

THE KILIKILIK

HEIDELBERG'S STUDENT
NEWSPAPER



1st Row: Milana 'Millie' Robbins, George 'Nate' Jimenez
2nd Row: GA Keygan Yonts, Khelei Tillman, Harley Collins, Eric Barber, Coach Ryan McDannell
Not Pictured: Drew Panning, Eric Panning Photo Courtesy of Coach McDannell

Esports Accolades for Valorant Team Members

Sophomore student athlete, and member of the Heidelberg Men's Basketball team, Drew Panning (aka 'Drewpy') was named to the GLEC's 1st All-Conference Valorant Team, after finishing the regular season with 412 kills, 64 assists, 81 first bloods, and a phenomenal 1.8 average KDA rating (which stands for Kills/Deaths/Assists). Drew was also named the GLEC's Most Valuable Player for Valorant.



Esports Makes GLEC Finals As Valorant Team Travels to Indiana

----- COACH RYAN McDANNELL

In just the second year of varsity competition, the Heidelberg Esports Valorant team clinched a spot in the Great Lakes Esports Conference (GLEC) Finals for the first time in program history on November 15-16. The top ten teams in the conference for each game title (Valorant, League of Legends & Super Smash Bros. Ultimate) travelled to South Bend, IN for the two-day, in-person LAN tournament at Bendix Arena.

After going 5-4 during the regular season, Heidelberg's Valorant team entered the tournament as the #7 seed, and ended their season finishing in 10th place overall, going 0-3 to Baldwin Wallace University, Illinois Wesleyan University & Alma College during the tournament.

We were optimistic about our chances of making a deep run in this tournament, however, we had to battle through a bit of adversity not having two of our top players with us due to other sports commitments happening that same weekend.

Given the circumstances, the team members we took to LAN played their absolute hearts out and hung with some of the best players in the league. Each one of our student athletes had moments throughout the tournament where they had some of their best individual performances of the season; and I couldn't be more proud of what they've been able to accomplish in such a short amount of time.

In fact, this very Valorant team (after going 0-9 during their inaugural season for the GLEC) can now say that not only did they finish with a winning record and their first playoff berth in program history, but they also have TWO all-conference athletes in their midst; one of which was also selected as the league's MVP.

The Heidelberg Esports program will be back in action for what is shaping up to be another thrilling season of esports in the spring, starting at the end of January.

"I knew that Drew was going to be a game-changer for our team the moment he walked on during our first week of practices this semester. He has such a depth of knowledge of the game and exudes confidence with his play-making ability," Coach McDannell said.

Graduate student athlete, and member of the Heidelberg Cross Country and Track teams, George 'Nate' Jimenez (aka 'Mr_Nice 0_0') was also named to the GLEC's 2nd All-Conference Valorant Team, after finishing the regular season with 305 kills, 139 assists, 39 first bloods, and a 1.2 average KDA rating.



"As captain of our Valorant team, Nate's been the rock-steady foundation on which we are building this team around. I'm glad that the league has taken notice and recognized him for all of his hard work and dedication to the game," said Coach McDannell.



The Heidelberg Esports Valorant team is in action at the in-person GLEC Finals. The event took place at the Bendix Esports Arena in South Bend, IN. Photo courtesy of Amber Parks.

Esports Recap

Solid Foundation. Bright Future.

----- AMBER PARKS

Heidelberg Esports has established itself as a passionate group of gamers and dedicated competitors, bringing together students from many backgrounds to represent Heidelberg in the world of competitive gaming. The team focuses on achieving success while helping to build strong communities, to help foster skills development, and to create an inclusive environment where all gamers can thrive no matter the skill level.

This semester, the team faced off in a multitude of games, including Valorant, Overwatch 2, Rocket League, Super Smash Bros Ultimate, and Call of Duty. With each game having its

own featured roster of players and coaches, everyone worked tirelessly to deliver their best in every match contested. A standout moment for the program came as the Valorant team reached the playoffs in the Great Lakes Esports Conference (GLEC).

