushed decisions. Although events were held and on-campus resources existed for sexual assault survivors, it felt like a different kind of effort was needed to aid in the healing. The Women's Chamber Ensemble within MSU's College of Music recorded the song "I Have a Voice" to give survivors hope through melodic tones and touching lyrics.

Conducted by Dr. Sandra Snow, a choral conducting and music education professor, the Women's Chamber Ensemble was an all-women's choir. Singing "I Have a Voice" was originally composed by American folk singer Moira Smiley and performed at an invitational for high schoolers in 2017. The women of the choir brought the song back in October 2018 as their way to let survivors know that regardless of what they endured, they still had a voice. Dr. Snow believed the healing effects of music would help survivors rebuild.

"Music is a powerful form of human expression, but it is not neutral. All we can do is make an honest relationship with the text and music ourselves and sing it with generosity and love," said Snow. "It can reach those who are ready to receive it but we cannot assume it will reach all."

Wanting to connect with survivors on a myriad of mediums, the choir also recorded a music video. The video featured testimonials from choir members detailing their experiences and personal stories as women. The recording took place inside Cook Recital Hall, located in the Music Building. Sarah Beltran, junior music performance major and choir member, knew the video would speak to survivors in ways that seminars and awareness weeks could not.

"Whenever we sing it, so many of us get chills every time, or get choked up. You can feel each other around you and ... feel the energy. It's just so much stronger knowing the women I'm singing with and knowing their stories," said Beltran.

When survivors could not find the words to tell their stories, melodies took their place. Alexis Sargent, senior social relations and policy major and choir member, wanted to let survivors know through music that their personal liberation was still out there.

> "Music is a powerful form of human expression, but it is not neutral.."

"It's a song that goes pretty well with sexual assault and empowering survivors and women who are often the victims of sexual assault," said Sargent. "Saying 'I Have a Voice' tells others you can stand up against this."

Though sexual assault survivors often felt voiceless, the Women's Chamber Ensemble gave them the strength they needed through the empowering lyrics of "I Have a Voice." The melodies and harmonies resonated with survivors, reminding them of their inner power. The force and strength of the song showed all listeners they weren't alone. Together, their voices were powerful enough to change the world.





TOP RIGHT: Members of the MSU Chamber Ensemble perform Moira Smiley's "I Have a Voice" before a seminar held in Wonders Hall. The song was written in 2017 for high school students, but was revived by the College of Music in 2018. **BOTTOM RIGHT:** A chamber ensemble member uses a drum to accompany the performance. The ensemble performed an a capella version of a song as a way to give survivors hope through the voices of other women.

CONTENT: AUTUMN MILLER
PHOTO: MATT ZUBIK
DESIGN: MEREDITH BIEBER







Supervisor Tommy Thibault cooks scrambled eggs on the flat top grill. The supervisor was responsible for cooking almost all of the food purchased during a service.



PHOTO: MATT ZUBIK



Another Spartan Served

MSU Food Trucks take over campus



CONTENT: DENISE PATTERSON
PHOTO: MATT ZUBIK
DESIGN: MEREDITH BIEBER

The sizzling sounds of the MSU Food Truck's award-winning cheeseburgers frying on the grill could be heard across campus. The mouth-watering aromas graced the tips of student and faculty noses, beckoning them to hop in line. The concept for the truck was created in 2012 by then Corporate Chef and Head of Culinary Services Kurt Kwiatkowski. The idea sprung from the inconvenient construction on Shaw Hall's cafeteria, compelling Kwiatkowski to brainstorm new methods of culinary provision.

The MSU Food Truck took to-go food to the next level, serving famous burgers for lunch, gooey mac and cheese bites and a tangy homemade adobo aioli dipping sauce for late-night. You could always find the truck parked at MSU's most popular buildings, from Wells Hall to The Rock for lunch or late-night dining Monday through Friday.

"I appreciate seeing the food truck on the way to class or coming from a meeting because it removes the hassle of having to go into the cafeteria and stand in a long line to wait on food," said Jared Mosley, junior media and information major.

"For us, by us" was one of the truck's first mottos. The purpose of the food truck was not only to provide an alternative eating option, but to also give students a chance to tap into their creative culinary passions. Student employees were given the opportunity to create the MSU Food Truck's fluctuating menus and experiment with new, original recipes.

"The truck is all student-run from the cooks on the grill, to running the cash register, taking orders and calling out orders — which is what I love about it most," said senior Stephanie Golphin, student operations manager for MSU Food Trucks. "We get the opportunity to run it in a way that would be best fitting to students and even faculty that are on the move."

Sustainability was key to the functionality of the truck. Stocking the MSU Food Trucks with locally-grown ingredients was of the utmost importance to the produce staff. All fresh fruits and vegetables were purchased from a student-led organization, MSU Student Organic Farm and Bailey Urban Farm, located in the heart of Brody Neighborhood. All dairy products came from the MSU Dairy store and all meat was bought from the MSU Meat Lab.

The food truck provided more than just sidewalk eats for passers-by. It also served MSU's countless Sparty's markets across campus. What many students did not know as they swiped their MSU ID was that the salad they purchased was created and packaged by MSU Food Truck staff members. They often created unique menus for programs and education departments. Its partnership with the archaeology department helped form a menu called "Histori.". Many items on the menu were said to have been served at a historical archaeological luncheon in the 1860s.

"The truck is all student-run from the cooks on the grill, to running the cash register, taking orders and calling out orders — which is what I love about it most."

"The truck has partnered with a variety of departments, programs and events on campus. Not just to create menus that were fitting to students and staff but to also represent moments in history," said Ryan Barlow, operations coordinator and sous chef.

The hard work put into perfectly seasoning each french fry and grilling each burger did not go unnoticed. Since MSU Food Truck's establishment in 2012, it transitioned from a temporary means of nourishment to a long-standing icon on MSU's campus. With MSU delicacies cooked to perfection, students handed out each menu item with a smile. Another Spartan served.



LEFT: Supervisor Tommy Thibault works on the truck's flat-top grill. Most menu items touched the grill as they were made, and it turned into a crowded space during a busy service. **TOP RIGHT:** Poutine is a new menu item on the truck. The food truck's rendition of the Canadian snack food featured MSU Dairy Store cheese curds. **BOTTOM RIGHT:** The food truck's pulled pork sandwich features shredded carrots, sliced red onion, and a hot, honey barbecue sauce. Pulled pork was a regular item and was used in sandwiches, tacos, sliders and more.



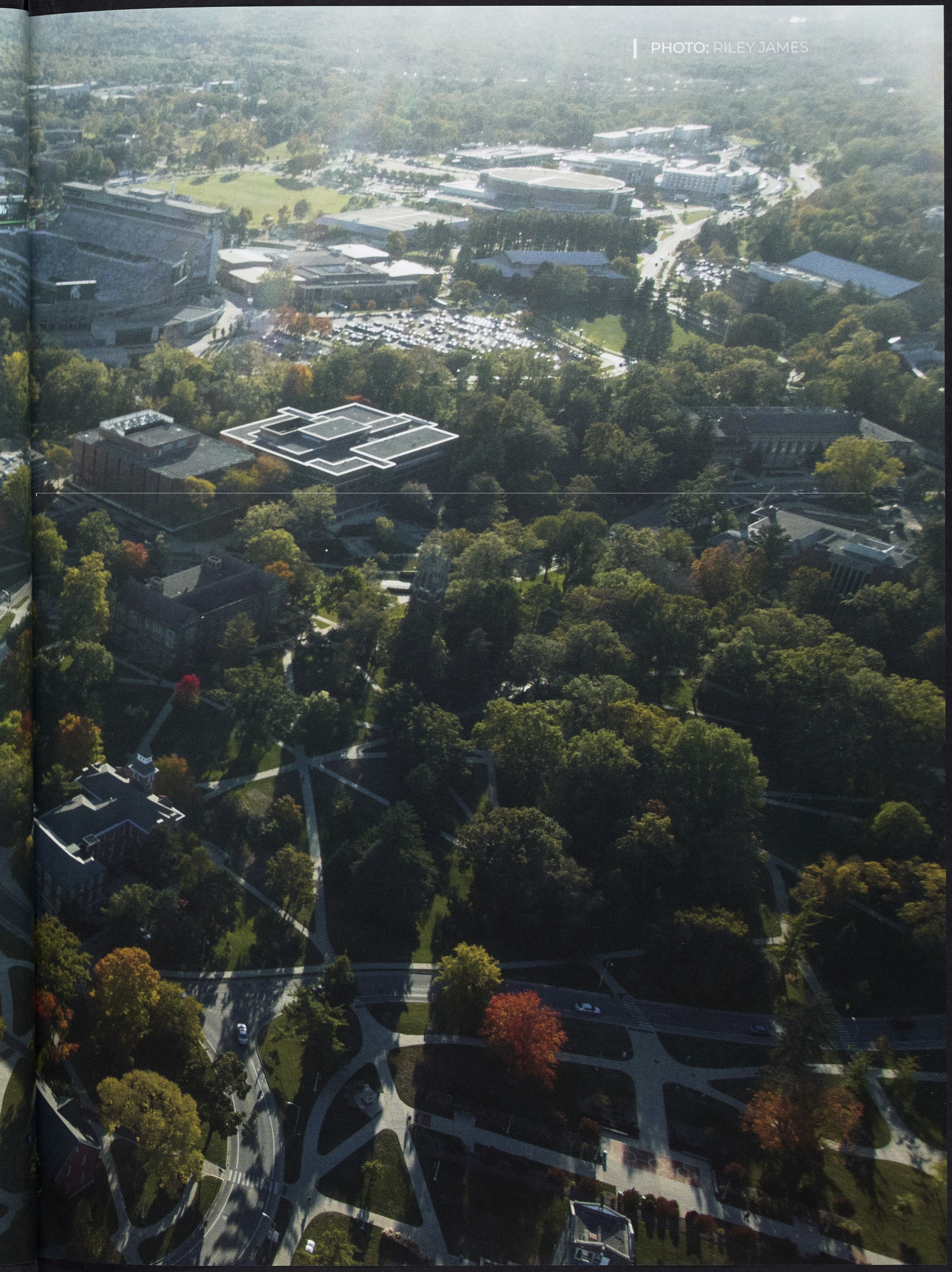


PHOTO: RILEY JAMES





WINTER

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Canvassing Collegiates

Spartans make their voices heard working on the 2018 midterm campaign trail

The 2018 midterm election had MSU's campus biting their fingernails in anticipation. The first major election since the inauguration of President Donald Trump, it was the chance many college students ached for — to once again become active in their political system. Whether it was discussing taxes or fighting for women's rights, many Spartans wanted to change the administration they lived under. Living in Michigan's capital city, there was no better way to make their voices heard than through travelling the campaign trail themselves, petitioning for candidates they were passionate about.

Jake Nessel, sophomore political theory and constitutional democracy major, had volunteered on many campaigns. With a personal belief in the changes both Abdul El-Sayed for governor and Dana Nessel — his distant cousin — for attorney general wanted to implement, he immersed himself in both campaigns. Spending his summer working nearly 10-hour days in El-Sayed's Detroit office, he knocked on doors and made phone calls to constituents across the state. To highlight Dana Nessel's efforts, he started the group Spartans for Dana, which organized phone banks and different events to give her exposure. As a part of Gen Z, Jake felt it was his duty to shine light on topics that these candidates addressed.

"There's a lot of issues that have been ignored for a long time, such as climate change, and I feel like now there's a new generation that's coming up that's really pressing these issues because they understand how important it is to their future to fix them," said Nessel. "As college students, we're ... going to be on this planet the longest, and so it's very important for us to be cautious of what our politicians are doing right now."

Adam Green, sophomore political theory and constitutional democracy major, also had copious experience working for political candidates. He helped with both State Representative Lee Chatfield and John James for senate candidates' campaigns. Knocking on doors, hosting fundraisers and plotting sign placements taught Green things about politics that his major could not.

"There were many variables to deal with and to fight in tandem with ... for me, the best attainment was the personal interactions I was able to have this summer," said Green. " ... I was forced to be put into uncomfortable situations where I could grow in my presentation skills, defense skills and overall ability to convince someone of the worth and merit of the proposal or candidate I was campaigning for."

The major election of the season was for governor of Michigan. Hannah Marsh, junior social relations and policy major, felt lucky to intern for Gretchen Whitmer. Feeling inspired after attending the Women's March in January 2018, she knew she had to join Whitmer's powerhouse female efforts. Being part of the policy team, she helped in fleshing out Whitmer's policies, answered emails and phone calls from voters, researched background information for writing policies and arranged meetings with policy experts. Spending three days a week at the office, she felt rewarded when her efforts paid off.

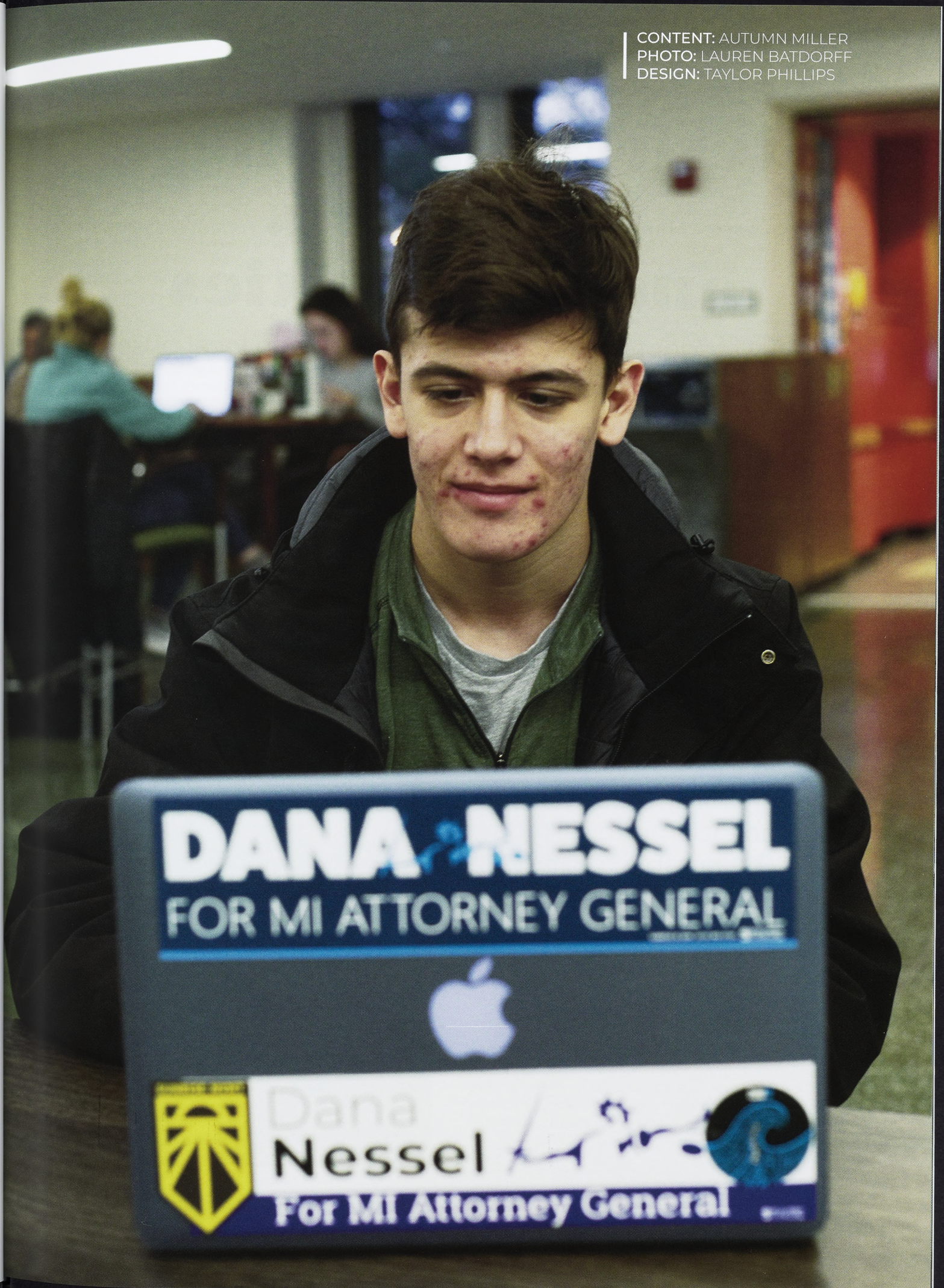
"It's one of those things where, even if we had lost, I wouldn't trade what I was able to do for anything," said Marsh. "It's so cool to work for something that's bigger than yourself, and then it works, and you think 'oh my gosh, it was worth it' ... I don't know if I've ever felt so proud of anything I've been a part of."

"I feel like now there's a new generation that's coming up that's really pressing these issues because they understand how important it is to their future to fix them."

In the midst of an ever-changing political climate, many Spartans felt it was their duty to insert their voices into the campaigns of those who they sensed would bring reform. Though many of them were new to voting, they knew their minds were not naive, but instead vehicles for transformation of the government itself.

RIGHT: Jake Nessel, sophomore political theory and constitutional democracy major, checks for updates on his computer. Nessel volunteered for several campaigns in Lansing, inlcuding Adbul El-Sayed for governor and Dana Nessel for attorney general.

CONTENT: AUTUMN MILLER
PHOTO: LAUREN BATDORFF
DESIGN: TAYLOR PHILLIPS



Residential College in the Arts and Humanities

RCAH students inspire poetic expression in local prisons

Spartans sat in the front row of the auditorium as the seventh poet, Federico, a juvenile lifer who has been imprisoned since adolescence, took the stage with a determined grin. In the rows behind the students sat a congregation of cheering prisoners from the Richard A. Handlon Correctional Facility. The occasion was a slam poetry competition which would favor three lucky inmates with a sizable helping of ice cream — a rare commodity — after dinner. The glory of a victory sundae seemed to make the battle that much more stimulating.

The Residential College in the Arts and Humanities (RCAH) free verse arts project was a reform program and MSU course taught by Guillermo Delgado, three-time nominee for the 3Arts Teaching Artist Award. Every week he picked up his students from their various campus locations, took them to a different local correctional facility and had them lead poetry workshops with prisoners interested in improving their craft. It was after working at Peckham Industries, a non-profit organization in East Lansing that hired individuals with barriers to employment, that Delgado found his mission.



> "If anything, that's what made it emotional for me, being able to create something that could reach others even if it didn't mean a whole lot to me."

"This is going to be our third year, but I've been working on [the free verse arts project] for four years," said Delgado. "It's kind of a long story, but it starts with me going from Peckham to a youth facility, just visiting at night, going from cell to cell as they called out each juvenile to read me a poem or show me a drawing. I was taken aback by the experience. They wanted someone like me to come in who had an appreciation for the arts and could give them some feedback. That one visit changed my life."

CONTENT: ADAM AUSTAD
PHOTO: KAITLIN GRANT
DESIGN: TAYLOR PHILLIPS

Some inmates present at the slam were enrolled in the only degree program that Calvin College — a Christian college located in Grand Rapids — offered prisoners: religious studies. Prisoners' poems often included mild traces of profanity which wasn't normally accepted in the program. Delgado's free verse arts project, however, gave inmates the freedom to write as they pleased.

"It's very cool that these organizations are funded by resources, but I like how our program doesn't have any kind of expectation or requirement to follow any specific religion or ideology," said Katie Harger, senior in arts and humanities. "You don't have to be a Christian to write poetry, and you shouldn't have to be Christian to get a degree. There's no quid pro quo with ours."

Having the opportunity to speak on the same stage as the authentic inmates, many students felt a shift in perspective. Cecilia Galvan, junior in arts and humanities, was surprised at how genuine the men were. It wasn't long before the words 'prisoners' and 'inmates' lost all previous connotations.

"Sharing my poem was interesting just because it didn't feel personal or anything super emotional for me, but standing up there reading it almost made it that way," said Galvan. "A few of the inmates told me that a lot of people would relate to that poem in the facility and that it was really good. If anything, that's what made it emotional for me; being able to create something that could reach others even if it didn't mean a whole lot to me."

The free verse arts project emerged as an offbeat, cathartic experience that conveyed what it meant to be human. It was a chance to get out of the classroom and into the world. A whole new world. Watching each prisoner and student take the stage to share their innermost stories unapologetically mimicked a bird breaking from its cage. As the van made its way back to MSU, there was a profound sense of spiritual healing. As if it was all the same struggle, just coming from different places.

LEFT AND BOTTOM: Zines, small homemade magazines, hang from the ceiling above a table full of zine-making supplies. The prisoners were given an outlet to express themselves artistically, and the students were able to earn credits while working towards bettering the community.



The Unification Dance

MSU Salsa Club hosts annual Masquerade Ball

Smoke permeated the room as figures danced in glittering black and gold masks, savoring the rhythm of the fast-paced latin music. Elegant gowns adorned with silk and satin sparkled against the mirrors lining the wall. Ready to dance the night away was the MSU Salsa Club, and its annual Masquerade Ball was in full swing.

The Masquerade Ball had been an annual event since 2010, but this year was different. Not only were participants draped in classy garb, but so was the Demonstration Hall ballroom. Black and silver balloons lined the dance floor and the fog machine launched a mystical haze throughout the room. This event was not only for the MSU Salsa Club, but anyone looking to enjoy a night of dancing. MSU Salsa Club President Parrisa Brown, an actuarial science PhD student, went to great heights to make the eighth annual Masquerade Ball a smashing success.

"[The Masquerade Ball] is a creative way we reflect unity in our club. We are open to all and we invite people to dress to impress," Brown said. "We take photos to capture the moment, have best dressed contest and best mask, and we encourage everyone to make the most out of this night. It's significant because it reflects the tradition of our club and it is an exciting event where students can wear a mask — a disguise — and dance."

Thang Pham, fifth year PhD student in the electrical engineering program, had no prior dancing experience when he joined the MSU Salsa Club two years prior. Pham immediately felt welcomed and encouraged to learn about all of the different styles of salsa dancing. His favorite part of the ball was seeing new faces appear, interested in practicing the countless types of salsa dancing, since both the club and event were free and open to all.

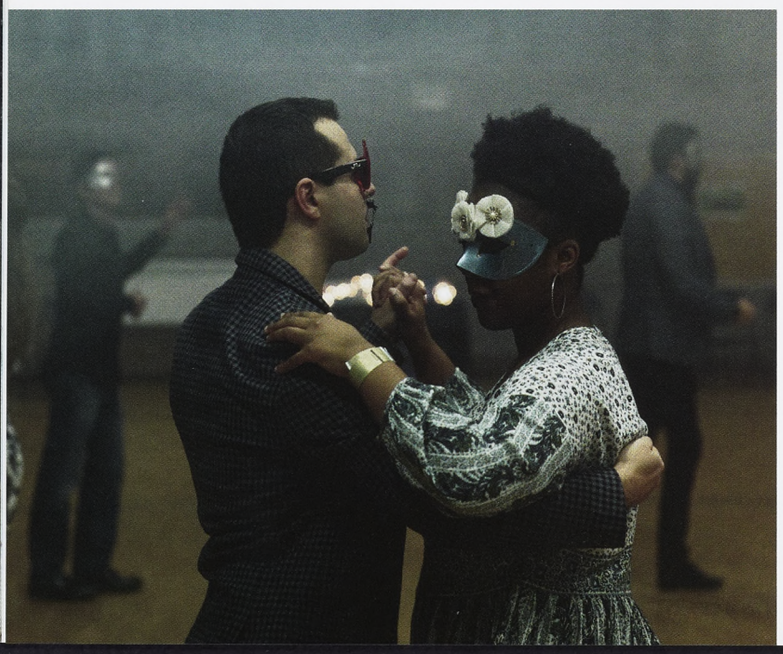
"We have several styles offered by the MSU Salsa Club; we offer salsa, bachata, kizomba, zouk and vuelta, and so we have several dancing styles that are popular in any urban cities that you can find dance floors," Pham said. "It's great to start learning here because it's also free, so it's a great way to learn different styles while not spending a lot of money. My favorite style is bachata because of its slow music and I do enjoy the slow music. I think that with the slow music and the style I can relate to the artist."

Ever since he was born in Lima, Peru, Francisco Flores, freshman agricultural economics major, had been doing the salsa. When he wasn't working back home, he was taking dance lessons at a salsa school. When he arrived to MSU, he was relieved to find a group like the MSU Salsa Club where he could continue to learn, improve and meet individuals who shared his passion. Attending his first Masquerade Ball, he was eager to be involved in such a special campus event.

"It's significant because it reflects the tradition of our club and it is an exciting event where students can wear a mask — a disguise — and dance."

"I prefer music with beat, with speed. All these Latin rhythms are based on Afro-Caribbean music and every afro music has this beat, has percussion," Flores said. "I think salsa is that kind of rhythm where you have the trumpets, you have the drums, the brass and the hit, and so you can use your body to explore every part of a song."

Everyone danced to the beat of their own drum, and on that night, it was the rhythm of salsa that beat in the hearts of the MSU Salsa Club. When midnight struck, the mysterious masked figures shed their fancy attire as their dancing shoes turned to slippers. It was a night to remember.



BOTTOM LEFT: MSU's salsa club hosts a masquerade ball in Demonstration Hall. Students practiced with the club on Sundys from 3-6 p.m. **RIGHT:** Two students meet on the dance floor at the ball. Members and non-members alike wore masks and practiced several types of salsa dancing.



CONTENT: MEGAN LANDON
PHOTO: LOGAN COLES
DESIGN: TAYLOR PHILLIPS





TOP LEFT: A Spartan swimmer takes off from the blocks. This was the first time this season that the women's swim team faced off against Rutgers. **BOTTOM LEFT:** The Spartan swimming and diving team cheer on their teammates. Rutgers defeated the Spartans, 151-149. **RIGHT:** A Spartan swims the butterfly. The Spartans posted top times in several events, but came up short against the Scarlet Knights.



PHOTO: LAUREN BATDORFF

Going Down in History

Seniors lead swim team with all-time top ten records



It's go time. They shed their warm-up gear, stretch out and step up to the blocks, carefully adjusting their caps and goggles. They take their marks and dive gracefully into the awaiting water as the official hits the start horn.

Seniors Ana Sortland and Ellie Roche spent the last four years in the pool for the MSU swim team. In their time as Spartan athletes, they both worked their way into the top ten all-time in several categories. Among several other top times, Sortland earned the top time in the women's 100 breaststroke and Roche earned the second top time. Roche also took the top spot all-time in the women's 200 breaststroke. Between the two, they not only broke records, but were also leaders that moved the program in an upward direction as a whole.

"[Ana and Ellie] have done a really great job and really improved quite a bit," said Head Coach Matt Gianiodis. "They came in here as people who were right on the edge of being Big Ten level swimmers, and they pushed themselves to a level where they are national level kids."

Sortland was honored to represent MSU in such a positive light. Despite the lack of outstanding equipment and facilities other elite swimming programs enjoyed, Sortland was able to grit her teeth and work through the challenge with hard work and endless time spent in the pool. Not only was she able to break records and make huge time improvements, but she also left an impact on the team through leading by example.

"One time when I was a freshman we were practicing

CONTENT: MEGAN LANDON
PHOTO: LAUREN BATDORFF
DESIGN: TAYLOR PHILLIPS

a block drill and [Coach Kathleen] told me 'You know, if you're not going to do this with confidence, don't even bother doing it at all,' and obviously when you're a freshman and you hear that you're a little taken aback," Sortland said. "If you don't have the confidence going into it, try to exude it — you know that sort of fake-it-till-you-make-it attitude — I think really stands true in just being comfortable out there as a student-athlete."

Roche, a senior special education major, came onto the swim team as a freshman — eager to have a spot on the team. She never saw herself a potential record holder, especially after struggling significantly in her first year. But she gradually improved, cut a substantial amount of time and eventually became the positive leader that she hadn't dared to dream she would be. As her times improved in the pool, so did her confidence and work ethic. It took her an entire season to recognize that she was much more than just a member of the team, she could make a difference in the program.

"It's not something I ever thought was a possibility when I came to Michigan State," Roche said. "... just to have that place in history; it's really cool to see the times go down in history because you know that you're a part of the program and you're part of making the swim team faster, and I guess my greatest hope is that the girls will continue to break those records and top times."

"It's really cool to see the times go down in history because you know that you're a part of the program and you're part of making the swim team faster, and I guess my greatest hope is that the girls will continue to break those records and top times."

The once still water quivers as they roar down their lanes toward the finish. Splashing with all of their might, they push their hands to the edge of the pool. All their time and hard work put in during the course of their four years as Spartans mirrors this moment, behind the scenes at IM West, racing in a pool by themselves. That's how records are broken — by the work put in when no one else is watching.

TOP LEFT: A member of MSU's swim team swims breaststroke. The women's team had strong performances in the 200 IM and 100 breaststroke. **RIGHT:** A Michigan State diver gains momentum as she repeatedly bounces on the board. The women's diving team placed first and third in the 3-meter dive and second and third in the 1-meter dive.



Black Power!

Spartans organize a movement based on identity

As the days of Martin Luther King Jr. and Medgar Evers faded into memory, the helm of civil rights leadership fell to a new generation of leaders. Students did not merely follow in the footsteps of these great figures, but rather blazed their own trail. Members of the Black Student Alliance at MSU aimed to create a better future for minorities and, by extension, everyone. In the fall of 2018, the Black Student Alliance organized a powerful event that would be billed as the 46th Annual Black Power Rally.

The Black Power Rally began in 1972 as black nationalism picked up steam across the nation. From the rally's humble beginnings, it grew rapidly in the 46 years since its founding. Black Student Alliance Historian,Antoine Taylor, appreciated the metamorphosis of the event. Taylor, a senior advertising major, had been with Black Student Alliance since his sophomore year. Helping plan the 2018 rally was a highlight of his college career.

"We start planning in August with picking a theme, picking a guest speaker, a director, a writer for the script and we go into auditions to pick who is the best fit for the theme of the play," Taylor said. "This year's theme is called "Black Mirror," which focuses on the topics of abuse and the inner issues that happen inside the black community. A lot of these topics don't get discussed so the [Black Power Rally] is a place where we can all discuss these issues and figure out how to do better in our community."

Planning the event was a colossal task that only the most dedicated students could hope to execute. Orchestrating the order and content of the rally's events all weighed on the Black Student Alliance executive board. Marisa Elzy, Black Student Alliance vice president and junior arts and humanities major, was responsible





CONTENT: RYAN HOPPENWORTH
PHOTO: LORA FARAJ
DESIGN: MEREDITH BIEBER

for organizing the rally in the board's image. Elzy took on this challenge with a tenacity that comes naturally to true leaders.

> "The main thing I want people to take away from the event is the agency that black people have. I want the Black Power Rally to show, and I think it has always shown, our free will and autonomy.."

"I oversee and coordinate every aspect of the show alongside the president of the Black Student Alliance," Elzy said. "The main thing I want people to take away from the event is the agency that black people have. I want the Black Power Rally to show, and I think it has always shown, our free will and autonomy."

As the days ticked down to the Nov. 11, 2018, Black Student Alliance made final preparations. For veteran members of Black Student Alliance, including President Miracle Chatman, senior mathematics major — this rally would be their finest hour. During the fall semester she worked tirelessly to ensure that the rally functioned seamlessly.

"I oversee everything that goes on and I delegate certain members of the executive board to certain tasks," Chatman said. "We brainstorm on certain issues in the black community and we brainstormed on what we want the entire show to look like. After that we found creative people in the black community and gave them that platform to showcase their talent."

As the curtains closed on the 46th Black Power Rally, members of Black Student Alliance rejoiced in another successful year of celebrating black identity. The atmosphere inside the Wharton Center was reverent at times and ecstatic at others as the acts delved into the complexities of what it meant to be black in America. The success of the event could only be attributed to the adept planning of the Black Student Alliance. The rally solidified the strength of a generation determined to fight injustice and work toward the equality of people, just as their predecessors had done years before.

BOTTOM LEFT AND TOP RIGHT: Members of the Black Student Alliance prepare and practice for the 2018 Black Power Rally. The Black Power Rally originated in 1972 as a way to discuss issues and strengthen the community.



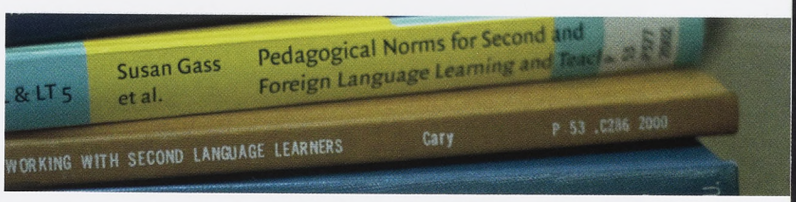
Making America Home

Community members help international students acclimate

In 1961, wives of MSU faculty members noticed that many international students appeared to be lacking proper winter attire. What started as a simple charity clothing drive collecting winter coats and clothing for students turned into a permanent program: Community Volunteers for International Programs. It consisted of resources for international students, one of those being the International Friendship Program, that matched international students with "friends" in the Greater Lansing community.

International Friendship Program chose families and individuals in the Lansing community that wanted to be "friends" of international students. Being a friend meant that they would make an effort to help those students become accustomed to American life, meeting with them on a weekly, biweekly or monthly basis. Larry Karnes was the chairman of the International Friendship Program in his 13th year with the organization. His job included overseeing the matching of students to friends in the area and recruiting others to be friends with international students. Karnes' favorite part, though, was that he and his wife were able to match with students of their own, becoming the "American family" for these international students.

CONTENT: MEGAN LANDON
PHOTO: EMILEE NAZARETH
DESIGN: ALEX RENNINGER





"Living in a foreign country with a foreign language, I can't imagine what [international students] are going through," Karnes said. "Communication is so important, and most friends treat the students as a part of their family ... I stress communication, asking questions; we're here to learn about each other, and one of my parting words is 'don't let language be a barrier to developing friendships.'"

Lisa Homeniuk spent nearly seven years as a member of Community Volunteers for International Programs and was the organization's president in 2018. It was rewarding for Homeniuk to build relationships with international students, providing them with opportunities specifically available through International Friendship Program involvement. International students relished in the chance to attend fun events with American friends and even spend the holidays with their U.S. families.

"We bring community members in touch with MSU international families. Many of the community members have traveled, and they know what it's like to be in a country and not be familiar," Homeniuk said. "They can bring their experiences to the international student, and the international student can bring their home culture [to families]."

Binbin Wang was a member of the International Friendship Program and one of Karnes' "daughters" from China since 2012. As an MSU undergraduate, she received her degree in hospitality and went on to study toward a master's degree in advertising at MSU. Wang considered herself lucky to have been matched with Karnes and his wife.

"First, I think they have helped me to improve my language, definitely. Before I met them, it was really hard for me to talk to someone with English, I had no confidence at all ..." Wang said. "During the [holidays] it's really lonely here, so they always will invite us to get together and celebrate the [holidays]. They are really nice, and it is really wonderful to meet someone here and treat you really good, like, I have a family here too."

We bring community members in touch with MSU international families."

One of Karnes' favorite experiences was going to Asia to visit one of his "daughters". Children approached him to practice their English and learn about American culture. This gave Karnes the chance to exit his comfort zone and understand what life was like for his "daughters" from all over the world. Without the International Friendship Program, this would never have been possible. In the program's years at MSU, it became an integral part of acclimating international students to the United States. Not only did it help international students understand American culture, but it immersed the local community in the cultures of others.

TOP: Linguistics books sit on the shelves of the MSU Library. Students in the International Friendship program often had the chance to practice speaking different languages and attend holidays with their U.S. families.

Dance like it's Diwali

MSU Indian Student Organization celebrates the festival of lights

It was calming coming into the second floor gymnasium of the IM Circle building where a crowd of community members gathered around a shrine-like table listening to a prayer. Walking up to them, the half-circle's attentive energy seemed to generate enough heat to thaw the frozen forefingers from braving a chilly night. Candles were lit, incense was burned and the sacredness of the spectacle was striking to the onlooker. This was Diwali.

Diwali was known as the Hindu festival of lights, a celebration that coincides with the darkest new moon night of the Hindu Lunisolar month Kartika in the Bikram Sambat calendar. In celebration of this occasion, members of the Indian Student Organization at MSU put on an annual event for the local community. Centered around Indian folk dance and cultural cuisine, people from all different backgrounds got a taste of the Hindu tradition.

"The festival of lights is the biggest and most widely celebrated festival by the Indians," said Aditya Patil, second year doctoral student and treasurer of the Indian Student Organization. "It signifies the victory of good over evil. According to Hindu mythology, Lord Rama returned back to his home after spending fourteen years in exile and defeating the evil Ravana. The people of his kingdom celebrated his return by lighting earthen lanterns all over the place to welcome him. Thus the name festival of lights."

> "I already knew how accepting and loving Hindus are. In my opinion, they are the most accepting and peaceful of the monotheistic religions."

To begin the festival, visitors were instructed in the importance of Diwali and the purpose of prayer. Through prayer, one could ask the Goddess Laxmi for wealth, but wealth did not merely represent material possession in Hindu culture. When one prayed for wealth they were also asking for spiritual wealth — a cleansing.

"The prayer, or puja, is always a customary tradition before beginning the celebrations," said Sachin Devnathan, second year master's student and president of the Indian Student Organization. "It is offered to Goddess Laxmi — the goddess of wealth. The people of a nation pray to her to obtain her blessings; to shower them with health prosperity and happiness. As the festival has a religious connection with the Hindus, people always perform a puja seeking blessings before the happy celebrations."

After the prayer, attendees gathered around as a man and woman swished back in forth in a jubilant dance. Minutes later, members from the group took a partner and mimicked the dance steps. In a matter of seconds, the room was ablaze with laughter and excitement. One by one, the dances spread across the room until even the dubious observers became participants in the collective circle of self-explorative movements and cathartic swaying.

"I heard about Diwali night from my friend who is Hindu/Trinidadi ..." said Evran Ural, a doctoral student. "I was surprised that they danced at a religious event. The dance was very similar to Turkish style dancing in certain regions. I already knew how accepting and loving Hindus are. In my opinion, they are the most accepting and peaceful of the monotheistic religions."

The longer the dance carried on, the more passionate and enthusiastic the body expressions became. Several chants in Hindi echoed around the gymnasium as if to call upon the forces of nature and spirit. A primal force emanated in the center of the circle that dispersed to every attendee — elderly and children alike. The essence was contagious and transcendent. In this room, there was no doubt. No fear. Just freedom.

TOP RIGHT: Members from the East Lansing community hold sticks, or dandiyas in their hands. Everyone was engaged in the traditional folk dance of Dandiya.. **BOTTOM RIGHT:** Puja stands for honor, homage, reverence and worship. The table was decorated with ritual items that were used in puja.

CONTENT: ADAM AUSTAD
PHOTO: LOGAN COLES
DESIGN: ALEX RENNINGER







Uniting Campus Through Integration

College of Law becomes an official member of the MSU family

Walking past the CATA bus station and Shaw Hall, students and visitors gazed up at the John F. Schaefer Law Library. Named after John F. Schaefer, donor and adjunct professor at the College of Law for more than 30 years, the law library became a hub for informational and essential online and print reference materials that were accessible to law students. While many knew of the law college's existence on MSU's campus, some were unaware that the college itself had been an independent, affiliated private school until fall 2018.

On Oct. 26, 2018, the MSU Board of Trustees voted to fully integrate the MSU College of Law into the university. Officials at MSU decided they needed a law school that would add to Spartan traditions while supplementing and enhancing academic experiences of MSU law students.

"Since the original affiliation 23 years ago, the relationship between the university and the law college has grown increasingly close," said Lawrence Ponoroff, dean and professor in the MSU College of Law. "Full integration is the next logical step and one that will resound to the benefit of both institutions by creating new opportunities for interdisciplinary programs, initiatives and research."

The MSU College of Law was originally named the Detroit College of Law, but when the college became affiliated with MSU in 1995, its permanent location moved to East Lansing and its name changed to MSU

CONTENT: HELEN KORNEFFEL
PHOTO: LOGAN COLES
DESIGN: MEREDITH BIEBER

College of Law. Future MSU law students expressed excitement about the integration of the two schools, as it would come into effect during the first few years upon attaining their undergraduate degrees.

"I think the integration will help build connections between faculty at MSU and students who are planning on going to law school," Allison Shudark, sophomore pre-law student, said. "These connections will definitely help me and other pre-law students get an idea of what it will be like to actually be in law school. Bringing the two schools together will give students the opportunity to share knowledge between each other, which I think will prove to be extremely beneficial."

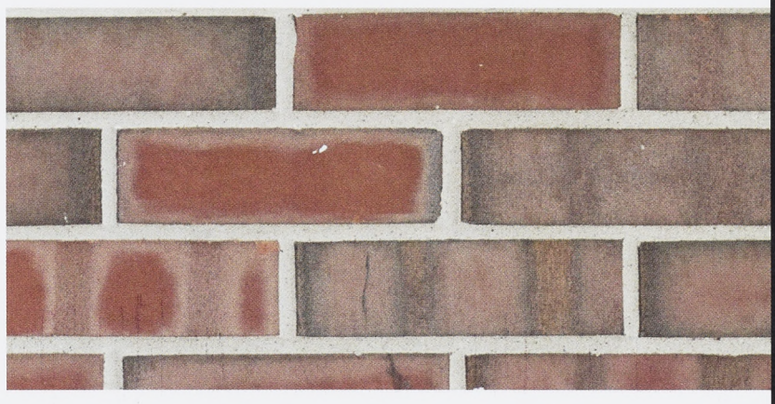
Law students at the MSU College of Law were also interested in the integration into MSU. They knew that the transition was going to take 12 to 18 months to complete, so it would not directly affect the students graduating in 2018 or 2019. Despite this, they were excited for the future development and recognized its value.

