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## MILLERSVILLE STUDENTS EXPRESS THEMSELVES

*Whether it be at forums, art shows, performances, or senior spotlights, spring semester brings in more opportunities for students to show their ideas...*

(COLLAGE BY MADELYN SMITH / SNAPPER)



### NEWS



**"We are for the students, and with the students..."**

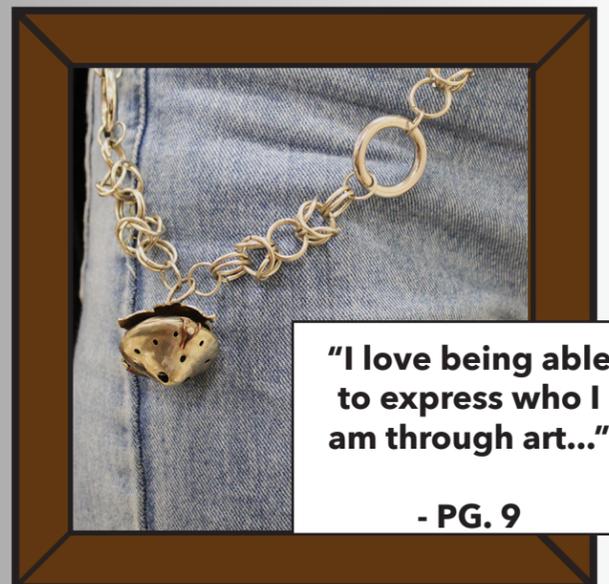
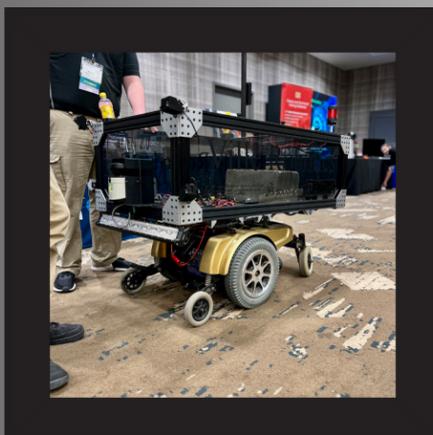
**- PG. 3**

### ARTS & CULTURE

### FEATURES

**"This competition is a great opportunity for students to get involved..."**

**- PG. 7**



**"I love being able to express who I am through art..."**

**- PG. 9**

## Office of Diversity and Inclusion hosts town hall meeting



OLIVIA HEILEMANN / SNAPPER

**Tyresha Vaughan-Blanding takes the microphone to voice her concerns about the recent protest.**

**OLIVIA HEILEMANN** News Editor  
As a result of the recent uninvited visitors protesting the common lifestyles of Millersville students, Carlos Wiley M.S. Ed, Chief Diversity and Inclusion Officer at Millersville University, held a Town Hall Meeting in the SMC Multipurpose Room for students and faculty to voice their concerns.

Before Wiley gave the floor to the students and faculty, he began with Millersville's newly created Land Acknowledgement, respecting and recognizing the indigenous people who praised the land in which our institution sits. These natives include the Conestogas, Susquehannocks, Shawnee, and Shenks Ferry people. More information about the Land Acknowledgment can be found on Millersville University's website.

To follow these statements, Wiley spoke about how he has been in this field of work for about 20 years. These protesters are nothing new to him. He recalls the questions he asked students during the protest and how this will impact them in the future, and what engaging will do for them.

"I think there are ways in which we

can combat folks that come to public institutions for the purpose of harassing good people for no apparent reason other than to try and create and get a lawsuit," says Carlos Wiley.

According to an email sent by the main protester, Aden Rusfeldt, he warned the University Chief of Police that he would be on campus on Jan. 17 to protest. He also included information about the lawsuit he has against New York City for removing him from a public space, reminding the police that legal action would be taken if they were to physically engage.

To set the prompt for the discussion, Wiley asked some questions to the group of concerned students and faculty.

"What can we do as a community so when those folks do come, how are we going to respond?" Wiley asked. "What can we do to keep them from coming?"

First up to the microphone was Millersville student Tina Marcellus, who wanted to share her personal account of the protest and how it affected her.

"As I walked by the group, I was instantly targeted for my religious beliefs and the way I dress and my ethnicity and the man was screaming really vile

things at me," Marcellus said.

She recalled how even though she was being yelled at across campus by Aden Rusfeldt, two female students unknown to her immediately went out of their way to walk her to a safer environment where she could find comfort. Those girls supporting her, even though she was a stranger, meant a lot to her.

Another student shared his experience about the protest. He has a disability in the way he walks due to a near-fatal injury and was a target of the protesters who called him "crippled" and a "degen-erate that will go to Hell."

Other students began to call out the university itself, questioning why the police were protecting the protesters and not the students, the EPPiIC values Millersville proudly represents, and what the school plans to do for the future when these protests happen again.

Some students even began coming up with solutions, like drowning them out with loud music or simply ignoring them, but these are only short-term and do not protect students and faculty from future harassment that could possibly create long-term mental illness.

A topic that was continuously brought up throughout the meeting was Title IX. Millersville senior Tyresha Vaughan-Blanding strongly voiced her concerns about what she believes Millersville is neglecting to do in terms of protecting its students during these events, and where Title IX comes into play.

"At some point if it's not considered harassment, if they're yelling at people through campus or following people through campus, like, where is the safety in that?" says Vaughan-Blanding. "Where is you being comfortable, especially a freshman?"

In response to this, Carlos Wiley went into more detail about Title IX and what can be done to possibly reduce the situation. In order for Title IX to work, one must file a Title IX complaint and an investigation will open up. A possible outcome of this could be redefining private areas on campus, like in front of Gordinier Hall, and providing information prior to these events to students and faculty on how to handle and avoid the protesters. He also encourages students to reach out to the counseling services provided on campus.

As the meeting progressed, more and more students felt comfortable enough to question what can be done legally about the situation, because simply re-

moving them from a public space is a threat to their First Amendment right. Students began to grow impatient about the lack of straightforward answers they were being given about what was being done to legally combat these people.

"Where do we draw the line between free speech and hate speech?" said student Drake Nayler.

Around the middle of the meeting, a freshman came up to the microphone to talk about how these people impacted them, and things took an emotional turn.

"As a freshman, I came here thinking this was a safe space for me," said Mette Corrado, "and it's really hard to hear from my friends to not come outside because they are targeting fat people and saying fatphobic and racist things and that people are feeling completely unsafe just walking and trying to get food."

Tina Marcellus then returned to the microphone to speak more about what the protesters told her, and how she believes that she was threatened and that it should be addressed. Unfortunately, it was concluded by an officer that the violent nature of the threat would need to imply that Pastor Aden himself would carry out the threat, not overlook it.

"He told me that if I was in an airport, he would support the guards blowing my head off. Does that not sound like a threat?" said Marcellus.

This comment silenced the room, and a professor from the back made a comment about it saying "that's crossing the line."

Carlos Wiley then talked about what needs to be done following this response, and it even brought him to tears.

"I am here for you! Believe that when I tell you that. I am looking at you right now and it is taking all of my energy not to cry," Wiley said. "It is taking all of my energy not to come hug you, believe that. I am very passionate about what I do, and what I do is protecting you."

While there is no certain solution right now, the Millersville Office of Diversity and Inclusion strongly suggests that any student should file a Title IX complaint, and reach out to on-campus counseling services if needed. Wiley's current priority is ensuring that all students and faculty feel safe at Millersville University, and is working to provide QR codes for important information regarding Title IX and the Behavioral Intervention Team around campus.

## Millersville student arrested on child pornography charges

**MORGAN HUBER** Managing Editor  
Manor Township Police arrested a young man in Washington Boro on Friday upon discovering he viewed child pornography.

