8 Ellis's Senior Spotlight

Senior Spotlight: Siera Octaviano By Ellis Herner

Throughout the last three years, history and political science major Siera Octaviano has certainly made a substantial impact within the Heidelberg community.

Originally, Octaviano saw herself attending college in New York or Georgia. However, after discovering Heidelberg through her high school's cross-country regionals and eventually attending a Scholar's Day, she discovered Heidelberg was the place for her.

"I came to that Scholar's Day and thought the campus was really nice," claimed Octaviano. "That's when I met Dr. Marc O'Reilly [Professor of Political Science], and he is the reason that I came here."

Octaviano explained that Dr. O'Reilly was very helpful and made her decision to attend Heidelberg clear.

"He was very engaging," stated Octaviano. "It made me feel like [Heidelberg] would be a place where I could still get the one-on-one faculty interaction that I had at my small high school, and I thrive on that."

Within her major, Octaviano enjoys learning about civil rights and civil rights law.

"I like to learn about the past and compare it to the way things still are today," claimed Octaviano. "One of my favorite topics is in regards to how far we've actually come in African American Civil Rights, and how many more steps we can take through those different programs that could make an impact in the future."

Currently, Octaviano works as a legal assistant at the John T. Barga law firm in Tiffin.

"I've done things with the courthouse and recorder's office," stated Octaviano. "That job has helped me decide what I am going to do next."

While she enjoys working at the John T. Barga law firm now, the legal field was completely new to Octaviano when she first started here.

"Before coming to Heidelberg, I had no experience with the legal field at all," stated Octaviano. "Having professors who have actually practiced in the field has helped a lot. For example, [Adjunct Instructor in Political Science] Keenan Jones is a practicing lawyer, and we've gotten to participate in hands-on activities in his class."

Outside of the classroom, Octaviano is a member of the Kappa Psi Omega sorority, the cheer team, BEC (Berg Events Council), Heidelberg's Dance team and the Heidelberg Historians, and serves as treasurer of the Student Senate.

On April 27, Octaviano will be traveling to Zanesville, OH, for a dance competition with the team.

Throughout her three years at Heidelberg, Octaviano has discovered her true passion for helping people.

"I love it when I know that my actions cause people to have a more positive experience in life," stated Octaviano. "That's why I like to join different activities, like BEC. I joined that because I knew I could make a positive impact and help people find their place on campus."

Wherever Octaviano goes next, her professors know that she will continue to do great things.

"I love helping people," stated Octaviano. "I love making positive impacts."



Image courtesy of Siera Octaviano.

The Staff

The Kil is interested in hearing from readers about what we should be covering. Information about upcoming events, story ideas and letters to the editor are encouraged. Accepted submissions will be published in the next available issue. Reach out today.

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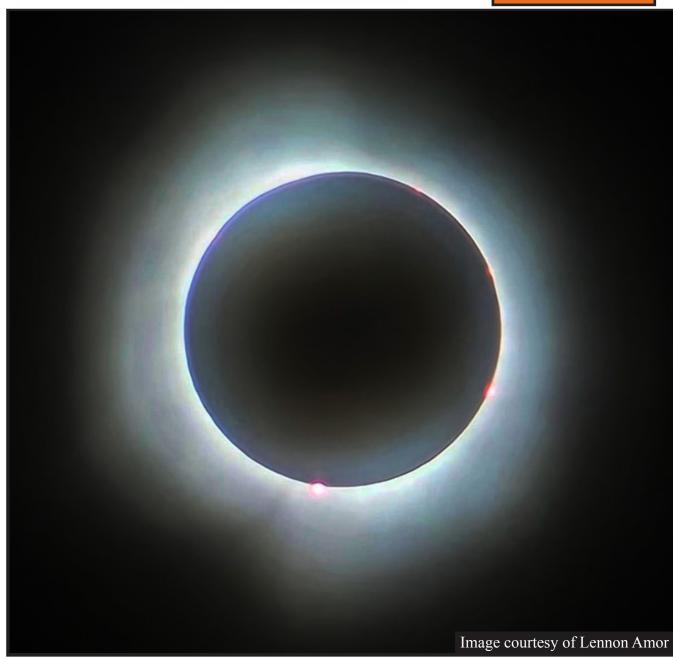
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The Year 2024 in Film...So Far By Aaron McCoy

From the lowest depths of moviemaking to first-quarter blockbusters, 2024 has been a mixed bag so far in the world of film. There are usually a few standouts in the early months, but the first part of the calendar year typically holds the weakest releases.