"I think that this integration is going to be handled really well and that this is going to be a positive change for law students," said Rachel Moran, a second-year law student. "When people hear that we're only affiliated with MSU, they have a lot of questions. Once we become fully integrated, I hope we receive more recognition on campus and that enrollment rates will go up."

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The purpose of the integration of two prestigious academic institutions was to bring numerous opportunities to both current and future law students. The MSU College of Law had long been an establishment on MSU's campus, but once the integration process was finalized, it became an official member of the Spartan family.





TOP LEFT: The College of Law is being fully integrated with MSU this year. Since its establishment in 1891, the private college was only affiliated with MSU.


CAM 1
JVC

CONTENT: MEGAN LANDON
PHOTO: LOGAN COLES
DESIGN: TAYLOR PHILLIPS

MSU TV: For Spartans, By Spartans

Bringing student production ideas to life

For the first time in nearly a decade since the Residence Halls Association (RHA) TV — an old cable TV station on campus that allowed students to host content — ended, student programming was returning. Students in the halls of the Communication Arts and Sciences building gazed up at the television screens, and saw content produced by their fellow classmates. Students were producing short films, sports highlights, interviews and the Spartan Newsroom's student-run newscast, Focal Point News, on MSU's very own television station: MSU TV.

MSU TV was a new addition to MSU's abundant creative opportunities offered in the 2018-2019 school year. It was a brand new television station that gathered content from all over MSU's various disciplines on campus, not just the arts programs. Professor Troy Hale and student leaders Zoe Kissel and Elizabeth Keller wanted MSU TV to be comprised of content crafted by students of all ages and all academic focuses, from nursing majors to history buffs.

"Our goal is to involve students and programs from all of MSU's colleges to create a channel that is made for Spartans," said Kissel, a senior majoring in media and information. "Whether you want breaking news, access to the latest concerts, your favorite sports games, cutting edge research or student-produced films, MSU TV has something for you. As a student leader, I hope to help students bring their visions to life, no matter their level of experience. I think the process of making your own production and seeing it through to completion is very important, and with MSU TV we are able to help students experience that."

Keller, a junior media and information major, got involved with MSU TV early in the summer of 2018, when Hale insisted vaguely that he was going to do "something" to get students on campus to produce their own content. One day, he brought Keller and Kissel into the Communication Arts and Sciences production studio and revealed his potential plans for MSU TV. He then asked them to head the project. They said yes, and MSU TV took off.

"Working with different colleges I think is the most exciting part, and I've already had a few people when I mention MSU TV say 'oh I've seen that in [Communication Arts and Sciences],' Keller said. "They've seen it here, so we're hoping to spread it to other colleges, talk to the dining halls and see if we can get them to show our station there, and also get content for colleges that aren't in the media industry just because we don't always see that side of it."

"Our goal is to involve students and programs from all of MSU's colleges to create a channel that is made for Spartans."

Even though Hale took the initial dive into the project, his mission was to find students that would eventually take the reigns of the program. While he still wanted to help with production and work hands-on with participating pupils, he hoped students would take ownership of their own work, thoughtfully crafted and produced for television.

"The station is for everyone, it's not just for our college," Hale said. "We want it to be something that alumni can watch, we want it to be something that professors can watch ... I don't want this just to be aimed at my college that I work for. I don't want it aimed just at people who live in dorms, I want everyone to have a part of this and feel like they are part of it."

The small seed of an idea turned into a reality was an amazing feeling for Spartans involved in the launch of MSU TV. Whether they produced a short film, created a fiction drama series or perfected their sports broadcasting through the Spartan Sports Report newscast, the station made room for everyone. Students were filled with pride as they saw their content taking over the screens in Communication Arts and Sciences, hoping to someday see it elsewhere on campus. MSU TV was a television station created for Spartans, by Spartans.

LEFT: Focal Point News is MSU's student news show. Troy Hale, professor for the School of Journalism, helped create MSU TV.

Safe Space

Recovery Housing gives students a living space to promote healing

Drug addiction was not something many associated with the college lifestyle. It was often pegged as an issue faced by those in older demographics. Addiction was something all ages battled with and it was a pressing issue faced by Spartans, causing them to feel unseen. Admitting that extra help was needed was hard to do, especially with fear of judgement from peers and a limited number of safe spaces on campus to reach out to. Seeing a lack of physical havens for recovering Spartans to heal, the Collegiate Recovery Community within Student Health Services at MSU implemented Recovery Housing in the fall of 2018.

Located in an undisclosed campus location, Spartans could apply on Olin Health Center's website to reside in Recovery Housing. Accepted students were offered a "normal" dorm lifestyle, except with extra peer assistance, accountability and guidance from a Recovery Housing support person. Additionally, they enrolled in the Collegiate Recovery Program to aid in their healing process. In these living spaces, Spartans had their own rooms, offering a warm sense of privacy. Dawn Kepler, Collegiate Recovery Program coordinator, recognized the importance of having a physical space for students to heal in.

"It's really important for that part of the recovery process because you need extra support in place, and environment is really important, especially in that beginning part of recovery," said Kepler. "Having an environment that you're in all the time, a living environment in particular, is important to know that you have a safe and supportive place to go."

In Recovery Housing, students were encouraged to lead normal lives by joining clubs, engaging in class and enjoying the countless amenities MSU offered. Through clubs like the Traveler's Club, which gave students in recovery a place to socialize in a sober environment, Spartans still had a "typical" college experience. Cara Ludlow, a licensed master social worker within Student Health Services, noted that building strong friendships and being social were key aspects of the healing process.

"Recovery Housing provides an environment where these relationships and connections can develop," said Ludlow. "Through substance-free activities like sober tailgates ... and 'family meals,' students can connect with other students who are also navigating the challenges of college academics [and] social engagements."

The initial plan was to launch Recovery Housing in the fall of 2019, but members of the Collegiate Recovery Program felt prompted to begin sooner. With four active members living in Recovery Housing in November, the program was confident that students in need would continue to apply and join. Will Vaughn, senior secondary education major, was enrolled in Recovery Housing himself. As a student, he was a Recovery Housing support person and a certified Peer Recovery coach in Michigan, allowing him to personally heal while also helping others navigate through their addiction. Though he stayed clean and continually improved, he occasionally doubted himself and questioned his feats. This didn't mean his progress was stunted, though.

"That's where the growth happens — through the times when school is stressing me out and I don't know how I can even get up the next day and go do it, then actually doing it and ... seeing the perseverance and ... the other students is just really cool," said Vaughn. "It's a relatable thing, and it's a beautiful thing to see people get through stuff."

"Having an environment that you're in all the time, a living environment in particular, is important to know that you have a safe and supportive place to go."

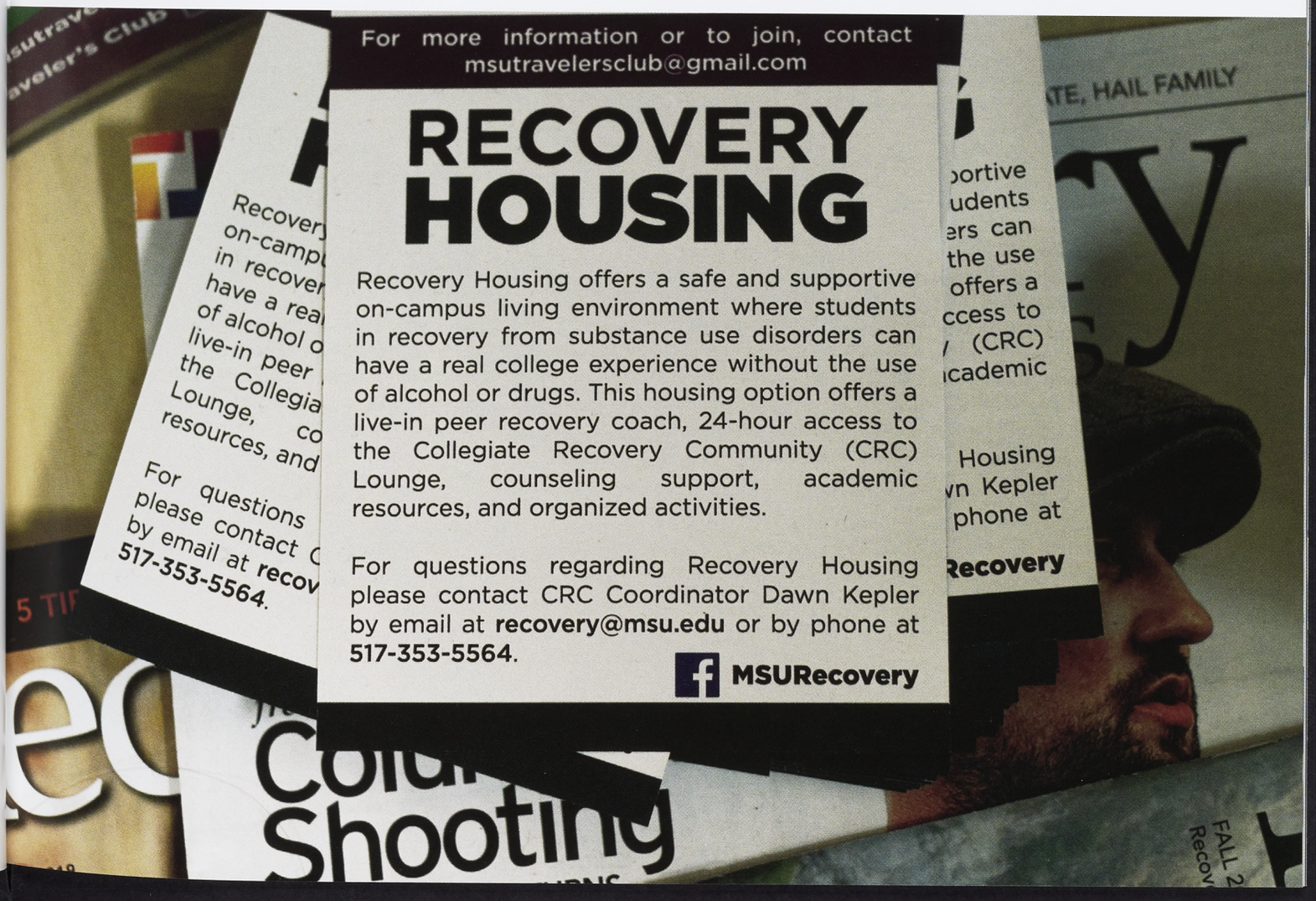
Given the proper tools, Spartans enrolled in Recovery Housing thrived. They were accepted without judgement through forming a strong community, and understood that their addiction did not own them, but that they owned their addiction. Finding someone who could relate to their struggles right next door made the road to self-improvement one filled with optimism and hope. It was never too late.

TOP RIGHT: Will Vaughn, a senior at MSU and member of Recovery Housing, poses in front of a sign. Vaughn shared his story of recovery and how Recovery Housing helped him. **BOTTOM RIGHT:** Recovery Housing provides on-campus housing for MSU students who have substance abuse issues. Drug and alcohol free housing are made available as well as resources to assist students in their recovery.

CONTENT: AUTUMN MILLER
PHOTO: KAITLIN GRANT
DESIGN: TAYLOR PHILLIPS

The POWER of RECOVERY: LIVING PROOF





Exploring Mental Health

Demetrius Harmon changes the narrative surrounding mental health

Hundreds of students gathered in the Erickson Kiva with anticipation. They all awaited internet personality Demetrius Harmon, prepared to hear him tell his story at the "Exploring Mental Health: Breaking Stigmas through Self-Authenticity" event. The Detroit native rose to fame on Vine as a comedian, but admitted to himself, even after garnering thousands of followers, that he was severely depressed. After preparing himself with extensive online reach, he decided to use his platform to discuss the taboos surrounding mental illness.

"People didn't ask me if I was ok or if I needed anything because I was always an independent kid. My parents and siblings were doing their own thing. They had their own issues to work out," said Harmon. "Mental illness is not always visible, therefore we need to make sure that we are checking on our strong friends and family members even if we think that they don't need it."

Harmon was asked to speak at MSU by senior Terran Davis, human development and family studies major. Davis wanted to initiate the conversation about mental health and identity amongst his peers. On Nov. 13, 2018, Spartans crowded around the social media mogul, eager to delve into the stigmatized issue. The lecture stirred discussion and Davis immediately knew Harmon had been the right man for the job.

"I believe programs are needed that will help students process their experiences, but we are also in need of spaces where students can feel vulnerable and be comfortable exploring different parts of themselves," said Davis. "It starts with student organizations being more intentional with the spaces and events they facilitate."

Harmon knew as early as middle school that there was something different about him. At the time, he was the youngest sibling in a family that was beginning to crumble. Harmon believed he was the reason that his parent's marriage ended, leading to his first depressive episode and extreme anxiety. He began cutting himself on his arms and using drugs as an immediate physical distraction for his internal pain.

As his words flowed into the empty space of the Kiva, a weight could be seen lifting from his shoulders. Harmon was able to unpack his previous inability to verbalize his sentiments concerning his mental health to family and friends. He believed that his lack of self-expression was in part due to the idea that in African American households, men are not allowed to be vulnerable because it's often considered a sign of weakness.

In closing, Harmon gave tips on what students should do when or if they experience depression. He first suggested that students to allow themselves to feel their emotions and not let society's expectations of who they were supposed to be affect their behavior. He recommended that they talk to someone, whether it be friends, family or professional clinical help. Lastly, he pushed Spartans to be intentional in who they surround themselves with. During his depressive episodes, he made sure to surround himself with individuals that would not trigger or worsen the incidents.

"Mental illness is not always visible, therefore we need to make sure that we are checking on our strong friends and family members even if we think that they don't need it."

"My takeaway was that it's a long road to have everyone understand mental health in depth, but talking is the first step, and friend support is crucial," said Davante Cole, sophomore human capital and society major.

Young people are changing the narrative surrounding mental health and social media influencers like Demetrius Harmon are helping to pioneer this movement. The stigma encompassing mental health could not be removed overnight, but developing a plan to get people talking was the first step. Vulnerability was encouraged because without being open, no change could be made.

RIGHT: Demetrius Harmon talks to the crowd during his appearance on campus. The turnout to Harmon's conference filled up Michigan State's Kiva, where fans sat on the floor and in between seats.

CONTENT: DENISE PATTERSON
PHOTO: LORA FARAJ
DESIGN: ALEX RENNINGER



Wandering to Wells

Students use many routes to get to the heart of campus

Lying between two of MSU's most iconic gems — Spartan Stadium and the flowing Red Cedar River — is one of the most occupied buildings on campus: Wells Hall. Sitting in the center of campus, there are an infinite number of routes that students took to Wells. Some students simply walk along the crowded campus streets to get their quickly and routinely, others got creative. Regardless of the paths their feet took, students often stuck to their habitual route.

Amanda Capaldi, sophomore business major, often found herself rushing to Wells Hall for her basic economics courses from Brody Neighborhood. Getting halfway across campus in a short period of time could be a daunting task, but Capaldi used the bike lanes to her advantage.

"I take river trail because it's the most direct route from the Brody area. I like that there's a bike lane," Capaldi said. "I pretty much always take the same route because of routine and habit. It's second nature for me. I don't know street names and am terrible with directions so once I find a way that works for me to get somewhere, I stick to it."



CONTENT: MEGAN LANDON
DESIGN: TAYLOR PHILLIPS

Shannon Torpey, a sophomore applied engineering major, biked to Wells Hall from her house off-campus on Spartan Ave. Most of her usual routes consisted of riding through the busy streets like Farm Lane.

"I usually take the same route but some days I take different routes because of stoplights and foot traffic," Torpey said. "It's pretty much just second nature at this point, I never really pay attention to anything other than traffic."

"My favorite part is walking through the football stadium parking lot. I have a lot of great memories made so far in the stadium. Walking by it before reaching my class at Wells brightens my day and helps me stay positive throughout my long day of classes."

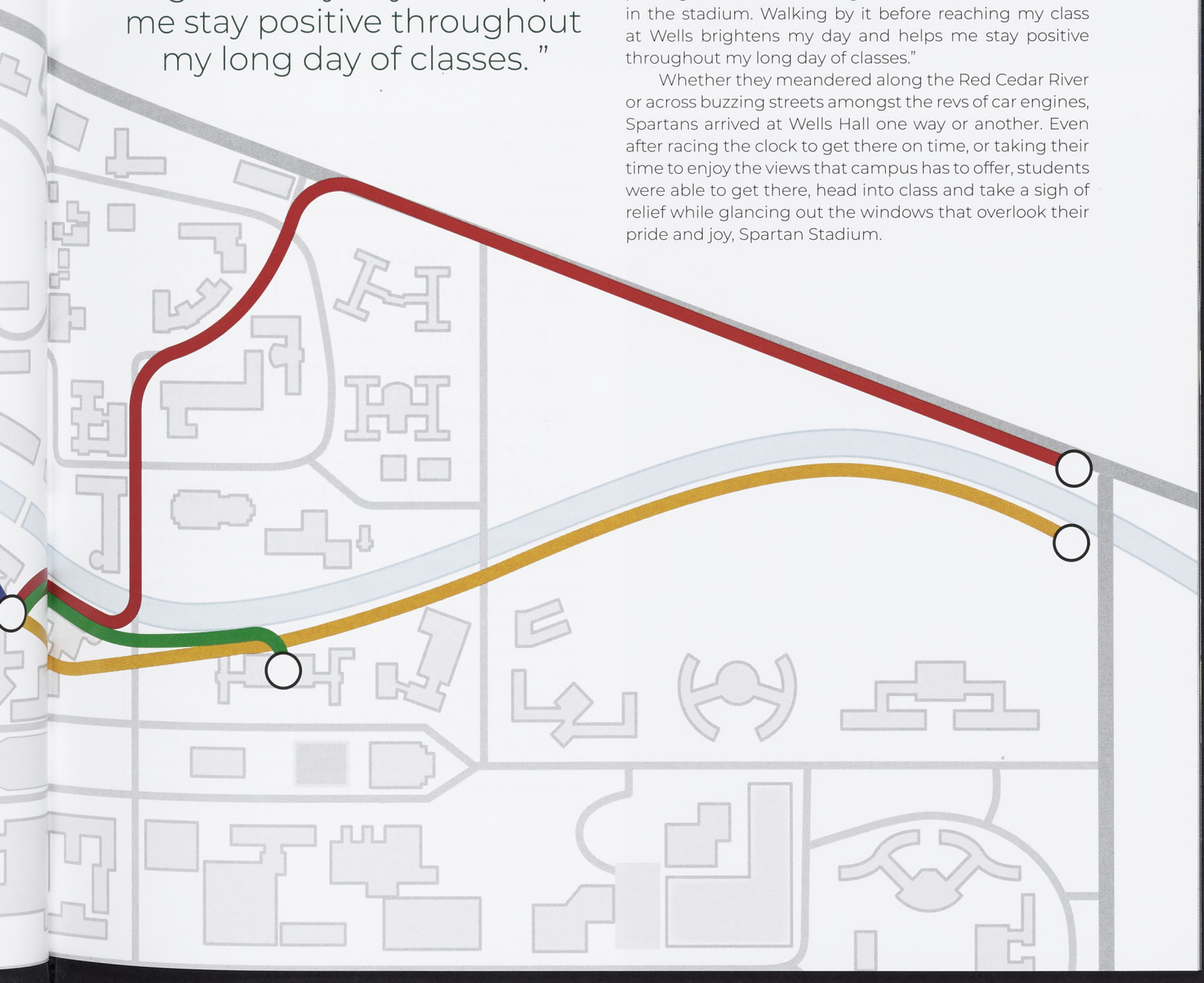
Sophomore human biology major Monique Lynd walked from her dorm in Hubbard Hall to Wells every day for class her freshman year. Because it is such a hike from East Campus, she took a route that was a straight shot to Wells so that she could enjoy her walk instead of feeling rushed.

"I just took Shaw Lane all the way down [from Hubbard Hall] and then turned onto Red Cedar," Lynd said. "I took this route because it was the most direct way, there's not many turns and I'm not really one to search for shortcuts."

Syri Ammon, a freshman James Madison political science student, headed to Wells from her classes in Wilson Hall. Because South Neighborhood is so close to Wells, she got the chance to admire Spartan Stadium on her walk over to class.

"I walk behind Case through the quad and cross the street at Case and again at Chestnut at the crossroads. I then walk diagonally through the football stadium parking lot and then cross the road again at Red Cedar Road into the front entrance of Wells Hall," Ammon said. "My favorite part is walking through the football stadium parking lot. I have a lot of great memories made so far in the stadium. Walking by it before reaching my class at Wells brightens my day and helps me stay positive throughout my long day of classes."

Whether they meandered along the Red Cedar River or across buzzing streets amongst the revs of car engines, Spartans arrived at Wells Hall one way or another. Even after racing the clock to get there on time, or taking their time to enjoy the views that campus has to offer, students were able to get there, head into class and take a sigh of relief while glancing out the windows that overlook their pride and joy, Spartan Stadium.





Changing Lives One Practice at a Time

Adaptive Sports Club provides an athletic outlet for students with disabilities

As visitors entered Demonstration Hall, they were struck by the image of a massive, glassed-in arena flooded with blurs of movement. Moving closer to the glass, athletes in wheelchairs were seen whizzing by as they warmed up for a game of wheelchair rugby, a sport that was as aggressive in wheelchairs as it was on foot. Onlookers gazed in awe as athletes rammed into each other repeatedly, shaking the rugby ball loose. The clashing and banging sounds of wheelchair hitting wheelchair filled the air as anxious athletes awaited their chance to head onto the arena floor.

MSU's Adaptive Sports Club was established in September 2014 by Program Coordinator Piotr Pasik while he was completing his master's degree. The club met six out of seven nights a week, accommodating the club members' assorted schedules and giving them the freedom to participate in the various sporting events offered each night. Members had the chance to engage in numerous sports including wheelchair rugby, hockey, tennis and table tennis.

"Disability is one of those things that doesn't discriminate," said Pasik. "It can happen to anybody at any moment. We've had over 170 people from 11 different countries and six continents with different physical disabilities participate in our program, and they've been presented with this fantastic opportunity to come together. Disability is a universal experience, and I don't think it has to be looked at as a bad thing because it's just a normal part of human progression."

The club also consisted of able-bodied students who were welcomed into the arena. Pasik explained that the program helped students gain a more intelligent perspective on what it was like to live with a disability and how to better communicate with disabled individuals. In this way, able-bodied individuals resonated with the disabled, recognizing that despite their physical and/or mental setbacks, they weren't that different after all.

"It can happen to anybody at any moment ... Disability is a universal experience, and I don't think it has to be looked at as a bad thing because it's just a normal part of human progression."

"I want to go into occupational therapy, and the club offered a creative and unique way to learn about people with disabilities and interact with them more than I normally would," said Jenna Lemon, senior interdisciplinary studies major. "The club really offers people with disabilities the opportunity to play sports with us and helps volunteers learn a little bit about their personal experiences."

Demonstration Hall featured the only handicap accessible, permanent standing wheelchair hockey floor in the world. The development was completed in 2018 and allowed athletes the ability to access the arena and exercise freely. The club was open to both the

CONTENT: HELEN KORNEFFEL
PHOTO: KAITLIN GRANT
DESIGN: ALEX RENNINGER



MSU community and the Greater Lansing Area. Anyone who was 14 years old or older could attend the club's practices and participate in its activities. Katie Frayer, a junior mechanical engineering student, was one of the founding members of Adaptive Sports Club. As a disabled student at MSU, Frayer described her appreciation for the club and its offerings.

"It's really nice to be able to come to college and have an athletic opportunity because most people do recreation sports and play intramurals, but that's not really an option for me," said Frayer. "If I rolled out there, everyone would probably just stop and stare. It's nice to have a place to come to where I fit in and where I can be competitive. I don't have to worry about running my chair over someone's feet while I'm here. This atmosphere really supplements our education."

The Adaptive Sports Club gave students and community members with disabilities the opportunity to partake in athletic competition and exercise without judgement. Since its founding in 2014, Pasik watched the club transform from an idea into a fountain of opportunity. Within the Adaptive Sports Club, disabled and able-bodied students alike came together to interact on and off the ice.

TOP: Members of the Adaptive Sports Club smile as they play a game. The club was open to the MSU and Greater Lansing community, and offered athletes a chance to play wheelchair rugby, hockey, tennis and table tennis. **BOTTOM RIGHT:** Katie Frayer stops for a moment during a game of wheelchair hockey. Frayer was one of the founding members of the Adaptive Sports Club.






Future
Leader
Dog



CONTENT: HELEN KORNEFFEL
PHOTO: EMILEE NAZARETH
DESIGN: LILY RISING

Four-Legged Spartans

MSU Leader Dog Club members bring puppies to campus

A group of four-legged friends came to MSU's campus in fall 2018, bringing comfort and cheer to Spartans. From the grocery store to classrooms, the MSU Leader Dog Club puppy raisers brought their puppies in training with them. Leader Dogs For The Blind in Rochester, Michigan began recruiting members and raisers on campus in spring 2018. The organization contacted Julie Moore, the club's advisor, about starting a student group on campus.

"They were looking for students to be puppy raisers for them," Moore said. "They were sending out about 40 puppies per month to be raised, and they wanted to increase that number to 50 puppies per month. The organization thought that recruiting students at MSU would be a perfect way to reach that goal."

The program developed by Leader Dogs For The Blind at MSU was modeled after a program at the University of Georgia, where more than 100 students raised Leader Dog puppies. After recruiting and establishing the organization's system, MSU Leader Dog Club began in fall 2018. Club members focused on gaining attention from fellow Spartans and raising funds to raise even more puppies. One of the largest fundraisers was "Pay to Pat," which took place on Friday, Nov. 30, 2018.

> "Knowing I will be able to help someone who needs a dog by their side is just wonderful and a great feeling to have."

"'Pay to Pat' went really well because we had a ton of people show up," said Alexandria Hager, a junior animal science major. "It was our biggest fundraiser to date, and we will definitely have another event in the future. The money we raised will go toward the general club fund, which will go to the raisers to help with things like veterinarian bills and supplies for future club outings with the puppies of future fundraisers."

Members of the Leader Dog Club had the opportunity to be a part of the group as a puppy raiser or a general member. General members helped at fundraising events, went on puppy outings and played with the furry friends whenever they could. Puppy raisers in the group were provided with firsthand experience raising a puppy. All members of Leader Dog Club felt like they were a part of something larger than simply raising puppies. They knew that they were giving back to a part of the population that was in need — the blind.

"I have such a love for dogs that when I heard about Leader Dog Club, I knew I wanted to be a part of the group," said Maddie Kaminski, a junior animal science major. "I am raising Leader Dog Lulu who is seven months old. Raising Lulu brings me so much joy. It's going to be very hard for me to give her back because I've created such a bond with her, but knowing I will be able to help someone who needs a dog by their side is just wonderful and a great feeling to have."

After 12-14 months with their raisers, the puppies returned to Leader Dogs For the Blind for more training. They went on to serve a blind owner who needed them to complete daily tasks and function comfortably. Many raisers felt a special connection to their Leader Dog puppy, but having known that they were helping someone in need by raising their canine companion made all sad feelings disappear.

TOP LEFT: MSU Leader Dog Club welcomes their newest member. The Leader Dog Club encouraged students to help learn how to train future guide dogs for the visually impaired. **BOTTOM LEFT AND RIGHT:** MSU Leader Dog Club's main attractions sit and wait for a command. The MSU Leader Dog Club was dedicated to educating the public on the training for these dogs.

Crosses for Charity

Fraternities give back through boxing

It's a room of commotion, but when the fighters begin the match, the laughing and hollering of the fancily clad men and women subdues. A sea of captivated onlookers watch eagerly as a fist comes sprawling around — a left jab — followed by a hard packing sound that gets the crowd on their feet. The man who just got hit with a cross — a powerful straight punch thrown with the rear hand — gets sent into the ropes, astonished. Then, a sly smile forms across his face as he goes in for another attack.

MSU Fight Night, hosted by fraternities Sigma Pi, Pi Kappa Alpha, Phi Delta Theta and the Atheon Society student organization, was a night of epic proportions. Selling out more than 75 tables in a mere two and a half weeks, the event generated over $15,000 for the community. Armani Lee, brother of Sigma Pi's Zeta Mu Chapter and fighter for the event, was a catalyst for its creation.

"For the fraternities involved in this event and even on a larger scale with Greek life as a whole, outside of Greek Week, the MSU Fight Night is the largest Greek event on campus," said Lee. "It allows us to come together for a night of fun and excitement. More importantly, this event allows us to give right back to our community. According to Crown Boxing the event has never been bigger than it was this year."

A bulk of responsibility centered around fundraising for the event. The start-up costs for the event were roughly $2,600. A sizable portion of that cost came from sponsors the fraternities had to secure on their own. After covering the start-up fee and sponsors, the next step was to secure the fighters and get them ready. Participants trained at Crown Boxing Club to learn techniques and increase their physical endurance. After six months, they got a chance to show what they had learned.

"Any philanthropy event is just rewarding in itself, but this total revenue is just blown out of the water compared to other ones," said Aaron Giecek, junior in environmental economics and management and philanthropy chair for Sigma Pi. "Because this is the biggest Greek event on campus, that makes the brothers feel like they are participating in something worthwhile."

All proceeds benefited the Help A Willing Kid Foundation, an organization that had been assisting underprivileged youth for nearly 15 years. They provided kids in the greater Lansing area with various items and programs including school supplies, athletic uniforms, drug and awareness programs and many other resources, the Help A Willing Kid foundation was bridging the gap for children in need.

"Atheon Society is a philanthropy based club and our mission here is to make this event as big as possible," said Alex Perry, senior in construction management and speaker for the club. "All of the tickets and concessions we've sold are going to the Help A Willing Kid Foundation. For the foundation they need $20,000 a year, so we are making more than 75% of what they need just with this one event."

"It allows us to come together for a night of fun and excitement. More importantly, this event allows us to give right back to our community. According to Crown Boxing the event has never been bigger than it was this year."

As the fighters anxiously circled their opponents in the ring, there was an air of significance in what they were doing. It wasn't a performance of masculinity, but a chance to succeed. Every punch was an objective met. Every dodge was an obstacle evaded. It wasn't watching brutality. It was watching values in action in the form of a swinging arm. And boy, could those men swing.

RIGHT: MSU students duel it out in the ring after training for six months at the Crown Boxing Club. MSU Fight Night raised money for Help A Willing Kid Foundation, an organization that helps underprivileged youth.



CONTENT: ADAM AUSTAD
PHOTO: EMILEE NAZARETH
DESIGN: ALEX RENNINGER



Spartans Helping Spartans

How Tower Guard brings the MSU community together

An iconic monument on MSU's stunning grounds was the John W. Beaumont Memorial Tower. Erected in 1928, the tower dominated the north campus skyline and served as a lasting reminder of the preservation of beauty at MSU. Alumni and students alike knew of Beaumont Tower's interior: a 49-bell carillon that sometimes resounded "Raindrops Keep Falling on My Head" on stormy days. Many even believed in its mystical powers, marrying any two Spartans who kissed in its shadow at midnight. A lesser-known fact was that a relatively covert organization, Tower Guard, preserved the history of the tower and volunteered around campus to show what it meant to be a true Spartan.

The membership process for Tower Guard was rigorous and selective. The top five percent of the freshman class, in terms of GPA, were invited to apply to the organization and after going through forms and interviewing applicants, roughly 80 students were chosen to be members during their sophomore year. This process upheld the tradition that only the best of the best Spartans participated in the organization.

"Tower Guard is a sophomore organization, so we're only members for a year, but I wish I could stay for longer!" said Chloe Peter, sophomore journalism student. "I am so happy I joined. I did a lot of community service in high school through different clubs and really missed that when I started college, so this has been a great way to connect with my new community while meeting amazing, fun, genuine people. I hope I've helped make the lives of some of my fellow Spartans a little easier in the process."

Along with guarding Beaumont Tower, when it was open to the public every Tuesday and during specified athletic games, Tower Guard members spent the bulk of their membership providing services to MSU's Resource Center for Persons with Disabilities (RCPD). Servicing students with disabilities was the principal commitment of Tower Guard members. Students helped scribe for exams, created more accessible textbooks and held one-on-one tutoring session for Spartans with disabilities. Each member was expected to complete a total of 120 hours of reading textbooks and exams to students with disabilities.

"Ever since I came to MSU, I wanted to give back to the community and be able to reciprocate the opportunities that the university has given me," said sophomore astrophysics student, Caleb Rispler. "When I found out that Tower Guard worked with the RCPD office, I thought it would be a great opportunity for me to leave a bigger footprint on MSU."

Tower Guard upheld four pillars as the basis for membership: leadership, service, scholarship and character. By participating in various tasks with the organization, members of the organization showed their commitment to the pillars that shaped Tower Guard.

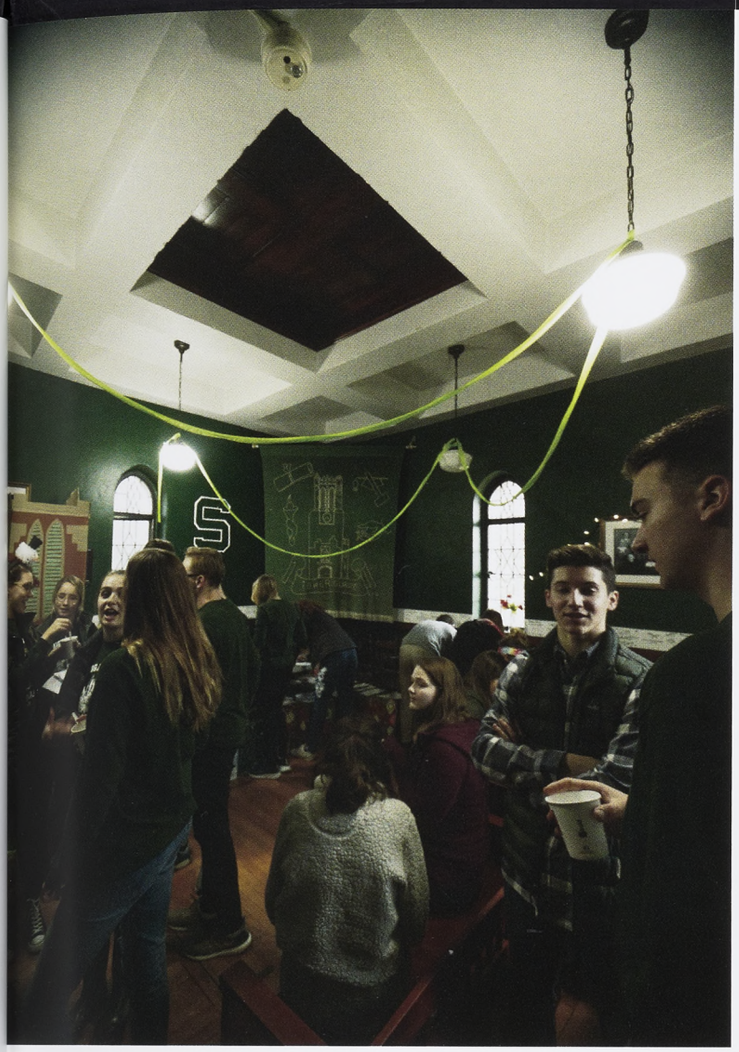
"Ever since I came to MSU, I wanted to give back to the community and be able to reciprocate the opportunities that the university has given me."

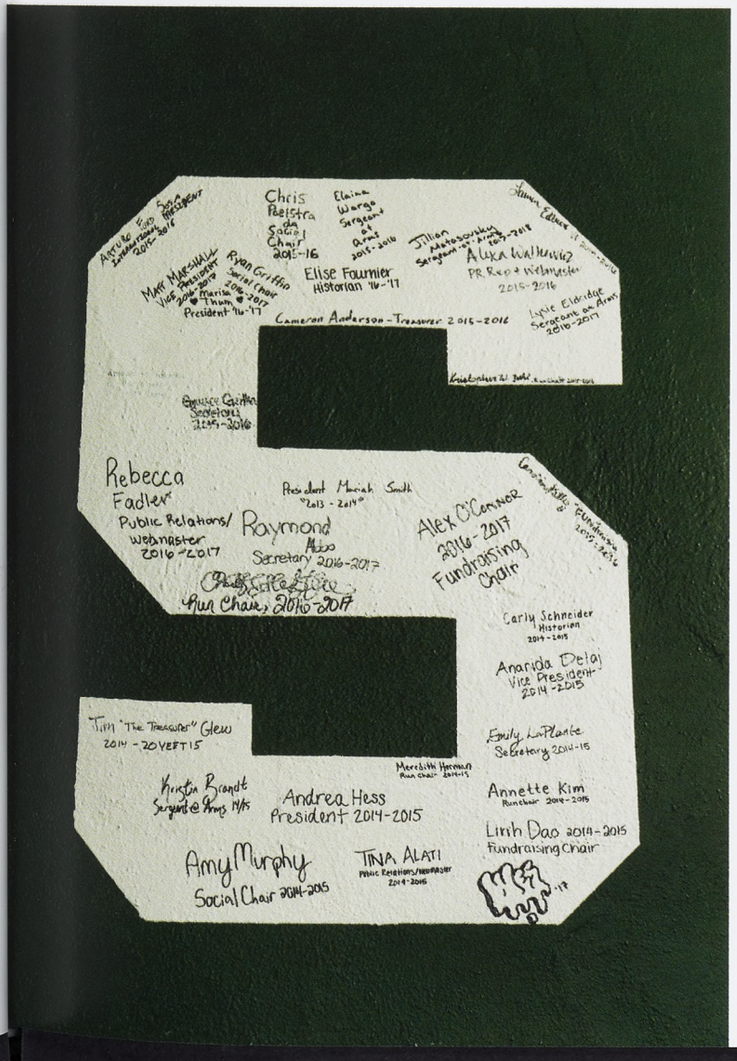
"I know a lot of people don't really know about Tower Guard, but it's a really great organization that works very hard to make a positive impact on the Spartan community," said Melanie Kolodziej, sophomore genomics and molecular genetics major and public relations chair of Tower Guard. "Being in Tower Guard gives me the opportunity to use whatever tools I have to help try to make campus and being at such a large university inclusive and equal for everyone."

Gazing up at Beaumont Tower and hearing the tolling bells of the carillon, individuals see and hear an embodiment of MSU's beauty. After learning about Tower Guard, visitors that once strolled by on game day without a second glance now take a closer look as to who may be at the top of the stairs, calmly keeping an eye on one of MSU's most famous monuments.

TOP LEFT: Members of Michigan State's Tower Guard meet on the second level of MSU's Beaumont Tower to prepare holiday gifts for children at Sparrow Hospital. Tower Guard members have gathered inside the tower since the group was founded in 1934. **BOTTOM LEFT:** Once Tower Guard members complete 120 hours of community service during their sophomore year, they are allowed to inscribe their name and year of service on the walls inside the tower. Some signatures dated back to the 1950s. **RIGHT:** Beaumont Tower is the most recognizable campus landmark at MSU. The tower was a gift from notable philanthropist and MSU Class of 1882 Alumni, John W. Beaumont.

CONTENT: HELEN KORNEFFEL
PHOTO: MATT ZUBIK
DESIGN: ALEX RENNINGER









Matt McQuaid watches down the court as he takes the ball toward the basket. Kenny Goins blocked a Rutgers player so McQuaid could advance to the basket.



PHOTO: RILEY JAMES


SPARTANS
5

CONTENT: MEGAN LANDON
PHOTO: TOMMY MASSA
DESIGN: LILY RISING

An Improbable Season

Spartans face adversity to make Final Four

Flashback to 2016. An unbelievable freshman class of four would step onto campus as one of the best recruiting classes in school history. Two seasons later, one of those players would head to the NBA, leaving the other three to take over as true juniors. These athletes were able to brush it off and do what they did best: move forward. They took over the court, and made it all about what they had, not about what they lost.

Losing Miles Bridges after two seasons and Jaren Jackson Jr. after a prolific freshman year was certainly not easy. The two of them made up nearly 60% of the team's scoring in the 2017-2018 season, and now the success of the 2018-2019 season seemed as if it was going to be determined by this triad of juniors.

"This different group maybe isn't quite as star-powered, but, again, the experience is there," Head Coach Tom Izzo said. "So the two things I'm looking for is, 'Have guys gotten better?' is one. And number two, 'Where are we going to get our leadership from?' Our expectations haven't changed any from previous years."

Unfortunately, adversity struck the Spartans early on in the season when junior and captain Joshua Langford suffered a season ending injury. Averaging over 15 points a game for the Spartans, it was a devastating loss for MSU. Junior Nick Ward also fell to injury to finish out the conference season, but he worked hard to get back on the court for the postseason. The team knew that others would have to step up in their place, and ready to go were two seniors, captain Matt McQuaid and fifth-year senior Kenny Goins.

"Coach always stresses doing your job and if everybody does their job day in and every night, I feel like we'll have a really good chance to win every game we're in," McQuaid said. "Just everybody doing their job and really committing to the team and playing with passion and energy — that's what Spartan Basketball is all about."

An athlete who took charge in his third season was Cassius Winston. Throughout the season, Winston not only proved to be the best player in the Big Ten, but a contender for National Player of the Year. Nominated as one of the 20 athletes on the preseason watchlist for the Bob Cousy Point Guard of the Year Award, he was hyped up for season three from day one, and he made the most of his time on the court. He collected several accolades, including Big Ten Player of the Year. Winston was ready to lead the Spartans into battle and use his experience on and off the court for the betterment of the team.

> "Just everybody doing their job and committing to the team and playing with passion and energy - that's what Spartan Basketball is all about."

"I feel like I have to help these guys as much as I can so they can avoid maybe some of the mistakes I made," Winston said. "I feel like I've been through a lot, been through enough where I can help those guys out a lot more. I think I'm ready. I've been through a lot with wars, I've got a lot of experience, I've been through a lot of things with this team. We've been through a lot of battles, but I can lead these guys and be vocal."