Officers arrested Thomas Jefferson "TJ" Keener V, a 22-year-old Millersville student and 2019 graduate of Penn Manor High School, at his Water Street home in Washington Boro after a search revealed he possessed child pornography. The content discovered included 20 images depicting nude children under 18 years of age and five videos of child pornography, two of which depicted indecent contact. Keener allegedly used

the internet to search for these images between Feb. 24 and March 17, 2022.

The investigation began on July 26 when the Lancaster County Digital Forensic Unit received anonymous tips through the Internet Crimes Against Children (ICAC) Task Force. The Cyber-tips included files shared through the messaging app Kik and screenshots of a Snapchat account by the names of TjKeener00 and jaysprite2020, respectively, which police traced to Keener's email and IP address. These Cyber-tips prompted Manor Township Police and the ICAC Task Force to obtain a search warrant for Keener's home and devices on Oct. 3. Upon receiving the search

warrant, Keener confirmed both of these social media accounts belonged to him, according to an Affidavit of Probable Cause.

The search resulted in the discovery of child pornography on two devices - an Apple iPhone XR and an iBuyPower Desktop PC - both of which were owned by Keener. Manor Township Police subsequently charged the man with possession of child pornography, a third-degree felony with a maximum sentence of 10 years in prison and a fee of \$25,000, and criminal use of a communication facility, which carries a maximum seven-year prison sentence and \$15,000 fine under state law.

District Judge Joshua Keller agreed to release the man on \$25,000 unsecured bail at Keener's arraignment on Friday. A preliminary hearing is scheduled for March 1 at 9 a.m. at the Lancaster County Courthouse. Attorney Douglas H. Cody and Assistant District Attorney Jessica Collo will represent Keener.

Judge Keller and arresting officer Colleen Tatara declined to comment or provide a statement on the ongoing case.

As the Millersville University Police Department (MUPD) were not involved in the investigation, they have no information regarding this case.

# Millersville students provide feedback on dining experiences

**MORGAN HUBER** Managing Editor  
A survey released by editors of the Snapper staff reveals that Millersville students have diverse tastes and strong opinions on their dining experiences, both on and off campus. The short survey asked students about their favorite place to eat on campus - The Anchor, Cove, Galley, Upper Deck, Evergreen Cafe, Starbucks, or Avenue C - and their favorite restaurants off campus, with popular locations including Sugar Bowl, Sheetz, and China Wok, among others. In addition, students had the opportunity to express their opinions and provide feedback on their dining experience.

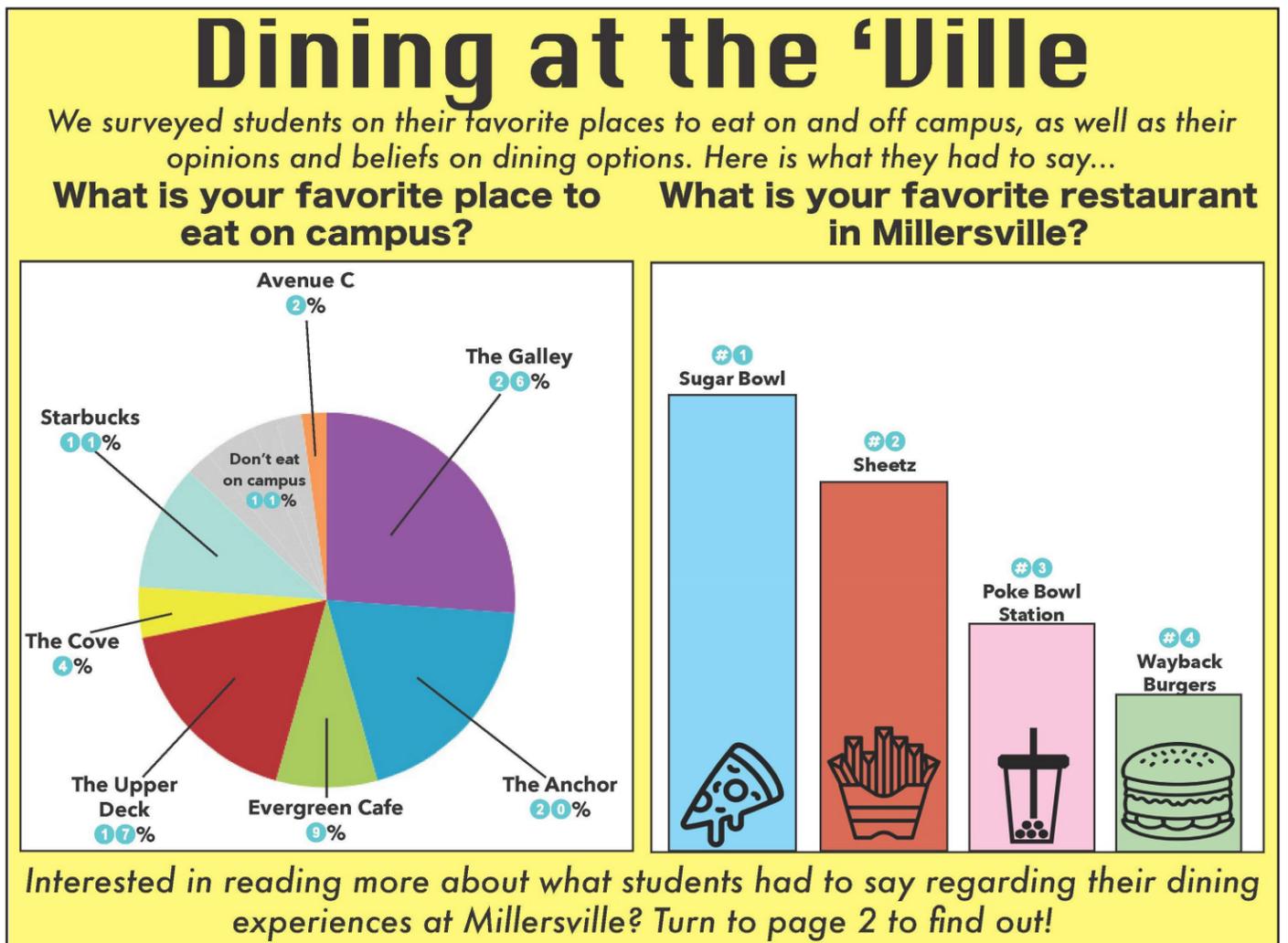
Although content with the options available in Millersville, students were not afraid to express their concerns regarding the quality and availability of food offered within the campus' dining halls. The most frequent complaints included variety, transparency, and serving dietary needs.

The various dining halls and cafes on campus provide a multitude of food and beverage options, ranging from sandwiches to pasta, pizza, coffee, and grab-and-go drinks and snacks. Some believe, however, that more variety is needed, especially in contrast to what was available in pre-COVID times.

"They need to stop serving the same things every day," says student Julia Glatt. "It gets very repetitive and we need change. Bring back the smoothie bar and fresh sushi, those were great! Also what happened to the carving stations, burrito stations, and sandwiches at the Galley? Even the breakfast for dinner nights last year was good."

One of the most controversial decisions made by Dining Services this semester was changing their sushi options. Prior to this semester, sushi was served in the Anchor, made fresh by on-site chefs. Now the chefs are gone and instead students are left with thawed premade rolls. Rumors persist that the staff hired to make the sushi either quit or were dismissed after requesting higher pay, however, this is unconfirmed.

"I think it was a terrible idea to get rid of the freshly made sushi on campus," says one student. "I know that many students loved that sushi and it sold out almost every day so I do not understand why they would get rid of it."