This year, January and February dropped some truly abysmal films. In addition to flicks like "Argylle" and "Madame Web," duds like "Night Swim" and "Imaginary" quickly came and went from theaters. Sequels "Ghostbusters: Frozen Empire" and "Godzilla x Kong: The New Empire" attempted to fit too many characters and storylines into their respective 115-minute run times.

Throughout the drudges, however, there have been some major high points, and things are starting to look up for theatrically released films.

As I noted in last month's issue, "Dune: Part Two" is my favorite movie of 2024 so far, but several other films have highlighted the first part of the new year, including actor Dev Patel's long-awaited directorial debut, "Monkey Man," which was released on April 3.

Widely compared to John Wick (which the film name-drops) and movies from the legendary Bruce Lee, the revenge tale draws on his Indian roots and brings a more spiritual focus to the action genre. Working on the project for over 10 years, Patel stars in the film as well, and there is just as much passion in his filmmaking as there is weight in the punches thrown by the lead character.

While it likely will not crack my top 10 list at the end of the year, Michael Keaton's hitman thriller, "Knox Goes Away," was a pleasant surprise leftover from the 2023 festival circuit. And although I have not had the chance to see them yet, other strong releases from the year include a crime thriller in "Love Lies Bleeding" and an ode to 1970s horror in "Late Night with the Devil."

Looking toward the rest of 2024, a year full of sequels and prequels continues with the likes of "Kingdom of the Planet of the Apes," "Inside Out 2," "Twisters," "Deadpool & Wolverine," "Alien: Romulus," "Joker: Folie à Deux" and "Gladiator 2" dropping throughout the year.

I am excited for other films that were originally slated for a 2023 release as well, including "The Bikeriders" – a crime drama that follows a 1960s Midwestern motorcycle club that was filmed around my hometown of Cincinnati – and "Challengers" – a drama starring Zendaya set in the high-stakes world of professional tennis.

Additionally, Francis Ford Coppola's self-funded project, "Megalopolis," will premiere at the Cannes Film Festival and may be my most anticipated film coming up.

As packed as last year was with projects from renowned directors, I doubt 2024 will be on the same level. With that being said, I still cannot wait to see what films delight audiences this year.

Austin Butler as "Benny" in the motorcycle film "The Bikeriders."

The film is set to release this summer.

Image courtesy of IMDB.com.





Dev Patel stars in the recently released "Monkey Man." The film also marks his directoral debut.

Image courtesy of IMDB.com.



Zendaya is seen here promoting "Challengers," an upcoming tennis film she is starring in.

Image courtesy of Arnold Jerocki via GettyImages.



Interpreter for Shohei Ohtani Accused of 'Massive Theft' from MLB Star By Salvatore Rocco

Shohei Ohtani is without a doubt the biggest star in Major League Baseball. The Los Angeles Dodgers signed the two-time unanimous MVP this past offseason to a lucrative 10 year, \$700 million contract.

The Dodgers put all of their eggs in one basket with Ohtani, and things got off to a rocky start in the early season.

Earlier in March, the Los Angeles Times reported that Ohtani's name had been thrown around during a federal investigation into Matthew Boyer, an alleged bookmaker in California, where sports betting is illegal. The information revealed that at least nine wire transfers of funds up to \$500,000 were sent from Ohtani's bank account to the bookmaker's operation.

It came to light that illegal bets were being placed by Ohtani's longtime interpreter and friend, Ippei Mizuhara. A source close to Mizuhara told NBC how Mizuhara stated that he tallied a high gambling debt, and Ohtani was just covering the loss for him.

Then the story changed. After this news came out, Mizuhara refuted it and stated that Ohtani actually had no idea of the wire transfers. Ohtani's legal team has stood by the narrative that he is a victim of a massive theft.

Mizuhara apparently made a formal apology to the entire Dodgers organization before they fired him the following day. The change in narratives sent baseball fans into a frenzy. Some believed that Ohtani actually is a victim of theft, while others believed that Mizuhara is just the scapegoat for Ohtani's mistakes.