In a season riddled with loss, the Spartans came out victorious. It was hard to believe that after losing Bridges and Jackson Jr., and then Langford and Ward for periods of the season, that MSU could still surge on to complete an improbable season. Big Ten Conference Champions, Big Ten Tournament Champions, three wins over University of Michigan in three weeks, a win over number one overall seed Duke in the Elite Eight and reaching the eighth Final Four under Coach Izzo to top it all off — it was truly monumental.

LEFT: Junior Cassius Winston goes around the Warhawks defenders to drive to the basket and take a shot. The MSU men's basketball team won their game against the Louisiana Monroe Warhawks, 80-59.

Whence we Came

Sigma Kappa salutes past members

As the graduating class of 1943 made its way out into the world, the sisters of the Sigma Kappa sorority saw nothing but promise for their futures. They ventured out and became mothers, career women and pillars of their communities. While the world changed insurmountably since then, the women of the Sigma Kappa sorority house still remembered their time at MSU fondly. In the fall of 2018, current members of the sorority gathered to honor their alumnae in the annual Sigma Kappa Founders Day Celebration.

> "The Founders Day event shows our history, our appreciation for our founders and where our sorority began."

As the event was slated to begin, dozens of sorority sisters from a multitude of eras gathered outside a room in the MSU Union as Chapter President Remi Monaghan rushed to put the final touches on the decorations for the event. Monaghan, senior journalism major, approached planning this event with the alumnae in mind. She intended that the event would honor the house's history while also recognizing the commitment of the chapter's visiting alumnae.

"The Founders Day event shows our history, our appreciation for our founders and where our sorority began," Monaghan said. "We are doing an event this year where we're honoring a 93-year-old member with a 75 year pin. We think about why the women that founded our sorority did so and what inspired them to do that."

The sister being honored with the distinction of being a model Sigma Kappa for 75 years that night was Sharon Frost. The honor went beyond her age, though. She was recognized for orchestrating a local alumnae chapter of Sigma Kappa in Oakland County, Michigan. Frost's support for local charities in Oakland County through the alumnae group made her a standout member of her community and someone truly worth celebrating.

"The Sigma Kappa sorority has alumnae chapters all over the country," Frost said. "The Sigma Kappa national sorority has donated over a million dollars to Alzheimer's research. Our chapter donates lots of warm clothing for the winter in December and we also collect school supplies in September. There is a lot of philanthropy but we also get together for fun trips and social events."

Another past sister being honored that night, Carolyn Pender, gravitated toward Frost as the two knew each other from their work with the Oakland County alumnae chapter. She had made a day trip to MSU's campus and prior to the celebration toured the house itself. While it had changed over the years, the memories came flooding back as she walked its familiar halls.

"We came back because of nostalgia," Pender said. "Our alumnae group is active and our group wanted to come to Founders Day. I thought it would be nice to drive up on a sunny afternoon with my friends and see the house and meet the girls who are living there today."

When the event came to an end, dozens of Sigma Kappa alumnae filed out of the cozy basement room in the Union. The pins which signaled the years since they had called the brick mansion at the edge of M.A.C. Avenue home, were distributed to the senior members of the alumnae. They were able to relive the memories that shaped them during their college years, and active sisters relished the opportunity to give back to those who came before them.

TOP RIGHT: A 93-year-old member is being honored with a 75 year pin. Members of the alumnae chapter returned to the Sigma Kappa house to relive their memories. **BOTTOM RIGHT:** Sisters of the Sigma Kappa sorority take photos with members of the alumnae chapter. Sigma Kappa honored its members during a Founder's Day event.









CONTENT: RYAN HOPPENWORTH
PHOTO: LORA FARAJ
DESIGN: LILY RISING



A Helping Hand

Spartans organize a week focusing on mental health

As he packs the last box into his car, he looks back on what he's leaving behind. The family, friends and memories made in his hometown would momentarily be put on hold as he started his first day at MSU. Trading small town life for MSU's city-like campus weighed on his mind. Harder classes, making new friends and the simple but terrifying thought of beginning life on his own was daunting. He closed the car door and sat down in the leather car seat. He put his key into the ignition and began his journey to MSU.

University life was demanding and its stressors could often lead to mental health issues. These issues were no simple task to remedy. MSU students aimed to face these problems head-on and bring change through Mental Health Awareness Week. An alliance of student groups planned and participated in a week of events and discussion across campus. Participants included Associated Students of Michigan State University (ASMSU) and Project Let's Erase the Stigma. Keara Sullivan, senior international studies major and ASMSU member, was responsible for coordinating the student government's awareness initiatives.

"Pretty much all I've done this semester is help plan Mental Health Awareness Week," Sullivan said. "I worked with the director of Counseling and Psychiatry Services [Mark Patishnock] in creating a coalition of student groups that were interested in being involved with the Mental Health Awareness Week. I'm very proud of how the week went and I couldn't be happier with the turnout to the events."

On the third floor of the Olin Health Center, psychiatrists and social workers in Counseling and Psychiatric Services worked diligently to ensure MSU students were given proper care. The dedicated staff helped hundreds of students and looked to help even more by planning Mental Health Awareness Week. Mark Patishnock, director of Counseling and Psychiatric Services, began work in early fall 2018 organizing campus clubs eager to help plan and staff events that would take place throughout the week.

"Credit must be given to the students who were the true organizers and leaders of Mental Health Awareness Week," Patishnock said. "Mental Health Awareness Week is a critical aspect of de-stigmatizing mental health and



CONTENT: RYAN HOPPENWORTH
PHOTO: LAUREN BATDORFF
DESIGN: TAYLOR PHILLIPS

promoting awareness of resources across and beyond campus. Mental health is the responsibility of the entire university, and Mental Health Awareness Week brings this message home."

> "Mental Health Awareness Week is a critical aspect of de-stigmatizing mental health and promoting awareness of resources across and beyond campus."

Project Let's Erase the Stigma was active in coordinating awareness events during Mental Health Awareness Week. The initiative was a national organization that aimed to remove roadblocks felt when discussing mental illness. Chris Reyes, junior anthropology major and chapter president, was contacted by Patishnock in the early fall and jumped at the chance to be involved.

"We had our 'I Want to Go Home' panel which focused on homesickness," Reyes said. "We had five panelists from all over Michigan and we spoke about our experience with [homesickness] and how we learned to cope with it. It's nice to have a place where people can come together and discuss this topic. You get this warm feeling that the person to your right and your left has been through the same thing as you."

When the week came to a close on November 17th, student volunteers gathered to reflect on its impact. The success of Mental Health Awareness Week was the culmination of months of planning from students groups dedicated to fighting mental illness. Project Let's Erase the Stigma, ASMSU and nine other campus groups came together to open the discussion of mental illness. If they could make even one person feel less alone, then they had done their job.

The Rock is painted for Mental Health Awareness Week. Students and organizations around campus came together to promote mental health awareness.



Pizza + Tacos = Awesomeness

Punk Taco & The Cosmos combine in East Lansing

Walking through that door was like finding out there was a long, lost brother in the family. Nothing was going to be the same again. The environment was open and clean. The choices were endless. Pizza, taco, salsa and margarita options that changed daily — and those donut holes! There was a sense of discovery that made the experience all the more exciting. An authentic combination restaurant bringing the joys of Old Town to East Lansing.

Punk Taco & The Cosmos opened its doors on Oct. 29, 2018, in East Lansing. The original Punk Taco and the original Cosmos were two separate restaurants in Old Town, both owned by The Potent Potables Project (PPP), along with Zoobie's Old Town Tavern and The Creole Burger Bar & Southern Kitchen. PPP decided to introduce a "mashup" of the two ventures because they were so loved by the community.

"... and also because "pizza + tacos = awesomeness," said Alex Thompson, general manager of Punk Taco & The Cosmos (East Lansing). "We're a totally scratch kitchen run by foodies and fanatics and so far, things are going really well! It's not uncommon to see a line out the door on our busiest nights and we've also begun hosting and catering private events. Our bar area is also becoming pretty popular on MSU basketball game nights and our patio will be opening in the Spring."

> "...we all just want to eat good food, drink good drinks, and have a good time!"

Their menu was best summed up as "fun!" Their famous wood-fired pizzas, gourmet tacos, margaritas and Moscow mules were as much of a hit in their new location as they had been in Old Town. They also had shareables like their cosmic devils (deviled eggs with pickled red onion and candied bacon), corn fritters and duck fat fries that can come "loaded" with Parmesan and truffle oil.

"I like how the business functions and how everyone has a good time whenever they are working," said Josh Manson, the heart of the house and junior psychology major. "It is a very friendly and good environment to work in, the people are great and so is the food."

Students like Manson, who offered behind-the-scenes help to those interacting directly with the customers, were responsible for creating the stimulating atmosphere of the establishment. Staff interactions with one another reflected their heart-warming personalities and promoted a pretext to one's initial visit that said: "I'm home."

"What I enjoy most about punk taco/cosmos is how we, as employees, interact with each other and our customers," said Winston Mallory, bartender and junior in integrative biology. "We always seem to get along and have a good time and I feel like that really shows in the kind of people we bring in. Regardless of race, sex, or gender, we all just want to eat good food, drink good drinks, and have a good time! As a bartender, I get to interact with tons of different and unique people every day and I love it!"

The logo, a pair of fists with the name "Punk Taco" carved into the proximal phalanges, embodied the rebellious and punk aesthetic of the restaurant. It was a challenge to every customer that said: "We guarantee you'll be wowed." From the incredible selection of food options to the excellent customer service, Punk Taco & The Cosmos provided an innovative eating experience while also staying true to local classic style restaurants that were lauded as relics of a simpler time. The fusion of pizza and tacos — it was magic in every bite.

TOP RIGHT: Two customers browse the menu at Punk Taco & The Cosmos. The main entryway was plastered with vintage photos covering every inch of the walls. **BOTTOM RIGHT:** Duck Truffle Fries are recommended by the Punk Taco staff. This dish was served with a side of homemade ketchup and cheese drizzled on top.



CONTENT: ADAM AUSTAD
PHOTO: LORA FARAJ
DESIGN: ALEX RENNINGER



Jockeying for Success

MSU Polo Club trains members for the "mane" event

Driving along the green pastures of MSU's agricultural fields, the Pavilion for Agriculture and Livestock Education came into view. Surrounded by expansive meadowland, the pavilion begged onlookers to venture indoors to see what else was in store. Inside the pavilion's walls, the sounds of horse hooves hitting the dirt and the clacking of mallets filled the air. Unparalleled energy washed over viewers in the arena as horse lovers young and old waited for the main event to begin.

MSU Polo Club was established in 1999 when five enthusiastic polo players set out to bring their passions to the university. Since its inception, the club has grown to nearly 30 members and 14 horses. With fervor for competition, the club was expected to continue growing in the years to come.

"It has been a blast, honestly, to come back and see how far the club has come," said founding member and coach, Sarah Knapp. "When we started it, I can promise you that we never thought it would still be around 20 years later. A lot of people think that polo is kind of a far-fetched sport that they will never get to see, so to have it here at MSU at this wonderful facility allows us to make the sport real for them."

Polo members looked forward to the club's biggest fundraiser of the year, Polo at the Pavilion, held in January 2019. The event featured an exhibition match between MSU Polo Club's varsity students and Flat Out Polo, a Grand Rapids, Michigan-based polo team. Before the match began, an announcer recited the rules of the game and the importance of caring for horses during matches.



"Polo is a team sport, not only between you and your teammates but also between you and your horse," said Keahna DePauw, president of the polo club and MSU senior. "You have to know your horse and the feel of your horse. You have to know their strengths, their weaknesses. That interaction between horse and rider is just phenomenal. I absolutely love it."

The club taught polo players of all skill levels, from those who had never been on a horse to those who had been playing polo since adolescence. Cassandra Marcola, a freshman human biology major, spoke about her love for horses since childhood. When she came to MSU, she decided to give polo a swing and said she loved every second of her experience.

"It was so much fun to learn, and I'm very happy I joined the team," said Marcola. "It definitely took time to learn because I wasn't used to all of the ins and outs of the sport, but once you get used to it the ball really gets rolling. If you want to try something new, I definitely recommend polo."

> "Polo is a team sport, not only between you and your teammates but also between you and your horse."

Riders and horses raced inside the arena, crashing against each other and reaching for a chance to pass the ball with their polo stick. An MSU player whacked the polo ball down one side of the arena and a Flat Out player bounded over on his pony to try to gain the upper hand. The ball rolled from one MSU player to the next. Eventually, a particularly fantastic hit was made and the ball hit home between two makeshift markers on the arena wall - signaling a goal for MSU. MSU Polo Club brought players from all backgrounds and skill levels together on one playing field. The key element that brought them together?— A genuine love for horses.

BOTTOM LEFT: The MSU Polo Team lines up for introductions before a match. The team went up against their coaches and other riders from Grand Rapids. **RIGHT:** One of the horses of the MSU Polo Team sits in the stable. The Polo Team owns fourteen horses in total.



CONTENT: HELEN KORNEFFEL
PHOTO: LAUREN BATDORFF
DESIGN: ALEX RENNINGER

College of Education

Spartan mentors in the classroom

Teaching is a profession with hands-on activity and constant interaction. While education students were taught how to teach children math from a book, it was not the most fruitful way to understand the job. The College of Education at MSU implemented programs for Spartans to take skills learned in class and apply them to Lansing area schools.

> "At the end of the day, that's what it's all about. I'm just trying to help show these kids that they have the tools to learn and understand the material."

Greg Mcclure, a senior English major with a secondary education concentration, knew he wanted to be an English teacher since high school. He observed a 7th-grade math classroom through Teacher Education 302, a class only open to students admitted to the secondary teacher certification program. Part of the class consisted of interacting with other education majors and with a professor, and the other was spent going to local classrooms and working with kids.

"The most rewarding thing is seeing the look on a student's face after they finally understand something," said Mcclure. "At the end of the day, that's what it's all about. I'm just trying to help show these kids that they have the tools to learn and understand the material."

Many education majors found that being in an actual classroom made forming relationships with students easier. Alex Ward, a senior special education major with a focus on teaching English language arts, had first-hand experience with this. She noticed she gained a greater respect for teachers when she stepped foot inside a class she was not enrolled in.

"Experience in a classroom is an excellent way to learn, as you're able to see a professional educator in action, watching the way they maintain students' attention, handle discipline and choose the things they teach students every day. It's a really eye-opening experience," said Ward.

Spartans were able to formulate their own lesson plans as well. Maddy Alpert, junior English major, formulated a lesson around the graphic novel "Mouse" by Art Spiegelman. "I always prepare a worksheet or different activities to do with the chapters that we read in class," said Alpert. "We work on reading fluently, reading just in general, how to look at texts, how to comprehend texts and things like that."

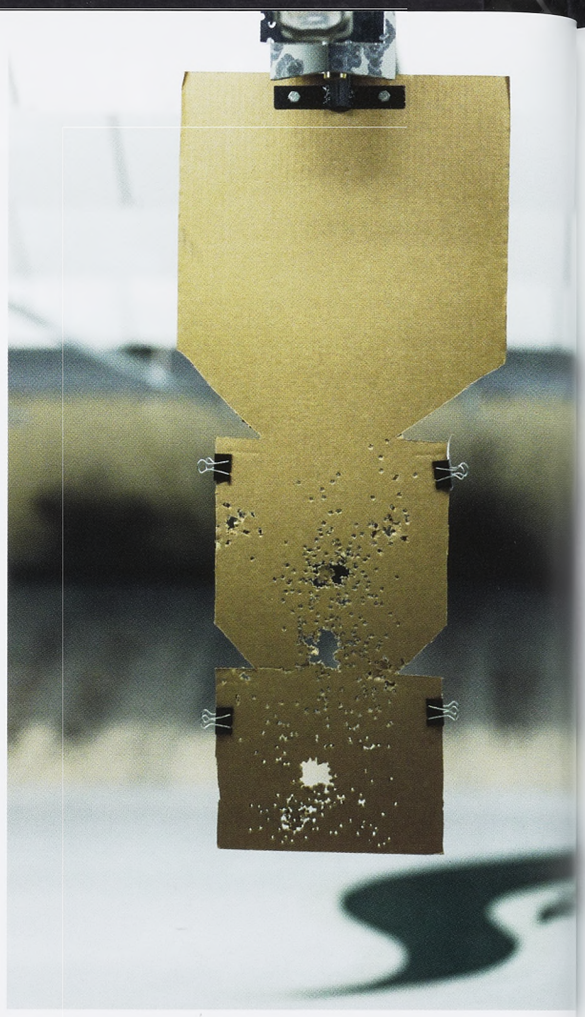
While textbooks were learning tools, interacting with young students was the key to success for Spartans in the College of Education. These future educators were placed in programs of all three levels of grade school. With skills they learned in MSU classrooms, they were able to apply newfound knowledge to better assist the students they would one day lead.

RIGHT: Greg Mcclure is a senior English major with a secondary education concentration. Students attending the College of Education at MSU were able to learn skills required to be a teacher through interactions with students attending Lansing schools.



CONTENT: AUTUMN MILLER
PHOTO: KAITLIN GRANT
DESIGN: LILY RISING


MICHIGAN STATE
SHOOTING TEAM





CONTENT: RYAN HOPPENWORTH
PHOTO: LAUREN BATDORFF
DESIGN: LILY RISING

Aiming Higher

Spartans start a club dedicated to shooting sports

The buzzer sounded as the competitors raised their pistols and fired at the first target. They quickly moved around the plywood obstacles to the next target and fired another two shots into the waiting metal plate. The competitors kept their breathing in check and arms motionless as they expertly shot their remaining .22 caliber bullets into the targets. This is action pistol shooting, and it is just one event that comprised the rapidly growing sport of competitive shooting. The MSU Shooting Sports Club shared the tradition of competitive shooting with students and the community as a whole.

Founded in 2013, the MSU Shooting Sports Club steadily grew in membership since its inception. Students, many whom had been shooting since they were children, gravitated toward the group as a way to continue their passion and join a dynamic community. The team practiced at the newly built Demmer Shooting Sports Center on Jolly Road and welcomed students who specialized in pistol, shotgun, air rifle and rifle shooting. Chris Canu, junior human biology major and club president, aimed to expand the group's presence while simultaneously preserving the fraternal atmosphere of the club.

"I have been with the [MSU Shooting Sports Club] since my freshman year," Canu said. "It's a great way to step aside from the business of school. You walk in, you focus on one little target and that's all you got to do. It's a great stress reliever for me and I know a lot of other rifle members would agree with that."

The MSU Shooting Sports Club was dominant in the events it competed in across the nation. Much of its success can be attributed to the coaching staff. Gary Smith was the competitive pistol coach and led the team to take 1st place in multiple events over the 2018 season. Smith had been shooting competitively for years and brought his wisdom to the competitors at MSU.

"I have a real passion for learning and I love to position myself to try to do better each time and shooting does that to you," Smith said. "As coaches, we watch each individual and try to find the solutions to help them improve. We're not coaches who just help people learn to shoot competitively at targets, we're coaches that want to help individuals develop not just in shooting but in everything in life."

With the masterful coaching and the determination of the competitors, many of the students were able to achieve highly in national competitions. Danielle Rosebrook, senior mechanical engineering major, was among the team that took first place in a rimfire pistol match held by the Scholastic Action Shooting Program.

"I actually didn't shoot at all before college," Rosebrook said. "I played competitive paintball and a couple people on the team had been interested in shooting in actual competitions with real guns. I tagged along to a couple of shooting events and I realized that I didn't just want to watch, I wanted to have fun."

"As coaches, we watch each individual and try to find the solutions to help them improve ... we're coaches that want to help individuals develop not just in shooting but in everything in life."

As the last shot was fired for the night, students cleared their weapons, removed their eyeglasses and retired their hearing protection. They examined bullet-riddled targets and entered their scores into their journals. The coaches held a small discussion about the takeaways from the day of shooting and the members packed up their rifles and pistols. They left practice with the keen sense that they were prepared to achieve highly and shoot with precision. Through practice and expert guidance, the MSU Shooting Sports Club was taught the tenants of marksmanship, gun safety and teamwork.

TOP FAR LEFT: A member of the shooting team loads her gun. All of the members wore special gear and checked their guns before shooting. **TOP LEFT:** A used target hangs in the range. Targets ranged from small pieces of paper to large pieces of cardboard **BOTTOM LEFT:** A student wears special ear protection while they shoot. The shooting club practiced in the MSU Demmer Center, a shooting range open to the public.



A Spartan gymnast grabs the top bar of the uneven bars. The Spartans wore pink for the 13th annual Jan Howard Breast Cancer Awareness meet.



PHOTO: EMILEE NAZARETH

Handspringing Across the Nation

Three Spartan gymnasts shine bright at the NCAA Regionals in Baton Rouge

On the weekend of April 4, the pressure was on at Louisiana State University as the NCAA Regionals took place. With gymnasts from across the country doing handsprings, pirouettes and round-offs on the same floor, competition was in the eyes of all collegiate women's gymnasts. Though the entire team did not qualify, Lea Mitchell, Jessica Ling and Gabriella Douglas represented the Spartan gymnastics program. Carrying the weight of the entire team across the country, they knew they had to hone in all of the training they had done for the season and bring out their skills at full force. Coach Mike Rowe was one of many who attested to their great talent, which was exemplified at their last successful meet.

"They had a great season ... [but] what got them where they were is their work ethic, their passion, their dedication to commitment, their leadership," said Rowe. "They never stop."

Douglas, junior kinesiology major and co-captain of the team, had to work especially hard this season to make it to the top, as she was recovering from an ACL injury. Ending the season with an 8.95 out of 10 on the floor, she had not finished like she had hoped, but had still made immense progress. However, she was not able to get to this point without some adjustments in both her training and perspective.

> "...we do these routines and skills hundreds of times a week, so just knowing that you have the training and it'll all pay off in the end, because this team is really talented"

"I had a really different outlook going into this season. Everything was very proactive as opposed to reactive," said Douglas. "I changed the way I compete, so I was trying to have fun a little bit more. Regionals didn't go exactly how I wanted to, but I was still so proud of myself for coming back and finishing the season the way I did."

Mitchell, sophomore journalism major and co-captain of the team, had been preparing for this match since last summer. She spent the entire summer break at home getting herself ready for the upcoming season. Being her second time competing in the NCAA Regionals, she knew finding success was all in the preparation.

"After freshman year, I went back home to Florida, and I was training back like I was in high school — I was training six days a week, five hours a day to try to get my... physical strength stronger than I was the year before," said Mitchell. "When I came back here, I felt like I was stronger than the year before, so I think that really helped me."

Though all three Spartan gymnasts were proud to be representing their team, they all wished the rest of their team could have traveled to Louisiana with them. Ling, senior kinesiology major, knew that next season would be different, even though she would not be there. The team as a whole was not lacking in capability or talent, and she knew this the entire season.

"I've done this sport since I was two years old, so all of the hard work I've put in since I was that little has really paid off ... we do these routines and skills hundreds of times a week, so just knowing that you have the training and it'll all pay off in the end, because this team is really talented," said Ling.

With an incoming freshmen class that were no amateurs, but still had room to improve, the women's gymnastics team set their sights on their highest caliber performance yet. By incorporating the trusted practices they implemented before while also pushing themselves to greater heights, they knew they could carry the team to the 2020 NCAA Regionals without a single doubt.

TOP RIGHT: A Spartan gymnast sticks a landing after throwing a skill on the floor. MSU boasted several season-high floor routines against Ohio State. **BOTTOM RIGHT:** A Spartan gymnast focuses on their uneven bars routine. The Spartans wore pink leotards for their 13th annual Jan Howard Breast Cancer Awareness meet.







CONTENT: AUTUMN MILLER
PHOTO: EMILEE NAZARETH
DESIGN: TAYLOR PHILLIPS



Dischords on Ice!

But not really

'Twas the night of the Spartan Dischords, when all through the crowd, every person was eager, to see them come out. The stockings were hung, lights lining the stage. The Spartan Dischords marched out, but, wait, where were the ice skates?

The Spartan Dischords, MSU's all-male a cappella group, took the stage for their annual holiday concert at the Hannah Community Center, and even though the "Dischords on Ice!" was not really on the ice, it still swept the crowd away. David Mainero, a junior anthropology major, had been a Spartan Dischords member for three years and was the president of the group. To prepare for the performance, Mainero and the crew rehearsed, filmed advertisements and promoted the event with diverse gigs. In one of the ice skating practices, Mainero fell and got a concussion, but he knew the show must go on. He was able to pull everything together for a hilarious and successful performance.



"Honestly, the best part is getting to show people what we do," Mainero said. "We are there to entertain. We don't get paid and none of us are music majors, so we just go out there and have fun. Also, we have a great alumni network, called Discards, that come to our shows and I love to see and catch up with them at the after party."

For the second act of the show, the Spartan Dischords entered the stage clad in ugly Christmas sweaters as they pretended to ice skate around the ice-less stage. Brenna Stotlemeyer, a sophomore kinesiology major, was a figure skater herself and was excited to see the group perform on ice. Although she did not get to see them actually skate, the Christmas lights, decorations and setlist of a capella renditions of "Silent Night," "First Noel" and "Feliz Navidad" brought her enough holiday cheer.

> "My favorite part of performing for shows like this one is that I get to perform with my best friends up on the stage. We spend many hours preparing, so it's a nice payoff to bring everything we got to the audience."

"It was my first time seeing the Dischords perform, and I'm so glad I got to see them at their winter concert because I loved the Christmas theme and all of the holiday songs that they sang," Stotlemeyer said. "I kind of wanted to see how well they could skate or not, but it was alright because they are really talented and the jokes that they added into every song made up for the lack of skating."

Matthew Bradford, a sophomore mechanical engineering major, joined the Spartan Dischords his freshman year and loved performing at shows like the "Dischords on Ice!" because it was a way for him to continue to express his passion of music in college. Performing songs like the six-minute "Christmas Soup" that parodies Christmas classics and watching the crowd erupt in laughter was what he worked so hard for.

CONTENT: MEGAN LANDON
PHOTO: LOGAN COLES
DESIGN: TAYLOR PHILLIPS



"My favorite part about being a Dischord is getting to be surrounded by a group of my closest friends," Bradford said. "They've got my back and I've got theirs. My favorite part of performing for shows like this one is that I get to perform with my best friends up on the stage. We spend many hours preparing, so it's a nice payoff to bring everything we got to the audience."

Even without ice, "Dischords on Ice!" was a winter wonderland filled with a capella music and ugly Christmas sweaters. The group ended their performance by calling on the Dischords in the audience to sing one last song, and as the lights dimmed after the finale of the show, the applause of the crowd was proof that the Spartan Dischords had completed yet another successful performance.



BOTTOM LEFT: Sophomore Matt Bradford sings a solo in the Dischords' take on John Mayer's song "Gravity." The a cappella group has been performing since their inception in 1982. **TOP RIGHT:** The Spartan Dischords perform at their "Dischords on Ice!" show. The Spartan Dischords averaged 35 to 50 performances a semester. **BOTTOM RIGHT:** Sophomore Zack Heger sings a solo in the Dischords take on Taylor Swift's song "You Belong with Me." The Spartan Dischords sang a variety of songs during the winter wonderland show.

Brewing Creativity

Blue Owl Coffee Co. showcases local artists through its art wall

The library — an atmosphere of anxiety. Whether it be the sound of tapping computer keys or the sight of tired eyes, it left many feeling drained. Because many coffee shops in the Lansing area closed early, students endured the library's absence of entertaining distraction. They craved a location where they could escape the humdrum and mundane. For nocturnal Spartans itching for an offbeat study space, a new wave of creative cramming began in April 2017 when Blue Owl Coffee Co. opened its doors for the first time.

Located in the REO Town neighborhood of Lansing, Blue Owl Coffee Co. was one of the few coffee shops open late that featured community events. Open mic nights, game nights, reading nights and nights where DJs came to turn electronic beats gave students a stimulating atmosphere to study in. Owners Rich Whitman, Nick Berry and Adam Klein saw the importance of creating a space that did not close once the sun went down and kept visitors awake with interactive functions. Emma Heikkinen, senior professional writing major, was frustrated by the number of coffee joints that lacked an imaginative environment.

"Realistically as a student, you're not going to finish your homework by 7 p.m. when a lot of these place are closing," Heikkinen said. "It's nice to go somewhere that's open late that has events and people that inspire creativity that's focused on the community too."

In addition to its interactive events, Blue Owl Coffee Co.'s art wall gave it its creative flare. Updated monthly, the art wall featured artists from all mediums. From graphite drawings to nature photography, beautiful illustrations and designs graced the shop's exposed brick. Through an online submission process, local artists entered their work for the opportunity to display it publicly. It did not matter



CONTENT: AUTUMN MILLER
PHOTO: LORA FARAJ
DESIGN: MEREDITH BIEBER



whether they wanted to sell it or not — it gave them needed exposure. Giles Schlehuber, sophomore graphic design major, had his black-and-white drawings featured on the wall in May 2018. Schlehuber felt that having a physical space in the local community displaying his art made its viewing more intimate.

"I think it's important because people have the whole internet to express themselves, but that's too big. Things get so lost on the internet," said Schlehuber. "It's a way to showcase ... people's art and how people in the community think, and not just this huge internet community. It's more personal."

Tyler Crosthwaite, store manager and art director at Blue Owl Coffee Co., chose what art was showcased each month. Receiving nearly four submissions each week, he constantly looked through various mediums of art. Regardless of what he chose, he recognized he played a major role in ensuring the expressive environment cultivated within Blue Owl Coffee Co. remained.

"I do think that without the art wall, we still would be a creative place, but the art wall adds to that. It gives people an example, it gives people inspiration," Crosthwaite said. "When they walk in, one of the first things that they see is something that somebody has put hard work and dedication and time into. It gives people an example of what they can do."

"It's a way to showcase... people's art and how people in the community think, and not just this huge internet community. It's more personal."

Wanting to carry this creativity closer to campus, Blue Owl Coffee Co. opened a second location in East Lansing in March 2019, exposing itself to a different slew of artistic personalities. No matter how many stores it launched, Blue Owl Coffee Co.'s focus was always on listening to the imaginative minds that entered its doors. At the end of the day, it was all about one thing: community-driven coffee.

BOTTOM LEFT: Artist Anna p.s. performs at Lansing's Blue Owl Coffee shop. Along with open mic nights and art showcases, live music was a recurring event at Blue Owl. **TOP RIGHT:** Blue Owl's barista prepares a La Vida Lora Mocha for a customer. Blue Owl's fall specials included other favorites like the Great Pumpkin, American Beauty and Run of the Mill Cider.

A Night in Paris

Valentine's Ball celebrates countries all around the world

Romance filled the air in the Huntington Club on the fourth floor of Spartan Stadium at the annual International Students Association Valentine's Ball. Overlooking MSU's campus as well as the football field, the venue was transformed into a charming night in Paris with star-stringed lights covering the ceiling, miniature Eiffel Towers, whimsical blue candles and spotlights and sparkling decor. Everyone was dressed to the nines in their ballgowns and flashy attire as the night began.

Shalvi Save, junior mechanical engineering major, was the director of events for the International Students Association. Between coming up with ideas for the theme of the ball and making the timing work, the Valentine's Ball was designed to succeed. Once everything was planned and set in motion, the students representing the International Students Association were able to relax and enjoy a night filled with dancing, food, music and the friends they had gotten so close with over the year.

"The Valentine's Ball is our biggest event and it has always been very popular with MSU students," Save said. "I especially like the ball because it is a good way for international students to interact more with domestic students in a laid back setting."

Haoran Liu, sophomore business major, was the director of public relations and was in charge of gathering volunteers, advertising the event to MSU students and making the event an inclusive environment for people from the 129 different countries that the International Students Association represents, including countries in Asia and the Middle East.

"We had so many diverse groups of people and we danced after dinner with music from different countries," Liu said. "International Students Association holds many meaningful, multicultural and educated events like Leadership Retreat and Valentine's Ball, which provided a good opportunity for people to know more cultures from other countries."

As a sixth-year senior media and information major, Fatma Alsaif served as the International Students Association president. Seeing the attendees hit the dance floor after dinner was served, making the most of the beautiful night, laughing and dancing to international music, was the highlight of her night. It made all of her, and the rest of the executive board's, hard work planning the event over the course of the year worth the effort.

> "It is so exciting to see how my friends and other attendees dance to songs from their countries, and I get to mimic their movements. Also, it is so rewarding to see our hard work pays off by seeing attendees having a lot of fun and dancing all night."

"My favorite part is dancing to international songs that I haven't heard of before," Alsaif said. "It is so exciting to see how my friends and other attendees dance to songs from their countries, and I get to mimic their movements. Also, it is so rewarding to see our hard work pay off by seeing attendees having a lot of fun and dancing all night. The event came just on time to de-stress."

Time seemed to stand still as people from all over the world came together to celebrate their different cultures. Sparkling eyes reflected the shining atmosphere as each person mingled, danced and showed off their black tie gowns and suits. This night in Paris was one to remember.

TOP RIGHT: A table is decorated with items relating to the theme, "A Night in Paris." Motifs such as the Eiffel Tower were set throughout the room. **BOTTOM RIGHT:** A group of students talk while enjoying their food. The event had food from several different cultures for students to try.



CONTENT: MEGAN LANDON
PHOTO: LAUREN BATDORFF
DESIGN: LILY RISING





Ones and Zeros

Creativity and technology mix at Spartahack

While most students were fast asleep by 3 a.m., a group of technologically-inclined Spartans worked tirelessly on a vast array of projects. They punched the keys on their laptops and consulted with friends about their work. They built websites, designed cutting-edge software and put their hacking skills to the test. SpartaHack took place in Wells Hall and was the fifth time MSU had hosted a hackathon event. This event combined dozens of computer-based disciplines, creating a friendly atmosphere of ingenuity and learning.

Founded in 2015, SpartaHack was a three-day event that drew hundreds of students from a variety of skill levels and technical expertise. The atmosphere on Friday, Jan. 18 at the start of the event was buzzing with excitement as students eagerly waited to begin their projects. Jerod D'Epifanio, junior computer science major, stood in the check-in line ready to participate in the event for his third year.

"I love the environment and it's great to finally have the time to work on something for three days straight," D'Epifanio said. "[SpartaHack] is an event about developing technologies out of the box that address problems that people don't think about. It gives people an opportunity to learn new things, develop their skills and even launch their career."

As midnight struck, the students joined their groups and began working on their respective projects. Graphic designers, computer programmers and even coding beginners made up the teams competing for the $1000 prize. Caroline Hardin, a graduate student from the University of Wisconsin, was leading a study exploring the positive effects that hackathons have on students.

"I think that hackathons give students the opportunities to take risks, collaborate with a group and make real things for the real world," Hardin said. "A lot of classwork is doing textbook exercises that aren't always relevant or interesting and is not as good as actually trying to solve a problem in the real world. I think hackathons are really powerful spaces of learning but we just need more science to show it."

When the sun rose on Saturday, the creators were still diligently at work from the night before. Some students were using SpartaHack as an opportunity to introduce their projects to an audience of students. Siddhant Chhabra, a senior finance major and the vice president of Spartan Blockchain, spent the weekend at SpartaHack to work on projects involving cryptocurrency.

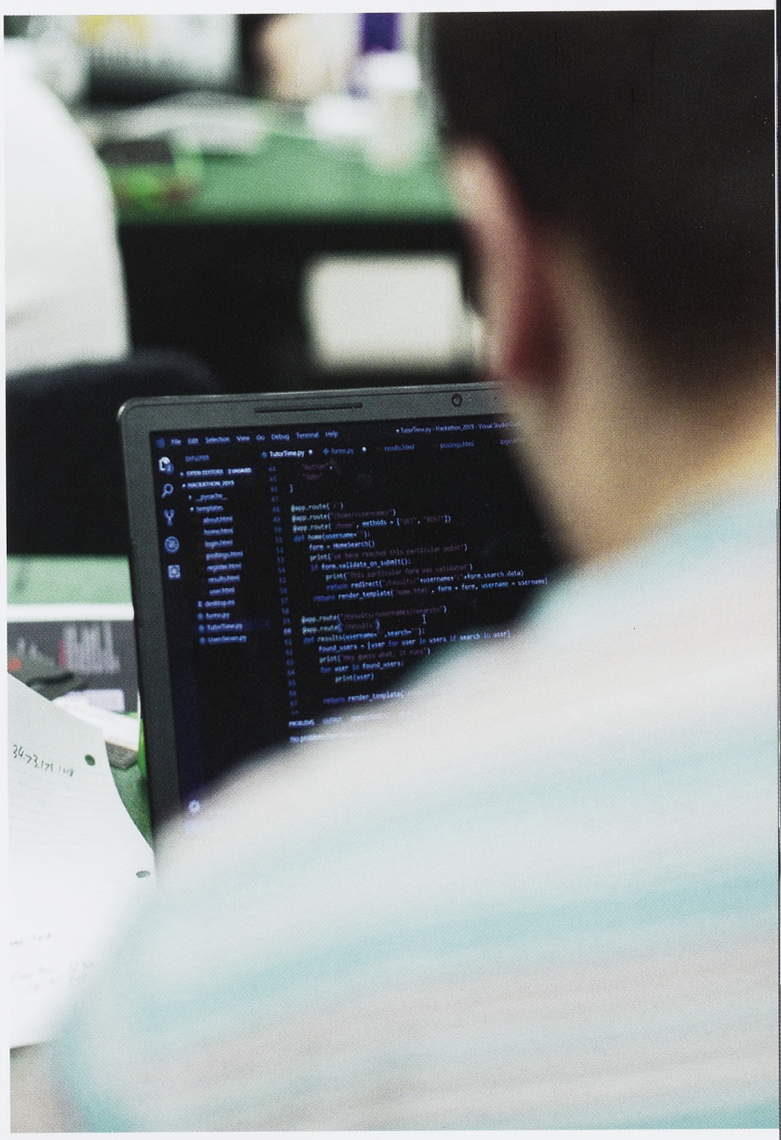
"Spartan Blockchain is looking to put out some cool products and lead in innovation at this year's SpartaHack," Chhabra said. "We're looking for the most talented

CONTENT: RYAN HOPPENWORTH
PHOTO: LOGAN COLES
DESIGN: LILY RISING

students from MSU and other universities to help build our network. Spartan Blockchain is using this event to get our name out there and we are going to try to roll out a product at the end of the weekend."

"[Sparthack] is an event about developing technologies out of the box that address problems that people don't think about. It gives people an opportunity to learn new things, develop their skills and even launch their career."

When SpartaHack came to an end on Sunday, the students packed up their computers and bade their new friends farewell. Dozens of new pieces of unique media had been created over the weekend including innovative apps that help corporations collect consumer data and even a Dungeons and Dragons virtual reality game. SpartaHack was a weekend of creativity that highlighted the technical prowess of the creators. Undoubtedly, these Spartans will be at the forefront of a future defined by technology.



TOP LEFT: Students sit together and work for an entire weekend during the Spartahack competition. The coding competition took place for 36 hours. **RIGHT AND BOTTOM:** Sophomore Jake Sak develops code for his Spartahack project. Spartahack was a coding competition where students built websites, designed software and put their hacking skills to the test.





College of Communication Arts and Sciences

How women in media and information are revitalizing the film industry

CONTENT: AUTUMN MILLER
PHOTO: ALEXA PIERZYNSKI
DESIGN: ALEX RENNINGER

Lights, camera, women in action. In the College of Communication Arts and Sciences, Spartans were invited to explore a plethora of tracks in the media and information major. Those with a passion for movies and an eye for perfect shots behind the camera found their home in film and media production. While the major was flooded with male voices and faces, a reflection of movie culture, female cinephiles were not deterred. They instead were motivated to produce and direct their own narratives.

Olivia Hoover, senior media and information major, knew the world of film was her passion before setting foot on MSU's campus. Through YouTube and theater, she found her love of theater culture. Joining MSU Telecasters, a club consisting of six different video shows, her freshman year solidified her decision to devote her college career to all things movies.

"If you act like you belong somewhere, even if you don't, you'll fit in ... your voice is just as important as everyone else's in the room."

"I definitely want to tell everyone's stories ... a lot of the ones I've worked on in college are very hetero, very white-influenced," said Hoover. "I want to work on stuff telling stories of people of color, I want to talk about queer stories because as a queer woman — they need to be told!"

Like Hoover, Jasmine Abbasov, senior media and information and film studies major, was heavily involved in the film scene at MSU. As an executive producer of MSU Telecasters, she had major say on the flow and function of films. Abbasov's female perspective in her position showed her what film crews needed to do to incorporate women's voices.

"The recent specific attention to the industry's problem is a good step forward in terms of pointing out the problems and habits that people impose on sets and in the field, but the only way to solve this issue is to actually hire and work with women on set," said Abbasov.

Many women felt discouraged from entering a major heavily populated with men. Sara Seryani, junior media and information and computer science major, gave a nugget of advice for women looking to pursue the major and industry.

"Dive in headfirst, be bold, and seek discomfort," said Seryani. "If you act like you belong somewhere, even if you don't, you'll fit in ... your voice is just as important as everyone else's in the room."

Though they were surrounded by deep voices and masculine perspectives, the women in media and information did not let a male-dominated field discourage them. In an educational program that fostered equality and the creative outlooks of everyone, women filmmakers felt confident and prepared to put their foot through the doors of the silver screen.

LEFT AND BOTTOM RIGHT: Jasmine Abbasov is a Media and Information major and a recent Michigan State graduate. She has acted as a producer, director and writer throughout her career at Michigan State.