INFOGRAPHIC COURTESY OF MORGAN HUBER / SNAPPER

Others who filled out the survey suggested that Dining Services and the university be more transparent about decisions made regarding food options.

"I wish they would inform students on decisions," says student Michael Burns. "Then I wouldn't buy a meal plan for sushi only for the school to get rid of it and I'm stuck with the rest of the poop food."

For many students, the dining halls' operating hours are inconvenient, opening late and closing early, forcing those with early morning or late-night classes to eat off campus anyway.

"The Nutrislice app barely works half the time, and isn't any better than having the menu in the Millersville app," says student Nikolas Pappas. "The times that the different places close is honestly terrible. I often get out of class very

late and have to go off campus for food when I'd rather use the meal plan I am already required to have. I also think it's insane that if you have a weekly meal plan, you just lose every meal swipe you don't use."

Another concern raised was the lack of options for students with dietary restrictions. A number of those on campus are vegetarian, vegan, have allergies, or are otherwise restricted in their diet for religious or health-related reasons.

"The vegetarian options are a disgrace," says a student named Allison. "This university has done nothing but revoke every restrictive-diet inclusive option on campus. There is no longer vegetarian sushi or veggie burgers at the Anchor. If you don't have time to wait, you get to eat buttered noodles for the

10th night in a row. I'm paying a thousand dollars to be malnourished."

"I think there needs to be better options for people with chronic illness," says another student. "Most of the food is so oily and greasy, it makes whoever eats it sick. Even the 'healthy bar' is still pan-fried in oil. My only safe foods on campus are pre-packaged things not made by Dining Services. If I eat food in the dining halls, I am sick all day."

Whether their comments were negative or positive, students nonetheless took advantage of the opportunity to let their voices be heard. By providing feedback and keeping the community updated on available dining options, the quality of food both on and off campus maintains hope of improvement.

# Millersville students protest housing waiver release date

**KAITLYN LEISTER** Staff Writer  
Students of Millersville University executed a protest on Nov. 16, 2022 in regards to Student Lodging having announced that the 30-59 credit waivers for off-campus housing will be released on July 15, only four days before the fall semester bill will be released.

The event was hosted by Millersville's SGA. The crowd walked around the quad area of the dormitories and then made their way to Biemesderfer. They wanted to let the student body to know that they were supported and wanting to make a change.

The event was live streamed, and some might have caught the event on social media. Chants of "Student Voices Matter!" "No Waivers, No silence!" and "What matters, student voices!" were heard around campus.

The group talked to Dr. Williams and Tom Richardson that morning, and were told that the policy would be looked over by the president and Board of Trustees.

When asked, SGA president Lindsay Griffiths had this to say, "We will not be quiet until there's a change. We are for the students and with the students; what they want and need is what we want and need."

When Student Lodging was asked how they felt



PHOTO COURTESY OF MILLERSVILLE UNIVERSITY

**Without a longer period between the waiver and bill, students have no choice but to live in the dorms on campus.**

about the student protest, they sympathized with the student body. "We also see such events causing straining of student relationships as well as challenges for those needing Summer courses and working over the Summer" said a Student Lodging employee. Student

Lodging wishes for students to have a positive experience with their time in off-campus housing, and not be hurt financially or socially.

It is unsure at the time what will occur with the waivers in the future.

## Plant owners are killing our ecosystem

JAKE LONG  
Associate Opinion Editor

"I speak for the trees." That is the beloved motto of The Lorax, the best environmental protection character since Smokey the Bear. Now, I may not be a fuzzy, orange character, but I will do my best to emulate his holiness.

Plants are being raised inside against their will by people across the world. Taken from their natural habitat, they are left to lead a life that depends on an overbearing owner who has no idea what it means to be a plant. Plants deserve freedom as their reward for surviving on Earth for billions of years and allowing humanity to live.

A houseplant is an absolute contradiction to the purpose of every plant. Plants are supposed to be the ultimate symbol of freedom, living outdoors and happily transfixed to their little plot of land. They bask in the sun all day, replenishing their nutrient stores and helping their neighbor without reserve.

Their only care in the world is to remain until they are no longer needed. At that point, they'll gladly give themselves up to decomposers so other plants can reuse their organic matter. So in a sense they never die, they just get rebirthed into a new form.

But humans got jealous of this level of contentment, something very few humans ever experience,

and decided to ruin this image of freedom. We convinced ourselves that we needed to intervene in this for our own psychological benefit. We kidnapped the weakest members of the collective, the ones who had no way to defend themselves. And now they sit on shelves across the world instead of living out their joyous purpose with their brothers and sisters. When all we had to do was step outside to receive the benefits that plants provide.

Many houseplant owners think of their plants as beings that live on a different plane of perception. They can think, feel, and live in ways that humans cannot imagine. Now, if plants are as alive as houseplant owners say they are, then surely they cannot be happy sitting in solitude inside of an ugly, hand painted pot while looking through a window that showcases the environment in which they belong.

As if kidnapping plants from their loving homes wasn't bad enough, we now flaunt their naturally deserving freedom through an impenetrable barrier. The plants are left only to imagine the sweet embrace of another's roots while its own sulk inside a ceramic prison.

You may say, "Oh, but I take such good care of Sir Planteus." So what? It would have done just fine by

itself. It had unfiltered, all-natural light for as long as it needed it. And the light never stopped moving, forcing the plant to move right along with it and perform the plant equivalent of cardio. But in a window, natural light only comes from one direction, so the plant must keep an unaltered bend that way, which eventually leads to plant scoliosis.

"But, but, I give him all the water he could ever imagine." Well, outside there's this amazing phenomenon called rain that makes water fall from the sky instead of a spritz can. There is no limit to the amount the plant can absorb, and all pesky particles get scrubbed away. There's even water that flows underneath the plants, so they still have a source to keep them alive just in case rain is sparse.

And if they collect too much, they can send a water care package through their roots to a neighbor in need. Inside of a pot, excess water clogs up the already narrow space. And the plant slowly suffocates under the strain, all the while wishing it had another plant to share its water with.

ICONS COURTESY OF RENDICON / THE NOUNPROJECT

## Millersville needs to do better



Indirect representation of the frustrations of being a Millersville student.

TYRESHA VAUGHAN-BLANDING  
Opinion Editor

Let's start with addressing the elephant in the room. As someone who gives Millersville their hard-earned money, because knowledge is power and higher education was shoved down my throat at such a young age, I thought I would have gotten a great return on my investment. I was wrong.

It seems to me that Millersville doesn't care about their student body at all. To them, we are numbers and analytics that keeps this business afloat, all though we oftentimes aren't considered or thought about in the decision-making process of the university we're supposed to call home until we're called upon to graduate.

For example, the one free parking lot closest to campus that Millersville students had access to is being taken away. My question is, what about the percentage that doesn't live on campus and only has one or two classes? Where are they supposed to park? And before you think to yourself "why won't they just buy a parking pass," consider that even with a parking pass, parking on this campus is limited. Instead of finding a solution to this on-going problem, it made it a bigger problem.

Another issue I would like to address about Millersville University is their lack of regard for student safety to the point that there is a @metoo\_mu Instagram page. Recently, there was

even a town hall meeting about protestors that consistently come back to campus screaming hate speech of obscenities at students that are here to get an education. When will the students be a priority instead of an afterthought? Especially given that the university was well aware that protestors were coming on that specific day. Where was the "send email" button for the rest of the campus to be aware and at least prevent their day being ruined? You don't have an answer and neither do I.

While I'm on my soapbox, let's address the technology fee that is included in many other fees on Millersville's campus. If I had a dollar for every time I have gone to a com-

puter lab on this campus and either the printer or one of the computers didn't work, I would be able to pay tuition back. I strongly feel that if the technology that we pay to use barely works, the fee should be reduced or simply not exist. That money could go to another category, such as meal plans or housing.