Eric Barber, a sophomore member of the team, reflected on the achievement, "I thought I was dreaming. After not being able to win a game, let alone a map this time last year, to hear we punched a ticket to playoffs was crazy to hear. Being that I originally came to Heidelberg to run cross country and track, which I still do, it was great to represent Heidelberg in Esports. While we didn't do as well as we initially wanted to, it was great to make the

playoffs.

It was a crazy time for me, as I had to leave [the] playoffs early to run alongside the cross country team down in Shelbyville for Regionals. Being able to represent our school in more ways than one was an incredible experience I won't forget."

Graduate student-athlete and member of the cross country and track teams, Nate Jimenez, earned a spot on the Second Team All-GLEC Valorant Team. He shared his thoughts on the team's performance, "I was honestly surprised at the end because we were going against really tough teams such as Mount Union and Baldwin Wallace. But, we pulled through and made Heidelberg's name stand out in GLEC."

The future for Heidelberg Esports is bright. The program will be taking some much deserved time off in the coming weeks as the fall season and semester comes to a close. However the team will be gearing up for another season in the spring starting at the end of January.

With a solid foundation from this semester's success, Heidelberg Esports is excited to continue to grow its roster and compete in more national events, and ultimately, strive for more success in the seasons to come.

A Different Kind of Game

A Commentary



----- KEYGAN YONTS

The human experience begs for collaboration. The world is shaped from joint efforts of groups working towards a common goal. So, before you enter the workforce, how do you practice these teamwork and

communication skills? An answer that many would have is sports. But there is a different kind of sport that many overlook – Esports.

Esports is a different kind of sport, made for a different kind of student. Sports have been around since the dawn of time and will continue to for as long as humans enjoy physical activity. Esports gives an opportunity for the same communication, teamwork, and leadership skills to be taught and learned to those who previously could not participate in these physical activities. Students with a faulty gait do not have to worry about their body as they have a controller in their hands.

Esports is also a sport that mirrors the real world more often.

In traditional sports, the games are split by gender. In Esports, your gender does not correlate to your performance within the game. You will stand against or side-by-side with those of any gender, just as in a workplace, to accomplish a goal.

Playing through technology has predominantly shown to be a more inclusive atmosphere than any other sport in my experience. Never in my years of baseball, bowling, dance, volleyball, basketball, and any other sport I participated in, did every single person feel like they could be involved. Esports includes many that get left behind, and it teaches them the skills that traditional sports would normally teach. So, if you are a gamer, join an Esports team, there is always room for one more.



Senior Marching Band Members Photo: Amber Parks
1st Row: Bertha Saucedo, Abbey Yarris and Kylie Hendrix
2nd Row: Katie Bertke, Jaime Shiley, Austin Lindley, Amy Corfman and Alesha Pennock

biggest one being a switch to a new Marching Band Director, Dr. Ben Herrick. But, thanks to strong student leadership, mostly from this year's senior class, the band was able to successfully navigate the new changes.

Notable seniors, such as Marching Band President Bertha Saucedo and Drum Major Abbey Yarris, helped to maintain the band's traditions, support the incoming freshman, and ensure that the band continued to thrive under Dr. Herrick's direction.

However, band leadership did not stop there, with seniors such as Amy Corfman, Alecha Pennock, Katie Bertke, and Bertha Saucedo having the chance to conduct songs during their final performance. "I feel like I have found my home at Heidelberg," freshman Abigail Cuevas said, "the band and the seniors have played a huge part in that."

The band is excited and ready to continue to build on this season's success and look forward to seeing where they head with Dr. Herrick at the wheel.

You can check out the Marching Band's Senior Show on YouTube. Just go to: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=T3MMo0S15j4> or search for Heidelberg Senior Show November 2024.

Marching Band Fall Recap

Moving Forward Under New Direction

----- AMBER PARKS

The Heidelberg University Marching Band delivered a season filled with powerful performances, unforgettable moments, and boundless energy. From the first practice at band camp in August to the final note of the season, the marching band exemplified excellence and school pride.