Cavorting in Color

State of Art Winterguard brings the energy of outdoor color guard indoors

There was nothing quite like the experience of an MSU football game in the fall. The hard work of the players, the shouting and chanting from fellow Spartans, the music from the marching band. The most underrated part of the entire scene? — The perfectly rehearsed, elaborate routine the color guard put on. Most students assumed they only spun their colored flags and performed choreographed routines during the warmer months, but the color guard had proven itself to be a year-round sport. During the winter, the State of Art Winterguard showed that color guard did not just shine in the sun and did not only take place on the field.

Mainly practicing in Demonstration Hall, State of Art Winterguard had 17-hour rehearsal weeks, dividing those hours up between three days of the week. Every rehearsal varied, depending on the needs of the team at the time. On some days, they would spend more time on choreography, and on others, they would work on technique which included basic exercises for strengthening.

"We have a 17-hour rehearsal week. It's physical, it's team-oriented [and] it's competitive — it's highly competitive," said Lindsay Guare, a senior computer science major and weapon line captain of State of Art Winterguard.

Competition was just a natural part of the world of the indoor color guard. With four Michigan Circuit shows, Michigan championships, two Winterguard International regionals and Winterguard International championships, hard work was put into routines to impress the five judges at each event. Judged on the categories of movement, equipment, design analysis and general effect, State of Art Winterguard had to have everything from costume design to footwork down pat. Cami Ernst, a senior apparel

CONTENT: AUTUMN MILLER
PHOTO: KAITLIN GRANT
DESIGN: TAYLOR PHILLIPS



and textile design major and dance captain of State of Art Winterguard, knew that all of the sweat behind the scenes of the final performance was worth the feeling of accomplishment in the end.

"There are just those amazing moments where you connect with the audience, and I think it's actually magic," said Ernst. "You never forget those times. I cry after almost every halftime show or winterguard competition I perform in."

While they were judged and evaluated at competitions, members of State of Art Winterguard held on to the belief that, more than anything, indoor color guard was a form of art. Featuring careful floor routines based in ballet dance and beautifully designed costumes, it was a spectacle like no other to those who came to watch.

"The ability of a show to communicate with an audience and make them feel something with every move is what solidifies the artistry of the activity in my eyes," said Rachel Butler, senior packaging major and flag captain of State of Art Winterguard.

"There are just those amazing moments where you connect with the audience, and I think it's actually magic"

More than just spinning flags inside a gym, State of Art Winterguard brought the vivacity of the outdoor color guard, inside. With dedicated dancers and choreographers crafting spectacular routines, it was rooted in commitment and teamwork that shined as brightly as the flags that members spun in the air.

TOP LEFT AND BOTTOM: Members of the State of Art Winterguard practice during the winter. The choreographed routines reached the audience through the artistry of their movements.





PHOTO: Taro Hirose watches the Penn State player as he takes the puck to the goal. The men's hockey team won their first game against the Nittany Lions, 5-3. However, they lost the second game, 3-5.


PHOTO: LOGAN COLES
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Taro's Triumph

Men's ice hockey star signs with Detroit Red Wings

Taro Hirose, left wing for the men's ice hockey team, was a stellar performer. Scoring a total of 33 goals and racking up 83 assists in his three years at MSU, he loved every second of it. From playing in the British Columbia Hockey League to making the transition to Michigan, he dug into his passion. Dug enough, it turned out, to sign a contract with the Detroit Red Wings.

The men's ice hockey team ended the 2018-2019 season 12-19-5, a solid but not spectacular year. Taro Hirose, junior in finance and Big Ten Player of the Year did not let that stop him from spreading his wings. He took that accolade, along with several other awards, in his final season with the team. Seeing his numerous achievements, the Red Wings could not help but make him an offer.

"I was a big Flames fan growing up in Calgary," said Hirose. "Always loved the Wings as well because of Datsyuk, so it was sort of surreal being able to sign with them and become apart of a historic organization like the Red Wings."

Hirose fell in love with the game at a young age. Along with having an incredible capacity for learning quickly, he had the desire to grow. Spending countless hours and late nights, he entertained himself by shooting balls at the net in his basement. After taking a serious interest in the sport and gaining some skill, he took to the ice.

"I don't remember a lot about learning hockey as a kid," said Hirose. "I started skating around five years old and started off by roller blading around two. I remember I would go to skating lessons at the local rink where there was an old lady who taught me how to skate. All I remember was going around the ice hitting plastic pucks with a plastic stick."

When it came to selecting a school to play for, Hirose noted the importance of a good coaching staff. However, after a short visit to MSU, it became about more than that to him. Meeting some of the people and absorbing the atmosphere made him realize the choice was also about community. Looking back, he realized the best parts of his time at MSU were celebrating with his fellow Spartans.

"Now that I'm in the NHL, looking back at MSU there's so many things I want to remember," said Hirose. "From tailgates to playing in Munn on Friday and Saturday, there are a lot of great things I'll remember. I think one of my best memories was the home opener sophomore year when I scored the game-winning goal with under a minute left. For sure the most electric crowd I had been a part of, and the celebration with my teammates after was something I'll never forget."

"Always loved the Wings as well because of Datsyuk, so it was sort of surreal being able to sign with them and become apart of a historic organization like the Red Wings."

Hirose was a star, but he was humble. Uncertain of what the future held, he wanted to work as hard as he could at improving so he could play as long as he could. No matter what the outcome, he knew that he had to trust the process. As his MSU career ended and his NHL career began, he left holding the memories of his smiling teammates and a roaring crowd of Spartans.

TOP RIGHT: Junior Patrick Khodorenko waits for the puck to drop. The Spartans scored five goals against the Nittany Lions. **BOTTOM RIGHT:** Junior Taro Hirose blocks an opponent to keep control of the puck. Three of Hirose's teammates stood ready and waiting for a pass.

CONTENT: ADAM AUSTAD
PHOTO: LOGAN COLES
DESIGN: ALEX RENNINGER





College of Social Science

Psychology department conducts exhaustive study on twins

For hundreds of years, leading psychologists have studied twins when attempting to find what shapes a human being's personality. The issue of nature vs. nurture is better understood through identical twins because they share the same DNA, therefore, differences in how they end up as an adult are entirely based on their upbringing and circumstance. Universities around the world were engaged in similar studies, and in 2001, Michigan State started the MSU Twin Registry. In the basement of the Psychology Building, students, professors and research assistants worked tirelessly to collect data on twins.

The two principal investigators at MSU, Dr. Kelly Klump and Dr. Alex Burt, established labs that aimed to study the factors responsible for forging a twin's personality. Surrounded by stacks of documents produced from the study, research assistants analyzed data and entered it into a computer program. Lauren Mo, a researcher at the Burt Lab, worked directly with the twins and conducted many of the interviews used in the research.

"We study twins' brains and we see how the brain development differs between two twins," Mo said. "The first time we studied them they were a lot younger, between five and eight, and now we are following them across time to see how they develop. We study their neighborhoods, we contact their teachers to see how their behavior at school is like, what their friends are like, what kind of grades they get, etc."

As the years passed by, the Burt Lab compiled more and more data on the participants. This comprehensive data gathering was essential for the accuracy of the study. Justin Bennett, a lab manager, studied the information collected on the twins and applied it to the research being conducted.

"The whole point of the [MSU Twin Registry] was to set up some sort of catalog of all these twin families so we continue to do these longitudinal studies," Bennett said. "Kelly Klump and Alex Burt started the registry about twenty years ago, and they've been doing the study ever since with the same families. All the studies we conduct revolve around these families."

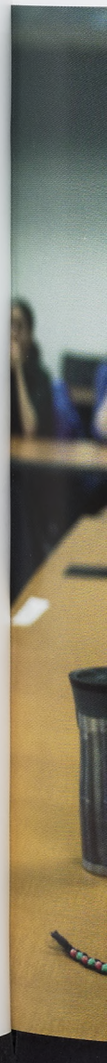
After the data collected from the twins was concluded, researchers and professors went to work deciphering the information and publishing the results. Maria Hanelin, project coordinator for the twin studies lab, oversaw the research and ensured that the information would be ready for international publication.

"I think that Dr. Burt and Dr. Klump will likely always be pulling from their very large twin registry to do different studies," Hanelin said. "The end goal is to disseminate the results of the study whether that be in the form of poster presentations or actual manuscripts."

> "We study their neighborhoods, we contact their teachers to see how their behavior at school is like, what their friends are like, what kind of grades they get, etc."

Throughout the history of psychology, twins have formed the backbone of the academia's understanding of what shapes the human brain. Everything from environment to upbringing plays a vital role in an individual's personality, and the study of twins was instrumental in understanding those factors. In the modern era, twin studies such as the ones conducted by the MSU College of Social Science were critical in expanding humanity's knowledge in the field. Because of the cooperation by thousands of twins from across the state of Michigan, the Burt and Klump Labs were able to make a comprehensive study that covered every possible angle of the twin experience.





TOP RIGHT: Students, professors and research assistants of the MSU Twin Registry pose for a photo. The group worked to collect data and conduct research on twins. **BOTTOM LEFT AND RIGHT:** Members of the Burt Lab listen in. The lab was created 20 years ago to conduct research on twins.

CONTENT: RYAN HOPPENWORTH
PHOTO: LORA FARAJ
DESIGN: ALEX RENNINGER









PHOTO: KAITLIN GRANT

Students as well as community members gather in front of the Hannah Administration Building for the Lansing Women's March. The 2018 march was moved from downtown Lansing to MSU's campus.


WOMEN'S RIGHTS ARE HUMAN RIGHTS
IT I TURN TO SPEAK. IT IS OUR TURN TO BE HEARD.
50/50
FEMALE

Marching On

The Women's March continues to empower

"Love trumps hate! Love trumps hate!" Hundreds of women and their allies chanted these three words outside of the Hannah Administration Building on Jan. 20, 2019, in frigid temperatures. Though their toes were frozen, their souls remained fiery as they marched from the MSU Union to their final destination for the third annual Women's March. Hosted by the MSU Women's Council, it was the first Women's March in the Lansing area to occur on campus as opposed to the Capitol. With signs advocating for women's issues, it was clear the reasons behind the march's origin during the beginning of the Trump administration were still prevalent. Monica Pham, a junior human biology major, noted that it was no surprise that support behind the Women's March had not fizzled out.

"It just changes every year, and new issues come up," said Pham. "There's just still a lot of inequality in the world ... and women are starting to realize, 'hey ... I should be equal.'"

> "Organizing outrage into action is how change is made ... we're still willing to put in the work to keep moving forward."

Speakers at the march included Governor Gretchen Whitmer, Representative Sherry Gay-Dagnogo, Brigitte Gurden from Ending Violent Encounters, Nina Muckenthaler from Michigan NOW and Quynh Huang from the Asian Pacific American Student Organization. Women in the



CONTENT: AUTUMN MILLER
PHOTO: KAITLIN GRANT
DESIGN: TAYLOR PHILLIPS

crowd listened to the words of these speakers and felt their empowerment flow through them. Sabrina Reich, freshman chemistry major, felt pride in hearing accomplished women share their stories.

"It gives me kind of a sense of satisfaction to know that people are standing up and are doing something about issues, especially at Michigan State, because I know that a lot of people kind of just choose to sit in the back and see what happens," said Reich. "People like us, freshmen at the college — our future depends on people acting and people taking a stand."

The sense of inclusivity, especially dealing with a collective rage that had been boiling since the mid-1800s, was felt in the crowd. Though many showed their support for fellow women by donning the color pink and holding up bold signs, it was the act of marching itself that brought everyone together. Walking as a group across a campus that dealt with the maltreatment of women, especially during the past year, was a form of reclamation. Melissa Wagner, senior social work major and president of the MSU Women's Council, stood in front of the crowd and let them know that their efforts were not ignored — and were absolutely necessary.

"Organizing outrage into action is how change is made ... we're still willing to put in the work to keep moving forward," said Wagner.





While each woman braved the cold on that January day for different reasons, there were many beliefs shared by all. Some of the motives Reich gave for taking a stand seemed to encapsulate what many women were seeking in a time of outrageous tumult.

"I march because I believe that women deserve equal rights ... [and] I believe that everybody has a choice on what they do with their bodies," said Reich.

The fight for gender equality never stops, and through the efforts of the MSU/Lansing Women's March, this was evident. Whether it was through making creative signs to support intersectional feminism or advocating for organizations like Planned Parenthood, women found agency in making strides, both figuratively and literally, with their female counterparts. While the future of the Women's March remained uncertain, it was easy to predict that it would continue giving women a sense of empowerment that will affect generations to come.

BOTTOM LEFT: Women of all ages stand on the steps of the Hannah Administration Building. In January, women marched for equal rights. **TOP RIGHT:** Two women stand with their decorated signs. People decorated signs and spoke out about women's issues and rights.



Service to All Mankind

The founding of a sisterhood

The beautiful girls radiated perfection and wore smiles so infectious they could stun. As they lined up outside the Wonders Hall Kiva at 5:30 p.m., it looked like nothing more than a small get-together, but by 6 p.m. the scene had turned into an amassment of energy. The line stretched from the entrance of the Kiva, well past Sparty's, and an explosion of excitement swept through the halls. Their power was palpable.

On Jan. 15, 2019 the Delta Zeta Chapter of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Incorporated hosted its annual Founder's Day anniversary to commemorate the birth of the organization 111 years prior at Howard University. It was a time to mix and mingle while observing the role and responsibility of the sorority within the community.

"Founders Day is extremely important to me because it is the day my sorority was founded," said Iman Saleem, kinesiology major and president of the Delta Zeta Chapter of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Incorporated. "I am actually a legacy which means that my mom was a part of the sorority before I became a member so I've been around the sorority all my life. To just see the impact the sorority has in the community is really inspiring to me."

Chartered on Feb. 3, 1954, the sorority was assembled by 18 women, making it the first African American sorority on the campus of Michigan State College of Agriculture and Applied Science. As of this year, with over 283,000 members and alumnae making up 997 chapters in nearly 42 states, the sorority was dedicated to being an aide in the community and the surrounding areas.

"Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. once said our lives begin to end the day we become silent about the things that matter"

CONTENT: ADAM AUSTAD
PHOTO: EMILEE NAZARETH
DESIGN: TAYLOR PHILLIPS

"It started with nine women with a vision to have an organization to not only fill a societal gap in community service but to be able to join a fraternity and sorority at this time," Kasey Coleman, a senior chemical engineering major and second international vice president of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Incorporated. "Our founders were one generation removed from slavery so you have to think about at the time when HBCUs were founded because we had that space where we weren't accepted into universities and colleges. So we created our own institutions of learning."

On Monday, Jan. 21, 2019, the Delta Zeta Chapter of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Incorporated partnered with the Zeta Delta Chapter of Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Incorporated for the Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Celebrator Mark & "Freedom Riders" Bus Route. Departing at 3:15 p.m. from the Kellogg Hotel and Conference Center, they arrived at Beaumont Tower to continue a message of tolerance voiced 56 years earlier.

"Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. once said our lives begin to end the day we become silent about the things that matter," said Joseph Enwerejobi, senior in international studies and president of the Zeta Delta Chapter of Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Incorporated. "I believe there is power in that quote because we live in a society where our voices are often times not heard. However, Dr. King created a pathway for us to be able to use our voice on all platforms."

Although appreciated within the Alpha Kappa Alpha and Alpha Phi Alpha organization, it was not widely known that both Coretta Scott King, wife of the Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., and Martin Luther King himself were members of both associations. Although, after meeting the glowing faces and seeing the genuine love and compassion each member had for their fellow human beings, the communities were undoubtedly affected by the legacy of the legendary pair — a true service to all mankind.

TOP LEFT: During the MLK March, students chant commemorative cheers for social justice. This was the 39th annual MLK march held by MSU. **BOTTOM:** Pamphlets from the MLK march sit on a table. The Delta Zeta Chapter of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Incorporated partnered with the Zeta Delta Chapter of Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Incorporated and marched to Beaumont Tower.



Barrelling Barriers

The story of Khalilah Smith, MSU's first African-American Rodeo Queen

"Ladies and gentlemen, it gives me great pride to introduce the 2018 Ms. Michigan State University Rodeo Queen, Ms. Khalilah Smith!" The announcer's words echoed through the Michigan State Pavilion for Agriculture and Livestock Education while the crowd immediately burst into applause and cheers. A smile formed on the face of one MSU sophomore whose hard work and dedication had lead up to this moment.

What made 2018 such a historic year for the Spartan Stampede was the fact that newly crowned Khalilah Smith was the first African-American rodeo queen in Michigan State history. In 2019, Smith, junior animal science major, continued to carry out her rodeo queen responsibilities that began at the time of her coronation in 2018. As rodeo queen, Smith traveled to rodeos across the nation and served as a beacon of hope for aspiring queens.

"It was very interesting to be crowned rodeo queen when I did because of the dynamics of Michigan State right now in terms of diversity," said Smith. "I am pushing the boundaries of diversity at Michigan State because I was the first African-American rodeo queen to be crowned. I'm pushing the walls at MSU and letting people know that it's okay for them to push. I'm letting people of color know that it's okay for them to jump over boundaries that have been set in place for generations."

Smith began her equestrian career at a young age. Her time on the saddle started as an outlet for her diagnosed attention-deficit hyperactivity disorder (ADHD) and grew into something much bigger than she ever predicted.

"If you want to know about how I got started, we have to start with horses," said Smith. "When I was diagnosed with ADHD, my mom tried to find anything that I could get into to direct my energy. I started working with horses and stuck with them because they actually did calm me down. An ex-barrel racer taught me as much as she could and then passed me along to Keith Morrell, a brunk rider and bull rider. When I really got into rodeo, my mom said that we needed to get me my own horse. We all worked together to find me the perfect horse, which is the horse I have now - Blue."

Smith had never taken part in a pageant before Spartan Stampede 2018, but she decided to try something new to get out of her comfort zone. In the end, Smith believed that stepping out of her comfort zone was worth the risk because of the fulfillment being the rodeo queen provided her.

"I'm pushing the walls at MSU and letting people know that it's okay for them to push. I'm letting people of color know that it's okay for them to jump over boundaries that have been set in place for generations."

"Seeing little kids smile at me is the most amazing thing," said Smith. "It is so awesome to walk into a room and have a bunch of little people run up to you and say 'Oh my gosh, who are you? I want to wear a crown.' I can look at them and tell them that they can, and that's just so rewarding. It's an amazing feeling to have kids look up to you and know that you can be an inspiration for them because one day they might want to step in your shoes."

Ms. Michigan State University Rodeo Queen 2018, Khalilah Smith, served as a living example of breaking down barriers. Being the first African-American rodeo queen at MSU was no small feat, and the work she put into making history will forever remain in the books. Smith's love for rodeo began as an outlet for her disability but ended up having a momentous impact on the future of the sport across the United States.

RIGHT: Khalilah Smith, MSU's first African-American rodeo queen rides around the pavilion. Smith began her equestrian career at a young age but did not participate in a pageant before Spartan Stampede.

CONTENT: HELEN KORNEFFEL
PHOTO: EMILEE NAZARETH
DESIGN: LILY RISING





Freshman Nia Clouden stands at the free-throw line in a game against Illinois. The Spartans won 77-60.



PHOTO: LOGAN COLES

High Honors

Women's basketball players receive recognition



From the Heisman trophy to the Olympic Gold medal, accolades honor the very best in athletics. They recognize the talent, leadership and sportsmanship of the athletes that they are awarded to. During the 2019 season, the players and staff of the Michigan State Women's Basketball team were awarded some of the highest honors that the college sport can offer. Every award reflected the culture of success that the women's program had spent years building.

As the 2019 season began, players with breakout talent began to emerge. They carried the team in points scored, assisted their teammates and led by example. Nia Clouden, freshman pre-dental major, was a first-year player that was ensuring the team's success against the competition. Because of her early prosperity, the United States Basketball Writers Association recognized her as National Freshman of the Week on Dec. 30, 2018.

"Winning this award makes me feels like all my hard work is paying off," Clouden said. "It was difficult to make the transfer from high school both playing basketball and living away from home, but I think my transition has been successful. In the future, I plan to become a leader on the team and continue helping my team win."

While most of the awards received by the team were for their prowess on the court, some were recognized for selfless contributions to the community. Suzy Merchant,

CONTENT: RYAN HOPPENWORTH
PHOTO: LOGAN COLES
DESIGN: TAYLOR PHILLIPS

the head coach of the team, was bestowed with the ATHENA Award, which recognizes excellence in female leadership. Merchant was a veteran coach and used her position to facilitate growth in the players both on and off the court. Merchant, with the help of her team, started the empowHER Leadership Retreat to help young women in the Lansing area.

"The empowHER event stemmed from a young lady that I was recruiting which took her own life, so we started a retreat to help young girls," Merchant said. "I've seen a big trend with my girls in terms of confidence levels and ability to fight through adversity. It really resonates with people in this community and across the country that we need to do things that help young people have some tools so when things get tough they know what to do."

When the season transitioned to the postseason in late March, the players of the Michigan State Women's Basketball team also relied on veteran players to lead the team to victory. Jenna Allen, senior kinesiology major, showed her leadership on the court as she utilized her experience to direct the team. As team captain, Allen was instrumental to the Spartans' success and earned the accolade of PNC Athlete of the Month.

"I take athletics and academics very seriously and it feels awesome to be recognized," Allen said. "My parents instilled a strong work ethic in me when I was younger, so to be able to master these two areas means a lot. I've had my health issues during my college career but I put in a lot of work and I think it's really starting to pay off."

"It really resonates with people in this community and across the country that we need to do things that help young people have some tools so when things get tough they know what to do."

As the season came to a close, the team put their treasured trophies in places of honor and looked to the 2020 season. For players such as Jenna Allen, this would be their last time donning the jersey, but for others like Nia Clouden, they had a vibrant career to look forward to. Whatever their position, their effort during the season earned them recognition from across the world of sports. From dominating the competition to helping young women overcome adversity, the Michigan State Women's Basketball team was worthy of their honors



TOP LEFT: Sophomore forward Sidney Cooks puts up a shot. The win over Illinois allowed MSU to improve to 11-0 at home for the season. **RIGHT:** Redshirt junior guard Shay Colley shoots against the Illinois freshman Mackenzie Blazek. The Spartans took home a 77-60 win over Illinois.



A BRITE Future

MSU entrepreneurship student delivers a new spin on snack bites

"Be Balanced. Stay Real. Show Integrity. Gain Trust. Spread Energy." When she was a child, Michigan State University student and founder of the company BRITE bites, Brianna Makaric had digestive problems. It was difficult for her to get the proper nutrients she needed. The problems that she endured inspired her to create probiotic snack bites that served as a quick on-the-go snack packed with essential nutrients.

Because of her ambition and ability to take BRITE bites to the next level, Makaric, junior kinesiology major, earned a place in the 2019 Future Founder's fellowship class in Chicago, Illinois; a prestigious fellowship that allowed some of the nation's brightest young entrepreneurs the opportunity to work with mentors and learn from the best.

"It's really an honor to be chosen with some of the best young entrepreneurs from around the country." Makaric said. "I'm excited to get the opportunity to meet like-minded people who have similar passions. Future Founders will help me find people who can help me develop my product and mentor me in what they have to offer."

As the founder and CEO of BRITE bites, Makaric came up with and pursued the idea on her own. Since she did not have a business partner, the company was in her hands. She was responsible for everything from making the product to hiring interns and people to work for her. One of her first interns, Heather Simon, was a junior food science major who became a food production manager for BRITE bites. Being a part of the company helped her to get hands-on experience in the food industry, and she admired all the work that Makaric put in to make BRITE bites a success.

CONTENT: MEGAN LANDON
PHOTO: LAUREN BATDORFF
DESIGN: ALEX RENNINGER



"Seeing the way that Bri thought of everything, from design to going out and doing market research, seeing what works and what doesn't, and seeing how she worked so hard on things that she isn't even studying from the food science perspective is amazing," Simon said. "It's all stuff that I wouldn't have even thought about."

> "Bri hustles and has the passion to push this company forward. She is always meeting with new people, applying for competitions and asks the right questions."

Makaric was involved in entrepreneurship programs that MSU had to offer, such as Spartan Innovations and The Hatch. The Hatch was a space that assisted Spartan entrepreneurs in getting their companies up and running. Through Spartan Innovations, Makaric was able to connect with an advisor. Paul Jaques, the Director of Student and Community Engagement at Spartan Innovations, had helped Makaric since the beginning of BRITE bites and saw potential in her immediately.

"I have worked with Bri from the start of her company. From helping her set up her entity, marketing, packaging, product, and making connections for her with alums and others," Jaques said. "Bri hustles and has the passion to push this company forward. She is always meeting with new people, applying for competitions and asks the right questions. I love seeing how [BRITE bites] is growing and the way she has learned to work on some things for awhile and then pivot to cut costs and make it perfect for the consumer."

Not many college students can manage a full class load while also running their own startup business. From getting into retail stores like Whole Foods Market, to learning from her Future Founders fellowship, Makaric and BRITE bites truly have a bright future ahead.

LEFT AND TOP: BRITE Bites are probiotic snack bites that supports digestive health. BRITE Bites were founded by Brianna Makaric through Spartan Innovations, an MSU entrepreneurship program.



Let's Talk About Vaginas

The MSU Vagina Monologues break down the stigma of being a woman

From the early years of elementary school to the golden days spent in senior centers, the human body was something that was always joked about — often its "private parts." Discussing them was a taboo and when they were seriously brought into the conversation, many often had to stifle a giggle. Truthfully, this was due to the discomfort of talking about something so incredibly personal. Women felt especially shameful about this, holding on to the belief that vaginas were supposed to be 'hush-hush.' Realizing the absurdity of this, playwright Eve Ensler wrote The Vagina Monologues, a play dealing with the female experience of having a vagina. Gaining momentum, it was performed by theater companies across the country, including a group of women here at MSU.

In the Residential College in the Arts and Humanities Theater in Snyder Hall, the play featured a cast of diverse women from all backgrounds who had one thing in common — they wanted to tear away the stigma behind talking about the female genitalia and the varying experiences that accompany having one. Though education regarding the human body and sexual health was taught in schools, many felt like it was not enough. Allyssa Harris, junior studio art major, felt The Vagina Monologues put her at ease when discussing a topic that was stereotypically risqué.

"It opens the conversation ... personally speaking, growing up and taking sex education class or health



CONTENT: AUTUMN MILLER
PHOTO: KAITLIN GRANT
DESIGN: LILY RISING

classes, they don't really talk about it like it's normal, and it just opens the conversation for everyone," said Harris.

Cast members dressed in red and black to signify seriousness, humor and the female experience. The cast read from notecards and shared stories of other women's vaginas through humor and animation. The shared narratives included one woman who attended a vagina workshop and another who took back the power of wearing a short skirt. Shannon Moore, a senior music education major and producer of The Vagina Monologues, appreciated how the play gave women a laugh.

> "The show as a whole just really brings women together by sharing these stories of all these other women and making them feel less alone and more connected."

"It provides kind of a more humorous and lighthearted outlet that has been done in the past, because it's through a play, it's through theater, it's through a whole event experience, in a more lighthearted setting than 'let's just sit down and talk,'" said Moore. "It's funny, it's sad, it's everything."

With all of the show's proceeds going toward EVE — Ending Violent Encounters — attendees of the show could feel good while doing good. The show also featured a spotlight piece on previously incarcerated and detained women, with a focus on Cyntoia Brown, a 30-year-old black woman who was sentenced to first-degree murder after an act of self-defense at the age of 16. While many women have not personally experienced this, there was a sense of empathy and sympathy that came along with hearing their stories. Pierce Wiselogle, director of The Vagina Monologues, felt the show brought on a sense of partnership.

"The show as a whole just really brings women together by sharing these stories of all these other women and making them feel less alone and more connected," said Wiselogle.

Running for around an hour and thirty minutes, the entire experience was one that brought on a sense of inclusivity and acceptance. Being a trans-inclusive production as well, it opened the door to all who wanted to be involved. Whether one knew the woman sitting next to them or not, she knew their stories were more related than she thought — all through the power of the vagina.

TOP LEFT: Vivian Thompson gives a powerful performance. The Vagina Monologues has been performed by various theater companies around the country. **BOTTOM LEFT:** Becky Coggins shares a solemn monologue. The Vagina Monologues was a play which explored sexual experiences and body image through the eyes of women from various backgrounds. **BOTTOM RIGHT:** The women in The Vagina Monologues receive applause and celebrate at their final performance. Women from MSU and Lansing Community College joined together to put on the performance.





A Chance to Dance

MSU's Mulan Dance Club

The sound of the plucking mandolin drifts above the lulls of an ethereal flute as the dancers await their cue. The slow fall of the notes creates a gentle stream of sound that relaxes the mind and body. Four dancers delicately sway bright pink and white fans through the air as if to mimic a mermaid's tail sifting through water. Their footsteps are silent but their movement is firm, making the onlooker contemplate how such gentleness could be so powerful.

The Mulan Dance Club was the first of its kind at MSU. It held two practices every week — one to develop advanced dancers on Thursdays and one to educate newcomers on Sundays. The club offered two types of traditional Chinese dances styles. The first drew from Chinese folk dance, which originated from minority groups existing in China for centuries. The second was derived from Chinese classical dance, which combined Chinese opera, Chinese martial arts and ballet.

"They are gorgeous dances," said Tainyi Xiao, sophomore majoring in journalism. "They are very focused on their breath, movement and style. Usually, the folk dance is for festivals, making food or welcoming visitors so the dance is more powerful and enthusiastic. Chinese classical dance is more about softness and beauty."

CONTENT: ADAM AUSTAD
PHOTO: ALEXA PIERZYNSKI
DESIGN: LILY RISING

Between the two classes there were a number of differences. The Sunday class, which lasted an hour, served as an introduction to those curious enough to join. There, they talked about culture and showed videos to people who had never been directly exposed to Chinese arts. One student started as a beginner and quickly rose to join the ranks of the advanced class — finding within herself a piece of home.

"I'm a beginner; I have never danced before," said Alice Yin, freshman majoring in computer science. "I'm in Taekwondo Club and Boxing Club, but I was feeling like I needed to be more like a girl. I was doing martial arts for more than five years so that had a big influence on me. I fell in love with Chinese culture when I came to the United States. This was my dream when I was young so this gives me a chance to dance."

When Shuang Li or 'Lily', the club's creator, first came to MSU she joined two dance clubs, Orchesis and MSU Dance Club, which primarily centered around contemporary dances. During freestyle moments, Lily would use her folk dance moves which inspired interest from her friends. The reaction to her style gave her the idea to start teaching classes and give others the opportunity to experience what it's like where she came from.

"For a lot of American students, that have never seen Chinese folk dance, the style amazes them," said Li, junior majoring in communication. "Since then, I thought 'Oh, no one knows this and this is a precious thing that I have'. So, even though I'm not a very good dancer, I really wanted to share this kind of thing with everybody. For some it's their childhood memory, for others they never had the chance. When I think about it, I feel more motivated to make it better because people need it".

"I fell in love with Chinese culture when I came to the United States. This was my dream when I was young so this gives me a chance to dance."

Grace and beauty. Culture and heritage. Every move was precious. Every motion accented. Symmetry and elegance. Introspective but magnificent. It was hard not to get lost in the brilliance when watching such astounding perfection. The dance was not just mesmerizing — it was transforming. Something that was felt and completely unspoken. These were dancers who did not claim to be excellent, and yet they never missed a beat.



LEFT: Shuang Li pushes herself into the air while teaching. The Mulan Dance Club was founded in September and offers education on traditional ethnic dances. **RIGHT:** Yan Zhou warms up while learning about the Yi dance style. Dancers stretched and learned about the history of traditional Chinese dance styles at the beginning of each class.



PHOTO: LORA FARAJ







A Spartan Touch
Lighting Up the Night
My Goodness, My Guiness
Honors College
Going Through Changes
In the Same Boat
Inside and Under MSU
One Million Subscribers
Teeing Off
Into the Wild
College of Natural Science
Blossom of Botanical Beauty
Journey to Greatness
Dark Side of the Moon
Remarkable Partnership
Food for Thought
Owning Their Impact
On the Way Up
Lyman Briggs College
MSU's Very Own "Big Bird"
A Bittersweet Spring
Becoming an Asset
Timosha Krivtsov
Farm to Yoga Studio
Breaking Records
Hitting the Streets
James Madison College
Reaping in the Rewards
Young but Fierce
"L" is For the Way You Look At Me...
This is Your Story, How Do We Tell It?

A Spartan Touch

Spartans sacrifice their breaks to help others

As spring break approached, students scrambled to find last-minute deals on airfare to their favorite sunny destinations. They were excited for the chance to relax for a week and recharge their batteries after enduring months of the Michigan cold. A select group of students, on the other hand, dedicated their week off to helping distant communities through a program called Alternative Spartan Breaks.

Founded in 1991, Alternative Spartan Breaks was a program that connected students to a range of community service opportunities across the country. All programs occurred during breaks in the MSU's academic schedule. Julia Tu, a senior biochemistry and molecular biology major was the president of Alternative Spartan Breaks and viewed the program as instrumental to her college experience.

"I had no clue what was going to happen during my first trip, but my group and I bonded over the social issues at hand and it turned out to be a great experience," Tu said. "You take a leap of faith when you sign up for these trips, and the leadership does their best to avoid any hiccups along the way. You really lean on the people around you for support, and I think that's why there is so much bonding and magic."

To the students who were new to the program, they looked forward to the opportunity to help a distant community. Although they did not know where they were going, the students were excited to start their service adventure. Harrison Plummer, a junior Lyman Briggs student, packed his bags in anticipation of his trip.

"I had no clue what was going to happen during my first trip, but my group and I bonded over the social issues at hand and it turned out to be a great experience."

"I take these trips as an amazing way to educate myself on a problem that I would normally not spend a great deal of time on," Plummer said. "Being a science major, the depth of my understanding of many social



CONTENT: ADAM AUSTAD AND RYAN HOPPENWORTH
PHOTO: JADA FLOWERS AND AMANDA NEUMANN
DESIGN: TAYLOR PHILLIPS



issues is limited. Joining ASB allowed me, on a deep personal level, to better comprehend problems because of the relationships I was able to build with members in the community I was fighting the social issue with."

After the students returned, they delved into their studies with the same recharged attitude of the students who went to popular spring break destinations. Amanda Neumann, a sophomore business major acted as the site leader for her service trip to Costa Rica.

"We picked coffee alongside Nicaraguans who come to Costa Rica to escape their poverty there," Neumann said. "It was truly a life changing experience because these people, and the country, are both so beautiful and they are just so happy with what they have. I am still feeling exhausted, sunburnt but most of all grateful and would do it all over again."

While the rest of the 2019 school year loomed ahead, the students involved in the Alternative Spartan Breaks program remembered their time in wherever their trip had taken them. One particularly memorable trip was a journey south. One that took its participants outside of their regular routine. Giving them the opportunity to personally participate in an entirely different world.



BOTTOM LEFT AND TOP: Site leader Amanda Neumann pose for photos during their Alternative Spartan Break trip. Neumann and other MSU students traveled to Costa Rica for a service trip. **BOTTOM RIGHT:** Jada Flowers with young people of Atlixco. Students visited communities and learned about the Latinx culture.

It's hot. Really hot. The weather app for Atlixco reads 90 degrees, but the humidity makes it feel like it is over 100. Finding calories is not a problem, but the eating situation is definitely not the McDonald's drive-in. Being 2,370 miles from home, in a completely different climate and culture, each new day feels like a detachment from reality and yet, the experiences felt here could never get more real.

> "I saw the real Mexico for a week, instead of the tourist-filled resorts. I saw the daily lives of the people that live there instead of the beach."

Intercultural Engagement in Mexico was a part of the MSU Alternative Spartan Break program and offered by the Office of Cultural and Academic Transitions. For the Spring of 2019, the destination was Atlixco, in the western part of the state of Puebla in the southern half of Mexico. Four student groups from MSU traveled to different sites in Mexico to give their time and energy, while also learning about Latinx culture.

"I was interested because I always wanted to study abroad, but I also wanted my trip to be meaningful instead of the typical party scene college students tend to stick to," said Amber Chambers, junior creative advertising major. "Our service to these communities definitely marked it with the "Spartan touch" because it was more than the labor we offered, but how much our presence and genuine relationships we built, meant to these people who were so grateful with so little."

A total of nine days, given travel, the weekdays were mostly spent at the hosting agencies. One such agency was a community for young boys whose families had abandoned them and were taken in to give them an intimate group-home setting. Though the Puebla area was not the standard tourist location equipped with a tropical beach and resort, it provided access to people rich in cultural heritage.

"In Mexico, my site specifically worked with disabled adults and we painted windows, gates, planted flowers and just help to bring the site back to life," said Courtney Dent, sophomore in kinesiology. "It allowed me to branch out and meet people I would've never met just being here at State. I tried so many real foods, I saw the real Mexico for a week, instead of the tourist-filled resorts. I saw the daily lives of the people that live there instead of the beach."

Another aspect of the study abroad program was the raising of money before departure through donations and fundraisers at MSU. The money was used to buy food containers, cleaning supplies, gifts and clothes for the sites. One of the days was spent throwing a party in which locals and students alike shared in the celebration of cross-cultural awareness.

"My favorite part was interacting with the kids because they were so happy and thankful we came," said Jada Flowers, junior creative advertising major. "They really showed their appreciation in their reaction to us being there. My biggest takeaway was learning that the concept of volunteering is not really a thing there because everyone is struggling so no one is thinking to reach back. Helping out showed them that people were actually thinking about them."

The general consensus of everyone interviewed when asked the question, "What would you say to students thinking of going abroad?" was a resounding "GO!" Following the wise words of these women, is a subject near and dear to the heart of what it means to be a Spartan — and that is giving back. Thanks to their desire to explore, experience and engage, coupled with the generosity of partnering organizations like the Office of Cultural and Academic Transitions, it looked like MSU Alternative Spartan Breaks did just that.

TOP LEFT: Mountain range in Costa Rica. **BOTTOM LEFT:** Students on the Alternative Spartan Break trip to Atlixco. The students gave their time at hosting agencies around the southern part of the state of Puebla. **BOTTOM RIGHT:** Jada Flowers takes a photo with a girl in Atlixco. Four students spent nine days traveling to different sits in Mexico.





Redshirt sophomore Mason Erla stands on the mound, and prepares to pitch. Erla had a season high with seven strikeouts against Western Carolina.



PHOTO: ALEXA PIERZYNSKI

Lighting Up the Night

MSU baseball plays inaugural night game after 135 seasons



Walking across campus on a crisp spring night, newly implanted lights illuminated across the pink and purple sunset sky at McLane Baseball Stadium for the first time in 135 years. As they flipped the switch on the massive floodlights, it seemed that the Spartans, too, flipped the on switch for their season. It was the first ever night game — a totally new atmosphere. After struggling in the first half of the season, the Spartans battled to a 1-0 walk-off victory after 10 nail-biting innings to end the historic night.

Head Coach Jake Boss Jr. knew getting lights and having the ability to host night games at McLane Stadium would impact the entire baseball program moving forward, giving them much more flexibility. To him, it meant the program was moving in the right direction and continuing to try and improve.

"Personally, I'm honored to be a part of it. I think it is something that we really had worked for since day one when we got here 11 years ago, so to see it come to fruition is a pretty cool thing to be a part of," Boss Jr. said. "It's been a lot of hard work from a lot people and to see the lights finally get put up and turned on is something that, for a while there, was kind of humbling — it was a little emotional ..."

> "We got a win on the first night game and that's something we will remember forever."

Heading into the first night game in history, the Spartans had struggled in the first half of the season. Senior leader Marty Bechina knew he had to try and keep the team's positivity up — it would have been easy to give

LEFT: Freshman Zaid Walker steps up to the plate. Zaid finished the 2019 season with a .293 batting average.. **BOTTOM RIGHT:** Redshirt senior Dan Chmielewski bats during his final season at MSU. Chmielewski received the MSU President's Award for the highest cumulative GPA.

CONTENT: MEGAN LANDON
PHOTO: ALEXA PIERZYNSKI
DESIGN: ALEX RENNINGER

up after the rough beginning and tough competition. Knowing there were still over 20 games to play he and the team saw the first night game in school history as the perfect moment to turn the momentum around and get the season back on track.

"It was pretty cool," Bechina said. "I was interested to see how it would all go or how it would look to be honest, and it's just a different atmosphere when it's at night. We got a win on the first night game and that's something we will remember forever."

Redshirt senior Dan Chmielewski had been at MSU for half a decade and, like Bechina, was trying to help the Spartans through the last half of their season. In his final year at MSU, he was able to be a part of something that had been over a century in the making.

"It was really exciting when they've been playing baseball here 135 years, like 120 at this location ... just being a part of that's exciting," Chmielewski said. "It's a big thing for the athletic department, and I know it cultivates from a lot of hard work that went into doing it. It's just nice to be a part of it and kind of have my name etched in history alongside of it and it's something I'll always remember."

Fans and players alike held their breath as senior Nic Lacayo laid down the bunt and Royce Ando sprinted towards home plate late in the 10th inning. Players cheered as Ando slid across home for the lone run of the game, the Spartans coming out victorious. Spraying their water bottles into the air and storming the mound, the Spartans celebrated their walk-off victory with euphoria.



My Goodness, My Guiness

Spartans master the ancient art of brewing beer



Sipping beer from a red Solo cup, they did not stop and contemplate the origins of the drink. They enjoyed the smooth flavor of hops and took for granted the hours put in by the brewmaster to ensure the drink's character. Refined for thousands of years, beer brewing became a staple of many cultures across the world as well as a popular hobby. In the department of chemical engineering, the brewing and distilled beverages technology class allowed students to learn the craft of brewing quality beer.

Originally created in 2013 by chemical engineering professor and master brewer, Kris Berglund, the brewing and distilled beverages technology class was unique to MSU. With only two other universities with a similar brewing class, MSU was a leader in education on the topic. Yasheen Jadidi, a doctoral chemical engineering student, was a teaching assistant for the class during the 2019 school year and a past student of Berglund.