Overall, this is just a few of my issues with the university. You would think they would care more about the students that keep them in business and keep this campus afloat. Without the student body, this campus doesn't run. Students put in a lot of time, energy, and money just to be disregarded, ignored, and undermined.

ICON COURTESY OF MADE BY MADE / THE NOUNPROJECT

# Comics are cool, and so is reducing your screen time

**SHAUN LUCAS**  
Editor-in-Chief

Sometimes, the best way to find a new hobby is to return to one you had when you were twelve years old.

Over the winter break, I enrolled in a course called “Consumer Behavior,” where I had to make positive changes to myself in a 30-day period. My primary goal was to reduce my screen time, specifically limiting my time on social media platforms. The main way I did this was by catching up on my graphic novels, which really gave me appreciation for both reading and comics as a medium.

Over the Fall 2022 semester, I found myself on my computer more than ever before. With my involvement with Snapper and leading the “Super Smash Club,” alongside completing homework and other responsibilities through my computer, there was rarely a moment where I was not looking at a screen. Unfortunately, I garnered a harsh habit of translating my work breaks into even more screen time, choosing to scroll through social media for hours as I found it easier than other more mindful hobbies.

Screentime is well known as being harmful to physical and mental health, but the act of “mindless scrolling” is particularly dangerous and addictive. Charity organization London Youth discussed how mindless social media scrolling, or the act of scrolling through posts without really interacting with the content or thinking about what it means, leads to dependency of dopamine. Personally, I found myself scrolling faster and faster throughout last semester, consuming more posts while also giving less mental effort towards interacting with each one.

To clarify, graphic novels are either collections of individual comic issues or longer books in a comic style. Creation of the former has become a popular trend in

Title	Author	Franchise	Format	Genre	Page Count
Berserk: Deluxe Vol. 1	Miura, K.	Berserk	Series Part	Horror/Dark Fantasy	696
Berserk: Deluxe Vol. 2	Miura, K.	Berserk	Series Part	Horror/Dark Fantasy	704
Berserk: Deluxe Vol. 3	Miura, K.	Berserk	Series Part	Horror/Dark Fantasy	704
Berserk: Deluxe Vol. 4	Miura, K.	Berserk	Series Part	Horror/Dark Fantasy	704
Berserk: Deluxe Vol. 5	Miura, K.	Berserk	Series Part	Horror/Dark Fantasy	720
Berserk: Deluxe Vol. 6	Miura, K.	Berserk	Series Part	Horror/Dark Fantasy	712
Batman Versus Bane	Dixon, Noland	Batman	Complete Story	Superhero	158
Batman - Detective Comics: Faces of Death (New 52)	Daniel, T. S.	Batman	Series Part	Mystery	167
Batman: White Knight	Murphy, S.	Batman	Complete Story	Superhero/Mystery	224
The Joker: Death of the Family	Various	Batman	Complete Story	Superhero/Horror	429
Batman: Knightfall, Part One: Broken Bat	Various	Batman	Series Part	Superhero	634

GRAPHIC COURTESY OF SHAUN LUCAS / SNAPPER

## A sample of Editor-in-Chief Shaun Lucas’s graphic novel collection listed on a spreadsheet.

comics in recent years, as it is much more convenient to keep one book rather than collecting smaller issues. Also, graphic novels tend to feature entire stories, making the stories themselves much more accessible than if it was needed to find parts individually.

While reading graphic novels is not a new hobby for myself, it is an activity I found myself becoming interested in again over the last year. While I really enjoyed reading comics during this year, I would again find myself tempted to just scroll on social media to give my mind a break. Fortunately, after getting into the habit of reading at least 30 minutes per day, it became much easier to just have myself sit down and dive into a book.

In a world where we often judge ourselves for our productivity, many forget that taking care of yourself and having hobbies you enjoy is important, as well. Taking the time to read was the most refreshing means of a break I have had in quite some time, especially in bringing my eyes away from my laptop and phone.

Over the break, I read over 1,000 pages worth of comics, finishing 4 different books that were in my backlog. Compared to other media, I felt the most satisfaction checking a graphic novel off my list over finishing a movie, as I would be much more relaxed after reading than watching a show or movie. Reading comics also made me think much more about what I was doing than while scrolling through social media.

With the younger generations becoming more cognizant of reducing screen time, many are putting more time into hobbies such as reading and cooking which give an opportunity to disconnect. While I got behind in reading everyday since the semester started, I do wish to return to regular reading once I get settled into my classes. Having those reading breaks made me much more productive over the winter semester, and I feel seeing this productivity increased encouraged a positive habit I can instill for the rest of my life.



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Any views or opinions expressed in commentaries and/or advertisements do not reflect the views of the publication as a whole.

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**Letters to the Editor**

The Snapper welcomes letters to the editor submitted by students, faculty, staff, alumni and community members.

Letters should be exclusive to The Snapper. We do not publish open letters or third-party letters.

Letters should preferably be 150 to 175 words, should refer to an article that has appeared in the Snapper, and must include the writer’s address and phone numbers.

The Snapper reserves the right to approve, edit or reject any submissions.

# What did The Snapper Staff watch or read during winter break?

 <p>Shaun Lucas Editor-in-Chief</p> <p><b>“Batman: White Knight”</b></p>	<p>Morgan Huber Managing Editor</p> <p><b>“Black Christmas” (1974)</b></p>	
<p>Olivia Heilemann News Editor</p> <p><b>“The Midnight Club”</b></p>	 <p>Tyresha Vaughan-Blanding Opinion Editor</p> <p><b>“The Black Girl’s Guide to Financial Freedom”</b></p>	<p>Ava Adiletti Features Editor</p> <p><b>“Elvis” (2022)</b></p> 
 <p>Bree Dull Associate Features Editor</p> <p><b>“Glass Onion”</b></p>	<p>Whitney Walmer Arts &amp; Culture Editor</p> <p><b>“Wendesday”</b></p>	<p>Justin Staggers Sports Editor</p> <p><b>“Better Call Saul”</b></p>
 <p>Katherine Delaney Photography &amp; Social Media Editor</p> <p><b>“I’m Glad My Mom Died”</b></p>	<p>Madelyn Smith Associate Photography Editor</p> <p><b>“High Fidelity”</b></p>	 <p>Katelyn Auty Head Copyeditor</p> <p><b>“How to Lose a Guy in Ten Days”</b></p>

INFOGRAPHIC COURTESY OF SHAUN LUCAS / SNAPPER

## SnapperScope

With Girl Scout Cookie season just around the corner, time to see what tasty treat you should indulge in based on your sign.

 <b>Aries</b> <b>Samoas</b>	 <b>Leo</b> <b>Tagalongs</b>	 <b>Sagittarius</b> <b>Adveturfuls</b>
 <b>Taurus</b> <b>Carmel Chip Cookie</b>	 <b>Virgo</b> <b>Do-Si-Do</b>	 <b>Capricorn</b> <b>S’mores</b>
 <b>Gemini</b> <b>Lemon Ups</b>	 <b>Libra</b> <b>Thin Mints</b>	 <b>Aquarius</b> <b>Raspberry Rally</b>
 <b>Cancer</b> <b>Trefoils</b>	 <b>Scorpio</b> <b>Toast-Yays</b>	 <b>Pisces</b> <b>Toffee-Tastic</b>

INFOGRAPHIC COURTESY OF JULIA MEASSICK AND KATHERINE DELANEY

## Robotics team takes a byte at national competition



PHOTO COURTESY OF JEREMIAH BUCK

This self-driving robot, known as the A.Li.E.N 2.0, built by the Millersville Robotics Team demonstrates why they are one of the best teams around.