This season's performance did not lack any variety, showcasing multiple themes that included an "80's Radio Show" and a special Halloween show. From their seats, the audience enjoyed the impressive display of musical talent and sets seen on the field.

The songs with expressive and rhythmic drum breaks and dances, like "Word Up" By Cameo and "Beat It" by Michael Jackson, were some of the most memorable of the season, always leaving the crowd fulfilled by the unexpected level of excitement that each show contained.

The band showed an amazing commitment to excellence that was evident in the passion injected into each performance across the season, the energizing of the crowd at home football games, and the competing at events across the season.

However, the marching band's season was not without challenges, with the

Modern Sports Betting

A Commentary



----- JOEY KORZUNOWSKI

Sports betting has become a new phenomenon that has essentially taken over the entire professional sports world. When watching any professional sports game on television, there are many commercials endorsing different sports gambling apps.

When going to professional sports games in person, there are advertisements all around the stadium as well. It is almost like it is being forced on to the public and thrown into their face. Now, this can be both good and bad. Sports gambling has never been more accessible to the public. Online sports betting is legal in 38 states and people can access it right from their phone.

Sometimes people feel as if they have to bet on a game just because it is on television, or they want to watch it. This is not a smart way to gamble or bet because you could be forcing a bet on a game that has a less likely chance of winning just because you wanted to have a reason to watch the game. And then if that bet were

to miss, people are more likely to try and make it back quickly on another game right after. This is also not a smart way of betting because you are betting with your emotions at that point and not logic.

I believe there are three main rules to sports betting that everyone should follow. The first one is to not chase your losses with another bet. If you miss a bet, that is okay. The second rule is to bet the same amount of money every time you place a bet. The third and final rule is to bet what you can afford. A good piece of advice I heard a long time ago is that when you place a bet, assume that money is gone. This helps not get emotionally attached if the bet misses and helps overall with being smart with your money.



Senior Zaria Keys (left) with staff writer Kerry Copenhaver

Photo Courtesy of Kerry Copenhaver

Senior Spotlight

Zaria Keys

----- KERRY COPENHAVER

Zaria Keys, daughter of Zetta and Kenneth Keys, and sister to Zerlina, is a standout student from Lima, Ohio. In a few months Zaria is headed to graduation, but she has surely kept herself busy throughout her four years here at Heidelberg. She is currently double majoring in psychology and theatre with an acting concentration. To add to her already impressive schedule, she also carries a minor in business.

Outside of her studies she is involved all around campus. Zaria is the president of Alpha Psi Omega, the theatre honorary group, and president of Make a Scene improv group.

Zaria chose Heidelberg to pursue her love for acting and has performed roles as Jesus in Godspell, Patrick Star in SpongeBob, the Musical, and The Proprietor in Assassins. She will also be making her directing debut next semester with the show Birthday Candles. Zaria stated that her goal taking on this new role is to, "See what I can do in the role of a facilitator instead of on-stage acting; see if I can spout words of wisdom to underclassmen."

Heidelberg is home to many amazing opportunities and memories to Zaria, with one of her favorites being the theatre collaborating with the Seneca County Opportunity Center. Nearing the third collaboration during her

college career, Zaria is grateful for the many friendships. She described her collaboration experience, "It's so incredible seeing them take the reins so quickly in theatre. They have the spark."

Zaria will be pursuing a career in theatre after graduation. "Professional actor. Sounds cliché, I know. But it's my passion," stated Zaria. Personal goals of hers for the future include, "Lightening the load for people I come in contact with. I want to give back to people, and a good way to do that is through theatre – providing a good escape from reality," to which she added, "Making myself happy, but in the process making others happy."

The biggest inspiration to Zaria? "My parents...and my whole family. I am profusely blessed with an amazing family. They are the source of my inspiration and my support system. Everything I do is for them, so I hope I'm doing them justice and making them proud." In addition to her family, Zaria is also inspired by the famous actor, Keanu Reeves. His humor and down to earth personality resonates strongly.