Ohtani addressed the situation by making a statement in an ESPN press conference, saying "I have never bet on baseball or any other sports, never have asked somebody to do it on my behalf, and I have never (gone) through a bookmaker to bet on sports." He continued by stating, "In conclusion, Ippei (Mizuhara) has been stealing money from my account and has told lies."

As of April 12, 2024, following ongoing investigations from the Internal Revenue Service and MLB, Mizuhara plans to turn himself in to federal authorities. According to Holly Yan and Cindy Von Quendnow of CNN, he faces a "federal charge of bank fraud after making unauthorized transfers from Ohtani's bank account," which allegedly added up to \$16 million.

This whole story raises new questions regarding the place of gambling within sports. As sports betting becomes more common and more professional, leagues form partnerships with companies like FanDuel and DraftKings.

A closer watch must be kept on those involved with the games we care about.

The Siggy Awards: A Berg Athletics Award Ceremony By Conor Sukel

On Sunday, April 14, athletes from all sports gathered in Seiberling Gymnasium for the nineth annual Siggy Awards. The athletes, teams, coaches and performances up for nominations came from the Spring 2023, Fall 2023 and Winter 2023-24 sport seasons, according to Heidelberg Athletics.

The Siggy Awards is Heidelberg's version of the ESPYS that honors the best performances and outstanding accomplishments by those involved with Heidelberg athletics.

A total of 19 different awards were handed out. While being awarded, the athletes were also recognized for academic achievements and sportsmanship.

Emma Dean (softball) and Isaiah Young (basketball) took home "Scholar Athletes of the Year," an award calculated by the Owen Center.

The Wrestling team won big this season, recognized as the "Most Supportive Team" and the men's team with the highest GPA. The Softball team was recognised for having the highest GPA of women's sports. Mens Basketball was also recognized twice, for "Team of the Year" and "Head Coach of the Year" Andy Buchett.

Aaron Nelson, director of Diversity, Inclusion and Belonging, MC-ed the event. His transitions and jokes kept the crowd entertained for the 90-minute event. The Sports Information team led by Jeff Garvin put the show together. Highlight reels, a "headshot hijinks compilation" and other clips filled in gaps and reminded athletes of their best moments.

Undergraduate students were not the only ones acknowledged though. Graduate Assistant for Sports Information Amy Hafer took home the "Graduate Assistant of the Year" award.

Of the clips, the "Oh, Siggy! Moment of the Year" was the most anticipated. The crowd enjoyed replays of some of the most epic moments of 2023. In the end, Cam Farley's walk-off home run in the 13 inning against ONU took home the award.

Top Newcomer of the Year award went to Jake McEntyre of Track and Field and Ellie Tressler of Softball. McEntyre broke the school record for the 100 meter dash the day before the ceremony, finishing in just 10.56 seconds.

Winners were voted on by members of the Heidelberg community. Many athletes, coaches and supporters were nominated, but with voting closed, the top three were named for each award on the Berg Athletics Instagram. The complete list of winners is now available on the Instagram page @bergatheletics.

The night also featured some fun video clips of karaoke and Q&A's with coaches and athletes being shown to the crowd. The majority of athletes on campus attended this event to support their peers as they accepted awards.

The event was also live-streamed on the Heidelberg Athletics website for those that could not attend in person. Heidelberg's finest athletes received recognition for their amazing accomplishments this past season.

Beyond the Field: LSU Settlement Exposes Potential Title IX Violations By Kelsey Stanfield

Lousiana State University (LSU) has officially settled with ten former students amid allegations that the institution had mishandled Title IX violations, leading to the March 28 dismissal of the formal civil case brought by students to the US District Court

As documented by ABC News on April 2, 10 students served as plaintiffs against the University, alleging that instances of domestic violence and sexual assault perpetrated by their peers had been improperly investigated. Four out of 10 of the plaintiffs reported sexual misconduct from former LSU football player Derrius Guice.

Several cases were almost a decade old at the time of the civil case filing in 2021. According to the Advocate on April 4, LSU settled with the survivors for \$1.9 million while maintaining that the institution had committed no wrongdoing. However, the plaintiffs' claims are supported by the 148-page review by the Husch Blackwell law firm that concluded the institution had harmed survivors of domestic violence and sexual assault more than it had assisted them.