**MORGAN HUBER**  
Managing Editor

The Millersville Robotics Research and Development Team is getting into gear this year on campus. A student-run organization, the Robotics team seeks to push students toward applying their knowledge of robot mechanics and engineering and what they learned from classes by building machines. The team also provides participants with the opportunity to share information and gain experience in the field of applied engineering, while also exploring and pursuing connections to jobs and internships.

The team's faculty advisor, applied engineering professor Dr. John Wright, provides guidance and support by recruiting students and overseeing operations. Although the Robotics team primarily attracts applied engineering students, anyone can participate regardless of their major. The Robotics Team started on campus roughly 20 years ago and is accredited by the Association of Technology, Management, and Applied Engineering (ATMAE), which also holds the Student Division Competition every year.

Millersville's chapter of the ATMAE robotics team sent nine members to participate in the competition, held this past November in Louisville, KY. To commemorate the 20th anniversary of the competition, restrictions were alleviated to

give student teams free rein on what they were allowed to design.

"This competition is a great opportunity for students to get involved, and it was really exciting to design the robots as a team and get them to do whatever we wanted," says Jeremiah Buck, public relations chair for the Robotics Team and a participant in this year's competition.

Buck, a sophomore applied engineering student, served as the electric lead for the project, guiding a team of students through the process of building the robot from designing the mechanics to installing the electrical wiring.

"A lot more goes into the robot than the actual building," Buck explains. "There's a great deal of planning and designing involved, and with people from different backgrounds and programs on the team, such as construction and safety management, there is more considered beyond just putting everything together."

Unlike previous competitions, where robots had to complete certain tasks, each of the teams decided on what they wanted to make them do. For instance, Millersville's team constructed a self-driving robot. Referred to as the A.Li.E.N. 2.0 (Autonomous LiDAR-Based Environment Navigator), the machine utilized smart sensors, includ-

ing light ranging, machine vision, and a laser detection unit to follow GPS waypoints and avoid obstacles as it made its way through a tracked course.

Millersville's team found much success, earning six awards for their efforts in the competition, most notably the highly coveted Stephen Harris Cup. ATMAE also awarded the team first place in electrical and controls design, first place in innovative problems solution, second place in mechanical and manufacturing design, second place in technical communication design, and third place in the People's Choice award.

Regarding the future of the team, Buck comments, "we are excited to participate in more competitions and build our team and skills beyond what we already have. It's a great opportunity and I look forward to seeing what we will do this semester."

The Robotics Team holds club meetings on Fridays at 1 p.m. in room 119 of Osburn Hall. Students interested in joining may check out their Instagram page, @villorobotics, or contact Dr. John Haughery via email at john.haughery@millersville.edu.

# Millersville Athletics gets a new home



PHOTO COURTESY OF CREATIVE COMMONS

Jefferson Hall sits empty as it was once the home of the Millersville Athletic Department.

**AVA ADILETTI**  
Features Editor

New year, new home. The Millersville Athletic department is kicking off the new year in a different space.

Millersville Athletics and those who work within the department are now located in Lehigh Hall. Previously located in Jefferson Hall, near Cooper Park, the build-

**“I think the move from Jefferson to Lehigh has been great for everyone involved.”**

**- Collin Hummel**

ing has had better days.

With the HVAC system constantly having issues, the internet not always being reliable, and the building being hard for some athletes to reach, it was time for an

upgrade.

With the department now being located in Lehigh Hall, it provides student athletes with three designated computer lab spaces, including 24 desktop computers and six laptop spaces, 12 group study rooms, and one semi-private room. “The move from Jefferson to Lehigh Hall is a great move for athletics. The building has more benefits for us. The extra space has provided great study space options for our student athletes as well as being better able to incorporate with the cam-pus community.” says Women’s Swimming Head Coach Eric Usbeck.

This space can be used for structured study. Student athletes will need to swipe their Millersville Student ID to swipe in and out of room 116 to receive credit for their study time.

Student athletes will also need their Millersville ID number to release any printing. The Morgan Academic Center for Student Athletes is located on the first floor of Lehigh Hall. The center is currently open from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. “I think the move from Jefferson to Lehigh has been great for everyone involved. Being a first year GA, I never had much experience in Jefferson, but it’s very apparent that the athletic staff greatly appreciates

the new building. It’s nice to be able to see the other coaching staffs more frequently.” Women’s Swimming Graduate Assistant Collin Hummel expressed.

The new center now features some state-of-the-art technology that will allow groups to collaborate on projects. The center is more conducive to academics and will be quieter as well as more reliable than the previous space in Jefferson Hall. All student athletes are welcome and encouraged to use the space as needed.

**“The move for Jefferson to Lehigh Hall is a great move for athletics.”**

**- Eric Usbeck**

## Parking leads to student discussion

**BREONNA DULL**  
Associate Features Editor

How is Millersville responding to the lack of parking availability? By creating fewer places to park.

In previous semesters, the parking lot behind the Student Memorial Center allowed free parking with no permit required. Some spaces were reserved for tenants of the Wellness apartments, but the space provided dozens of necessary parking spots.

Construction is currently underway for a new health center, taking up half the parking lot. Remaining spac-

es now require a special permit. The new health center, run by Penn State Health, is intended to aid the current health center with overflow and more student concerns.

Students are frustrated by the high-priced parking permits and nowhere to park. Available parking may be far from their class and driving around to find a space can make students late for class. Perhaps Millersville feels they have satisfied parking needs with the parking garages.

It should be taken into account, however, that the Prince Street Garage is quite a distance from the center of campus. To park in the garage, one must also have a separate “overflow parking” permit. Students then must choose between an overflow parking pass that allows them only to park in the garages or a commuter parking pass. The commuter pass allows parking in any white space, but runs the risk of the parking lots being full.

Raising permit rates can be an incentive for fewer students to bring cars to campus. The difficulty of parking is becoming a strong incentive as well. Students should consider carpooling or using public transport.

Millersville and Lancaster City offer a public bus system for easy travel. Not only will public transport reduce the need for parking, but also decrease traffic, and carbon emissions which pollute the air.

The parking problem at Millersville is not new. In fact, a Snapper article from 1970 by Beverly Gross notes student’s trouble finding parking. There have not been sufficient parking spaces for students for decades, so it’s safe to assume the Parking Division will not be making any positive changes soon.

In the meantime, consider an alternative: bik-

ing, walking, or riding the bus. This can be better for your health, wallet, and time.



SHAUN LUCAS / SNAPPER

Parking lot behind the Student Memorial Center (SMC) is closed off for construction.



SHAUN LUCAS / SNAPPER

Heavy machinery used to clear off remnants of past parking lot.

## 'Invincible' Season 2 teased for late 2023

SHAUN LUCAS  
Editor In Chief

One of the biggest surprise streaming hits of 2021 returns in late 2023, with the Amazon Prime action cartoon "Invincible" releasing its second season. Last week, fans were given a teaser trailer of the titular Invincible, voice acted by Steven Yeun, talking to Allen the Alien, voiced by Seth Rogan. The two-minute clip hints at some changes to expect for the upcoming second season, also acting as a reminder to watch season one if you have not done so yet.

Similarly to the graphic novel the show adapts, the show follows teenager Mark Grayson, a highschooler who lives at home with human mother Debbie, played by Sandra Oh, and superhuman father Omni Man, played by J. K. Simmons. Once Mark finally gains his superhuman abilities and wears the Invincible name, the rookie superhero must learn to balance his normal life with his world-saving responsibilities, as well as learning to manage relationships with people around him.