Her advice to younger students: "Take your time while you're here because time flies by. Especially for freshmen, power through man. There are going to be times where you feel you're alone or not good enough or having trouble with school. Push through, you'll find your way and find your place."

A Day in the Life

At Heidelberg



----- JOEY KORZUNOWSKI

Many people view NCAA Division III athletics as a major step down from both Division II and Division I athletics. While this may be true to a certain extent, the time commitment required from the athletes is quite similar. Here at Heidelberg, the in-

season schedule is jam-packed with meetings, team workouts, classes, homework, and of course, practices with games on Saturdays. I am a senior communications and integrated media double major, and a running back on the football team, so I have a pretty good grasp on how to manage my time now, with which I personally struggled as a freshman.

For example, let's look at a typical Tuesday for us during the season. Since we normally play on Saturdays, we end up getting Sunday completely off and then Monday is just watching the film from the past game as a team. So, Tuesday is when we get back to work and prepare for the next game. We begin with a team workout at 7 AM. I like to shower

and eat breakfast immediately after this.

One of the luxuries of being a senior is that I do not have any morning classes, so I use this time after lifting to get some homework done before our first team meeting at 11 AM. We use this time to watch film on our upcoming opponent for that week. This only lasts about an hour, and I head to the dining hall after to eat lunch.

After lunch is where my schedule really starts to pick up. I head to my 2:00 class. Once class concludes, I hustle over to our special teams meeting before practice, which starts roughly around 3:20, so I end up making it just in time. Our Tuesday practices are in full pads, which are always intense and demanding. This goes until 6:00, which is our last football activity for the day. It is definitely a grind day in and day out, but truthfully that is the best part of being a collegiate student athlete.



Heidelberg Head Football Coach Scott Donaldson with the team. Photo: Logan McCoy

touchdown passes.

Graduate Student Ithan Cholewa led the receiving crew with 542 yards and 4 touchdowns. Junior linebacker Trey Farris led the team in solo tackles, ending with 42.

There was a three way tie with sacks, all in the linebacker room as Easton St. Clair, Bryant Pfeifer, and Kris Williams all ended with three sacks. Senior TK Fikes led the team with 4 interceptions, and defensive back Joseph Norris III had 7 pass break-ups this season, leading that category.

A special recognition to the linemen on both sides of the ball for letting their teammates shine, it all starts and ends at the line.

With many of these players returning next season, improvement is bound to happen. But until then it's time to enjoy the holidays and watch some NFL ball until our team can show what they're made of next season.

Football Thanksgiving Wrap Up



----- WYATT BENTON

There are three things guaranteed during Thanksgiving – good food, time with family, and football. Although our football season is over at HU, we had a lot of highlights throughout the season. While we all enjoy our times over the holidays, let's take a look at our season as a whole, and highlight those who led us this season, along with the up-and-coming stars to lead the team in the years to come.

Our fighting Student Princes ended the season with an official record of five wins and five losses (plus a pre-season scrimmage win against Hiram). In the games we won, our offense and defense both were firing on all

cylinders. Putting up 30+ points on every team we beat, and only giving up a high of 24 against Muskingum. In our losses, we played very strong opponents.

One of the most difficult being Mount Union, who remains undefeated in their season. Considering these high-ranking opponents, we were able to put points on the board and make solid defensive plays to put our team in positions to make great plays. As more of our athletes develop their game, our outcome against these tougher opponents will be different in years to come.

Speaking of our athletes, our season leaders have worked hard throughout regulation and should be recognized for their effort. Sophomore running back Drew Miller put up 760 rushing yards on the season, and 7 touchdowns on the ground. Junior Quarterback Ty Poorman was able to put up 876 passing yards and 7



RB Drew Miller
Photo: Logan McCoy

Internship Spotlight Eastern College Athletic Conference



----- AMBER PARKS

After working with our campus Esports team, I discovered my passion for public relations and social media. When I saw an opening for a public relations internship with the Eastern College Athletic Conference (ECAC),

one of the organizations our teams compete in, I knew it was an opportunity I couldn't miss. This semester-long internship involved working remotely with a team of personnel spread across the country.