Professor Kayela Tidrick, Instructor of Sport Management & Title IX Deputy Coordinator, noted that the Title IX process is complex.

"Typically, when we discuss Title IX, this is all private information. As names are released, they may be dealing with something criminal or civil," said Tidrick. "However, both parties, the complainant and respondent, are entitled to due process. Everyone has rights; unfortunately, media coverage often overshadows the parties' rights."

Guice is noted by ABC News to have left the University without having received disciplinary measures and later served as the Washington Commanders' running back. As reported by ESPN on Aug. 7 2020, Guice was removed from the National



Derrius Guice, former running back for Lousiana State University, was accused by four individuals of sexual misconduct.

Unrelated to these accusations, Guice was removed from his running back position with the Washington Commanders in 2020. His removal is discussed more in the article above.

Image courtesy of GettyImages.

Football League (NFL) team due to charges of strangulation, assault and battery and destruction of property.

LSU's settlement is not the first of its kind. As CNN published on Jan. 26, 2016, Florida State University (FSU) reached an almost million-dollar settlement with survivor Erica Kinsman. Kinsman had alleged rape by fellow student and FSU quarterback Jameis Winston.

FSU had failed to satisfy Title IX by not investigating Kinsman's claims, citing a lack of criminal charges.

Recently, Winston has been signed by the Cleveland Browns, leaving his former New Orleans Saints to play alongside Browns quarterback Deshaun Watson. As Forbes wrote on Aug. 1, 2023, Watson himself had been accused by at least 26 women of sexual misconduct.

As Forbes explained, the allegations against Watson led to stricter NFL regulations regarding player sexual and physical misconduct.

On March 21, the Detroit Lions removed corner Cameron Sutton from the team amid a warrant for his arrest on charges of domestic violence, which CBS Sports reported he later turned himself in for on April 1.

"The NFL has its own policy regarding domestic violence and sexual misconduct," noted Tidrick. "The hard part with accusations is the due process owed to the parties. Universities follow federal and state guidelines as well as NCAA guidelines if they are a member."

Members of the Heidelberg community seeking resources for sexual assault, dating violence or stalking may consult with Meridith Lucius, a confidential advocate, to learn more about their options. Lucius can be found on the third floor of Campus Center or reached at (419) 448-2067.



Brian Kelly, the current head coach of the Lousiana State University football team. He was not the coach of Derrius Guice.

Image courtesy of GettyImages.

"The Tortured Poets Department" Preview By Makenna Finnegan

Get ready for a heart-breaking pop album from the pop princess. On April 19, 2024, Taylor Swift will release her eleventh studio album titled "The Tortured Poets Department."

Swift announced her upcoming album at the 2024 Grammy Awards while accepting the "Best Pop Vocal Album" Grammy for her tenth studio album, "Midnights." Swift's upcoming album cover features her in a dramatic blackand-white shot, holding her hand to her head. Rumor has it, Swift's audiences are in store for a "sad-girl summer."

According to Callie Ahlgrim for Business Insider, the title of the album may be a "sly reference" to a group message with Andrew Scott, Joe Alwyn (Swift's ex) and Paul Mescal called "The Tortured Man Club." Unsurprisingly, this connection led to fans speculating on the thematics of the upcoming album. Most recently, Swift geared toward a pop-synth album with "Midnights," but as all fans know, she remains unpredictable.

The album features 15 tracks and a bonus track titled "The Manuscript." Among the tracks, Swift teases collaborations with both Post Malone and Florence and the Machine.

Malone is featured on the opening track, "Fortnight," while Florence and the Machine is featured on "Florida!!!" Arguably, both of these features leave fans even more confused as both artists are on vastly different planes in terms of genre.

Despite the recent announcement, Swift claims that this album has been brewing for a while now. Billboard noted that during her acceptance speech, Swift stated she has "been working on 'Tortured Poets' since right after [she] turned in 'Midnights.'" Ever since her last release, Swift has been perfecting her expertise and crafting the next addition to her artistic repertoire.

As the seconds tick, as time passes by, Swift's fans will be anxiously awaiting the moment her next masterpiece is in their hands. Whether you've never listened to Swift or you are her biggest fan, "Tortured Poet's Department" will be worth the listen.

So, on April 19, whether in bed or walking to class, give Swift's handicraft a listen. Who knows, you might find that you are a fan.