"Kris was always fighting to make this program big," Jadidi said. "There is not too many brewing programs that prepare college students for that kind of industry. He was a pioneer of integrating research and these classes."

While the class is a requirement for majors such as food and beverage science, the class also attracted

CONTENT: RYAN HOPPENWORTH
PHOTO: KAITLIN GRANT
DESIGN: LILY RISING

students from across the spectrum. From engineering to English, students flocked to the class for a chance to learn the valuable skill. Maisie Snyder, a senior food science major, was drawn to the class for its potential to advance her career.

"You have to calculate the grain build, gravity, alcohol content and when to add the hops. Given the time it takes to mash, brew, ferment and carbonate the average beer takes about three weeks to make."

"...I've always been interested in brewing and distilling," Snyder said. "Brewing is a pathway in food science that's becoming more common now because of the booming craft beer industry. I don't know what I'll be doing after graduation but it could definitely be something along those lines."

As their beer brewing skills increased, so did the students' interest in creating complicated beers. Everything from pilsners to ciders were being distilled by the students in the class. Milena Montgomery, a senior food science major was brewing a hard root beer and hoped she could correctly navigate the process for her third brew.

"Brewing beer is a more complicated process than one would think," Montgomery said. "There is definitely a science behind it. There are lots of different steps you have to go through and lots of math which I was not expecting. You have to calculate the grain build, gravity, alcohol content and when to add the hops. Given the time it takes to mash, brew, ferment and carbonate the average beer takes about three weeks to make."

At the end of the brewing cycle, the students extracted the beer from its copper still and tasted their own creation for the first time. Although not every beer is as good as brands found in the supermarket, they felt a sense of pride in their accomplishments. Through complex mathematical equations, careful chemistry and a dash of patience, the students were able to master the complicated art of brewing beer.



LEFT: Students assist in stirring the beverage while others keep temperature, read directions, and calculate. This chemistry class took place in a lab and attracted students of all majors. **RIGHT:** Brandy drips from the tap during a filtration process necessary in distillation. It was hard work in order to master the processes of brewing and distilling.

Honors College

Opening doors to incoming students

As freshmen stood outside the Honors College, they saw a building that would be the focal point of their university experience. It was a slight red-brick building that had been home to the Honors College since 1956. The college admitted high achieving students from a variety of majors, and on Feb. 25, 2019, the Honors College opened its doors to incoming students in what it dubbed, "Warm Welcome."

On the first floor of the Honors College, prospective students met with academic advisors who were eager to assist students and start them on their journey. The advisors sat down with each student and carefully laid out a plan for success in the student's university career. Bess German, an Honors College dean, took time to welcome students and help plan their future.

"The Warm Welcome is a time to open our building to the students," German said. "Unlike the other residential colleges, we don't have a physical presence in the neighborhoods and our students don't all take the same classes so it's really important that we go out of our way to open our doors to make sure everyone feels welcome."

On the second floor, students were greeted by dozens of current and former Honors College students who had produced tri-fold displays about what life in the Honors College would be like. The displays were laid out along with tables of warm food for the students. Jackie Heymann, graduate student affairs administration major, had expertly planned the event and ensured the day proceeded flawlessly.

"This is an event we try to do every year to welcome the incoming Honors College students," Heymann said. "We aim to expose them to different resources and celebrate their entrance to the college because it is a big honor to be invited into the Honors College."

The students wandered around, excited to familiarize themselves with the historic building. For many first-year students, the experience was a little overwhelming, but the faculty helped expunge any anxiety. Kamryn Jenkins, freshman neuroscience major, was admitted to the Honors College after her first semester at MSU and was curious to see the building that would be central to her academic career.

"I decided to come here because this is my first semester at the honors college and I wanted to make use of all the resources that I can," Jenkins said. "Honors College is a program that I think will help me fulfill what I want to do with my career. I want to go medical school so I'm hoping that the Honors College will help me get a leg up."

Unlike the other residential colleges, we don't have a physical presence in the neighborhoods and our students don't all take the same classes so it's really important that we go out of our way to open our doors to make sure everyone feels welcome."

When the Warm Welcome came to an end, the freshmen exited the Honors College with a clear sense of what to expect for their future. With the help of academic advisors and friendly alumni of the Honors College, the perspective students felt at home at MSU's most distinguished institution.

TOP AND BOTTOM RIGHT: Emma Smith and Alex Roy stand in the green space in MSU's North Campus. Smith and Roy are both freshman students in MSU's Honors College.



CONTENT: RYAN HOPPENWORTH
PHOTO: LORA FARAJ
DESIGN: ALEX RENNINGER




SIMPLY BRILLIANT
WILLIAM C. TAYLOR
Community Capitalism
Ron Kitchens
Mirroring People
Marco Iacoboni
The New Science of How We Connect with Others
LEFT BRAIN RIGHT STUFF
PHIL ROSENZWEIG
THINKING, FAST AND SLOW
DANIEL KAHNEMAN
make it stick
McNAMARA
THE CURRENCY OF IDEAS
HIBBS
THE AMERICAN POLITICAL ECONOMY
HARVARD
PRINGLE | STARR
Electronic Media Management
RIC-167-931
MICHIGAN STATE™ SPARTANS

CONTENT: RYAN HOPPENWORTH
PHOTO: EMILEE NAZARETH
DESIGN: ALEX RENNINGER

Going Through Changes

Spartans search for their interests

As the high school senior first sees their acceptance letter to MSU, a flurry of emotions washes over them. A major element of that excitement is finding out what field of study they want to participate in. Their calling could fall within the world-renowned engineering program, or they might have an eye for a liberal arts degree. One thing that is certain is that this decision could impact the student for the rest of their life. While it is love at first sight for some, others spend their university career bouncing between different fields, attempting to find the much sought after Goldilocks major.

When considering switching majors, a common grievance is that doing so will add an exorbitant amount of time to one's graduation date. Academic advisors were instrumental in determining how a major change would affect a student. Andrew Murray, an academic advisor for the College of Arts and Letters, helped students determine if a changing major was right for them.

> "It'll always suck thinking about all of the time and credits I wasted on political science classes, but it was worth it to find something that I'm actually truly passionate about."

"It's essential to talk about the change and how it impacts both the immediate and long term future," Murray said. "Depending on how far a student is into their academic career, a major change can be a major setback. Families and friends play a part in the process as well, as parents might encourage students to pursue a major they aren't as excited about, but appears more financially viable. As students figure out they don't like the courses, they change back to something they feel they love."

While most students change their field of study at least once during their time at college, some have made dramatic changes in what they studied. Whether playing it safe or not, the thought of changing majors elicited anxiety about a host of potential issues. Kalli Schabbel, a senior psychology major, changed her field of study a total of eight times.

"I've been in business, interdisciplinary social science, political science, political science pre-law, humanities pre-law, psychology with an education minor, human capital and society and then back to psychology with a minor in leadership of organizations," Schabbel said. "The only time I was in danger of not graduating in four years was when I switched to human capital and society major, but that only lasted less than a semester."

Although Schabbel bounced from major to major, she eventually found her ideal field of study. She went through dramatic shifts, but with the assistance of her academic advisor, never went off the graduation track.

"It'll always suck thinking about all of the time and credits I wasted on political science classes, but it was worth it to find something that I'm actually truly passionate about," Schabbel said. "I ended up discovering industrial/organizational psychology — a field I never even knew existed — just from being part of the psychology program. I'm graduating in four years come May, have a full-time job after graduation in my field and planning to get an MA in I/O psychology with an MBA, so everything worked out."

As college seniors walk across the stage to accept their diplomas, they often reflect about the colossal changes they underwent during their years at MSU. For students such as Kalli Schabbel, they found that change was instrumental in shaping them as individuals. As they start their careers in the field they spent years trying to pin down, they can be confident that, through trial and error, they made the right decision.

LEFT: After changing her major eight times, senior Kalli Schabbel, graduates with her degree in Psychology. Schabbel's previous majors helped her find her true path while still graduating within four years.



Senior Megan Faucher sits in the back of the boat as her team rows down the river. The Spartans opened up their season at the Big Ten/Ivy League Double Dual in March.

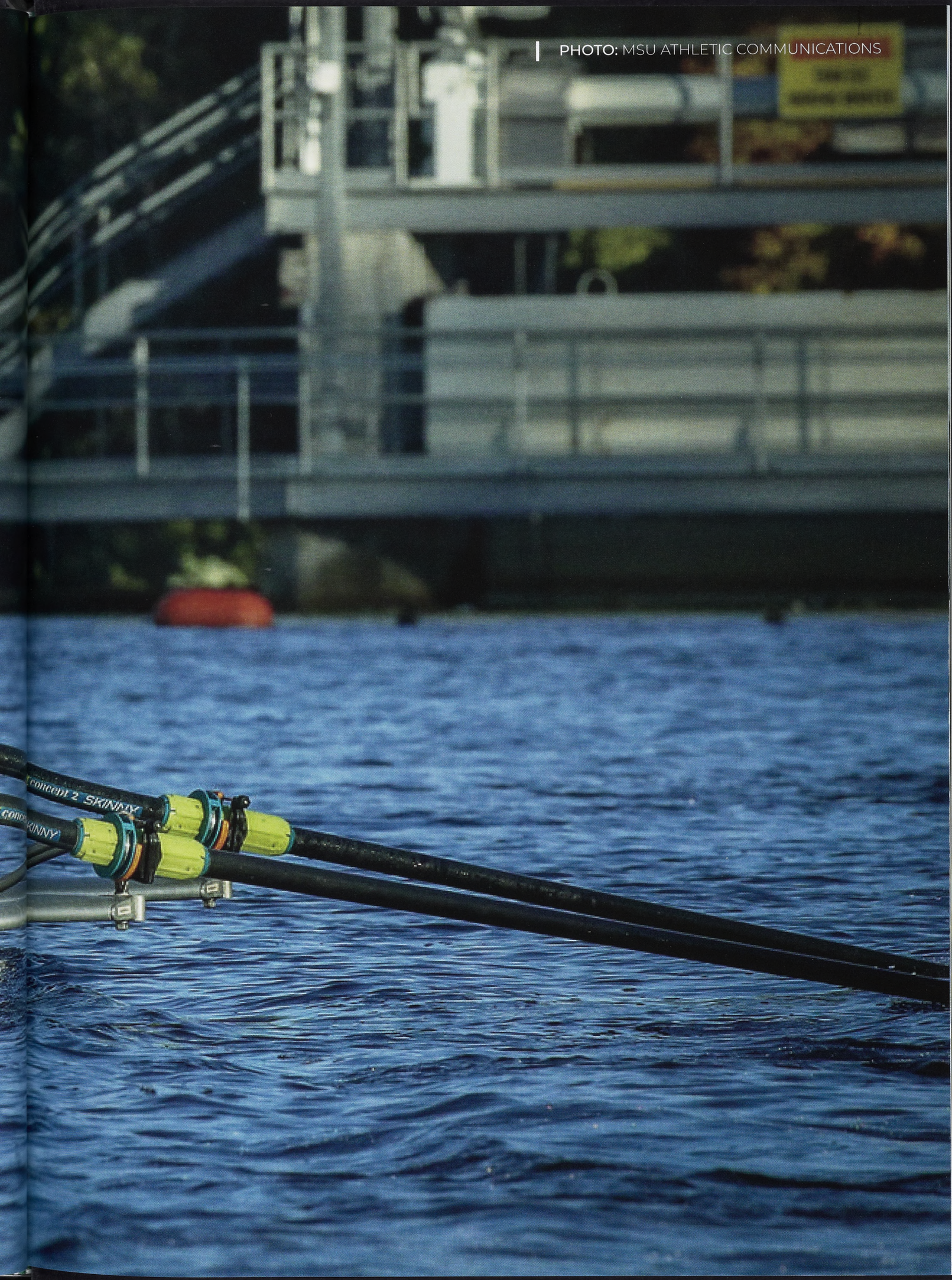


PHOTO: MSU ATHLETIC COMMUNICATIONS



In the Same Boat

Women's rowing shows an aptness for teamwork

He stood by, steadfast, and looked into the gleaming eyes of the eight unwavering women sitting in their slender racing shell, and could not help but shine a hopeful smile. Their water vehicle sat motionless on the starting line dock before the race. Each of the rowers silently training their breath, carefully synchronizing to a unified animation. At the sound of an distant monotone signal, their paddles instinctively swept backward propelling the boats in a hurried frenzy for first.

Matt Weise, head coach of 22 years of the Michigan State rowing program, had a hand in shaping the women's rowing team's entire varsity existence. With an astounding 89 rowers at the beginning of the spring season, Weise admitted the difficulty of instilling accountability and melding the different rowers into multiple cohesive boats.

> "In the book *Boys in the Boat*, they compare it to playing two basketball games if you put it into 6 minutes and it definitely feels like that..."

"Every year is a fresh start," said Weise. "The team is always different from the previous year. So, you are constantly trying to play with those dynamics to try to get them to perform consistently. It's always a fun process and what keeps me engaged year after year."

Unbeknownst to the casual spectator, rowing was a considerably strenuous sport. The race distance of 2,000 meters was long enough to require a high capacity for endurance, but short enough, normally 5.5 to 7.5 minutes, to feel like an all-out sprint. This meant that the women rowers had to have some of the highest power outputs of athletes in any sport at MSU.

"It's 6 or 7 minutes of just 'Go'," said Cassie Kingma, sophomore in athletic training and kinesiology. "In the book Boys in the Boat, they compare it to playing two basketball games if you put it into 6 minutes and it definitely feels like that. Something we talk about is, 'be in more pain than the other boat' because if you are in more pain you are probably going to beat them."

With sweat beading down their angelic faces, they gracefully dipped their paddles with power into the water propelling their watercraft forward with fervor. Each stroke fluidly repeated alongside the other oars. Persistence emanated from their vessel as they dutifully came upon the craft in front of them. Pushing each other to dig harder.

They made it look simple. Carrying the strain of their fellow rowers with every sweep of their oars. It took a type of silent communication to align their goals with their performance. An implicit need to both rely and divide with their green and white mates. A realization that in whatever situation, each of them had a direct effect on the result. A realization that each of them was in the same boat.

RIGHT: Members of the women's rowing team work together to beat their opponent. Each boat fought hard against a full field to place sixth at the Big Ten Championships in Wisconsin.

CONTENT: ADAM AUSTAD
PHOTO: MSU ATHLETIC COMMUNICATIONS
DESIGN: MEREDITH BIEBER



Inside and Under MSU

MSU's historic buildings and landmarks from the people who dig them up



TOP: Mason Hall lounge in 1938.



TOP: Mason Hall lounge in 2019.

Strolling along the Red Cedar River, students and visitors smile in amazement. The leaves are changing color from deep, emerald green to the familiar shades of fall. Not long after, the vibrant leaves will fall and the snow will come, but the beauty of MSU will not fade. Numerous impressive buildings stand tall, gazing down at the beauty of campus below. Unbeknownst to most passers-by, there were landmarks and buildings that remained hidden under the campus' well-travelled trails. These historic spots were located across MSU, but the curious had to meet the right people to uncover their pasts.

Lynne Goldstein was an MSU anthropology professor and archaeologist. For MSU's sesquicentennial celebration in 2005, Goldstein arranged a workshop for students to excavate MSU's first dormitory, Saint's Rest. The building was built in 1856 and burned down in 1870 over winter break. During the workshop, the archaeological team discovered foundation walls, a sand floor and cobblestone floor basement. They uncovered original stoves that heated the dorm, barrels and buckets of building materials used to maintain the dorm and dozens of historic artifacts like ceramics, bottles and more. After the success of the workshop, Goldstein founded the Campus Archaeology Program at MSU. The program developed outreach on campus and trained undergraduate and graduate students in archaeology techniques.

"I think that people don't realize that Michigan State's campus doesn't look that same now as it did back then," said Goldstein. "There is a lot of history to be learned, and when we go out and find new artifacts on campus, we're finding little bits of history that each have a unique story."

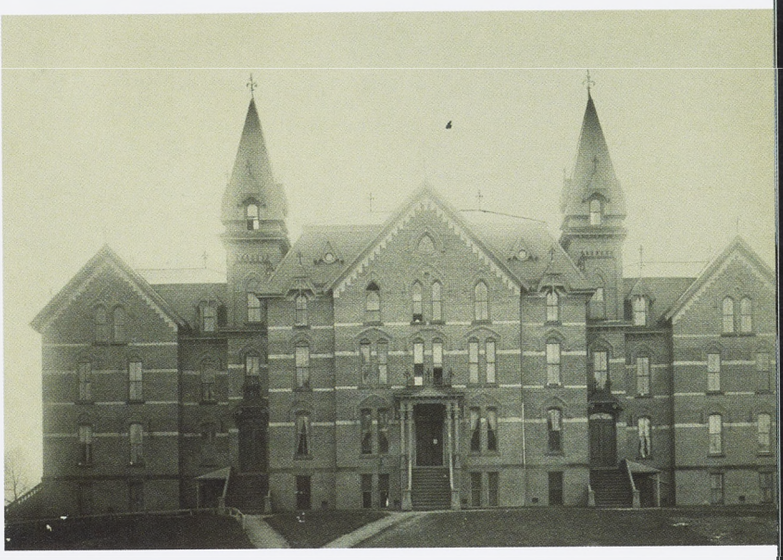
> "Keeping historic areas safe on campus is a symbolic way of saying that this is Michigan State's history, and it's not going anywhere anytime soon."

The Campus Archaeology Program at MSU was the first on-campus program of its kind, and every subsequent campus program was modeled after it. The program focused on teaching students archaeological

CONTENT: HELEN KORNEFFEL
PHOTO: PHOTO STAFF AND MSU ARCHIVES
DESIGN: ALEX RENNINGER



TOP: The International Center in 1966.



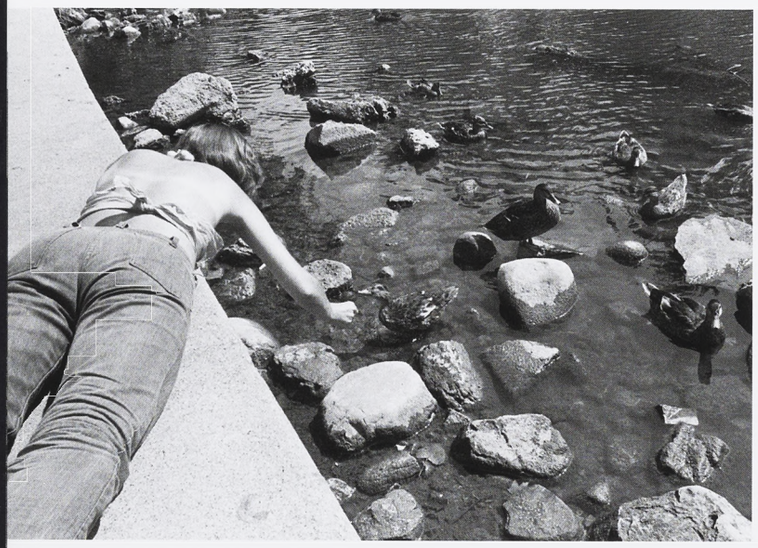
TOP: Wells Hall in 1895.



TOP: The International Center in 2019.



TOP: Wells Hall in 2019.



TOP: The Red Cedar River in 1971.



TOP: Landon Hall in 1949.



TOP: The Red Cedar River in 2019.



TOP: Landon Hall in 2019.



TOP: Students in a food service line in 1945.

techniques and research, as well as protecting and mitigating archaeological resources on MSU's campus, both above and below campus grounds.

"Knowing the history of MSU really gives us perspective for our lives on campus today," said Autumn Painter, an MSU archaeology doctoral student and campus archaeologist. "Larger historical events have impacted MSU over time. The people who have lived here, as well as the campus itself, give students and the greater public a tangible, close to home example of how events and everyday processes in the past affect our lives today."

Many aspects of MSU's campus have changed over time, including landmark locations and overall plans of campus, but one place will always remain — the sacred space. The sacred space is a large green space located in North neighborhood; just north from the Hannah Administration building. Ossian Cole Simonds, a landscape gardener, recommended green spaces similar to the sacred space in order to connect beauty on campus and show the positive influence that university grounds can have on the lives of students. He stated that campuses must have some portion that is beautiful and not disrupted by other buildings in order to help foster a positive environment for all who live, work and visit the grounds.

"The green space is a way for us to keep Michigan State true to the roots of the original campus," said Whitney Miller, an MSU Archives professional. "Keeping historic areas safe on campus is a symbolic way of saying that this is Michigan State's history, and it's not going anywhere anytime soon."

Sprawling across 5,200 acres along the banks of the Red Cedar River, MSU shines as a beautiful connection of past and present. The first students at MSU in 1855 sat in the same seats and buildings that students sat in as of 2018. While some aspects of campus have changed, the history of the university remains. Having organizations like the Campus Archaeology Program shows that the history Spartans are creating today will be remembered for years to come by future Spartans. When walking along the winding roads and gazing up at the prestigious buildings, the history of the 163 year old campus is always there for people to discover — all they had to do was dig a little deeper.

One Million Subscribers

Junior marketing major monetizes popular YouTube channel

Dramatic music fills the air. The words "It Is Time" flash on the screen. The challenge commences. With one million coins to spend and a playbook given to him from his opponent, the popular YouTuber MMG takes on his rival in Madden Mobile in 'the match of the century.' After a nailbiter of a game, he comes out victorious.

Matt Meagher was a junior marketing major and president of Psi Upsilon fraternity. In person, he was just a regular college student, but online he was MMG, Madden Mobile Gods: one of the most popular local YouTube stars with over one million subscribers to his channel. It all started when he was in high school and played the game Madden Mobile so often that he began to sell coins — the ingame currency earned by playing — to people for actual money and gift cards. One day, someone suggested he make a YouTube video about how to get coins and so MMG was launched. Eventually, he got so popular that YouTube monetized his videos, and his earnings from them surpassed the amount he was making selling coins.

> "I have the opportunity to positively affect hundreds of thousands of lives, and that's pretty incredible."

"I first started just for fun; I always had a very immature sense of humor, so I think that resonated well with the younger audiences on YouTube," Meagher said. "The popularity came from consistent, quality content."

Reaching over one million subscribers was years in the making for Meagher. His boisterous, energetic personality sold itself and garnered attention. He got fans to subscribe to his videos because he was funny and relatable, not because he was the best at Madden Mobile or Madden 19. Most of his latest content consisted of him playing Madden for his fans, but with a twist. Sometimes he would spin a wheel to see what players he had to use in a game, and other times he would draft all short players. One of his most popular videos was him being challenged to a game of Madden by another Youtube star, YoBoy PIZZA.

"The difference is me. I think that my fans click on my videos to watch me, not what game I am playing," Meagher said. "I will do it until it's no longer something that makes me happy. The passion is what makes my videos good."

Not only did Meagher make gameplay videos, but his channel was also filled with content such as videos reading comments from fans, opening fan mail, party vlogs and traveling. With each video lasting anywhere from 10-15 minutes, he racked up views, which were consistently over 200,000 per video.

"I love making videos with my family, those are the best," Meagher said. "My favorite thing is having fans. I have the opportunity to positively affect hundreds of thousands of lives, and that's pretty incredible."

For the next three to four years, Meagher believed that MMG would be alive and well. Because his channel was a place where he could be completely himself, he could continue to share his sense of humor, lively personality and life with his fans.

RIGHT: YouTuber Matt Meagher stands outside his Phi Upsilon fraternity house. In a mere couple of years, Meagher has gained over 1 million subscribers on his YouTube channel MMG.



CONTENT: MEGAN LANDON
PHOTO: LORA FARAJ
DESIGN: TAYLOR PHILLIPS

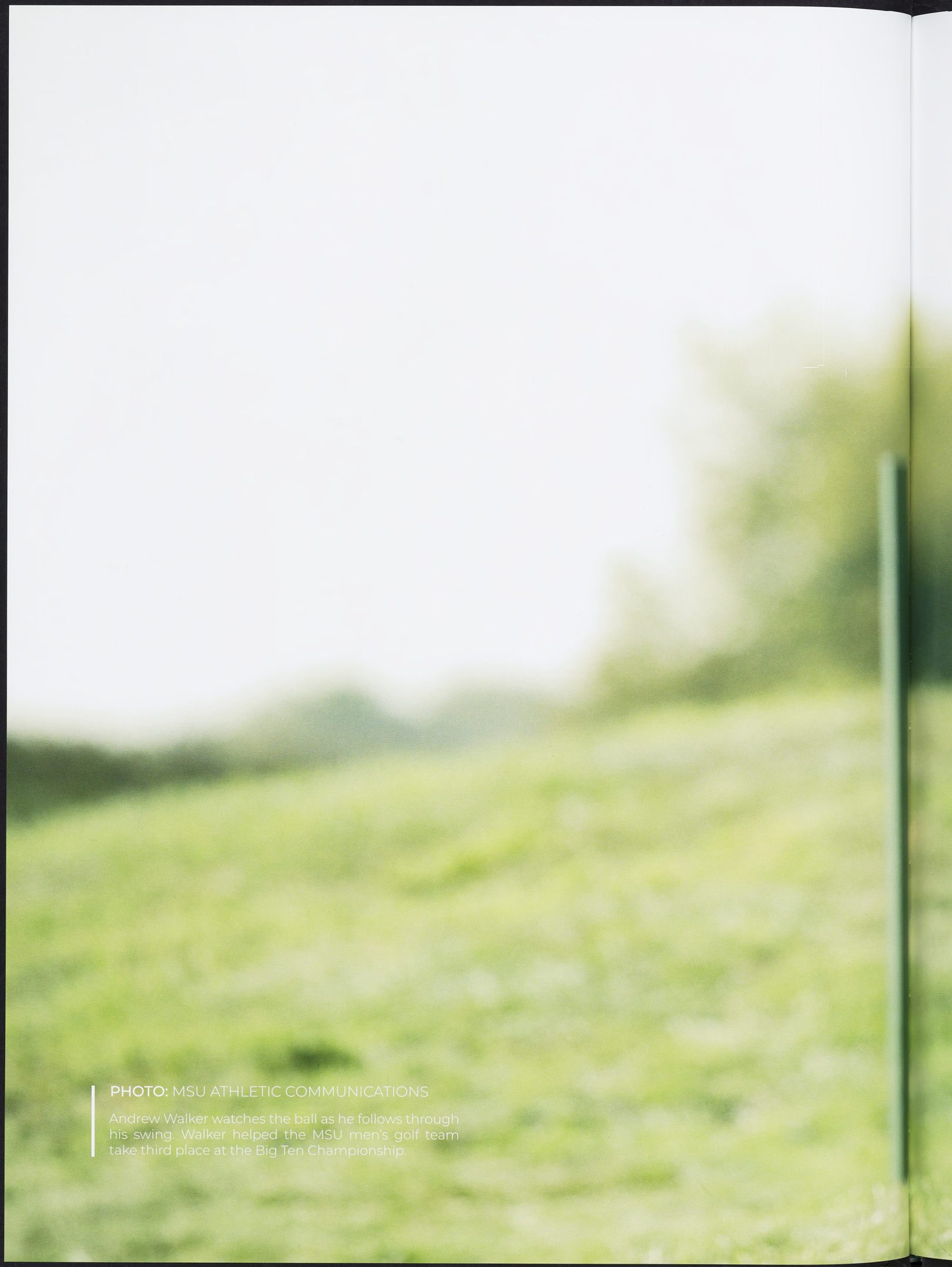


PHOTO: MSU ATHLETIC COMMUNICATIONS

Andrew Walker watches the ball as he follows through his swing. Walker helped the MSU men's golf team take third place at the Big Ten Championship.





CONTENT: RYAN HOPPENWORTH
PHOTO: MSU ATHLETIC COMMUNICATIONS
DESIGN: LILY RISING

Teeing Off

Spartan men's golf helps freshmen thrive

When a student athlete made the transition from high school to university play, they often were faced with various difficulties. For Spartan men's golf players in particular, these issues caused anxiety amongst the few underclassmen on the team. Practices were held miles from campus, the team would travel across the country for tournaments and practices occurred daily. Because of these factors, underclassmen had to rely on the dedicated coaching staff and the slew of veteran golfers for direction.

During the 2019 season, the men's golf team went through a number of ups and downs. Although the season started with a personal tragedy that struck one of the star players, the team was able to come together to win. Casey Lubahn, the team's head coach, attributed the team's success to the impressive clutch performances late in the season. In his dedication speech at the end of the season, Lubahn singled out the impressive record of the team's underclassmen.

"I think the adjustment is getting bigger every year for freshmen, but they're doing a great job," Lubahn said. "With the mix of seniors and talented freshmen it's an impressive group this season. "We're just going to keep plugging along because our goals don't change — get in the NCAA tournament, and do an outstanding job in the classroom and the community. We always need to ensure that the schedule allows these kids to be successful in all areas of their lives."

For the two freshmen on the team, playing college golf had been a significant adjustment from high school play. Parker Jamieson, freshmen business major, began his career at MSU in the fall and had become an integral part of the men's team by the time tournament play came around in April. Throughout this transition, Jamieson was determined to work hard and learn from his more experienced teammates.

"There is a different level of responsibility in college golf than high school," Jamison said. "I have to be more aware of when things are because there are higher expectations of me. Also, I am playing with a group of great golfers who challenge me a lot more to be my best. I have realized that I have to work a lot harder to get in the lineup and play a significant role on the team."

Throughout the season, Jamison and other underclassmen on the team contributed highly to the team's victories in tournament play. For them, they saw the older players as more than teammates and looked to them to guide him through his first season at MSU. They found their inspiration.

"The upperclassmen on the team keep me accountable for my work on the course and in the weight room," Jamieson said. "They know how to have a good time and make me laugh while being focused and determined when they need to be. I hope to be a significant contributor to the team and be a consistent part of the lineup. I also want to continue my success in the classroom and be an Academic All-American."

"Also, I am playing with a group of great golfers who challenge me a lot more to be my best. I have realized that I have to work a lot harder to get in the lineup and play a significant role on the team"

At the end of the 2019 season, the Spartan men's golf team held a ceremony to honor the achievements earned by players throughout the season. From broken records to the team's high grade point average, every positive aspect of the season was being celebrated. For the coaching staff, they made sure to take a moment of recognition for the freshmen such as Parker Jamieson who had made a significant impact on the team's success. As the team gained an additional two freshmen for the 2020 season, Jamieson planned to join his fellow teammates in welcoming them and treating them with the same guidance he had received on his first day.

LEFT: Sophomore James Piot continues to be a top player in the Big Ten. Piot earned First Team All-Big Ten Accolades.

Into the Wild

A Spartan exploration of nature

As the hikers sat around the fire attempting to defy the chill of northern Michigan, they recounted the adventures of the day. Deer eyed them skeptically, merely feet from the trail, while majestic eagles danced overhead. This trip had brought them closer to nature and closer to one another. They did not know what the next day would hold for them on the Manistee River Trail, but the members of the MSU Outdoors Club were determined to make it historic. This adventure was just one of many that the club had planned, all of them with the purpose of exploring and preserving the nature found in Michigan and beyond.

The MSU Outdoors Club met every Monday in a classroom on the second floor of IM West to discuss future trips, plan parties and listen to guest speakers relay memories of their outdoor adventures. Dan Durbin, senior fisheries and wildlife major and president of the MSU Outdoors Club, planned trips and led discussions during meetings. Durbin had been in the club since his freshman year and owed his love of the outdoors to his participation in the club.

"We are very accepting of students from whatever background, major or experience level so everyone feels very welcome," Durbin said. "We get people from all walks of life and all beliefs coming together under one roof for the collective purpose of going outside and having a good time."

Since its inception in 2013, the MSU Outdoors Club grew in membership and was able to plan increasingly ambitious trips. From paddling up the Missouri River to climbing up the side of a sheet of ice, the MSU Outdoors Club was always searching for its next adventure. Owen Telesco, sophomore business major, was a regular at the meetings and had participated in events such as a 160-mile paddling race: Campus to Coast.

"This year I was really able to build on my love of nature in a really recreational way," Telesco said. "The MSU Outdoors Club is great because they have this fully stocked gear room and you have access to top of the line gear for all these experiences. They have tents, hiking backpacks, sleeping bags, hiking boots and climbing gear. You name it, they have it."

Although the members of the MSU Outdoors Club were already crowding the large classroom, even more members joined each meeting. Matt Hurst, a junior transfer student and environmental studies and sustainability major, braved the January chill to attend his first MSU Outdoor Club meeting. Hurst was a dedicated outdoorsman and wanted to find a group of like-minded individuals on MSU's campus.

"The MSU Outdoors Club is great because they have this fully stocked gear room and you have access to top of the line gear for all these experiences. They have tents, hiking backpacks, sleeping bags, hiking boots and climbing gear. You name it, they have it."

"This is my second semester at MSU and I wanted to socialize more and become more involved in campus life," Hurst said. "I've always been interested in the outdoors and I wanted to continue that interest into college. I'm most looking forward to their upcoming trips including a whitewater rafting trip to West Virginia and an ice climbing trip in Canada."

When the meeting came to a close, students rushed to the front to sign up for a rustic camping trip to Wilderness State Park. The park was a sprawling area of forests in northern Michigan and was notoriously cold during the winter months. The trip would surely test the Spartans' camping and backpacking abilities, but the MSU Outdoors Club was prepared to take on the challenge. With adequate gear and adventurous spirits, MSU Outdoors Club members would continue exploring uncommon spots across North America.

RIGHT: Hiking boots and other camping equipment sit on the shelves ready for use. The MSU Outdoors Club was stocked and ready to go on their next adventure.



CONTENT: RYAN HOPPENWORTH
PHOTO: ALEXA PIERZYNSKI
DESIGN: MEREDITH BIEBER



College of Natural Science

Zoology major Marty Schmidt gets real-life experience working in zoos

From petting fluffy therapy dogs in the library to strolling through the zoo on a warm day to gaze at giraffes and pandas, animals play an integral part in many MSU students' lives. However, few Spartans could claim that they studied animals as part of their curriculum. Marty Schmidt, a junior zoology major with a focus in zoo and aquarium sciences, spent his days identifying mammal skulls and familiarizing himself with animal behaviors. His passion for animals was something he had since he was young.

"[My family] visited the local zoos as much as possible, and every time my family and I took a vacation to a different city, we made sure one of our stops was that city's zoo," said Schmidt. "I also really loved to read books about animals, and TV programs like National Geographic and personalities like Steve Irwin got me hooked."

For Schmidt, studying animals in a classroom setting left him wanting more and spurred him to become immersed in the up close and personal world of animals. Going into his junior year of high school, he found the Maryland Zoo's summer teen program. After participating in the program and showing true passion, Schmidt was offered a junior zookeeper position, which he held for two years.

"My responsibilities were a bit limited since I was a high school volunteer. The main part of my job was cleaning up after the animals ... I also prepared diets, created toys for the animals, and helped educate visitors at the zoo," said Schmidt. "One of my favorite things I got to be a part of was helping to raise penguin chicks ... as a college intern, I got to do some things that I couldn't in high schools, like leading behind-the-scenes tours [and] going on educational trips."

With ample schooling and internship experience under his belt, Schmidt accepted an internship at the Cincinnati Zoo during summer 2019. Between lectures and lab classes that dealt with all kinds of animals, he felt ready to take on a zoo with a pristine reputation.

"I didn't need this internship to graduate college, but it will make me a much more valuable candidate for full-time positions once I graduate college and start looking for jobs in a crazy competitive field," said Schmidt. "Plus, I think it's going to be super fun!"

"I also really loved to read books about animals, and TV programs like National Geographic and personalities like Steve Irwin got me hooked."

Working in a zoo allowed Schmidt to apply the knowledge he had learned in the classroom at MSU. Seeing just how much value zoos held for humans, both in personal enjoyment and furthering the cause of animal preservation, he wanted to be a part of ensuring that animal welfare continued to come first, and he was well on his way to doing it.

RIGHT: Marty Schmidt is a zoology major studying zoo and aquarium sciences. Schmidt spent his day volunteering at the local Potter Park Zoo examining animal behaviors.



CONTENT: AUTUMN MILLER
PHOTO: EMILEE NAZARETH
DESIGN: LILY RISING



Blossom of Botanical Beauty

Mixing horticulture and architecture in the name of fashion



Twenty-two anxious designers and 22 models in eccentric outfits lined the back of the Horticulture Gardens greenhouse between popping green plants. Flitting around like the bees in the garden, the designers put together finishing touches to the year's Apparel and Textile Design Pop-up Fashion Show. The show's first-ever mashup theme was a mix between architecture and horticulture, and the designers were ready to show off their creative interpretations of each element they were assigned.

In her first ever fashion show, Nina Iverson, an apparel and textile design sophomore, was first to send her design down the runway to begin the show. She had spent hours creating her dress, which featured flowers and tiny lights, over winter break. With hopes to someday design women's clothing, the critiques that she received, along with the exposure and experience from the show helped move her a step toward reaching her goal.

"I was given a plant and a building, and mine was the tulip and a skyscraper in London called the Spire," Iverson said. "That building was based off of an orchid, so I really just wanted to focus on the floral aspect of the designs and I really wanted to make it very whimsical and fairy-like because that's what flowers remind me of."

Chantel Booker, senior apparel and textile design major, was one of lead directors for the show while also designing a piece of her own. Her unique design took up to 60 hours of work, from the concept development phase, to sketching and finally the construction phase. The designers were encouraged to research both the architectural element and botanical element they were

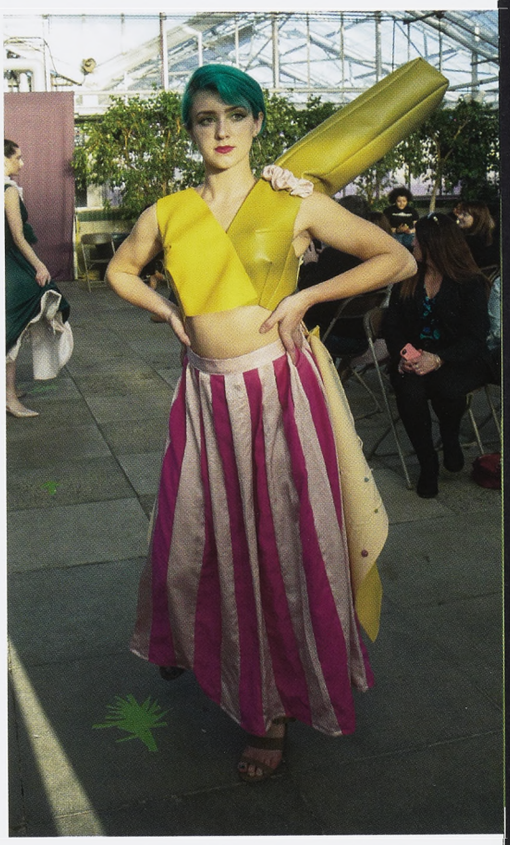


TOP: Nina Iverson's design aesthetic is traditionally more feminine and whimsical. Her design, Aine, was inspired by the Spire in London and Tulips. **BOTTOM RIGHT:** Mikayla Frick's outfit hits the runway in the Horticulture Greenhouse. She pulled inspiration from the unconventional aspects of life.

CONTENT: MEGAN LANDON
PHOTO: ALEXA PIERZYNSKI
DESIGN: TAYLOR PHILLIPS







given to see how they could potentially intertwine them in a unique way. Booker delved deep into the history of her elements to find a perfect theme for her design.

"My design is inspired by the Fox Theatre in Detroit and the Foxglove plant," Booker said. "My design makes a connection with the Egyptian motifs found in the theatre and poisonous aspect of the plant. Egyptians used poisonous chemicals in their makeup to achieve rich, bold colors. My design titled 'Pretty Deadly' represents how beauty comes at a cost, what happens when you are willing to pay that cost."

> "... the fashion show experience gives apparel and textile design students numerous soft skills in addition to their exercising their creative muscle."

Associate professor Therèsa Winge was proud to see her students' designs come to fruition. Although she loved to see the models work the designs on the runway, since she worked during the show, she only was able to catch glimpses of the creations from backstage. Because of this, her favorite part of the show was being able to see how thrilled the designers and models were when they could hear people applauding their masterpieces.

"The designers gain experience in making fashion that is suitable for a specific event — a fashion show. They also develop better critique skills in critiquing peers, self-critiques and receiving critical feedback with grace and professionalism," Winge said. "Designers also receive professional photographs of their designs, which is invaluable for their portfolios and securing employment. Overall, the fashion show experience gives apparel and textile design students numerous soft skills in addition to their exercising their creative muscle."

As the show came to a close, each designer and model took one last walk down the runway. The sparkle in their eyes showed their pride in their designs that started simply as a seed of an idea, and had finally blossomed into the beautiful creation they envisioned. Months of hard work and dedication were found to be worthwhile as the students took their final bows to the sound of applause from family and friends in the crowd.

TOP LEFT: Maya Roberts' design walking the runway. She was inspired by the Burj Khalifa building and the Monstera Deliciosa houseplant. **TOP CENTER:** Maddy Eischer draws inspiration from the Leaning tower of Pisa and the vivid colors of orchids. During her design process Maddy used hand beading in the making of the skirt interior. **TOP RIGHT:** Noel Thomas' design is symbolic of entrapment. She was inspired by the structure of a Venus Flytrap.



A few members of the MSU women's golf team walk to the next hole. The Spartan Women's golf team finished second at their home tournament, the Mary Fossum Invitational, this season.



PHOTO: MATT ZUBIK

Journey to Greatness

Spartan women's golf attributes success to teamwork

Through the ebb and flow of a sports season, injuries occurred, student athletes made career defining performances, and most importantly, everyone grew as an individual and a player. For the women's golf team, this was especially true as they advanced into the postseason. The team members had come from around the world to play golf at MSU, and they were determined to honor the Spartan name.