The season two trailer displays snappy animation, more complex lighting, interesting perspective shots, and shots that emulate a camera moving akin to a live-action show. These factors hint the show will have more movement in its animation compared to the first season. Also, the brief trailer shows some

behind the scenes footage of the show's animation process, which was a nice touch and a clever way of showing some of the show's progress.

Unlike "The Boys," another popular Amazon series with a superhero setting, "Invincible" is not a satire of the superhero genre, rather acting as a more adult take on the genre. One major advantage this show has in comparison to the common Marvel product is its freedom to display graphic violence, as both humans and superhumans alike take brutal punishment that is certainly not safe for the entire family. Fortunately, the adventurous tone of the genre is still intact.

Mark is a phenomenal main character, and Yeun gives a fantastic performance for the courageous, yet naive hero. Mark's unrelenting desire to help people in such a dangerous world keeps the show exciting, especially given how he grows stronger and more confident as a crime fighter. Beyond being convincing during action and normal dialogue scenes, Yeun shows even more depth during the show's emotional climaxes.

Simmons is an exceptional voice actor, and I do not believe Omni Man would have impacted people as much as he did with a different actor. Simmons gives Omni Man a presence that makes him feel important,

also aided by the many acts of power Omni Man displays through the series. Other actors and actresses do a great job and are suited well for their characters.

The animation is fantastic, albeit you can definitely tell where some scenes cut corners, likely due to budgeting. Fortunately, the series' best animated scenes are the stories' most important moments. The art style adapts the graphic novels' art well, also being heavily reminiscent of classic animated superhero shows such as the "Justice League" cartoon.

Season one was wild and unpredictable, with the end of each episode making you feel as if you needed to let the "next episode" timer play out and see what happens next. In fact, the aforementioned emotional climaxes are just as hard-hitting as the fight scenes.

Later this year, I look forward to hearing the crunch behind each hit, feeling the emotions of the amazing cast, and seeing Mark overcome yet another seemingly-impossible challenge when "Invincible" returns for another season. Once again, if you have not seen season one, this is the year to finally clear the animated masterpiece off your backlog.



## Artist of the Week : Greta Vieland

MADELYN SMITH / SNAPPER

Two pieces made by Greta (Left) Tooth ring and (Right) belt chain.



WHITNEY WALMER  
Art & Culture Editor

To ring in the Spring 2023 semester right, our artist of this week is the so metal Greta Vieland, a sophomore of Millersville University and active member of the Jewelry and Metals Arts Guild, who shares some information about her passion.

**Q: What is your major?**

A: "I am a BFA (Bachelors' of Fine Arts) with a concentration in metals."

**Q: What year are you?**

A: "I am a sophomore."

**Q: What inspired you to study art and what is your favorite part?**

**Why metals?**

A: "I wanted to be an artist my entire life. I love being able to express who I am through art. Metals is my favorite because they are wearable often, and I find that wearable art speaks to viewers effectively."

**Q: How long does an average piece take to complete?**

A: It really depends on the size, materials, etc.

A simple ring can take ten minutes but a large piece can take a few weeks.

**Q: What do you enjoy most about metalworking?**

A: "I enjoy metalworking because it is highly interactive. Being able to hammer, shape, and rework a tough material like metal is powerful."

**Q: What is your favorite piece that you have made? Materials?**

A: "My favorite piece I have made is a hand-made chainmail chain with a strawberry container that I made from nickel."

**Q: Who is your favorite artist, if you have one, and what is it that you like about their work?**

A: " My favorite artist is @tearsanddears on Instagram. I really love their approach to jewelry making."

**Q: What is some advice for people who want to learn about metal working?**

A: "My advice would be to start off simple. You don't want to overwhelm yourself when you're working with new material."

**Q: What are some tips that you find useful working with metals?**

A: Tips I find useful would be to stretch beforehand and to make sure the tools you're using are good quality.

**Q: Understanding that you are part of the metals guild, what do you like most about being involved?**

A: My favorite part of the metals guild is taking part in our sale that happens twice a year. It is really fun to connect with others and share your creations with them.

**Q: What do you want to do when you graduate?**

A: I would love to become a bench jeweler when I graduate and do custom work in my free time.

# 'Avatar: The Way of Water' provides thrilling underwater experience

SHAUN LUCAS  
Editor In Chief

The franchise which once touted the highest grossing film of all time finally returns after a 13-year hiatus.

On Dec. 16, 2022, "Avatar: The Way of Water," directed by James Cameron, was released to theaters. Given the first film's legacy as a must-see movie theater experience, 'The Way of Water' had pressure on it to be even more captivating, especially given the technological innovations made throughout the decade. The second film grants glamor, almost in hopes that audiences will ignore a rather bland story and set of characters.

Now residing on the planet Pandora, Jake Sully (Sam Worthington), living now as a member of the Na'vi people native to the planet, starts a family with Netiri (Zoe Saldana) to pass on his legacy. Wanting revenge from Sully's betrayal, Quaritch (Stephen Lang) turns himself and his team of marines into Na'vi, attempting to ambush Sully and his family. Quaritch's group of militants pressures Sully into finding refuge within the Metkayina, a subculture of Na'vi who reside in water-dependent territories.

Much of the second film builds off of the characters and world building of its predecessor. As someone who had never seen the original film, it is nice that it only takes a few minutes of exposition to understand what is going on, despite the science fiction setting being so unique. Also, the simple story means you can enjoy worldbuilding without having to remember every small detail. In other words, fans can enjoy the finer details while those entering Pandora for the first

time can simply enjoy the presentation.

Finer details drive "The Way of Water," as the technical elements of the film are truly phenomenal for a majority of its runtime. Some of the highlights of the film are moments where characters and other fantastically-animated creatures swim through the water while Simon Franglen's wonderful score plays in the background. There is a real sense of purpose and flow in how the CGI creatures navigate through water, and I liked how the animators made noticeable differences in body language based on how comfortable characters were with swimming.

Unfortunately, some blemishes exist in terms of presentation. One odd example is that during specific fight scenes, there is a noticeable framerate drop for character movements, with animation becoming rather choppy. For a movie of this caliber, especially considering its decade-long creation and \$250 million budget, these abnormalities can really halt what is meant to be an action-packed scene.

Another issue with the atmospheric scenes is that there is not enough of them: within the three hour 12 minute runtime, much of the film is dedicated to character dialogue where movement is limited. While dialogue is an important tool for character and world building, the script is simply not strong enough to carry the film, at least compared to more visually-charged scenes. This misdirected focus makes getting through some portions of the film feel like a chore, with the uninteresting story and dialogue being downright boring.

The major issue with the script is that both the writing and characters feel very uninspired. Each character feels like an archetype for a character that is needed for the story's plot to happen, with the plot itself being filled with obnoxious tropes. Without spoiling specific moments, it becomes annoying how often the, "kids go somewhere they were told not to go and get in trouble for it" cliché appears throughout the film. In the end, I found myself not attached to any character, leaving moments meant to be emotional climaxes to fall rather short.

While perhaps unintentionally, the bizarre world of Pandora is really captivating, even if there is not always a sound explanation for why something is happening. Fortunately, this leads to entertaining moments, especially when you have friends with you to question what you are looking at in more odd scenes.

"Avatar: The Way of Water" may feel cheesy and uninspired in terms of the script, but its phenomenal presentation and interesting world make the long film mostly enjoyable to sit through. With the film's \$2 billion box office earnings, it feels like audiences are in for many more years of seeing Pandora's beauty. Hopefully, the world's charm can rub off on Avatar's characters, as well.