Campus Events

Everybody's Got the Right By Serria Allen

Heidelberg School of Music and Theatre finishes off their "Pack a Political Punch" season with their spring musical "Assassins." "Assassins," directed by Karla Kash, is about individuals who have assassinated or attempted to assassinate historically significant political figures.

When asked about what made Kash choose "Assassins," she stated, "Going into the next election and with the current pool of students we have at Heidelberg, we felt this was the perfect time."

Unlike past productions on Heidelberg's mainstage, this show is performed in a three-quarter thrust. The audience will be able to sit in the middle as well as on either side of the stage, bringing a more immersive experience to the carnival-themed show.

A few of the assassins include John Wilkes Booth (played by CJ Davis), Lee Harvey Oswald (played by Zachary Abraham) and John Hinkley Jr. (played by Jackson Mills). Other important characters include the Proprietor (played by Zaria Keys) and the Balladeers (played by Lexi Lang, Sarah Jewell and Zachary Abraham).

According to Music Theatre International, the original concept of "Assassins" came from a play of the same name written by Charles Gilbert Jr., and was about a Vietnam veteran who becomes a presidential assassin.

American composer and lyricist Stephen Sondheim was inspired by the play's title and quotes from several real people who attempted to assassinate a president. He then wrote the music and lyrics for the musical, and partnered with John Weidman to write the book.

The show opens in a fairground. One by one, each of the assassins are enticed by the Proprietor, who convinces them that all their problems will be solved if they kill a president.

The final assassin to enter is John Wilkes Booth. Introduced as the assassin's "pioneer," he is the first to assassinate a president.

As the plot moves between each assassin, the audience is taken through history to learn each of their stories, or more specifically, what drove them to do what they did. The entire story is driven by the Balladeers. The personification of "The American Dream," each Balladeer represents a period within history.

In the final scenes of the show, the assassins come out to say none of their problems have been solved while in the background, the Balladeers tell them to "follow the American Dream"

When the assassins' disdain peaks, they surround the Balladeer (Zach Abraham) and turn him into Lee Harvey Oswald. The audience is then taken back to the same fairground from the opening, this time with Oswald among the rest of the assassins. The musical concludes with a restating of their motto "Everybody's got the right to be happy."

"Assassins" will be performed April 18-20 at 7:30 p.m. and April 21 at 2:00 p.m..

Meet the Assassins!

Lynette Fromme - Hannah Lewis Sara Jane Moore - Natalie Joritz John Hinckley Jr. - Jack Mills John Wilkes Booth - C.J. Davis Charles Guiteau - Dermot Healy Giuseppe Zangara - Jer Marshall Samuel Byck - Jadon Muniz Lee Harvey Oswald - Zach Abraham Leon Czolgosz - Elijah Shiley

Notes from the Podium: A Director's Farewell By Nicholas Chambers

n March 1, the Office of Academic Affairs announced Professor Rodney Miller's intention to retire as Director of Bands following this semester. He has had quite an impact at Heidelberg in his short time as director.

Miller first started teaching 36 years ago, receiving his Bachelor in Music Education at The Ohio State University and his Master's at Cleveland State University. During the Fall semester of 2022, Miller joined Heidelberg University as the Director of Bands.

Following the departure of his predecessor, Prof. John Waters, Miller received a call from the university asking if he would be willing to take the position.

"I thought if I could help in any way it would be a great thing," stated Miller. "It helped that my wife and daughter graduated from here, and I was already the announcer for the band."

What Miller enjoyed most about his time with Heidelberg was his relationship with the band members and other faculty.

"I think the biggest thing I'm going to take away is the students I've spent time with," said Miler. "It means a lot to have a cohesive group you work with and help achieve their success."



Thank you, Professor Rodney Miller. for the time, energy and support you put into the Heidelberg Band the past two years.

Image courtesy of Rodney Miller.

To Miller, the band acts as a "welcome mat" that goes into the community acting as the face of the university. The band's "diverse composition" of majors, sports and clubs reflects the image of a family demonstrating all elements of the university.

Miller has high hopes for the band after he retires, hoping it continues to expand and improve each semester.

"I hope someone is able to build upon what we're doing. Maintaining? That's fine. Building? That's the real goal. I think we should always strive to make things better," claimed

Miller believes the time of conducting his own bands is over, but he will stay busy.