Starting out in early fall, student athletes began practicing for the highly anticipated 2018-2019 season. Valery Plata, a freshman exploratory preference, had been recruited from Floridablanca, Colombia. Plata's first season with the women's team was a far cry from her past experience with the sport; however, she aimed to make a large contribution to her new found team.

"I'm not from here, so I didn't get to play high school golf like most people on the team," Plata said. "I think it's really fun to be on a team and part of something. It feels good to travel with the team and practice with the team and push each other to get better. In the future I want to keep helping the program get better and better each season."

As the 2019 season came to a crescendo in late April, certain players had shattered their previous bests and were recognized by the Big Ten. Allyson Geer-Park was one of the players that dominated the field well into tournament play. While she was winning many awards for her play, her greatest victory — in her mind — was seeing how her teammates grew over the years.

"The team has been awesome this year," Geer-Park said. "We have three freshmen playing on the travel team which has been just awesome for our team to have. For me as a junior it's been really great just to see how the team progresses over the years and I think it's a really special team we have this season."

For the coaching staff, they watched as the team came together to make the season great. Stacy Stoll, the head coach of the team, worked with the players and ensured their growth throughout the season. Stoll instilled a competitive spirit in the players while simultaneously encouraging them to welcome the newbies.

"Every player that comes to Michigan State has a different path of how they get here," Stoll said. "The journeys of how they became a Spartan are all unique and individual. Every player we have is meant to be here, and they knew when they came on campus that this was the place they were going to spend their four years and they were meant to be a Spartan."

"Every player we have is meant to be here, and they knew when they came on campus that this was the place they were going to spend their four years and they were meant to be a Spartan."

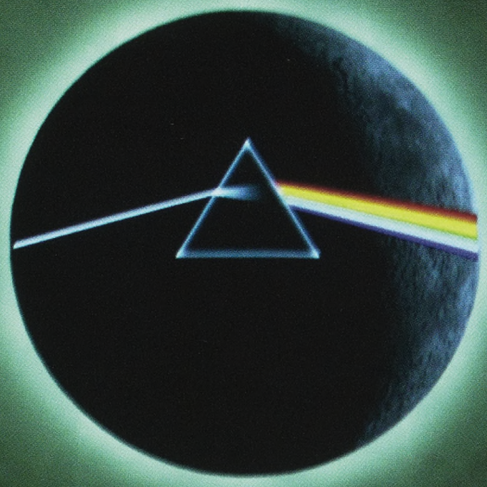
When the 2018-2019 season came to an end in early May, the women's golf team celebrated their successful run. From all over the world, the players had come together to make the team a powerhouse in the Big Ten. From practices to tournaments, the golfers were determined to not only break their own records, but also win as a team. For the diverse set of golfers left for the 2019-2020 season, they looked to expand on their success and become the best in the nation.

TOP RIGHT: Allyson Geer-Park replaces her ball on the green of hole 16. Geer-Park birdied the hole. **BOTTOM RIGHT:** Senior Sarah Burnham drives her ball towards the green on hole 15. Burnham finished her decorated career with the Spartans after breaking the MSU single-season scoring average (70.8).



CONTENT: RYAN HOPPENWORTH
PHOTO: MATT ZUBIK
DESIGN: ALEX RENNINGER





Dark Side of the Moon

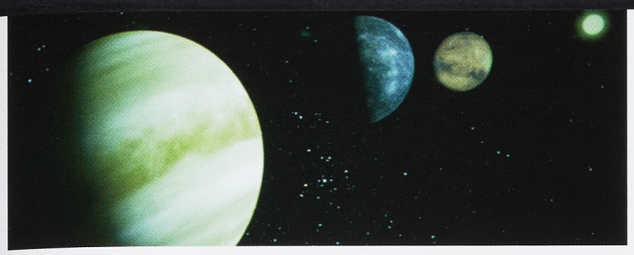
Abrams Planetarium fills seats for Pink Floyd show

The lights lowered in the Talbert and Leota Abrams Planetarium and hundreds of people, representing a gamut of ages, turned their attention to the sky. They had all come because of their appreciation for the 1973 breakthrough album, "The Dark Side of the Moon," by a previously unknown English rock band named Pink Floyd. The people were excited to get a chance to see the legendary music being synchronized to visuals only the planetarium could offer.

Beginning in the early 1980s, the Abrams Planetarium offered students the chance to see shows featuring the music of Pink Floyd. The band's music was psychedelic and could be seamlessly integrated with the interstellar imagery that the planetarium had available. Following a lull of about twenty years, the planetarium staff decided to bring these types of shows back for public viewing. John French, the planetarium production coordinator, created the show and was excited to display it to the community.

"We did laser shows at the planetarium from 1970 to 1985, and back in those days you actually had a real laser shining around," French said. "I wanted to try to recreate the same feel with the new video projection system, so I made a bunch of graphics that kind of gave the feel of the old school laser shows from the 70s and 80s."

Minutes before the show was slated to begin, Shannon Schmoll, the Abrams Planetarium manager, ensured everything was ready. From within the empty planetarium, she could hear the hundreds of people waiting for a ticket in the lobby. This was the largest show



CONTENT: RYAN HOPPENWORTH
PHOTO: KAITLIN GRANT
DESIGN: LILY RISING

the planetarium had put on this year, but Schmoll was ready to accommodate the bustling crowd.

"Pink Floyd at the planetarium is kind of classic," Schmoll said. "The show is really fun and even though it is not a direct part of our mission in terms of educating people about astronomy, the funds we raise from this can help us fund other planetarium shows or other projects we do with students. It's also a good chance just to get good vibes out into the community."

While each song transitioned to the next, the viewers saw a variety of unique moving images centered around the theme of each individual song. "Money" featured stock tickers that rapidly danced across the planetarium screen, "Brain Damage" took viewers on an instantaneous trip to the literal dark side of the moon and so on. Martha Spall, senior English major, watched the procession of imagery and was dazzled by the creativity of John French's production.

"The music quality was good, and I loved the sequences with space imagery and the dizzying movement around planets," Spall said. "The turnout was wild, and although I just got into the first showing, I was glad they added another show right after so they didn't have to completely turn people away."

"The show is really fun and even though it is not a direct part of our mission in terms of educating people about astronomy, the funds we raise from this can help us fund other planetarium shows or other projects we do with students."

When the show ended, hundreds of people exited the planetarium only to be quickly replaced by another few hundred. Clearly, this event drew a strong response from the community as they were raving about the visuals as they exited the building. Through cutting-edge technology and the legendary music of Pink Floyd, the Abrams Planetarium created a spectacle that paid homage to the shows of the past while creating something truly unique.

TOP LEFT AND RIGHT: Graphics of space flew across the planetarium to the rhythm of songs from the Pink Floyd album "The Dark Side of the Moon." The show was put together by John French, the planetarium production coordinator.

Remarkable Partnership

The College of Engineering lends Ward a hand (brace)



At 21, Nick Ward, forward for the MSU men's basketball team (44), stood 6'9", 245 pounds. Averaging 15 points and more than six rebounds a game, he was a key player for the top-ranked Spartans and was gearing up to be a reliable competitor in the 2019 NCAA Division I Men's Basketball Tournament. In February, during a 62 - 44 win over the Ohio State Buckeyes, Ward suffered a hairline fracture in his left hand that worried fans and athletic departments alike. Would he be ready by March?

Nick Richey, MSU men's basketball athletic trainer, took the matter into his own hands and reached out to MSU's College of Engineering. Richey assembled a team of professors, mechanical engineers and students that worked together to get Ward back on the court. Members of the group included Larry Drzal, a professor of chemical engineering and materials science, and mechanical engineers Tom Pence and Tamara Reid Bush.

"Although it's a logical conclusion between us and athletics, it hasn't existed," said Bush, associate professor in the department of engineering and director of the Biomechanical Design Research Laboratory. "We are one of the first departments on campus to make this connection, and it was really Nick Richey who made this happen. I hope that interactions continue and that we can find more collaboration or points of collaboration going forward."

Dr. Bush's group started the process by scanning Ward's hand using a Sense scanner from 3D Systems to construct a digital 3D model of his hand. Next, they collected force data in order to identify the type of pressure the device would need to withstand during a game. Then, Drzal and his team printed a palmar and dorsal shield to match the hand model. Pence's group ran a stress analysis on the structure with the applied force data and just like that, Ward was back in action.

"We found out on a Tuesday that this might even be a thing," said Josh Drost, 5th year Ph.D. student in engineering mechanics finishing his ninth year of working in the Biomechanical Design Research Laboratory. "We met Wednesday with Nick Richey, Dr. Drzal, and a few others asked to join the project. Thursday we went and tested. Friday we handed off all of our experimental data."

CONTENT: ADAM AUSTAD
PHOTO: TOMMY MASSA
DESIGN: ALEX RENNINGER



Part of the way in which the process seemed so smooth and effortless was due to the personnel and materials that were already in place to be utilized. The Biomechanical Design Research Laboratory, created by Dr. Bush, was designed to apply engineering techniques and principles to the human body. Through the use of in vivo experimentation, testing done within a living organism, a team of approximately 20 undergraduates and five graduates worked together to integrate engineering, kinematics and biology to augment current approaches to anatomical correction.

> "We are one of the first departments on campus to make this connection, and it was really Nick Richey who made this happen."

"We have lab meetings every week to talk about our research projects," said Paige Cordts, sophomore in mechanical engineering. "The graduate students run their "think" projects for the theses and recruit undergraduates. We also have some undergraduate-lead projects funded by different companies. One of the undergraduate projects we have right now is with a heated seat in a car and seeing 'how hot, is too hot?'"

It is unclear if Nick Ward could have stepped on the court during the 2019 NCAA Division I Men's Basketball Tournament without some form of hand protection after his injury. What can be said is that the culmination of specialized practices and responsive researchers housed within the College of Engineering and the fusion of multiple disciplines allowed him to come back stronger. If the success of the Spartans in the tournament was any indicator of the prospective benefits of collaboration between athletics and engineering, it would be a remarkable partnership.

LEFT: Tamara Reid Bush and Josh Drost hold the 3D model of Nick Ward's hand. After fracturing his left hand, it was unclear if Ward would play without something to support his hand. **TOP:** 3D model of Nick Ward's hand being measured up against Tamara Reid Bush's hand. The 3D model was used to create a hand brace.



Food for Thought

Initiative aims to help struggling students

The dozen cafeterias scattered around MSU's campus provided students with a vital source of energy to keep up with their chaotic schedules. Filled with food from around the world, the dining halls served as a place to eat, study and meet friends after a busy day. This convenient option, however, is not available to off-campus students who could not afford an off-campus meal plan. The Swipe In a Spartan initiative was created to help those students gain access to meals at the dining hall.

Created during the 2019 school year, the program was designed by Residential and Hospitality Services (RHS) and Associated Students of Michigan State University (ASMSU) with assistance from the East Lansing Food Bank. Keara Sullivan, a senior international studies in social science major, helped create the program from her position at ASMSU.

"After I got back from winter break we started brainstorming ideas for this," Sullivan said. "We wanted to do something that would give students access to meal swipes if they weren't able to afford them on their own. The food bank is amazing, but it provides them with food that they have to make at their own house. It just makes more sense for them to be able to have that accessibility that other students have."

As Swipe In a Spartan gained momentum, RHS set out to collect donations from students around campus.



CONTENT: RYAN HOPPENWORTH
PHOTO: LOGAN COLES
DESIGN: ALEX RENNINGER

Paul Rinella, a manager at RHS, sat at a desk inside the International Center asking passing students to give their extra meal swipes to a Spartan in need.

"I work for culinary services so of course I'm going to volunteer to sit at a table for a couple hours asking for donations," Rinella said. "I had no idea that there are students out there are in need of this, so I think this program is very important. You're talking about thousands of students who need this."

> "It just makes more sense for them to be able to have that accessibility that other students have."

Throughout the last week of March, RHS set up a table at popular locations across MSU's campus. On Monday, March 25, they inhabited the MSU Union, 1855 Place on March 27 and finally the International Center on March 29. They talked to thousands of students and explained the program to anyone who would stop long enough to listen.

"Students were asking for this program to be created," Rinella said. "In terms of supply and demand, the demand is students are in need and the supply is the students asking 'what can we do with our extra swipes?' A student's meal plan never expires, even if you graduate, and there are a lot of people that want to give their remaining swipes to a good cause."

By the end of the week, hundreds of meal swipes were donated by students to help their fellow Spartans. Although it was the first year of Swipe In a Spartan, the roll-out had been a success. Because of the program, many students struggling with the high costs of food were given a helping hand they needed to continue their education.

TOP: An MSU student swipes his ID at the cafeteria. Meal swipes were collected for students in need through the Swipe In a Spartan Initiative.


LANDFILL
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8



PHOTO: EMILEE NAZARETH

Senior Kaitlyn Eveland watches as the ball heads toward the plate and she prepares to swing. Eveland had a .279 hitting average for the season.

Owning Their Impact

MSU softball finds a voice through mentorship and empowerment

On a bright afternoon in March, the energy and morale were especially high at the Secchia Softball Stadium. The women of MSU's softball team geared up for practice, ready to put in work for the upcoming Big Ten championships. After a successful weekend at Miami of Ohio, they found themselves hitting, throwing and running harder than usual. Having an especially young team this year meant a bit more sweat had to go in, but hard work had never been an issue for these strong Spartans.

Kaitlyn Eveland, senior communications major and third baser on the softball team, recognized that she had to be a leader more than ever this season. Surrounded by freshmen and sophomore players, she felt responsible to set an example for them — but knew they were willing to put in the effort from the beginning of the season.

"They're putting in work on their own. They're always listening and asking questions of course, and if they don't know the answer to something they're always willing to ask, they're not afraid," said Eveland. "I see them strive for success and they only want the best out of themselves and their teammates and I think that's what's important to reach potential as a young player."

> "I feel like being at a Big Ten university and Michigan State... just makes you very humble and grateful for the opportunity and just kind of resembles all of the hard work you put in to be here"

Though they naturally sought mentorship from the experienced players, the younger players felt equally as passionate about the sport. Shae Schreckengost, redshirt sophomore, catcher and zoology major, had unparalleled dedication for softball. She knew she had to put in time to be the best she could be, but this did not deter her.

"It's definitely one of my main things in life that I put a lot of work into," said Schreckengost. "It's such a platform for women everywhere, just to the way it's increasing throughout the years, more media coverage, more fans, more money for support ... not only the sport but it's just a way to empower all women."

The way that softball gave the team strength as women also gave them a sense of camaraderie. With Coach Jacquie Joseph scoring her 700th win on March 8, which was International Women's Day, the team knew they had the capability to go far during the season. Having a strong female leader to look up to gave them the motivation to play their best. Lexi White, senior hospitality business major and outfielder, acknowledged how Joseph had been a major mentor for her. In turn, she aimed to fill that role as well.

"You never really realize how big of a role model you are until when you're done playing a game, and there's a long line of little girls that are lining up for your autograph," said White. "Not too long ago, I was that girl lining up for an autograph ... I feel like being at a Big Ten university and Michigan State, which a lot of girls tend to want to go to, just makes you very humble and grateful for the opportunity and just kind of resembles all of the hard work you put in to be here."

Young or old, the MSU softball team was not afraid to sweat for what they wanted — sweet, sweet victory. By finding their purpose as athletes and women through the sport, they were able to influence both themselves and others to fight for their goals. Out on the diamond, anything could happen when playing against another strong team, but they knew their unbreakable bond would lead them to victory.

TOP RIGHT: Junior Jordan Watson throws a pitch from the mound. Watson had a season high of 4 strikeouts in a game against Louisville. **BOTTOM RIGHT:** Members of the MSU women's softball team talk together on the field. Three Spartans earned post-season All-Big Ten honors.



CONTENT: AUTUNM MILLER
PHOTO: EMILEE NAZARETH
DESIGN: TAYLOR PHILLIPS



On the Way Up

Upward Bound gives high school students a glimpse at a successful future

One's high school experience was pivotal as to how their future panned out. While it taught them core concepts like basic math and writing skills, it also gave them an idea as to what they eventually wanted to do with their lives. Unfortunately, some high school students had more privilege than others, setting them up for success automatically. For those from low-income families or potential first-generation college students, many needed an extra boost to provide them with the support to get them to where they wanted to go — thankfully, the program Upward Bound did just that.

Founded in 1966, the MSU chapter of Upward Bound focused on bringing underrepresented students from the Lansing school district to MSU after high school, giving them mentorship, homework help and aid in preparing for college. Emily Piccione, senior comparative cultures and politics major and school student liaison at Upward Bound, saw both the depth and breadth of what the program provided to prospective students.

> "I believe that the staff of Upward Bound truly care about the students beyond simply providing program services."

"They give support to our students academically during session every single week. All the kids from the Lansing School District come to MSU's campus and so our TA's actually run curriculum with them, and share their own experience as well," said Piccione. "... the younger students have a chance to interact with college students and kind of see how we're coping with it. They ask us advice about everything from where they should live, where they shouldn't live [and] the fun stuff to do on campus."

Looking at the students' progress reports, the Upward Bound staff wanted to give the high school students help in areas they needed the most. Though support like this aided them immensely, the program lost its government grant in early 2017. Dr. Stephanie Anthony, director and program coordinator of Upward Bound, saw how much this disadvantaged students.

"This program has been in existence for over 50 years, and it's really served a very positive opportunity for our students," said Dr. Anthony. "There are so many people that have gone through Upward Bound that have been successful ... when we lose funding for these types of opportunities, students are missing out on a chance to have those experiences to be able to learn the things that would allow them to be competitive in a college or university setting, and sometimes it's as simple as exposure."

Katarzyna Purzycka, senior human biology major and mentor at Upward Bound, felt similar to Dr. Anthony about the issue. However, with MSU picking the program up and funding it on its own, the value that it had was more than evident.

"I believe that the staff of Upward Bound truly care about the students beyond simply providing program services," said Purzycka. "We do not just help students; we are invested in their success. Through the activities it offers, the mentorship it provides, and the examples it sets, Upward Bound builds up well-rounded, focused individuals and supports them every step of the way."

Though currently funded by MSU, Upward Bound plans to re-apply for their government grant in the future. For the time being, they would continue to invest in the academic futures of students in Lansing and instill the belief that they were capable of achieving their goals. In the eyes of the teaching assistants and mentors of Upward Bound, no matter what happened, the high schoolers had the power to move up.

TOP RIGHT: Connor Davidson tutors high school students as part of the Upward Bound program staff. For more than five decades, Upward Bound has provided academic guidance to thousands of high school students in the Lansing area. **BOTTOM RIGHT:** Senior Kishan Patel signing students in upon their arrival to Wells Hall. Students were given dinner at the beginning of every meeting before the program mentoring began.

CONTENT: AUTUMN MILLER
PHOTO: LORA FARAJ
DESIGN: ALEX RENNINGER





Lyman Briggs College

Student research helps Spartans apply what they learn in the classroom

Many Spartans had experiences related to their major that helped them realize their path after graduation. Psychology majors could shadow a therapist, journalism majors may have found themselves working for a local newspaper — the opportunities were endless. However, for Spartans enrolled in Lyman Briggs, many of them applied what they knew about the sciences and their specific interests in study in a lab setting, putting in work as student researchers.

Brielle Komosinski, senior human biology major, began conducting research during her first year at MSU under Dr. Daniel Menchik. The two worked in collaboration with Sparrow Hospital to improve patient experience, along with delving into hospice care. Komosinski did not want to limit herself to just one research project and began working with Dr. Richard A. Edwards as well.

> "My experiences with research on campus, as well as my clinical research experience over this past summer, has solidified my intent to attend graduate school."

"We are looking into how students learn out of the classroom, specifically mathematics, and how this knowledge transfers," said Komosinski. "This is interesting to me because I am actually participating in Dr. Edwards' study abroad course this summer on the History of Mathematics."

Like Komosinski, Caleb Risper, junior astrophysics major, spent much of his free time researching. Having a passion for physics, he wanted to bring about change in how it was taught in classrooms, giving students a deeper understanding. The research he worked on was conducted in the Physics Education Research Lab, or PERL, with Dr. Katie Hinko.

"I am working on applying a communities of practice framework to how informal physics and outreach works. We are really looking into the experiences of students that participate in outreach and how they are affected by this type of outreach," said Rispler. "Overall, I am looking at interviews with a group here at Michigan State University that is called Science Theater and applying a qualitative analysis to how their experience over their spring break outreach has changed."

It was evident that the type of research students could conduct within Lyman Briggs was vast. Abi Otwell, junior neuroscience and molecular genetics major, studied how the number of flagella affected growth rate and swimming behavior in the bacteria Salmonella enterica. Like many of her peers, Otwell knew her experience was invaluable.

"Getting involved in research as an undergrad is a fantastic way to get a taste of the research career path," said Otwell. "Coming into college, I was not 100% sure that I wanted to pursue a Ph.D. rather than an MD. That said, my experiences with research on campus, as well as my clinical research experience over this past summer, has solidified my intent to attend graduate school."

Instead of solely studying in a lecture hall, Spartans in Lyman Briggs were given numerous opportunities to take niche interests and apply what was taught to them in a classroom setting. They were able to explore what they loved alongside experienced professors, showing them that one day, they could be the doctors they were currently working under.

TOP RIGHT: Junior Kristin Konja pipetting LB broth solution into a container. Lyman Briggs students were required to take at least two biology labs throughout their time at Michigan State. **BOTTOM RIGHT:** Lyman Briggs student vortexing a solution during a research lab on probiotics. Students worked on this lab bi-weekly throughout the entire spring 2019 semester.



CONTENT: AUTUMN MILLER
PHOTO: LORA FARAJ
DESIGN: LILY RISING





CONTENT: RYAN HOPPENWORTH
PHOTO: EMILEE NAZARETH
DESIGN: MEREDITH BIEBER

MSU's Very Own "Big Bird"

A mysterious statue draws wonder from MSU students

In the fall of 2016, with little warning, the Eli and Edythe Broad Art Museum inserted an enormous statue on campus. That statue was a bird constructed entirely out of impractically large, metal nails. Known simply as Bird, the alluring art piece was nestled out of sight in the courtyard between the Old Horticulture Building and the Student Services Building. It was a towering statue, standing nearly sixteen feet tall and weighing five tons. Rusty nails protruded from its body and a beautiful metal rose was clenched in its beak. The piece was covered with foliage and rested in an uncharted nook that even upperclassmen were likely to have missed. For those who happened to walk by, they saw a gothic-like statue sitting like a gargoyle, filled with a twisted beauty that enchanted students and visitors alike.

The statue was constructed by Will Ryman, a New York City artist who produced many internationally recognized pieces. The Broad Art Museum registrar, Rachel Vargas, oversaw the transfer as Infrastructure Planning and Facilities (IPF) brought the piece from it's spot on a bustling Manhattan street corner to the serene Old Horticulture garden.

"A couple down in Florida [Helen-Kent Nicoll and Edward J. Nicoll] previously owned the statue and decided to give it to a museum," said Vargas. "The former museum director, Michael Rush, was familiar with Ryman's work from his time in New York City and decided that [Bird] would make a good addition to the Broad's collection."

Students from all majors liked to gather in the Old Horticulture garden space to study, exercise and enjoy the waning days of summer. Among those students was a freshman premedical student named Mecca Muhammad. Muhammad passed the time between her classes sitting in the courtyard, often watching as other students stopped in their tracks at the foot of the statue, many even snagging photos for their Snapchat stories.

"I think the statue is a very interesting addition to the courtyard," Muhammad said. "I walked through the courtyard my first week at MSU looking for a class and the statue immediately grabbed my attention. I'm often curious why the artists decided to make the piece entirely out of nails or why there is a rose hanging out of its mouth."

While obtaining a statue from a renowned artist was challenging, installing the behemoth on campus came with its own hardships. The five ton statue required a team from Infrastructure Planning and Facilities (IPF) and an array of heavy machinery to hoist Bird into place. Deborah Kinney, an IPF architecture supervisor, participated in the installation and worked with the Broad to maintain the piece for the years that followed.

"The bird is anchored to a large underground concrete footing," Kinney said. "Four to five people worked on the forming and pouring the concrete for the footing. After the concrete had cured for several days, it was lowered into the garden utilizing a crane parked in the Student Services parking lot. Five people helped anchor it in place, including the crane operator."

"I walked through the courtyard my first week at MSU looking for a class and the statue immediately grabbed my attention. I'm often curious why the artists decided to make the piece entirely out of nails or why there is a rose hanging out of its mouth."

Will Ryman's Bird was a major addition to the Eli and Edythe Broad Art Museum's collection of statues that decorated the Old Horticulture garden space. The piece inspired wonder and awe from students all the while being cloaked in a shroud of mystery. Bird was the first art piece in the garden space and undoubtedly won't be the last. Ryman collaborated with the Eli and Edythe Broad Art Museum and IPF to bring something to campus that truly embodied the creativity that makes MSU unique.

LEFT: The bird statue is situated in between the Student Services Building and the Old Horticulture Building. The statue, made completely out of nails, was placed on MSU's campus in 2016 by the Eli and Edythe Broad Art Museum.





PHOTO: EMILEE NAZARETH

The giant bird statue stands tall with a rose in its mouth. The statue drew in hundreds of students throughout the year.

A Bittersweet Spring

Men's tennis team pushes through a tough season

Clasping the tennis racket in one hand, Ivan Rakic wiped the sweat forming just below his upper right brow with the other. Then he turned to collect the tennis ball that lay pivoted against the fence. With a natural grace, he turned back to face his opponent who stood transposed on the other side of the rectangular court. After taking a moment to envision the next exchange, he tossed the ball high above his head, promptly sending his racket chasing after it.

Unfortunately, for the men's tennis team, their victories were few and short-lived. With an overall record of 6-20 leading up to the Big Ten Tournament at the end of April, what might be assumed to be a collective state of dejection for the team was instead replaced with an unflinching quest for success. An invigorated and fired-up troupe of willowy bodies.

"I feel like we are definitely prepared," said Rakic, senior physiology major and co-captain. "We've put in so much work this season and it's time to reap what we sow. I think our hardest [challenge] is going to come on Thursday and I expect big things."

This year in the conference, the Spartans went 0-11 against their fellow Big 10 schools. Despite the unpleasant outcomes, seniors like Colin Harvey, Billy Shisler and Rakic continually demonstrated an ability to rally the team during moments of distress. In the face of adversity, they championed a strong work ethic that silently spoke to the underclassmen.

"It's a bittersweet season," said Head Coach Gene Orlando. "Obviously, we haven't won as much as we would've liked but we knew it was going to be a challenge. The bitter part is we didn't win as much. The sweet part was the leadership the seniors gave us with the young team, how we stuck together and how we continued to improve."

An important facet for the team was being leaders, not only on the court but off of it. While they had a sprinkle of matches early on in the season where they faced a large deficit and pushed through to come up with a win, that success was meek compared to their academic standing. This year, the cumulative GPA for the team was a 3.6, the highest in the history of MSU's athletic department.

"One thing we talked about during the season is that the culture is in the right place and that the team gets better throughout the year," said Assistant Coach Harry Jadun. "I think from that perspective it's been a success. I'm really happy with the growth of this team and the way they made sure we did the right things every single day. The wins will come."

"The bitter part is we didn't win as much. The sweet part was the leadership the seniors gave us with the young team, how we stuck together and how we continued to improve."

In 2019, it was important to understand how to define success. On the court, while the team's numbers were low, spirits remained high. Wrist taps and smiles were still shown day-in and day-out. The team was defeating both academic stereotypes and any temptation to give up. While the score-cards looked dismal, watching how these Spartans handled it made all the difference.

PHOTO: Ivan Rakic follows the ball as he serves it across the court. Rakic received the 2018-2019 Big Ten Sportsmanship award.



CONTENT: ADAM AUSTAD
PHOTO: MSU ATHLETIC COMMUNICATIONS
DESIGN: TAYLOR PHILLIPS

Becoming an Asset

Soft skills training helps students with disabilities develop confidence

Three items are placed in front of you: fragile straws, a small bowl and several pieces of candy. What can you do with these three seemingly unrelated things? The Assistive Soft Skills and Employment Training program used these items to teach students with learning and developmental disabilities, such as autism spectrum disorder, about teamwork. With the array of items, teams of three or four students came up with ideas collectively and worked together to create a tower that could hold the heaviest candy bowl on top.

Dr. Connie Sung started the pilot program of ASSET in 2017 but had been developing it since 2013-2014. Activities such as straw tower building were used as fun and easy ways to teach students about soft skills that were deemed critical to holding down a job. What first began as a program solely for students with Autism Spectrum Disorder slowly expanded to include other students with intellectual and developmental disabilities. Sung's research, funded by the U.S. Department of Defense, spread throughout Michigan and Illinois, and another project traveled to Ireland to look into the different demographics that might benefit from the curriculum.

"It teaches individuals with disabilities different kinds of work-related social skills — how to interact with people in the workplace," Sung said. "Because a lot of times they have a different type of social impairment and deficit, and they have difficulties or challenges interacting with supervisors, coworkers, what is a professional way to handle different situations at work … they learn the different soft skills like communication, networking, problem solving, critical thinking, professionalism, attitude and enthusiasm. Those are the essential skills that were identified by employers that they need to have those skills in order to get a job and keep their job."

Junior special education major Alex Ward had worked with the Assistive Soft Skills and Employment Training program, and Dr. Sung, ever since she started her undergraduate degree at MSU in 2017. Her job entailed mainly data entry and helping create review questions for the program based on the information collected. Being a research assistant for the program was a way for her to focus on, and study, something that was close to her heart.

"The ASSET program is very beneficial for participants because it focuses on developing soft-skills — something that isn't often explicitly taught to the students who need it the most," Ward said. "The program also takes place in a simulated conference-room environment, which is



CONTENT: MEGAN LANDON
PHOTO: BLAIR DAMMERMAN
DESIGN: MEREDITH BIEBER



great practice for participants who are hoping to use the skills they're learning in order to be hired and maintain employment."

Anthony Capriglione was an undergraduate student studying computer science at MSU when he went through the Assistive Soft Skills and Employment Training program. Since finishing the program and graduating, he obtained a job at Ally Financial as an automation analyst, something he may not have gotten to do if not for the program.

> "... they learn the different soft skills like communication, networking, problem solving, critical thinking, professionalism, attitude and enthusiasm."

"It's made me a more professional person definitely and know more what's expected of me in the workplace in soft skill settings," Capriglione said. "Where before I didn't really know what was expected from other people. I didn't know I was expected to communicate frequently before ... I'm more social definitely in the workplace, more professional. I think I act more calmer in the workplace, too. And actually contribute more in conversations and contribute to solutions to problems, which I could not before."

As the bowls filled up to the brim with candy, students' faces showed their anticipation. Whose bowl would hold the most? Who had utilized the weak straws in the most innovative and useful way? The competition had required communication and teamwork and led them to feel more confident in their own abilities and expression. They were not just building towers — they worked toward a collective goal and made themselves better for it.

BOTTOM LEFT AND TOP RIGHT: The Assistive Soft Skills and Employment Training program teaches students with learning and developmental disabilities. Students in ASSET learned soft skills such as communication, networking, problem solving, critical thinking, professionalism, attitude and enthusiasm, which allowed them to feel comfortable interacting within the workplace and being part of a team.

Timosha Krivtsov

Student entrepreneur aims to revolutionize fashion

In the ever-changing world of fashion, being ahead of the curve was the key to success. The billion dollar industry was evolving every year, and young entrepreneurs jumped at the chance to produce the next breakout style. One of those young entrepreneurs at MSU, Timosha Krivtsov, a junior arts and textiles major, designed new and innovative clothing that spoke to the fashion-savvy public.

Beginning as a freshman in 2016, Krivtsov immediately began working on launching a company and designing clothing. While most students put their career aspirations off until after they graduate, Timosha jumped in right away creating his business named ART + TEXTURE. Unique challenges followed Timosha as he faced starting a new business. From creating an interactive website to juggling his class load, the young designer persevered to focus on launching his brand.

> "At its core, ART + TEXTURE has been about providing an environmentally sustainable solution to clothing consumption."

"The biggest thing is balance," Krivtsov said. "If I could, I would invest all my time into my business, but I can't because I'm a student, and I think the educational aspect of school is incredibly important. Balancing the two has been kind of a tug of war. I can't always focus on my business and that causes a lot of interruptions in my workflow and my ability to be productive."

As Timosha's business began to lift off, he started to experiment with a variety of exclusive designs for his clothing. One attention-grabbing item was a t-shirt with the option of interchangeable logos affixed to the front. This design would replace a closet full of graphic t-shirts with just one.

"The idea of ART + TEXTURE is to maximize the amount of outfits you can get with the materials that you have," Krivtsov said. "If you have a modular design you can constantly interchange it in a way that allows you to experiment with different styles rather than having to buy one garment and then another garment and another garment. At its core, ART + TEXTURE has been about providing an environmentally sustainable solution to clothing consumption."

While he was not sure about his future in the industry, Krivtsov planned to expand his business into new realms. Everything from real estate to furniture design was being considered by Timosha as a potential career path. As of 2019, however, his aspirations were firmly rooted in creating breakout additions to international fashion.

"We've been in the prototyping phase for quite a while now and once we can get a website up and running and start producing sales, hopefully I can invest in a retail space," Krivtsov said. "While I do enjoy clothing, I don't think it can fulfill my creativity for an extended period of time. I'm thinking about 10 to 15 years in the fashion industry, and then I'll move on to something else."

As fashion trends came and went like the wind, dedicated designers produced clothing that would satisfy the craving for something new. At MSU, Timosha Krivtsov represented the entrepreneurial spirit that drove industry innovation. He crafted creative responses to the challenges that the industry faced while providing affordable and unique clothing for the international fashion community.

RIGHT: Junior arts and textiles major Timosha Krivtsov showcases his unique fashion style on campus. Krivtsov changed the face of fashion in his own way and showcased his designs on his website.



CONTENT: RYAN HOPPENWORTH
PHOTO: LORA FARAJ
DESIGN: ALEX RENNINGER

Farm to Yoga Studio

Sigma Alpha hosts unique yoga event

As people filed into the pavilion with their yoga mats in tow, baby goats excitedly ran around in their pen. When the gates were finally flung open, the goats ran free, mixing with people in the middle of their sun salutation pose. The goats pranced around and climbed on the laughing participants who had come to the event to experience a new type of yoga. On April 9 at the MSU Pavilion, Sigma Alpha held a goat yoga event to engage the community — and it worked.

Sigma Alpha looked for ways to raise money for their sorority house by hosting an event that would entice a large group of people. Although dozens of houses in Greek Life hosted their own signature events, Sigma Alpha wanted to incorporate their interest in farm animals. Sophie Vukasovich, senior animal food industry management major, planned the event and made arrangements to acquire the baby goats from a nearby farm.

"We're a professional agricultural sorority, and I was trying to think of a way to get people involved in agriculture that wouldn't be otherwise," Vukasovich said. "Girls like baby animals and yoga, so I thought this would be fun to do. During the yoga class the goats climb all over you and do yoga with you."

For the participants, the chance to do yoga with the adorable baby goats was too tempting to pass up. For them, the idea of goat yoga was simple — goats were cute and yoga was relaxing, and putting them together





CONTENT: RYAN HOPPENWORTH
PHOTO: KAITLIN GRANT
DESIGN: LILY RISING

was the perfect blend. Julianna Bennett, a junior animal science major, was also on the planning committee and helped organize the event.

"When we first started planning the event we thought of everything including a donkey basketball event," Julia said. "We're the only agricultural sorority on campus, so this event is very important in connecting with the community. All the revenue we earn today will go back to our sorority and will help us make improvements to the house."

The event garnered attention on social media and the desire for different types of yoga had skyrocketed amongst the students at MSU. Spartans were intrigued by everything from pool yoga to acro yoga, which were more unique takes on the traditional yoga scene. Sigma Alpha's event expected about 50 people, and Piper Pantalone, sophomore agribusiness management major, looked after the goats and ensured they were comfortable among all the people.

"There were a lot of videos on Facebook of people doing goat yoga ..." Pantalone said. "We can do yoga with many small animals such as sheep, lambs, chickens, rabbits but the goats seemed like the ideal animal. The goats won't bite and are very friendly to the participants. Hopefully if this goes over well we can do more events like this in the future."

"We're the only agricultural sorority on campus, so this event is very important in connecting with the community."

As participants unravelled themselves from various poses and packed up their multi-colored mats, the excited baby goats were herded back into their pen. For Sigma Alpha, the event had brought in significant revenue and brought them closer to their mission of educating the public about farm animals. As for the goats, they were on their way back to the farm were they would be promptly rewarded with a delicious treat of fresh grass.

BOTTOM LEFT: Participants watch the baby goats jump around the room while they try different yoga poses. The goat yoga event was put together by Sigma Alpha, the sole agricultural sorority at MSU. **TOP RIGHT:** Baby goats run around the MSU pavilion during the goat yoga event. Sigma Alpha's event brought in over 50 people, all cramming into the pavilion to have a chance to participate.



Two Spartan athletes lead the men's 3,000 meter steeplechase. The MSU track & field team hosted several teams for their lone home meet, the Auto-Owners Spartan Invitational.



PHOTO: LOGAN COLES



Breaking Records

Track and field athletes improve consistency

The fresh, cool breeze flows through the air. Flowers begin to bloom and the sun shines into the longer hours of the day. It is not quite toasty enough yet to go outside without a coat, but a light jacket will suffice. There is just something special about this time of year. For most people, it is indicative of better days to come, of spring and summer, but to a certain group of people, the crispness in the air could only mean one thing: track season.

Head coach Walt Drenth was excited about the growth he saw in the 2018-2019 season. Several athletes impressed him with the competitive spirit and improvement they showed over the course of the indoor season and into the outdoor season. Athletes like sophomore Sophia Franklin and redshirt junior Nick Guerrant exemplified those values and stayed consistent with their goals to be better and compete on both the conference and the national level.

"We want to be as competitive as we can but once the season begins it's about maximizing who's here, being at our best, making sure we manage and control the things we can control, and just learn and progress," said Drenth. "If we take every opportunity and we compete and train as a learning opportunity, come back and say 'what would I adjust, how would I do it differently,' then we're going to grow and I think that's one of our primary objectives every time we get started."

> "You kind of want to create your own legacy, so coming to Michigan State to accomplish things has really meant the whole world. I'm not finished yet ..."

As a sophomore, pole vaulter Sophia Franklin was able to achieve both the indoor and outdoor school records in pole vault. Improving on her consistency from her freshman year, she looked forward to being able to compete in pole vault at regionals and the prospect of qualifying for nationals. Her outdoor record vault came during the Spartan Invitational meet at home in April, where she surpassed her own record that she had set the week prior.

"It obviously means a lot to me, being a sophomore and being able to hold both those records so soon is really cool," Franklin said. "Honestly, when I broke them I wasn't really thinking about them, it wasn't really an afterthought, but it was like, 'Oh, you broke the school record!' so it was cool to do that."

Guerrant was the perfect example of the dedicated athlete that Drenth was proud to coach. Over his collegiate career, Guerrant collected many accolades, including Big Ten Men's Indoor Field Athlete of the Year, First Team All-Big Ten and the heptathlon school record to name a few. His goal was to finish the year having achieved both the indoor heptathlon school record as well as the outdoor decathlon school record.

"It honestly means the world to me considering that's something coming out of high school I always wanted to achieve," Guerrant said. "You kind of want to create your own legacy, so coming to Michigan State to accomplish things has really meant the whole world. I'm not finished yet; however, I feel like I'm starting to get to that point where I'm starting to fulfill all my dreams I've had coming out of high school. It means a lot."

Every athlete who participated in track and field knew that there was nothing like being able to compete outdoors in spring, and there was nothing like meet day. Not only being able to compete, but being able to stay around and support teammates all day was what the sport was about — and breaking school records along the way was pretty special too.

TOP: Sprinter on the men's track and field team finishes the final leg of the 4x100 meter relay. **RIGHT:** Sprinter on the MSU women's track and field team starts a relay from the blocks.



CONTENT: MEGAN LANDON
PHOTO: LOGAN COLES
DESIGN: ALEX RENNINGER



Hitting the Streets

Street teams benefit both nonprofits and students

From hip-hop dance studios to organizations that support survivors of sexual assault and violence, Media Sandbox Street Teams hit the streets of the Greater Lansing Area. They help local nonprofits by providing them with media coverage specialized to their organization's needs. Street Teams were comprised of 36 passionate and dedicated students. Coming from a variety of disciplines, the students were committed to creating and designing end products that were professional and tailored to their associated nonprofit clients.

Senior media and information major Jonathan Lantz was a member of Team Seafoam, a team that was paired with a nonprofit named Reach, a studio art center. The team's job was to create videos and a brochure for the center about their mission and their newly expanded facility. Before the team began working, however, they had to find out what Reach was all about so they could provide them with the best wok possible.

"One of my favorite moments from this year-long process was actually near the beginning," Lantz said. "We had been researching as to who Reach was ... just trying to figure out what the program was, but we still didn't have a great idea. Then we went there and visited Reach, and we had an entirely different perspective. We were like 'Oh, wow! This is way cooler than what we've even saw already,' so it was really cool to go through that process of ... discovering who they are and then trying to present who they are to the general public. Part of that was seeing where they've been."

Maia Barber, senior advertising management major, was a producer for Team Sunrise. The team was partnered with an organization called End Violent Encounters, or EVE, that provided support for survivors of sexual assault and violence.

"Street Teams teaches you a lot that you can't get in a classroom," Barber said. "For me this was great because my position kind of modeled the career I want to pursue. Being able to be this team's producer gave me a real insight to see what that would be like. Also being able to help EVE was amazing, and we were very intentional

CONTENT: MEGAN LANDON
PHOTO: EMILEE NAZARETH
DESIGN: MEREDITH BIEBER



on how we approached their rebranding. Even that aside, I have met some of the most talented individuals that I have ever worked with, and I consider them to be great friends of mine."