**"Avatar: The Way of Water" gets a 7.5 out of 10.**

## *'The Pale Blue Eye' killed it*

WHITNEY WALMER  
Arts & Culture Editor

In the brisk cold winter of 1830 at West Point Military Academy young cadet Leroy Fry was found dead with a rope around his neck and heart removed from his chest. Augustus Landor (Christian Bale), a retired detective, is asked to investigate the mysterious happening as the suspicions of his past continue to haunt him and his reputation.

Upon accepting the case, he was asked not to drink and to not speak to anyone about his findings. To gain a set of eyes and ears, Landor takes on the assistance of poet and cadet Edgar Allan Poe (Harry Melling).

A site potentially used for satanic rituals was located and raised the idea that the murders could be linked to satanic rituals for prolonging life. The poetic and painful romantic finds himself in the center of the downward spiral of the investigation and agony of love.

The mystery thriller "The Pale Blue Eye," directed by Scott Cooper, was released in select cinemas on Dec. 23, 2022 and was released for streaming on Netflix Jan. 6. The film was based on the 2003 novel by Louis Bayard of the same name.

In the brilliant framing of each suspect, you find that you have been misled as the revealing of details increases with the shifting of suspicion. Each individual plays their own roles in relation to the victims of the murder and the way that mystery progresses.

In making each piece of the puzzle fit, I do, however, have minor concerns in regard to the significance of Poe's poetry. During a part of the film, Poe cites a part of one of his historic poems, Lenore.

In the film, the poem fit the conditions that his lover Lea was facing. But in the historical sense, the poem was written in 1843 about his deceased wife five years before he died.

Aside from the minor historical inaccuracy, I found the film to be engaging and capable of holding my attention in its entirety. In sincerity, I hope that the story that is depicted continues into another film.

## Fall Out Boy is sending us 'Love From The Other Side'

EMMA HAZARD  
Staff Writer

For the last five years, we have heard basically nothing but radio silence from world renowned rock band Fall Out Boy. After their last studio album "MANIA" was released in January of 2018, there has not been much new music for fans. In April of 2020, bassist Pete Wentz said in an interview with NME, "If we're locked down for another six months, I'm going to make a solo album." Although that album never came, fans are finally getting a taste of what that album could have been with Fall Out Boy's newest single "Love From The Other Side," which was released January 18 of this year.

When I heard that Fall Out Boy was releasing new music again, I was ecstatic. I am a longtime Fall Out Boy fan, and I absolutely fell in love with "MANIA," so I could not wait to see what was in store for the future. The new upcoming album "So Much (for) Stardust" is set to release March 24. Based off of its new single, I think this album is something worth getting really excited over.

"Love From The Other Side" starts with a sort of fairytale opening before throwing you into a breakdown of drums and guitar. The lyrics seem to be telling a story, but that story may be different from listener to listener. I have seen lots of people compare the sound of this song to an anime opening, and I truly think that's the best way to describe it.

Every new "era" of FOB has its own distinctive sound while sticking to

classic rock and roll feel the band has always had. I love when bands play around with different sounds or concepts, and that's something that Fall Out Boy seems to do a fair amount.

Even when it comes to announcing new music, you never know what you are going to get. From taking an entire page out of The Chicago Tribune to tease releasing "Love From The Other Side," to playing trailers for "MANIA" in movie theaters in 2019 to announce their album - you never know where Fall Out Boy is going to show up next.

After hearing the single, I think this next album could sound a lot like their 2013 record Save Rock and Roll. In 2013, Fall Out Boy came back from a four year long hiatus with their album "Save Rock and Roll," and its series of storytelling music videos "The Youngblood Chronicles." This theme of storytelling can also be found in the music video "Love From The Other Side," and I would not be surprised if the band carried this concept throughout the whole album.

Do I think they would do it to the same extent as they have before? No, however I do think the storytelling theme will make a strong comeback. Fans also noticed references to The "Youngblood Chronicles" in the new music video, so this could potentially serve as a hint of what to look out for in the new "era."

If you are looking for new music, or just simply haven't heard the song yet, I recommend giving it a listen.

# Why is Saudi Arabia investing so much money into sports?

**JUSTIN STAGGERS** Sports Editor  
The Saudi Arabian Private Investment Fund is reportedly making more moves in the sports market, offering \$20 billion to acquire Formula 1, the popular Indy-Car type racing company, according to a Bloomberg report.

This comes after a number of large moves made by the country, which include bringing soccer star Cristiano Ronaldo to Saudi club al-Nassr and forming LIV golf, the counterpart and competitor of America's popular PGA tour.

But why has the country taken such an aggressive approach to develop their sporting markets? A recent report from Grant Liberty claims that the country is engaging in 'sportswashing.' For those unfamiliar with the term, 'sportswashing' is a form of propaganda in which organizations or governments attempt to use sports to bolster their reputations, trying to wash people's negative perceptions or memories of wrongdoings associated with that organization or government. Most commonly, it is done by hosting large sporting events or purchasing teams.

The Saudi Arabian government has a recent history of corruption and human rights abuse. Many women's rights activists have been imprisoned for speaking out against the state, specifically since the implementation of "Vision2030." This is a long term plan released by Crown Prince Mohammed bin Salman to transform the country's economy. Rather than relying on oil exports, Salam wants to develop the infrastructure of the country to promote tourism.

Unfortunately, "Vision2030" was also focused on enforcing the restriction of speech against the regime, and many women's rights activists have been imprisoned as a result. In 2018, journalist Jamal Khashoggi was murdered by a group of assassins. Prior to his murder, he spoke out against the state, criticizing the war on Yemen. Many speculated that Salman played a role in the killing of Khashoggi, but that was nothing more than speculation until a U.S. intelligence report was leaked in early 2021. This report found that Salman approved of the murder of Khashoggi, confirming the belief that many speculated.

The leadership of the country denies the 'sportswash-

“Saudi Arabia is trying to use the good reputation of the world’s best-loved sports stars to obscure a human rights record of brutality.”  
- Lucy Rae

ing' claims, saying this effort should promote tourism and help reach the countries hosting the Olympics.

Whether or not the country is conducting 'sportswashing,' the current landscape of sports as we know it could change with Saudi Arabia building their sports empire.

Many deals have already been completed to bring popular American sports overseas, and there are constant rumors of what the next venture could be for the Saudi Arabian Private Investment fund. In the past week, it was rumored the PIF would be purchasing the WWE, a report that was later found to be false. The fund did make a 20 billion offer to Liberty Media with the hopes of acquiring Formula 1, but Liberty Media appears to be uninterested in selling the company that was recently purchased in 2017.

It appears Saudi Arabia is making another aggressive approach to acquire a team or organization, it is speculative as to what that next venture may be.



PHOTO COURTESY OF STALACTITESA  
**Mohammed bin Salman, Saudi Crown Prince**

## And then there were four: NFL Championship Round Preview

**JUSTIN STAGGERS** Sports Editor  
Less than a week from now, we will finally know who will be playing in the big game on that first Sunday in February. The conversations with our friends over who we think will hoist the Lombardi will begin and, unfortunately, shortly end.

It is hard to comprehend how fast this NFL season has gone by. I feel like the season just started a few weeks ago, and while it's exciting that Super Bowl LVII is so close, it also signifies that the long drought from February to August without America's beloved game is near. Thankfully for football fans, these last few weeks should be packed with exciting games, and it is clear that any team has a chance to win it all this year.

### AFC Championship Game - Bengals @ Chiefs

It is truly a treat that we get a rematch of last year's AFC championship, as that was a phenomenal game that came down to the wire. We saw Joe Burrow and the Bengals beat the Chiefs 27-24 on a game winning field goal from Evan McPherson. Will we see a similar result this year? Or will Mahomes and the Chiefs make it to their third Super Bowl in five years?