Miller is a renowned John Philip Sousa portrayer and will continue to travel the globe giving lectures on Sousa and leading bands, including the US and Royal Marine Bands. He looks forward to setting his own schedule and spending more time with his wife, daughter, son and mother.

"I want to see my mom some more. I don't want to have any regrets" claimed Miller

As Miller concludes his time with Heidelberg, the school wishes him well in his future endeavors and thanks him for all he has done for the School of Music and Theater.



page 5.

Sabaidee's Lauren Drown offers you a beverage.

Image courtesy of Julia Schaefer.

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Our Website

Get the latest campus information from the students' point of view in our social media accounts or visit our website at "https://thekilikilik.wordpress.com/"

A Tale of Two Coffee Shops: A Comparison By Julia Schaefer

Tiffin is the lucky home to two locally owned coffee shops, **L** each with its own personality and strengths.

Lauren and Stephen Drown did not always plan to own a Coffee Shop. Now, more than three years later, the couple has made Sabaidee their lifestyle.

The couple married in August 2020 and came back from their honeymoon as full-time small-business owners. They have spent the past few years experimenting with old and new ideas for what "third-wave" coffee can be.

Lauren gave birth to the Drown's first child soon after the store opened. She appreciates their customers, who supported them when they had to adjust the store hours and offerings.

Stephen is a coffee aficionado. He says it is a daily grind to "constantly strive for quality" in every cup. The Blueberry Muffin is the Drown's signature drink, made with oat milk.

Saibaidee rests adjacent to Tiffin University's campus on Sandusky Street. Lauren explained that she wants the shop to feel "like a common ground, homey and comfortable for the college kids."

Sabaidee offers a selection of crepes along with their beverages. With a wide menu, Sabaidee encourages customers who do not enjoy coffee to come in and experiment with their tastes. Stephen explains this relationship with their customers makes Sabaidee so special, saying, "We might not remember your order, but we will remember your name."

Art and science combine in the front room of Bailiwicks Coffee Company, where coffee beans are roasted weekly in-house. Bailiwicks is at the heart of downtown Tiffin on the corner of Washington and East Perry Street. Behind this project is Jess Wirth, who founded Bailiwicks 12 years ago.

"I'm obsessed with and fascinated with every feature" Wirth explained, likening coffee to wine in its complexity. Wirth has enjoyed filling her shop with pieces of the surrounding community.

The art on the walls is sold on consignment, a process that is less expensive than a gallery and gives local artists a chance to be discovered. Artists of another kind shine on Open Mic

nights, a collaboration between Tiffin and Heidelberg University that offers community members a chance to find inspiration for poetry, music, and comedy.

The Community 5

Pop-up shops of local small businesses also frequent the front room on weekends, allowing customers to discover new local favorites.

Bailiwicks' coffee motto is quality and consistency over speed. They recently upgraded to a larger roaster, and they now roast coffee in-house once a week.

The word Bailiwick means a person's area of expertise or interest, and Wirth chose it because she wanted to develop a mastery of coffee. She also wanted to make her shop a space for people of all professions and interests to come together.

Bailiwicks is open Monday through Friday from 7 a.m. to 5 p.m. and on Saturday and Sunday from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. Sabaidee is open Monday through Saturday from 7 a.m. to 3 p.m., reserving Sunday for family.



Jess Wirth poses inside of Bailiwicks Coffee Company.

Image courtesy of Julia Schaefer.

Recapping Solar Totality By Isaiah Shiley

On Arpil 8, a large swathe of northwest Ohio was in the path of a total solar eclipse. Tiffin, OH, and by proxy Heidelberg, was in the eclipse's path of totality.

From 3:08 to 3:19 p.m., the sky grew black, and the moon's umbral shadow was cast upon Seneca County.

The eclipse sparked interests around the county as people were understandably excited about the once in a lifetime experience. Heidelberg cancelled all classes so that students and staff could watch the eclipse and avoid the traffic. Other businesses around the county also closed and blocked off their parking lots.

According to the Ohio Department of Natural Resources, another total solar eclipse will not be seen by Ohioans until 2099. Meaning, most of us who viewed this eclipse will not see the next.



The map of the eclipse's path is courtesy of NASA.gov.