> "Street Teams teaches you a lot that you can't get in the classroom."

Jeana-Dee Allen, Media Sandbox project manager, used her extensive background in different fields of media such as production and photojournalism to help oversee what she called "controlled chaos." Allen loved seeing how the teams went above and beyond for their nonprofits and created professional products like branding and social media guides, videos, graphics, filters and more.

"Working with the students, they always, always surprise me," Allen said. "You never really know what's going to happen. Which can range from students taking naps on the couch in the [Media] Sandbox room ... to having really excellent conversations with them about what internship they should take and what's a good next step for them after Street Teams, how can they continue to grow and just empowering them to be awesome."

Not only did Street Team members gain real-world experience and knowledge to put in their portfolios for the future, they developed life-long friendships. They were pushed to provide work that was based not solely on their personal style, but for a client in need of creative minds. From conversations on what color pallete best fit their organization's style, to field trips to the nonprofit, teams Seafoam, Slate, Turquoise, Thistle, Sunrise and Vermillion brought fresh perspectives and dedicated their time to the betterment of the community.

TOP: MSU Media Sandbox Street Team members gather to look back at the work they accomplish during the year. The Street Team worked with nonprofits during the year to provide them media coverage.

James Madison College

The 50th anniversary

"Please join JMC faculty and staff as leading scholars on James Madison will discuss his life and legacy in this closure to JMC's 50th Anniversary events," the invitation read. Something about the elaborate yet refined nature of the simple advertising added to the illustriousness of the event. Upon entrance, a pretense of grandeur and attention to historical authenticity were the most detectable elements in the room — besides the appetizers.

Hors d'oeuvres were served at 5:30 p.m., during which time guests mixed and mingled, sharing in the light-hearted camaraderie that came with fellowship. By 6:00 p.m., the Heritage Room of the University Club was beginning to settle in anticipation for the first speaker of the night: Rachel Alexander, senior in international relations.

"The JMC founder's day panel was an incredible opportunity for observing current politics in the U.S. from the perspective of one of its founding fathers," said Alexander. "It was a privilege to have two highly regarded scholars on the founding of our country and James Madison himself available to talk to us. Students, alumni, and faculty alike all really enjoyed the event. It was most definitely thought provoking and inspired a lot of great conversation among everyone that was there."

Among the speakers that night were Dean Sherman Garnett from James Madison College, Dr. Tobin Craig from James Madison College, Dr. Michael Zuckert from the University of Notre Dame and Dr. Alan Gibson from California State University, Chico. As each gentleman approached the podium to share their remarks to the donors, students and graduates, they seemed to speak with more humility and examination than the last.

"It was not enough to come to James Madison College and praise James Madison — one needs something to praise him for," said Dr. Zuckert. "Madison was, as we know, among that group that we know as the American founders. George Washington was the fighting man's founder. John Adams was the vain man's founder. Thomas Jefferson was the feeling man's founder. James Madison... he was the thinking man's founder."

Throughout the discussion of Madison the recurring subject was the significance of the role he played as the father of the constitution. However, upon deconstructing that lofty title, a man of dutiful inquisitiveness and ever-insistent interrogation could be found. For students, it provided an atmosphere that openly and honestly evaluated Madison's life and influence.

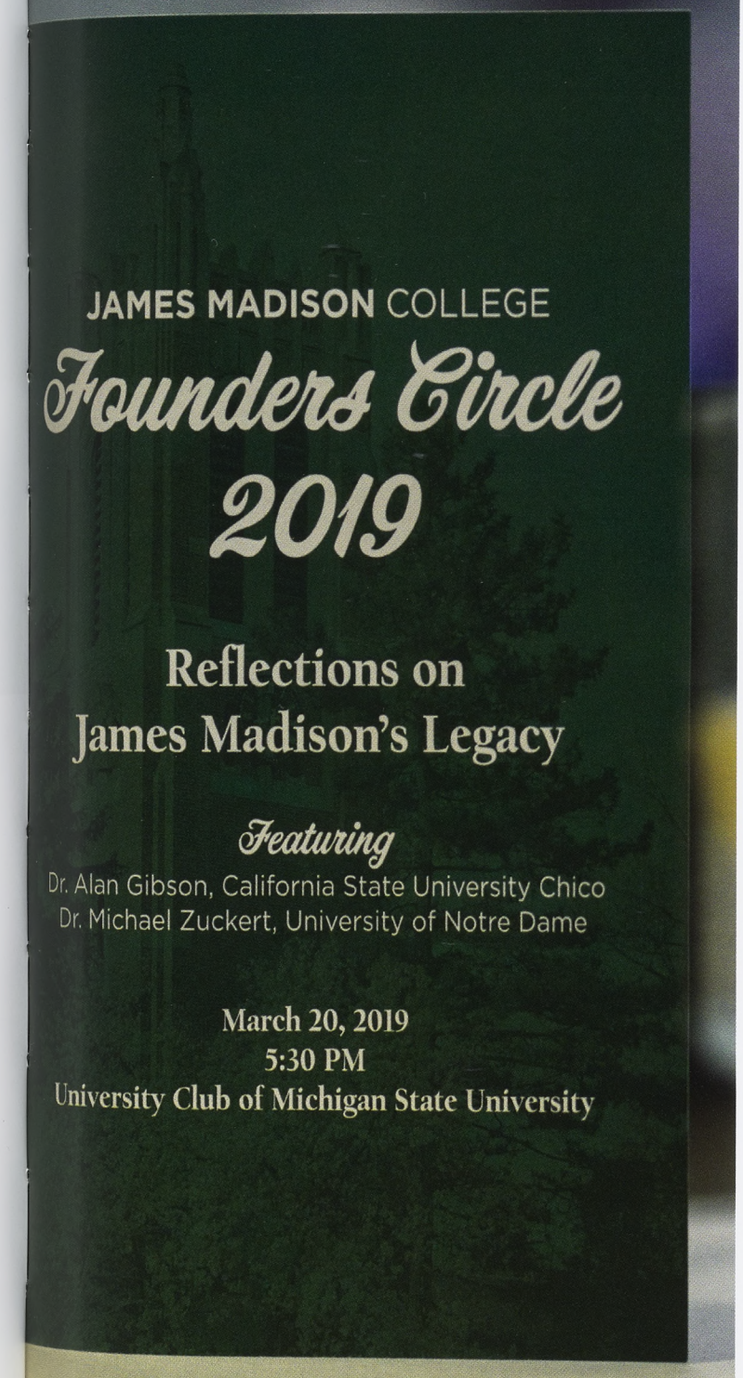
"I enjoy being a part of these events ... ," said Walter Hanley, senior in Social Relations & Policy and Political Theory & Constitutional Democracy. "I think it's always interesting to see what folks with graduate degrees in this area think about, even if I think they are 115% wrong. It's nice to have a chance to hear folks talk about things they have devoted their lives to which is essentially what I want to do with my own life."

"George Washington was the fighting man's founder. John Adams was the vain man's founder. Thomas Jefferson was the feeling man's founder. James Madison... he was the thinking man's founder."

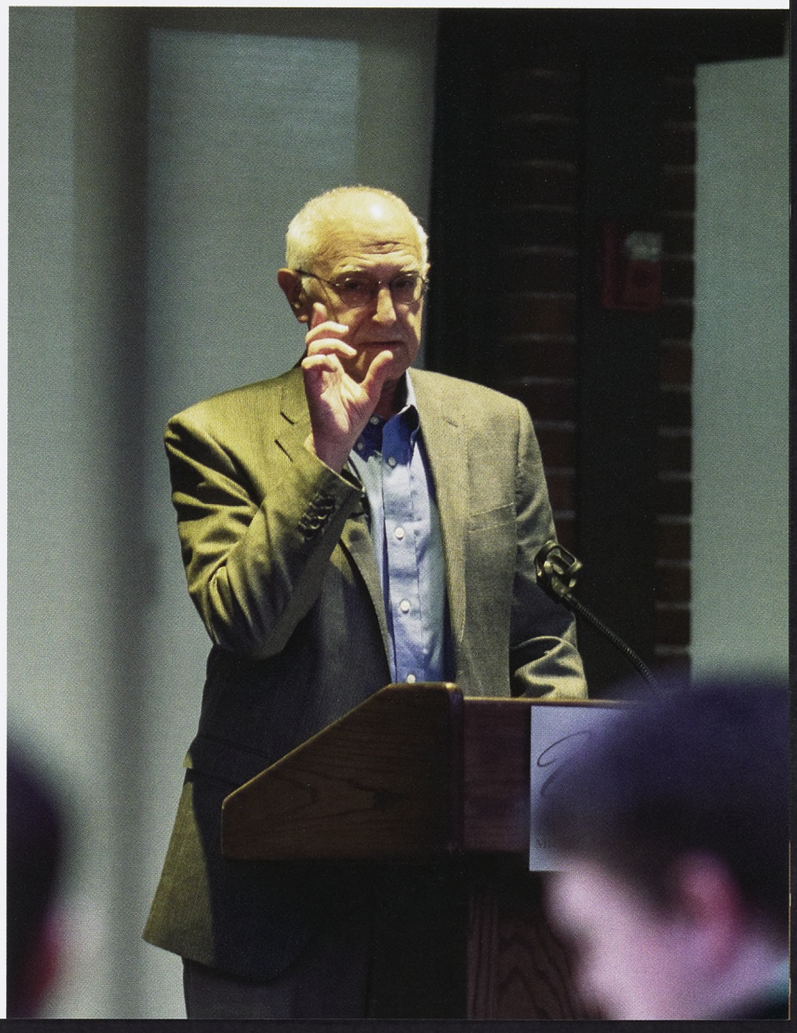
Although it was not overtly presented as a main subject of the reception, there was a general sensitivity to Madison's life involving his ownership of slaves. That fundamental aspect of his life which seemingly, at any moment, could demolish his image. What seemed to be the common goal and understanding of the night was not to unconditionally praise a life of no apologies, but to admire the reason of a man who continuously tried to consider all the possibilities.

RIGHT: Dr. Tobin Craig and Dr. Michael Zuckert speak to the attendees of the James Madison College Founder's Circle. Guests at the ceremony celebrated the 50th anniversary of the college.

CONTENT: ADAM AUSTAD
PHOTO: TOMMY MASSA
DESIGN: ALEX RENNINGER







Reaping in the Rewards

ASMSU recognizes outstanding seniors and staff

On a sunny Friday evening in early April, many seniors rushed in to the Lincoln room at the Kellogg Hotel and Conference Center in their best attire. Walking past rooms filled with gourmet food and welcoming staff, they sat down at round tables adorned in blue tableware, patiently anticipating the ASMSU Outstanding Senior Awards Banquet to start. Graduation was on all of their minds, but they had more in common than the year they were graduating — they went above and beyond the expectations of others during their time at MSU.

Though both students and staff were nominated, it was the students who wore the biggest smiles, as the award they received was cumulative of their college career. Malik Mix, senior marketing major, was nominated by Sherri Henry, associate director at the Broad College of Business. Accomplishing many things in his time at MSU, from being a 2018 Forbes 30 Under 30 scholar to earning the Dr. Lee June Award for Multi-Cultural Leadership, Mix found himself involved in activities all across the board. As chairman of the board and founder of Our Young Leader Foundation, an organization that worked on helping the youth in the Detroit community, Mix felt like his efforts finally sank in.

"It's one of those things where it comes full circle," said Mix. "All of the hard work that you do, you don't really do it for the recognition, but to be recognized for something ... it allows you to really just understand everything you do have, some type of value that shapes the way other people look at you, maybe the way other people feel."

Sarah Byrum, senior computer science major, was nominated by Teresa VanderSloot, director of the Women in Engineering program and of Recruitment and K-12 outreach. She saw the excellence in Byrum's academic performance, along with her dedication as the executive co-director of SpartaHack and as a founding mentor at Girls Who Code. In the College of Engineering, many women often felt overshadowed, but Byrum let that fact fuel her desire to succeed and wanted other young potential female engineers to embrace it as well.

"Have confidence; don't be scared to go for it," said Byrum. "Don't be discouraged ... with how many males there are, just get yourself a support group going early and then you'll be able to make it through."

Malcolm Davis, senior history, philosophy and sociology of science major, was especially surprised by his nomination — the professor who nominated him, Dr. Georgina Montgomery of Lyman Briggs, was also someone who Davis nominated. Along with being co-president of the History, Philosophy and Sociology of Science Student Association in Lyman Briggs to being vice president of the Briggs Multicultural Alliance, Davis recognized that part of his success was found in his relationship with Dr. Montgomery.

> "It's one of those things where it comes full circle ... all of the hard work that you do, you don't really do it for the recognition but to be recognized for something ..."

"Growing up, I never really had confidence in myself, and being able to be surrounded by a faculty member that made me feel as if I was someone and capable has really influenced my entire outlook on who I am as a person, and my journey through life itself," said Davis. "Because of people like Dr. Montgomery, I realized why I'm doing everything that I do."

After four years of all-nighters, long study sessions and participation in clubs that mattered most to them, the hardest-working MSU seniors got the recognition they deserved from the beginning. Being nominated by staff members who saw the light in them the most, the night was filled with sighs of relief. After knowing they finally gave it their greatest all, they could finally take a deep (and well-deserved) breath.

RIGHT: Senior Ivan Rakic is being honored at the senior awards banquet before graduation. Rakic went above and beyond during his time at MSU, as did all of the seniors that were nominated and awarded at the senior banquet.

CONTENT: AUTUMN MILLER
PHOTO: ALEXA PIERZYNSKI
DESIGN: MEREDITH BIEBER





PHOTO: Senior Emily Metcalf is ready to receive the other team's serve. Metcalf achieved a 4-2 record with her doubles partner, Maja Pietrowicz.



PHOTO: ALEXA PIERZYNSKI

Young but Fierce

Maja Pietrowicz earns Big Ten Women's Tennis Athlete of the Week

In the MSU Tennis Center on Mt. Hope Road, the women's tennis team swung their hardest shots and wiped beads of sweat off of their foreheads during practice. Though the gym was warm and their bodies were tired, they had to prep to the best of their abilities for one of their last meets of the season against Northwestern University and University of Illinois. Lauren Lemonds, freshman biology major and Spartan tennis player, knew the team culture they established throughout the year would help them in their anticipated matches.

"We're all really close, and we're really good at pumping each other up on the court. It's fun to be around when you're home especially; the atmosphere is really great," said Lemonds. "When your teammate next to you is pumped up, it makes you feel pumped up, even if you're losing. It really helps you to be able to go through the match and come back."

> "She loves it a lot, more than probably the rest of us honestly, so I think that's a big part as to why she won the record, and I hope she keeps getting more."

A key factor in forming a close team environment was the fact that many of the players were similar in age — many of the girls were freshmen. While some avid sports fans may have viewed this as a disadvantage, the players themselves knew it did not make a difference in the quality of their performance. On March 19, freshman physiology major Maja Pietrowicz was awarded the title of Big Ten Women's Tennis Athlete of the Week. First hearing it from a teammate, Pietrowicz could not believe it was true. However, with the amount of effort she put in her first collegiate season, she should not have been so surprised.

"I had started coming into practice and every single day, we had a lot of talks with our coaches and they really emphasized just coming into practice ... and just giving it your all for two hours because that's really all it is," said Pietrowicz. "I just really listened to that and stopped bothering with the little things, and tried to think bigger picture of playing out my points [and] making strategic plays."

Achieving athlete of the week was uncommon for such young players. Senior marketing major Davina Nguyen never felt held back by her youthful team members, especially with players like Pietrowicz who showed that endurance had no age restriction. As a seasoned collegiate player, it was easy for her to spot talent on the team, and she saw it in Pietrowicz.

"I feel like Maja works really hard and she's super passionate about tennis, and I think that she will keep striving and keep getting better ... this is the highest recruiting class that we've had in the school history, but Maja specifically works really hard," said Nguyen. "She loves it a lot, more than probably the rest of us honestly, so I think that's a big part as to why she won the record, and I hope she keeps getting more."

As her first collegiate season drew to a close, Pietrowicz reflected on where she and many of her teammates could grow as they entered their sophomore year. Ultimately, she knew that plenty of work had to be done, but that the MSU women's tennis team was more than capable of anything they put their minds to.

With their fiery, ambitious nature and willingness to sweat, the MSU women's tennis team did not let their competition intimidate them. They may have been young, but they knew they had the skill set to crush the game in their matches. They were living proof that talent was not something that came with age, but with strenuous effort.

TOP RIGHT: The women's tennis team joins together n the tennis court. The Spartans defeated Connecticut by winning six out of the seven matches. **BOTTOM RIGHT:** Freshman Maja Pietrowicz serves the ball in a match against University of Connecticut. Maja qualified for the ITA Midwest Regional Championships.





CONTENT: AUTUMN MILLER
PHOTO: ALEXA PIERZYNSKI
DESIGN: ALEX RENNINGER



"L" is For the Way You Look At Me...

Spartans redefine love stories via technology

We were young, we were (occasionally) dumb, and even if we were not currently in it, many of us were in love with the idea of love. With many Spartans spending their entire lives before college in the same hometown for 18 years, moving to a college campus promised a plethora of possibilities — expanding our knowledge on topics we cared about, meeting new friends, trying out hobbies that piqued our interest and maybe meeting someone who made our heart flutter a bit faster than normal. Finding a significant other was something many of us did in our collegiate years, but living in the 21st century, there were ways to meet and stay in touch with them that not even our grandparents could have dreamed up — through technology.

Caitlin Mccamant, senior advertising management major, was encouraged by one of her friends to download the app Bumble right before spring break of her senior year. Though she previously thought the app was a waste of time, she saw her class crush Andrew of four years while browsing through virtual eligible bachelors and decided to swipe right. After chatting for a bit on the app and casually dating for a month, she found out he liked her all along as well and the two of them decided to give a real relationship a go. Though her past self would have scorned her for reaching for social media to find her partner-in-crime, she was ultimately ecstatic that the app gave her the perfect chance to first strike up a conversation with someone without the pressure of speaking in person.

"I think our generation was taught to make real connections in person but to also use technology to enhance those relationships," said Mccamant. "That's evolved into finding relationships as well, but we also like to hang out in person, rather than having completely online relationships like the younger generations seem to be okay with. I think we have the best of both worlds, the old traditional idea of dating but the new modern ways to achieve that."

Some Spartans also found themselves in the situation of a long-distance relationship. Elena Schafer, junior English major, met her boyfriend Sam through her study abroad trip in Spain in summer 2018. First seeing him at the airport, she felt an immediate attraction and knew that she had to get to know him better. All throughout their time in Spain, the pair talked in their classes and spent all the spare time they had together. At the end of the summer, the two decided to continue their relationship and make it official, even though Sam was headed to Charlotte, North Carolina.

"Long distance, frankly, sucks ... Sam is currently looking for a job and is looking at New York City, where I want to move as well when I graduate," said Schafer. "It was kind of the deal with long distance that we would have to make it end at some point. We FaceTime almost every night and text [and] Snapchat frequently throughout the day. Even though he's not here physically, there's never a day that we don't talk. I have no idea how we'd ever get through it without technology."

"I think our generation was taught to make real connections in person but to also use technology to enhance those relationships ... I think we have the best of both worlds, the old traditional idea of dating but the new modern ways to achieve that."

With endless possibilities of encountering romance on campus, Spartans met and communicated with their significant others in a vast variety of ways. Adding them all up could fit the bill for a high-selling romantic comedy, it was clear that many late-teen and early-twenty-somethings loved the idea of love, no matter how much they had to work for it. Through social media and trips away to foreign places many of us secretly loved the idea of wondering who was behind the next door— or screen.

RIGHT: A couple holds hands as they walk past the Beaumont Tower. Spartans encountered romance in several different ways such as using dating apps, meeting in class and even being high school sweethearts.



CONTENT: AUTUMN MILLER
PHOTO: TOMMY MASSA
DESIGN: MEREDITH BIEBER



This Is Your Story, How Do We Tell It?

Finding our Voice: Sister Survivors Exhibit at the MSU Museum

Silence is golden in almost every scenario except for this one. When bodies are taken not given. When consent is no longer an option. For 505 women, their pictures aligned in rows of vibrant glass tiles, their voices were taken from them. MSU Museum was giving them back.

On April 16th, the MSU Museum unveiled its co-curated Finding our Voice: Sister Survivors Exhibit to showcase the historical significance and impact of sexual assault. The most nuanced aspect of the exhibit was the inclusion of the community in the process of making it. The space served as a testament to the lives that were impacted by the perpetrator, Larry Nassar, presented by those very people.

"I believe that museums should be a place for dialogue and address events that are happening locally, nationally and internationally," said Mary Worrall, curator of textiles at the MSU Museum. "Historically, museum's haven't always been the best at thinking about how they are representing things, how they are exhibiting things or what stories they are telling."

In close collaboration with Parents of Sister Survivors Engaged, a committee advisory group consisting of the survivors and the parents of the perpetrator, the MSU Museum started the process of collection in the summer of the previous year. Through a practice known as rapid response collecting, a method of extracting present-day history, the museum set out to obtain modern-day relics like the teal bows that clung to the ancient trees of MSU.

> "We all have an obligation to be part of that force that will bring forth change, both here in this courtroom and out there where there is still so much work to be done."

"The bows were meant to testify to the campus community, to provide a visual cue that the damage done was vast, in numbers too great to understand without somehow seeing it," said Valerie von Frank,

CONTENT: ADAM AUSTAD
PHOTO: TOMMY MASSA
DESIGN: MEREDITH BIEBER





mother of sister survivor Grace French. "The work of tying them became a meditation of sorts — penance, prayer, and a promise that we will not let any survivor go unacknowledged."

The gallery on the first floor of the MSU Museum was separated into two distinct physical spaces. The first room represented the dark theme of the social justice issue, which displayed tiles representing the survivors, a wall illustrating the numerous after-effects of sexual violence and a timeline of depicting the negligence of the institutional actors. The second room represented the lighter theme, which featured re-created trees adorned with teal ribbons, a sculpture made of 300 tie-dyed silk butterflies, and narratives of heroic activism.

"There is not a magical force that can right these wrongs ... Time does not automatically heal," said a survivor in a victim impact statement. "Evil does not recede on its own. It must be overcome and forced into retreat. We all have an obligation to be part of that force that will bring forth change, both here in this courtroom and out there where there is still so much work to be done."

It was difficult not to get emotional as one walked through the openness of the exhibit. Whether it was fighting back tears, feeling gut wrenching agony or finding hope in the resilience of the Finding our Voice; Sister's Survivors Exhibit, it represented the worst and best of humanity. By displaying the varying dimensions of sexual violence through art, the exhibit created a space of healing and served as a symbol of metamorphosis.

TOP LEFT AND BOTTOM LEFT: A dress made out of tie-dyed silk butterflies stands in the exhibit. This represented a lighter theme within the exhibit. **TOP RIGHT:** Paintings adorn the walls of the exhibit. The paintings depicted justice for survivors.





PHOTO: ALEXA PIERSYNSKI



SENIORS












Hafsa Abass
Raneen Abbawi
Raymond Abbo
Amber Abboud
Noor Abdallah
Abdel Abdelrahman



Sajjad Abdul-Aziz
Akilah Abdul-Hakiym
Amina Abdul-Kareem
Faisal Abdullah
Shadé Abdullah
Bryan Abell



Andrew Abiragi
Farah Aboufakhr
Michelle Abraham
Sarah Abumansoor
Andrew Acciaioli
Diego Acevedo



Thomas Acord
Kinsey Adair
Paige Adam-Danlovich
Gabrielle Adams
Joe Adams
Laneece Adams



Thomas Adams
Austin Ader
Alec Adgate
Zach Adleman
Lila Afifi
Manoj Agarwal



Luis Agosto
Mitch Agrwal
Madelaine Aguilo
Syarah Alya Ahamad Sabki
Amit Ahluwalia
Hannah Ahluwalia



Ain Hanani Ahmad Nawawi
Don Ahn
Allison Aikins
Olivia Akerly
Ravila Akhmedova
Akan Akiman



Kyle Akred
Angie Akroush
Hussain Al Hussain
Ibrahim Al Inaizi
Hussain Al Salman
Basheer Al-Sanouri

Ghufran Alabbad
Faris Alabdulqader
Tanya Aladjov
Ali Alahbabi
Yaletzy Alaniz
Colleen Albin

Grace Albrecht
Malak Aldasouqi
Chris Alder
Abrar Aldhamen
Geneva Alewine
Courtney Alexander

Dillon Alexander
Rachel Alexander
Sydney Alexander
Hamad Alhajeri
Khalifa Alhammadi
Mario Aliaj

Jasmin Alibasic
Essam Aljahmi
Khalil Aljahmi
Aneeya Allen
Karina Allen
Kayla Allen

Lauryn Allen
Malaika Allen
Rachel Allen
Shelby Allen
Saeed Almarri
Abdulrahman Alqarni

Yousif Alqatari
Fatma Alsaif
Laila Alsaif
Danny Althoff
Brenna Alton
Vincent Alvarado

Khalifa Alzaabi
Ezinwa Amanze
Matias Amaro
Samantha Amezquita
Sadick Amir
Sherif Amir

Jmin An
Erik Anaya
Emily Andersen
Jazmyn Anderson
Madeline Anderson
Monica Anderson





Regina Anderson
Royce Ando
Cydney Andrew
Ariana Angarita Medrano
Vianey Angeles
Isaac Anguiano



Christy Annatiur
Cameron Anstess
Halley Anthony
Paige Antilla
Chris Antonino
Alek Anuzis



Georgia Applegate
Paige Aquino
Ricardo Aquino
Sara Aragon
Nolan Arceri
Briana Arenas



Ozy Arfi
Truelove Arhin
Rachel Armbruster
Ryan Armour
Taylor Arnason
Collin Arnold



Logan Arnold
Anthony Aron
Talise Arrington
Michael Ashcraft III
Kendall Ashman
Omer Atagul



Anna Atkins
Hailey Atkins
Myles Aucamp
Josephine Auchterlonie
Ameerah Austin
Matthew Austin



Tanner Austin
Analise Avalos
Kaitlyn Averill
Aaron Avery
Cameron Babas
Lexus Bacon



Joseph Baczkowski
Yeonjae Baek
Alexandra Baer
Lauren Baer
Tasneem Bahar
Yuchen Bai

Zhanming Bai
Lindsay Bailey
Oceana Bailey
Sujit Bajaj
Benjamin Baker
Diana Baker



Elise Baker
Jayda Baker
Jordan Baker
Justine Baker
Kaleb Baker
Nicholas Baker



Taylor Baker
Rebekkah Baldwin
Mitch Ballinger
John Baltusis
Aaron Bandy
Courtney Bankston



Nicholas Bannon
Xiangmeng Bao
Adam Barber
Maia Barber
Ryan Barcal
Bernie Barden



Mercedes Barends
Clairissa Barksdale
Alexandria Barnett
Adam Barrett
Vincenzo Barretta
Jeremy Barrows



Salma Barrueta Cobix
Tanner Bartlow
Julia Bartus
Grace Basa
Chandler Basch
Alaijah Bashi



Kennedie Basila
Samantha Basirico
Lauren Bass
Nikki Bassett
Daniel Baum
Taylir Baum



Christian Bauman
James Baumgartner
Kevin Bautista
Aaron Bawol
Charlotte Baykian
Alexa Baylis





Jonathan Bazar
Angelina Bazzano
Kyle Beale
Jessica Bean
Ryan Bean
Torél Beard

Wyatt Beard
Ryan Beck
Ben Beckas
Andrew Becker
Charlotte Beers
Brittney Behlow

Bernie Belcher
Samuel Belcher
Tahjah Belcher
Katherine Belinky
Taylor Bell
Noah Bellhorn

Zina Bellinger
Broderick Bennett
Champagne Bennett
Ian Bennett
Jacob Bennett
Molly Bennett

Charlie Benson
Abigayle Bergeron
Yenabyena Berhane
Samuel Berman
Lauren Bernhardt
Alexis Berry

Ashley Berry
Navreet Bhangu
Linghui Bi
Ran Bi
Yiwei Bian
Matías Bickel

Warren Bieniak
Steven Bill
Maggie Billhorn
John Binkowski II
Frank Biondo
Shannon Birney

Dan Bis
Breanna Bitzer
Samantha Bitzer
Katija Bjedov
Janelle Blackwell
Nate Bladecki

Tiara Blair
Evan Blanchard
Bridgette Blazoff
Audrey Blegen
Andrew Blinkiewicz
Alexander Blitstein



Cyprian Blunt
Alex Boettner
Jacqueline Boger
Briana Bohannon
Ryan Bohr
Casey Boland



Diamond Bomar
Kelly Bonekamp
Rungthiwa Bonn
Emily Bonnell
Megan Bonus
Vanessa Booth



Jeevan Boparai
Isabella Borbolla
Luke Borglin
Madeline Boss
Makenzie Bosworth
Brandon Botruff



Nicole Bouwkamp
Addison Bouzide
Bryce Boverhof
Trenton Bowen
John Bower
Derek Bowman



Elena Boxey
Shaylana Boyce-Motley
Brenna Boyd
Jessica Boza
Kristina Bozin
Kayla Bracy



D'Angelo Bragg
Cande Bramble
Nacala Brandon
Thomas Branoff
Matt Breitenbecher
Shelby Brejnak



Brianna Brennan
Madeline Bresson
Colton Bretschneider
Frank Brettschneider
Leah Brickner
Jack Brinkley





Labesha Broadnax
Amy Broderick
Eli Broemer
Sabrina Bronni
Erin Brooks
Madeline Bross



Emily Brouillette
Emilie Browell
Bailee Brown
Ben Brown
Benjamin Brown
Bob Brown



Caitlin Brown
Danielle Brown
Desiree Brown
Elizabeth Brown
Kelsi Brown
Monaeja Brown



Phylisha Brown
Rayonna Brown
Skyler Brown
Nate Brown-Mccutchen
Abigail Browning
Katharine Bruce



Katie Bruhl
Simone Bryant
Phillip Brzezinski
Kelly Buchanan
Devon Buckley
Kyleigh Buckley



Sarah Buckmaster
John Buhl
Elise Buhr
Madison Bukoski
Anna Bulkowski
Elliot Bunek



Harris Bunker
Sadie Bunker
Tyler Burkhardt
John Burnett
Loreal Burnett
Clayton Burnheimer



Lizzy Burr
Makenzie Burrus
Daniel Burton
Genesha Burton
Christian Buse
Iesha Bush

Mitchell Bushnell
Nik Buterakos
Hailey Butler
Joshua Butler
Gabrielle Bynum
Kevin Byrne



Sarah Byrum
Emily Cacavas
Gina Caccamo
Collin Caflisch
Jiehui Cai
Min Cai



Pianpian Cai
Yuanxi Cai
Zeyuan Cai
Kristin Calder
Hallye Caldwell
Syria Calhoun



Louis Calhoun II
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Connor Campbell



Matt Campbell
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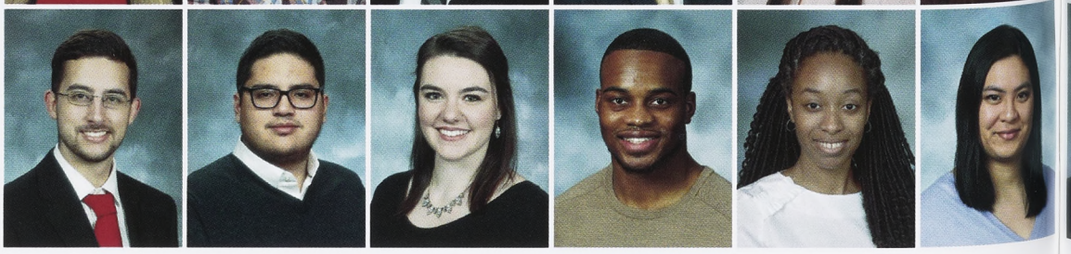
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Emilio Castillo
Manuel Catacora Rios
Kate Cavataio
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Lauren Chambers
Megan Chan





Yu Chan
Lauren Chance
Whitney Chandler
Wenrui Chang
Holly Chapin
Henry Chapman

Tom Charney
Rakyrha Chatman
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Tarek Chawich
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Emily Chen
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Zhaozheng Chen
Zhen Chen

Zhihao Chen
Zhiting Chen
Ziyi Chen
Chen Cheng
Lin Cheng
Yibin Cheng

Yuan Cheng
Joy Chepkorir
Joseph Chetta
Andrew Chevalier
Siddhant Chhabra
Cynthy Chi

Joseph Chi
Mia Chiesa
Kaylie Chiles
Salvatore Chimenti
Satya Chitturi
Amy Chmielewski



Rebecca Chmielewski
Dongryong Choi
Zoinul Choudhury
Jared Chouinard
Pak Hay Chu
Yanyun Chu



Alexander Chudzik
Alexandra Chugunova
Ashlyn Chung
Bethany Chung
Katie Church
Drew Cislo



Anthony Cissel
Emily Cissell
Ian Clark
Marie Clark
Nathan Clark
Rylee Clark



Antonio Clarke
Juwan Clarke
Lauren Clarke
Michelle Clarkson
Alonzo Claybrook
Ben Clemens



Kirsten Climer
Colette Cloutier
Kara Cochran
Drese Cockroft
Carly Cohen
Ryan Cole



Kasey Coleman
Keegan Coles
Abigail Collins
Hannah Collins
Jack Collins
Nick Colucci



Taylor Comeaux
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Erin Conklin
John Conklin
Gabriell Conn





Charles Connell
Christina Conner
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Jorge Contreras Jr
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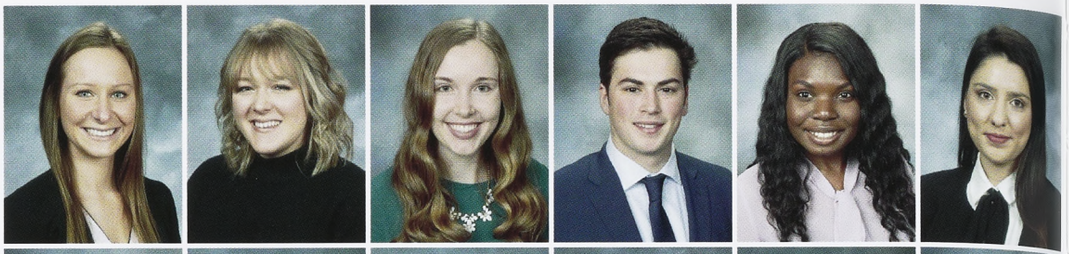
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Kamarie Dailey
Nikolette Dallich
Jinxin Dam
Pooja Dandamudi

Lauren Dandridge
Kevin Daniels
Taylor Dante
Dylon Daoud
Jennifer Daoud
Ramsey Daouk

Hannah Darmofal
Gemma Darr
Morgan Darter
Jacob Dasuqi
Oluwatobi Dauda
Muhadasa Daudi



Arielle Davidson
Riley Davidson
Adriana Davila
Emily Davila
Andrew Davis
Austin Davis



Brianna Davis
Evan Davis
Jamee Davis
Jordyn Davis
Lamont Davis
Malcolm Davis



Truhconte Davis
Terran Davis Jr.
Naomi Dawood
Aaris Dawson
Dasia Dawson
Cooper Dayton



Claudia De La Cruz
Zuri Dean
Stacy Dear
Emily Decker
Noah Decker
Jessica Declercq



Robin Declercq
Tyler Declercq
Parker Decraene
Jasper Dejesus
Alexis Dekalaita
Paola Delaj



Joshua Delaney
John Delang
Antonio Delgado
Rosalie Deliz
Ryan Demgard
Rosemarie Deneau



Jiaqi Deng
Rongjuanying Deng
Megan Denis
Matt Dennis
Daniel Denova
Amrit Deol





Hardeep Deol
Keahna Depauw
David Deporre
Jessica Derkacz
Michelle Derosa
Ravina Desai

Bianca Devito
Christopher Devlin
Kellie Devries
Skylar Dewitt
Bridget Dexter
Jewel Dexter

Tao Di
Arabelle Diaké
Ibrahima Diallo
Brent Diamond
Ester Diavita
Kayla Diederich

Meagan Diedrich
Ann Diepenhorst
Matthew Dijak
Kristin Dike
Monica Dim
Christina Dimedio

Mariah Dimitroff
Jessica Ding
Helder Dinis
Carlos Diola
Jacob Disbro
Cristina Dittman

Bradley Doane
Peter Doctolero
Zoe Dodd
Zachary Doehring
Klea Doko
Tim Doman

Chase Donaldson
Paityn Donaldson
Junjie Dong
Qianhui Dong
Yishan Dong
Davis Donigan

Colin Donnelly
Ellen Donner
Haley Dorris
Randi Dortch
Nathan Doss
Jacob Doty

Lydia Doty-Faulk
Jiatong Dou
Renae Dougherty
Delrhonda Doughrity
Jessica Douglas
Andrew Dowell



Melissa Downer
Alexis Downie
Jaddel Doyle
Riley Doyle
Andrew Drenth
Kiera Dressler



Carly Drobny
Nicolas Dronchi
Sarah Drumm
Yuxuan Du
Mohan Duan
Tianxiang Duan



Analeeza Dubay
Michael Duce
Theresa Duffy
Carly Dugan
Andrew Dumont
Bethani Dunlap



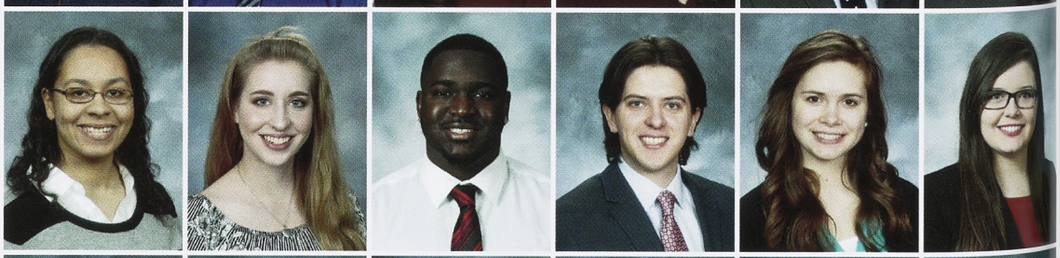
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Linda Duong
Anahi Duran



Andrew Duris
Devin Durocher
Reva Durr
Georgia Dutton
Liam Dwyer
Samantha Dygert



Brandy Dykes
Hannah Dykhouse
Derrick Dyson Jr
Brett Dziedzic
Monika Dziuba
Alyssa Earl



Jeremiah Eaton
Megan Ebejer
Melanie Ebeling
Lauren Eby
Olivia Eckola
Tracy Edelman





Dylan Edgerle
Lauren Edlbeck
Zachary Edmonds
Samuel Effa
Lindsie Egedy
Nicholas Egelhoff

Melissa Eggleston
Molly Ehasz
Maura Ehrlich
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Cole Eisenshtadt
Sabrina El-Assadi

Elyse Eldridge
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Jack Ellermets
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James Ellison

Dustin Ellsworth
Erin Elms
Marwa Elshazly
Michael Elwell
Marisa Elzy
Mia Elzy

Imani Emanuel
Alex Embs
Emilia Emerson
Jacqueline Emery
Luke Emery
Emily Emrick

Mitchell Ensz
Julian Esaw
Aaron Eshleman
Jillian Esper
Samuel Esters
Shiva Eswaran