The Bengals entered the playoffs as the third seed, defeating the Baltimore Ravens 24-17 in the opening round before taking down the Buffalo Bills 27-10 this past weekend. The Bengals seem to be a team that's clicking at the right time, playing their best football at the end of the season and carrying that momentum into the playoffs. The offensive line has been much better at the end of the season, giving Burrow a clean pocket to work from. The defense, which was thought to be the weak spot of the team, has been playing great, holding a talented Bills offense to just 10 points. The team is also experienced now, as young players such as Burrow and Chase have competed in the playoffs before, and more importantly have won. That newfound experience should go a long way for the Bengals, who

look to represent the AFC for the second year in a row.

The Chiefs are the Chiefs. This team is a juggernaut, and the current favorite to win the title. They are led by quarterback Patrick Mahomes, who continues to make jaw-dropping plays week after week. The star quarterback suffered an ankle injury in his last game, but is expected to play against the Bengals. Many worried that with Tyreek Hill going to the Dolphins, the Chiefs offense may not be as explosive as it has been in prior seasons. The team was quick to silence the doubts and show they haven't taken a step down. Tight end Travis Kelce had another great season, hauling in 1,338 yards and 12 touchdowns. With the absence of Hill this season, the front office was able to add Juju Smith Schuster and Kadarius Toney, both making meaningful impacts throughout the season.

This game should be nothing short of spectacular, and it may really come down to who makes less mistakes and takes care of the football. I think that Mahomes and the Chiefs will get it done this year, taking down Burrow and the Bengals in what should be an exciting matchup for years to come

### NFC Championship Game - 49ers @ Eagles

In what should be another spectacular game, two young quarterbacks backed by great defenses will go at it to determine who will represent the NFC in Super Bowl LVII.

The Eagles have been one of the most dominant teams in football since the start of the season. Led by MVP caliber play from quarterback Jalen Hurts, the Eagles cruised to a 14-3 record, earning the #1 seed in the NFC. The Eagles were knocked out of the playoffs by Tampa Bay a season ago, and made moves in the offseason to surround the Hurts with talent. This included trading for star receiver AJ Brown, who made an instant impact in the Eagles' offense. In his first season in the midnight green, Brown grabbed 1,496 and 11 touchdowns. The moves didn't stop on

offense, as standout defensive backs James Bradberry and CJ Gardner-Johnson were added to the secondary. Hasson Reddick was added up front, and was able to record 16 sacks in the regular season. This team has made moves to put them in a position to compete for the Super Bowl, and like the Bengals, have given their young QB meaningful playoff experience. That experience will be crucial for a team like Philadelphia against another young, inexperienced team in San Francisco.

What more can be said about the San Francisco 49ers? This team has found a way to win against the odds. When quarterback Jimmy Garoppolo was injured in a game against the Miami Dolphins in December, the outlook on a once bright season looked bleak. Their star QB was diagnosed with a broken foot, requiring surgery and sidelining him for the remainder of the season. Just when 49ers fans thought their season was over, the final draft pick in the 2022 draft, Brock Purdy took over and transformed their season. The rookie was a sensation from the start, and would finish the regular season with thirteen touchdowns to just four interceptions in only six games. Although Purdy has been phenomenal in his limited starts, the defense for the 49ers deserves just as much credit. Throughout the year and into the playoffs, the defense has been among the best in the league, only allowing 302 total yards per game.

This game should be controlled by the defenses, and it is set to be an absolute dogfight. The over/under for the game is set to just 44, further signifying that this game will be controlled by the defense.

Regardless of who you personally root for, this championship round should be one for the ages. Every team still competing has either a great offense, great defense, or a combination of the two. It will be very exciting to see who hoists the Lombardi trophy on that first Sunday in February.

# SPORTS

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## Millersville Athlete of the Week #1

**JUSTIN STAGGERS**  
Sports Editor

For the first Athlete of the Week of the Spring 2023 semester, we have The Snapper's own, Ava Adiletti. She is a sophomore here at Millersville, originally from Roxbury, Connecticut. Ava is a Sports Journalism and Media Arts Production major, and she is minoring in coaching.



PHOTO COURTESY OF MILLERSVILLE ATHLETICS  
**Millersville Swimming ahead of their meet**

Ava is a member of the Millersville women's swim team. Last weekend, she and her team competed in the John A. Pidgeon invitational tournament that was held at IUP. The tournament was a huge success, as Millersville swimming secured five personal bests and two wins as a collective team. Ava also qualified for the PSAC championship meet this past weekend, looking to cap off what has been a great season for the team.

We talked to Ava about her success in the pool as well

as the classroom and how she manages that.

**Q: How long have you been swimming for?**

A: I have been swimming since I was seven, so about 12 years now.

**Q: What event do you participate in or which is your favorite?**

A: I do breaststroke, and my favorite is the 100 yard breaststroke

**Q: Why did you choose Millersville University?**

A: It was one of only schools that had a swim team and offered my major (Sports journalism). I also really liked the coaching philosophy of Eric Usbeck.

**Q: Do you have a pre-match ritual? If so, what is it?**

A: I just like to talk with teammates and goof around. It helps when I'm nervous.

**Q: Do you ever get nervous before competing? If so, how do you manage it?**

A: It has definitely gotten better but I still get nervous for competitions. The best way for me to manage it is to not think too much about it and be with my team, laughing and joking around.

**Q: What are your personal goals this season and/or goals as a collective team?**

A: Personal: Continue to drop time in events, especially breaststroke

As a Team: Continue to be supportive of one another, encouraging and being there for each other, even when we don't have the best swim.

**Q: How do you manage your time as a student athlete as well as an editor for The Snapper?**

A: I definitely was nervous at first about becoming an editor for The Snapper. I wasn't sure if I could manage it. Thankfully, I did join. It is all about finding time in between class and practice to get everything done.

**Q: Is there any athlete that inspired you when**

**you were younger?**

A: Caleb Dressel - he is a younger swimmer, so it was cool to see him growing up with me. He became the face of swimming after Phelps retired. He is very humble and is a huge advocate for mental health in sports.

**Q: What is the toughest part of being a student athlete?**

A: I would say that not getting as much time off on breaks can be tough sometimes. Also, I am from Connecticut, so my family is not always able to attend all of the meets.

**Q: What would you say to your younger self?**

A: "Your hard work paid off and to keep going. Don't let others negatively influence how hard you work."



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**Ava Adiletti Media Day Picture**

## Mens/Women's PSAC East Basketball Standings

### Women's Basketball Standings

SCHOOL	CONF	CPCT.	OVERALL	PCT.	STREAK
<b>EAST</b>					
Shippensburg	11-2	.846	16-3	.842	W3
West Chester	9-4	.692	12-7	.632	W5
Kutztown	7-6	.538	9-10	.474	L3
E. Stroudsburg	6-6	.500	10-8	.556	W1
Lock Haven	5-7	.417	7-10	.412	L4
Millersville	5-8	.385	10-9	.526	L2
Bloomsburg	5-8	.385	7-10	.412	W2
Mansfield	1-12	.077	2-15	.118	L2
Shepherd	0-13	.000	0-18	.000	L18

### Mens Basketball Standings

SCHOOL	CONF	CPCT.	OVERALL	PCT.	STREAK
<b>EAST</b>					
Shippensburg	10-3	.769	12-7	.632	W1
E. Stroudsburg	9-3	.750	15-3	.833	W1
Lock Haven	8-4	.667	12-5	.706	W1
West Chester	8-5	.615	13-6	.684	L1
Millersville	8-5	.615	11-8	.579	W4
Shepherd	7-6	.538	10-9	.526	L2
Kutztown	5-8	.385	5-13	.278	L5
Mansfield	4-9	.308	5-12	.294	L1
Bloomsburg	1-12	.077	1-16	.059	W1