Kelly Eusebi
Naomi Evans
Shayna Evans
Taylor Evon
Josh Ewart
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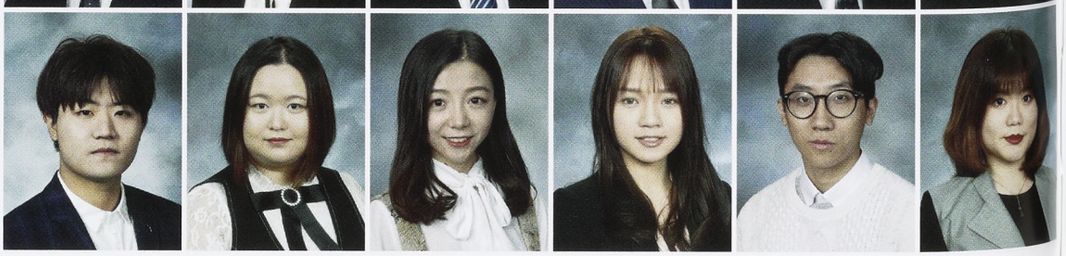
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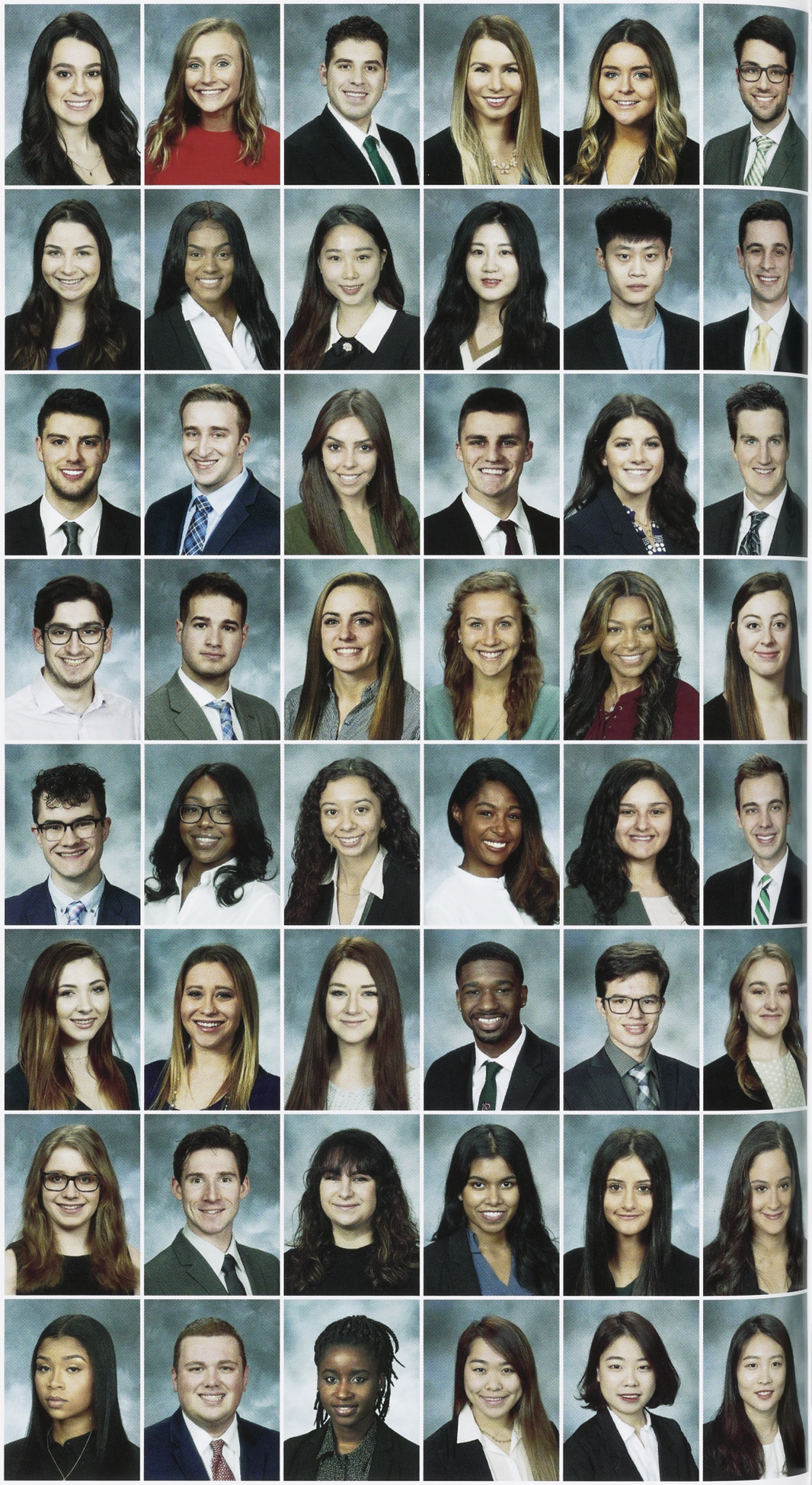
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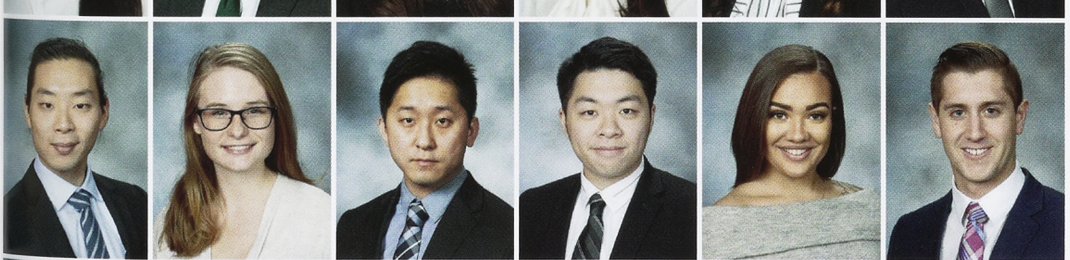
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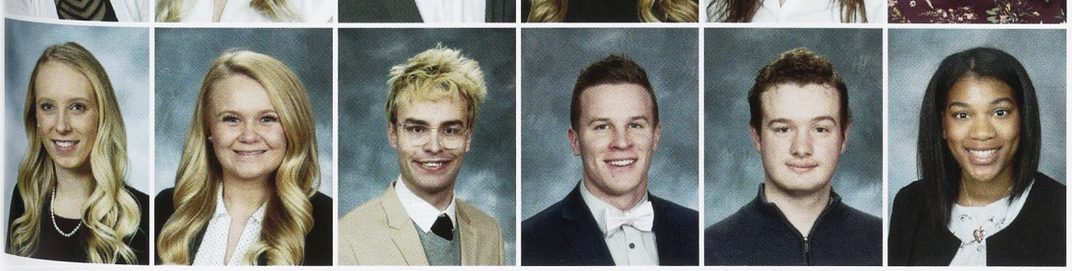
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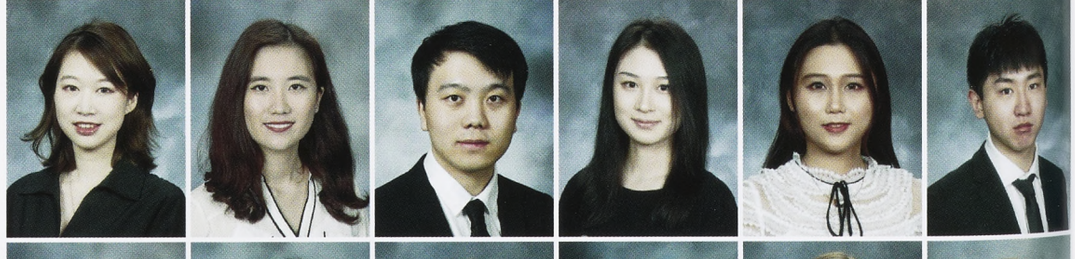
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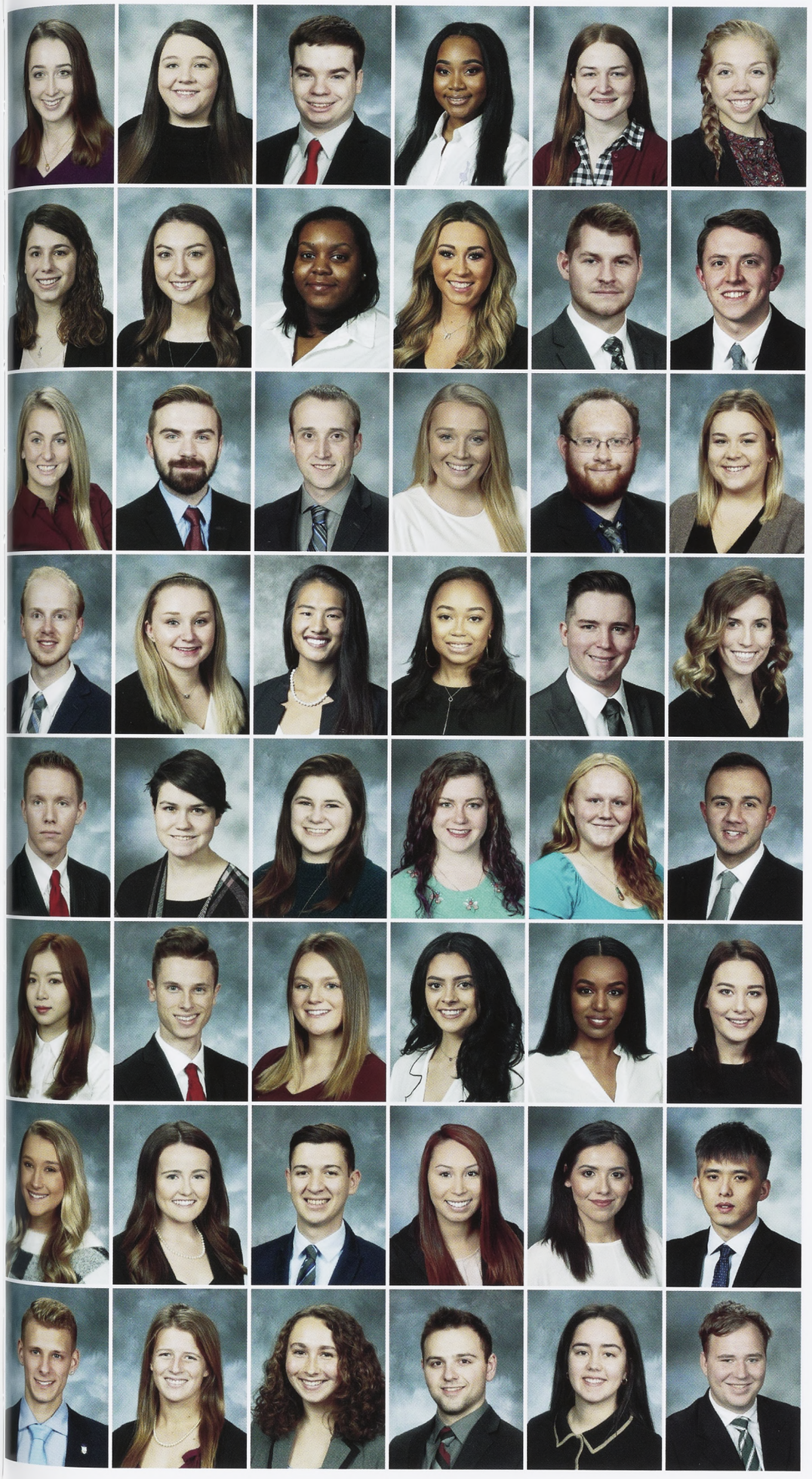
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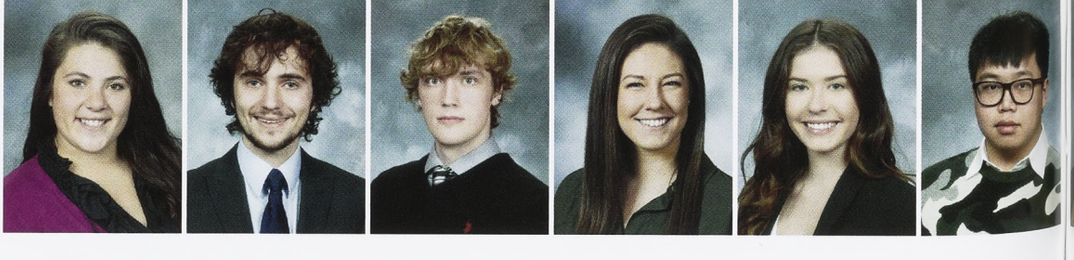
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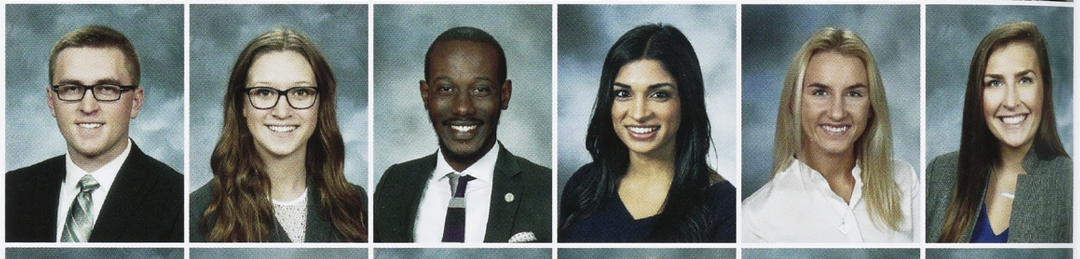
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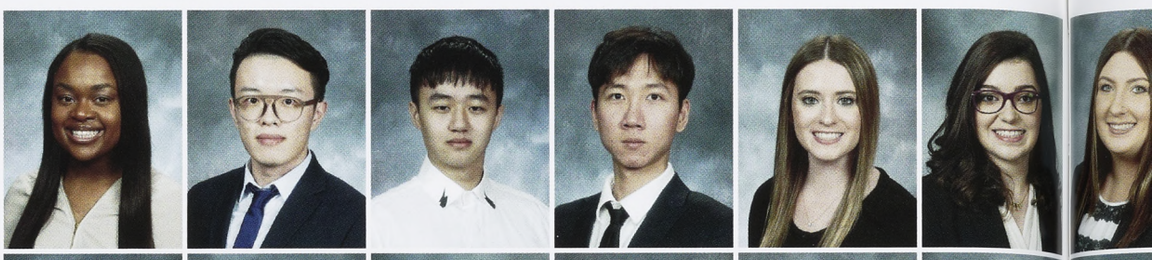
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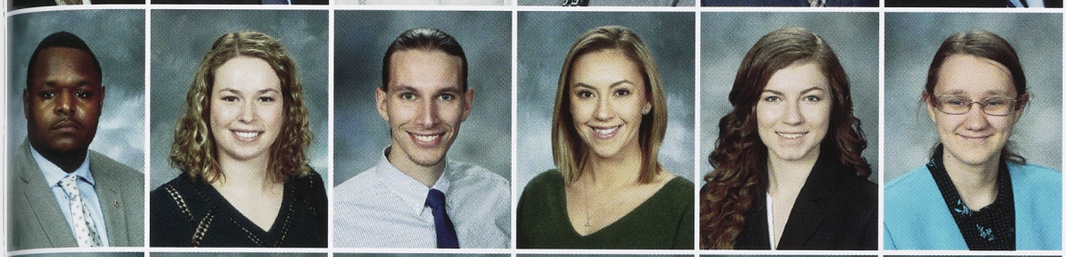


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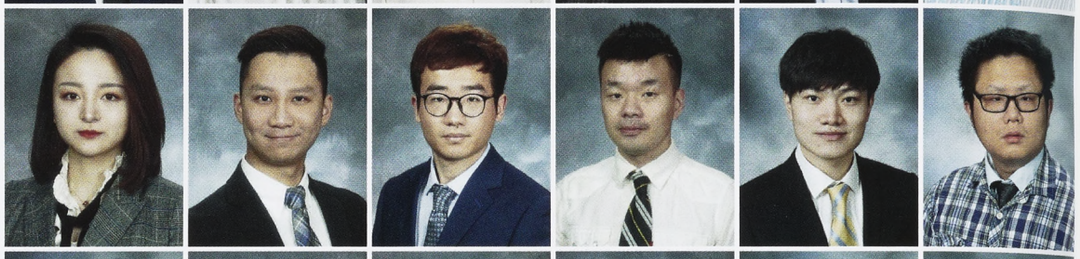
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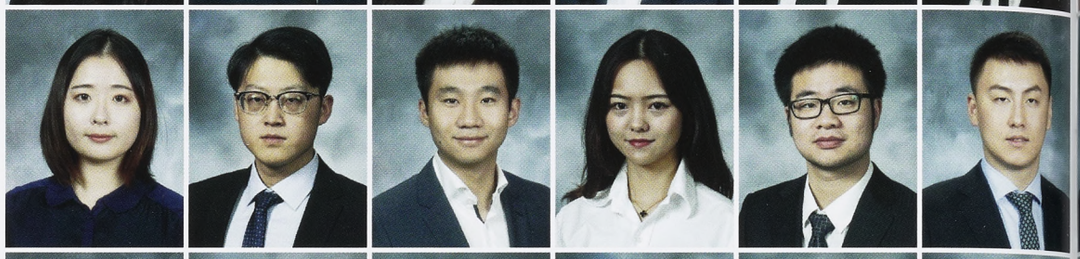
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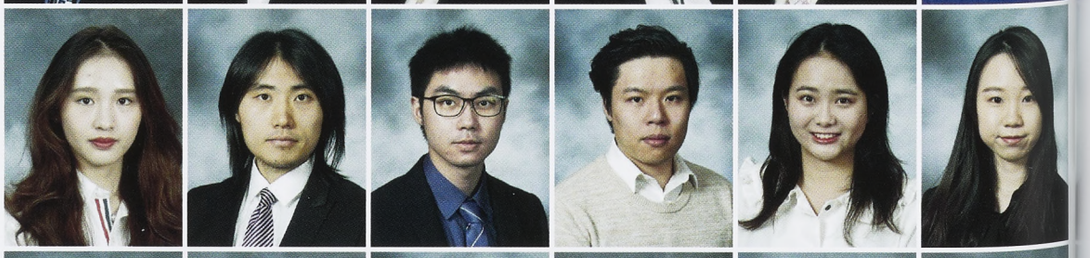
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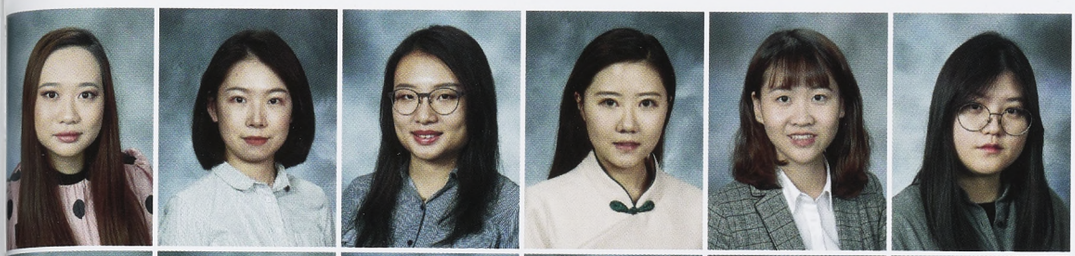


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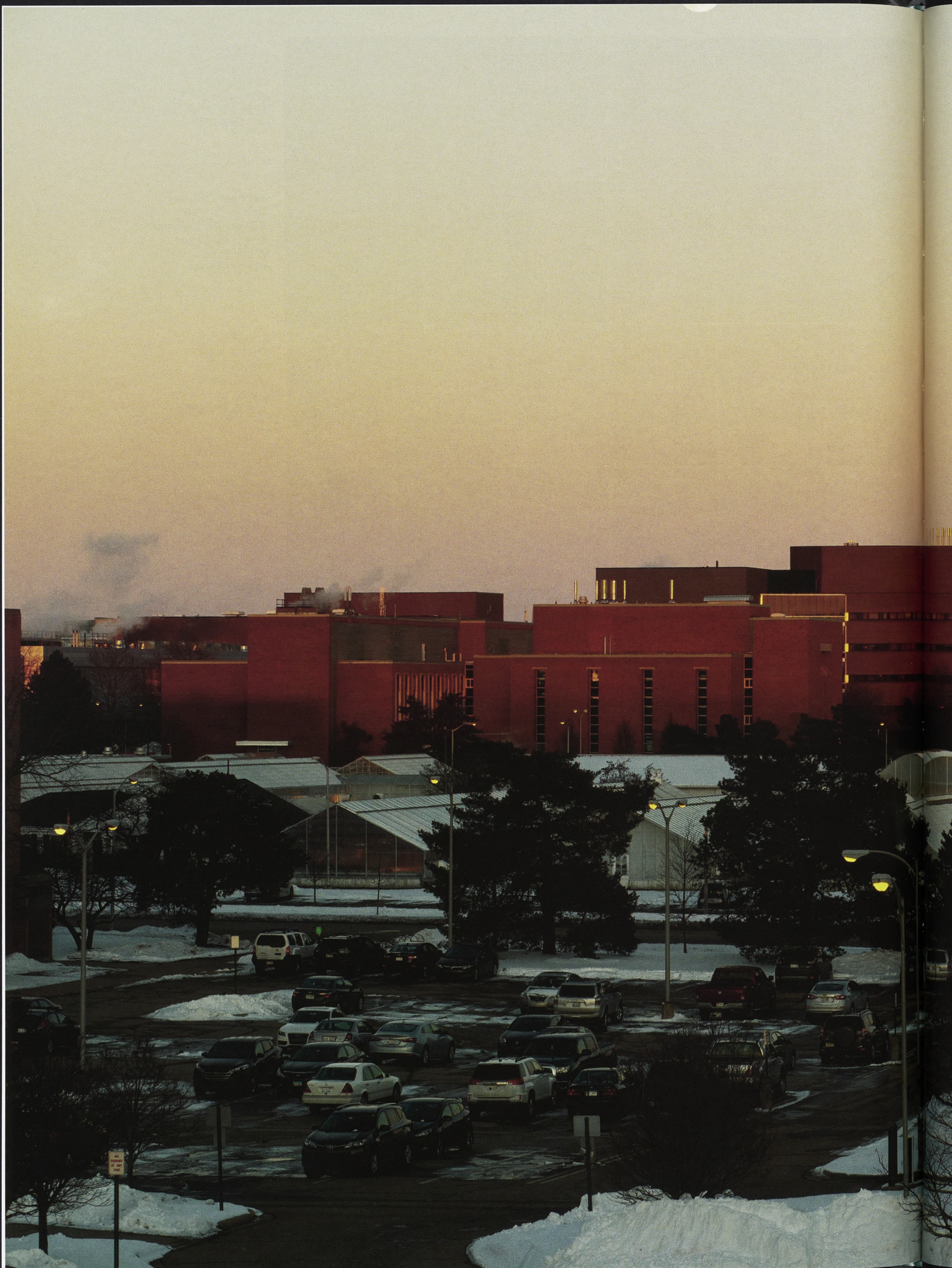
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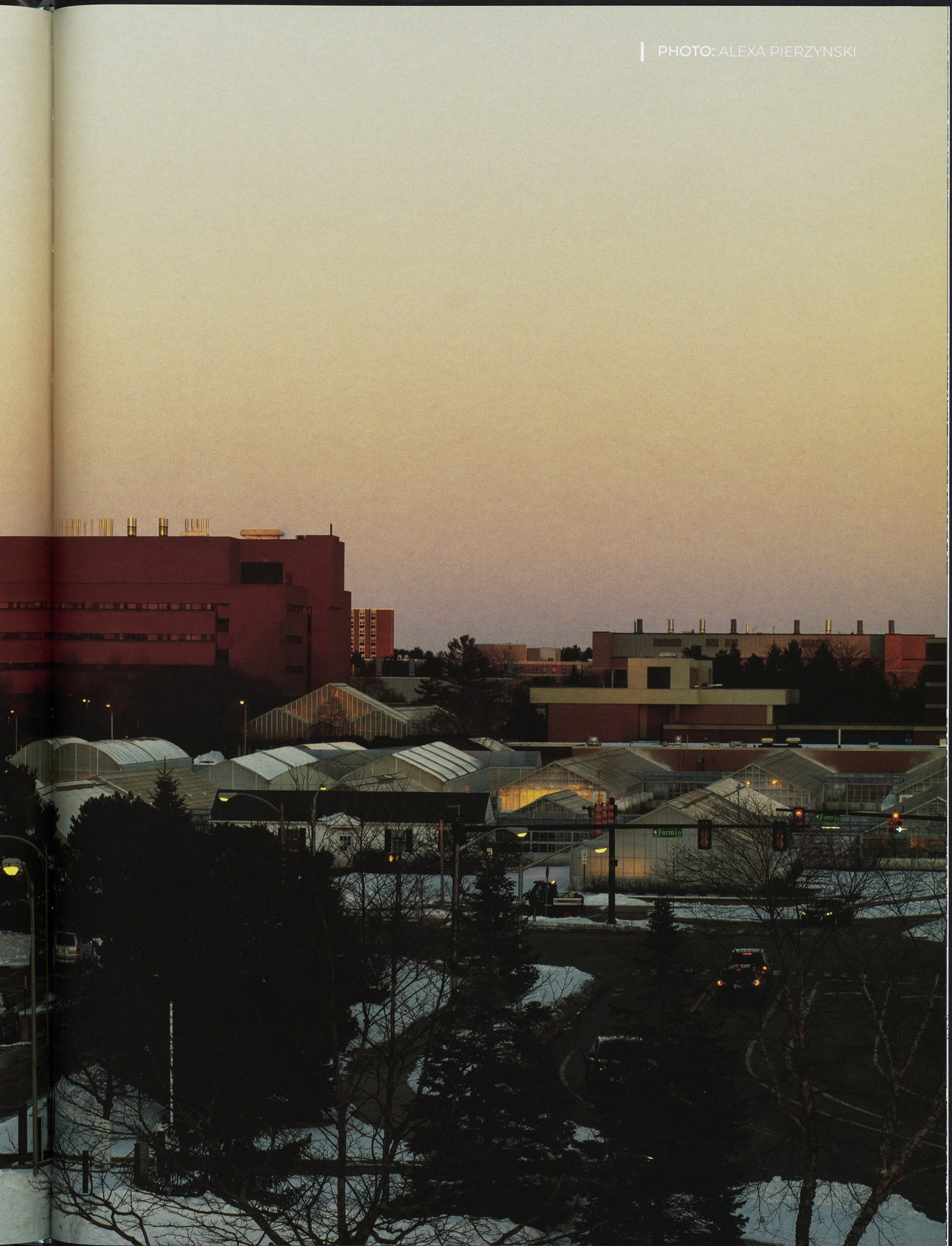
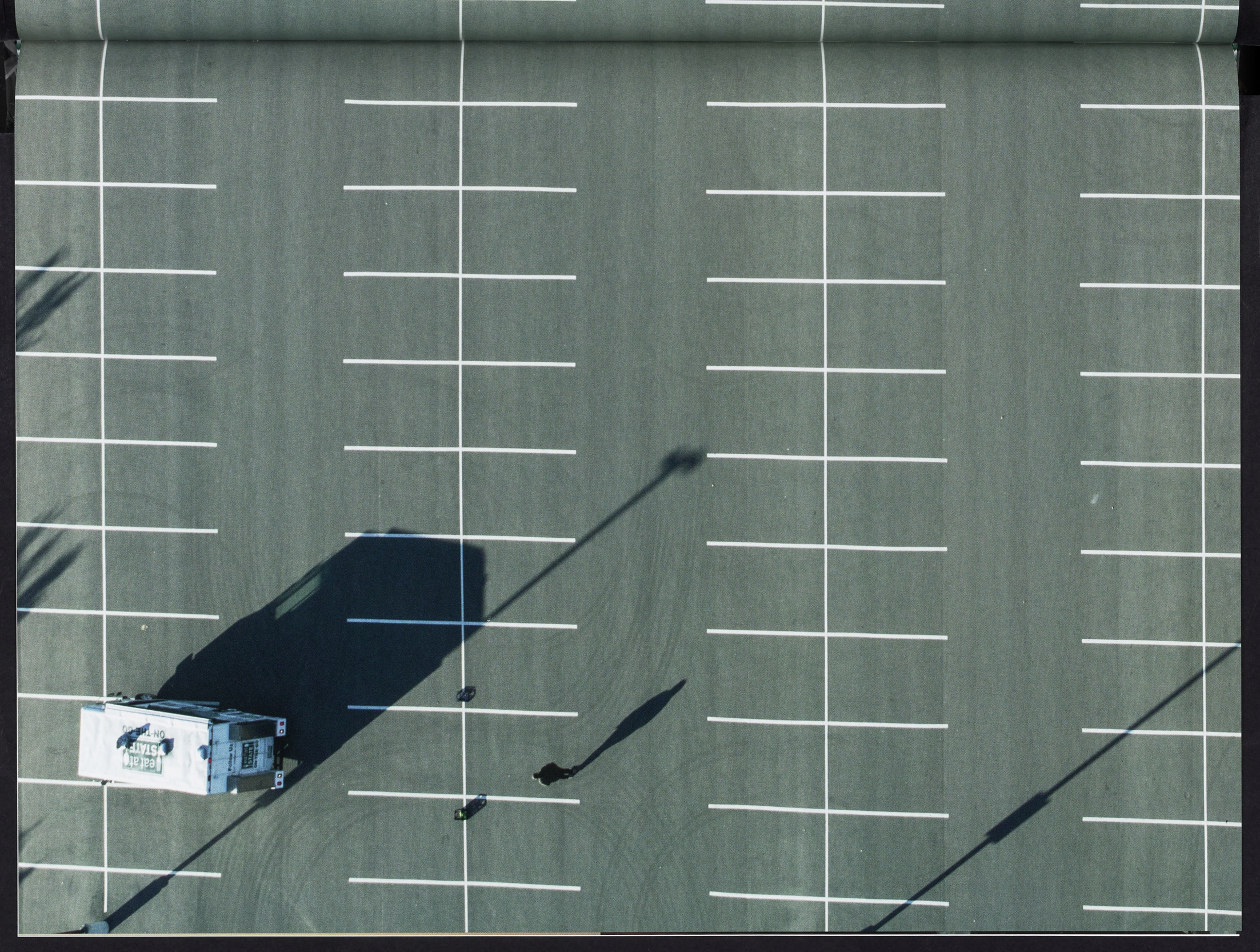


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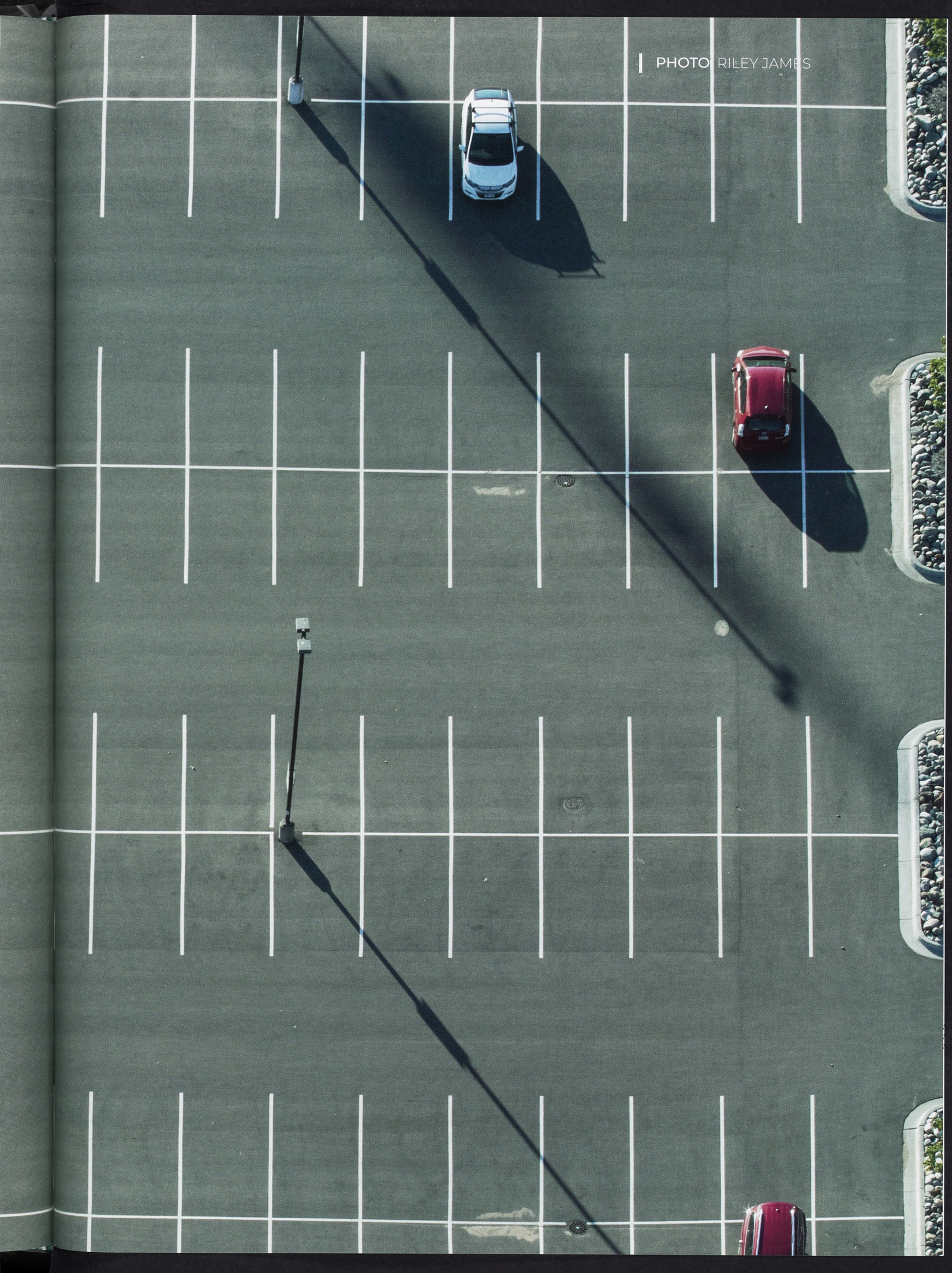
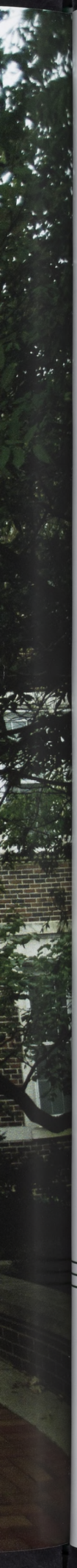


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THE REDCEDAR LOG

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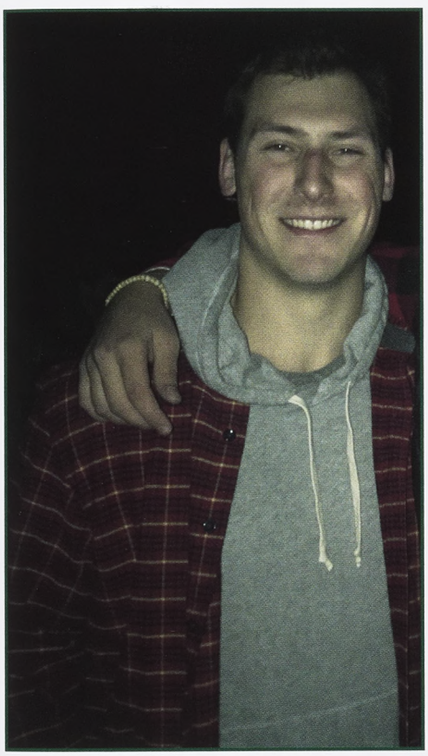
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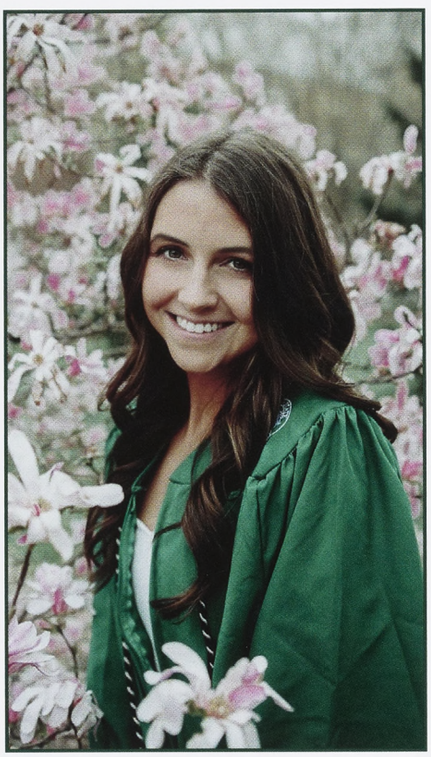


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A Letter from the Editor

Think back to when you first said you were going to be a Michigan State Spartan. Think of the excitement that came with it. Moving into your freshman year dorm room and going to late night for the first time. Attending your first lecture in Wells Hall and then the first meeting for that club you decided to join. Taking your picture in front of the Spartan Statue before the first football game of the year. Becoming a member of the Izzone. Getting a scoop of delicious Dairy Store ice cream. Pulling an all-nighter at the library. Yelling out your dorm room window during the finals week midnight scream. Painting the Rock.

When our team at The Red Cedar Log started thinking about what we wanted to encapsulate in this book, we immediately thought of going back to our Spartan roots. After all of the events that shook up our campus last year, we wanted to remind people of why we chose to become Spartans in the first place. We wanted to show how campus has changed over the years and how we, as students, have helped it evolve — and evolved with it.

We can't predict what will happen in years to come, but The Red Cedar Log team hopes that this book is something that will help you reclaim your Spartan identity, and remember why you spent these years at MSU.

Emily Lovasy

Editor-in-Chief, 2019
Red Cedar Log

Colophon

Creation

The Red Cedar Log was produced entirely by Macintosh Computers for page layouts, photo editing and word processing. Software used included Adobe Creative Cloud, Google Drive, as well as Monarch by Jostens.

Typography

The headlines, folio and page numbers were all set in MADE Bruno. The subheadings, body copy and captions were set in Montserrat Light.

Cover

The cover design was created by Design Editor Meredith Bieber, as well as Red Cedar Log content editors, photo editors, marketing director, and designers. With Jostens support, the front cover was produced with a matte finish on a base material of High Gloss Litho 478. The Spartan head logo is emphasized through UV Lamination, along with "Michigan State University" on the spine and the Beaumont Tower timeline on the back. The endsheets were printed on 280 Snow White material.

Photography

The photography in the Red Cedar Log, with the exception of senior portraits or unless credited otherwise, is entirely the original works of the photographers who produced the 130th volume. The cameras and flash units used were a combination of Canon, Nikon and Sigma lenses.

Content

The articles in the Red Cedar Log are entirely the original works of the staff journalists, journalism interns, content editors and copy editor who produced the 130th volume. Quotes from sources within stories derived from interviews or otherwise sourced material.

Copyright

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Finance and Operations

The Red Cedar Log is an entirely student-run publication. Each semester, ASMSU provided funds generated through student tax dollars, which equates to about $3 per undergraduate student, for publishing the book. The previous year's book was available throughout campus at rack locations and at on-campus events held each semester. For a small fee, alumni can have books shipped to them anywhere in the United States. Content in the book was determined by the editor-in-chief and editorial staff with a consideration of requests from student organizations to be featured free of charge. No funds were received from the university. A total of 7,000 copies of this 396-page, full color publication were printed by Jostens, Inc.

Recognition

Thank you all for your hard work, communication, support, and creativity. The distribution and production of the Red Cedar Log would not be the same without you:

Rianne Price, Susan Lowell, everyone from the Jostens Plant, Paul Bilgore and Lauren Studios, Jamie Streng and our distribution team, Lexi Peard, Katherine Rifiotis, Dan Iancio, Megan Murphy, Nicole Gonzales, Erik Maillard and ASMSU Marketing.

To the Class of 2019

A Letter from the President

To the Michigan State University Class of 2019

Congratulations, Spartans. You did it!

You are now part of one of the most powerful forces for good I can think of — graduates of MSU, equipped with the knowledge and the dedication to take on whatever challenges you may face with confidence and skill.

The world is your oyster — not to be taken for granted, but with gratitude.

Keep that resilience you've developed along the way in your back pocket. There will be setbacks and disappointments, but you have the will to overcome each in its turn.

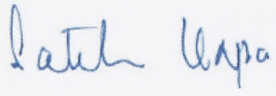
Your MSU degree says a lot about you, beyond the subject matter you've mastered. It speaks to your engagement with the world around you. You are an essential part of the society that brought you here, prepared to fulfill your responsibilities as the vital citizen-scholar described more than 50 years ago by my predecessor, former MSU President John Hannah.

The other part of that responsibility is to remember that your knowledge is a powerful asset, but perishable over time. Never lose the joy of discovery or the satisfaction of lifelong learning.

You have worked hard, but you also have been given much by those around you to bring you to this point. It is never too early to begin giving back, so seek those opportunities and offer a hand to those coming up behind you.

May you enjoy a lifetime of accomplishment and engagement, and all the benefits they confer.

Sincerely,



Satish Udpa
Acting President
Michigan State University

A Message from the Board of Trustees

To the Class of 2019

We, the Board of Trustees of Michigan State University, extend to you our most sincere congratulations on your graduation. Now it's up to you! We look forward to watching you apply your MSU education and your Spartan tenacity to making a positive difference in a world that greatly needs your engagement.

We are so proud of the accomplishments of you and your classmates, and of the way you maintained your focus and dedication through an eventful period in the life of Michigan State. We saw so much to appreciate in the numbers of outstanding scholars from your class we saluted this year and in the many accomplishments in sports and other activities we celebrated with you.

We are confident the skills you sharpened, the knowledge you gained and the perspective you developed in your time with us will serve you well over your lifetime.

You now join more than a half-million living Spartan alumni around the world, a global family with whom we hope you stay connected. We hope you remain part of this active and enthusiastic MSU community, and you return to campus often.

Sincerely,

Dianne Byrum
Joel I. Ferguson
Melanie Foster
Dan Kelly
Brian Mosallam
Nancy Schlichting
Brianna T. Scott
Kelly Tebay

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The Associated Students of Michigan State University (ASMSU) is the undergraduate student body government of Michigan State University. Our mission is to enhance our individual and collective student experience through education, empowerment and advocacy by dedication to the needs and interests of students.

During the 2018-2019 academic year, ASMSU worked hard to fulfill this mission by maintaining and expanding services for the undergraduate student body population.

If you would like to know more about ASMSU's services, please visit asmsu.msu.edu and see the Services tab for more information.

Services

Bike Share Program

Provided over 1,000 rides to on-campus students via 40 rental bikes located at various halls around campus.

Blue Books

ASMSU distributed over 14,000 free Blue Books to students.

iClicker, Graphing Calculator and Simple Calculator Rental Programs

ASMSU rented out over 1,500 iClickers, 255 graphing calculators and over 100 simple calculators to students.

Registered Student Organization (RSO) Funding

Provided over $267,000 in RSO funding during the 2018-2019 academic year.

Safe Ride Program

Provided over 11,000 free rides home to 15,000 student passengers.

Short Term Loan Program

Gave over $68,000 in 0% interest loans to over 230 students.

Student Legal Services and Student Rights Advocates

Offered free legal services including aid, representation and advice to almost 1,000 undergraduate students.

The Princeton Review

Partnered with the Princeton Review to offer a 30% discount for students on their graduate test preparation materials and provided four scholarships for free courses, potentially worth $10,000 in total.

Swipe in a Spartan Program

Worked with Culinary Services and the MSU Food Bank to establish the Swipe in a Spartan pilot program, a service that provides free meal swipes to students struggling with food insecurity through student to student food swipe donations.

Readership Program

Offered over 86,000 newspaper copies from the New York Times, USA Today, Lansing State Journal and Detroit Free Press to students through our readership bins. Expanded access to the program for students by partnering with the New York Times and the Wall Street Journal to allow access for students to the news and via mobile applications for both media sources.