Each week, we had a meeting where we planned our social media posts, created captions, and designed graphics. I also had the chance to analyze the performance of various posts and gather insights that helped shape future campaigns. One project that stands out was creating a Valentine's Day graphic and post. Inspired by a trend I noticed, I

suggested we make "to and from" cards with a humorous twist related to our sport. The post was a hit, with one of the highest engagement rates of the season, and it was exciting to see my idea come to life.

Being remote posed challenges, especially when trying to coordinate schedules across different time zones. However, I learned the importance of effective communication and making the most of the little time we had together. Throughout my internship, I honed various skills, like leading business meetings, using Canva for graphic design, and programming Google Sheets to track post analytics.

Continued on next page

A Clarifying Election: Donald Trump's America

A Commentary



----- DR. MARC O'REILLY

Pre-election, pollsters and other experts believed either major party U.S. presidential candidate had an even chance to win. In potentially the most consequential contest since 1860, Republican Donald Trump, the previous president, thumped his Democratic opponent, Vice-President Kamala Harris. Not only did he take the Electoral College 312-226, he unexpectedly triumphed in the popular vote, the 1st GOP winner in 20 years and only the 2nd since 1992.

This emphatic victory culminated a remarkable comeback for Trump, who, on January 6, 2021, in the aftermath of a failed insurrection to invalidate the 2020 electoral result, was vilified by many in his own party for the attempted coup and eventually impeached for the 2nd time. From pariah status, Trump fairly quickly regained the approval of most of his party and trained his considerable ambition (megalomania, said his naysayers) on retaking the presidency.

Instead of reinventing himself, as Richard Nixon did in 1968, Trump played to form and practiced his familiar, unique style of firebrand politics. He insulted opponents, demonized immigrants and anyone who disagreed with him, portrayed the USA as a crime-infested, failing country, and forecasted an apocalypse if the Democrats kept the White House.

Sexism, racism, and xenophobia defined his campaign. Yet his ability to connect with disenfranchised voters, who blamed the incumbent Biden administration for economic woes (e.g., high grocery prices) and the immigration crisis, especially at the Southern border, won him admiration, sympathy, and most importantly, votes — over 75 million.

Everything Democrats tried only rebounded to Trump's advantage. Reminding voters of his autocratic ways, 34 felonies, and threats to democracy only galvanized his supporters, who accused Never Trumpers of lawfare (i.e., the politicization of the judicial system) and Trump Derangement Syndrome. By appealing to the “man verse,” via raucous rallies and “bro” podcasts like Joe Rogan, Trump garnered a surprising number of votes from just about every demographic — e.g., young men, especially Hispanics. And he parlayed the July 13 attempt on his life into an iconic “Fight, fight, fight” moment that went viral, and which many so-called Christian nationalists thought preordained his victory.

As Trump returns to the White House, his grip on Washington seems iron-clad. With majorities in Congress and a sympathetic Supreme Court, which decided in July that presidents mostly have immunity whenever carrying out their duties, he is poised to remake American government and reorient the country domestically and internationally. His promise to mass deport millions of mostly Hispanic undocumented people will potentially disrupt the U.S. economy and exacerbate one of the key culture wars.

Likewise, if he imposes draconian tariffs on China and many others, whether friend or foe, the political economic consequences could be calamitous. If he withdraws the United States from the Paris climate agreement and NATO, cozies up to Russian President Vladimir Putin and other tyrants, and disparages America's traditional allies, the post-WWII global order will likely fracture, thus emboldening autocrats everywhere.

If, courtesy of proxy Elon Musk, Trump savages the U.S. federal bureaucracy and empowers thousands of appointees to tilt the administrative state in his favor, he will have the revamped “Deep State” carrying out his agenda. In response to such pessimism, which it considers unwarranted, Trump's MAGA base

believes he will “take America back” and usher in renewed American greatness. The president-elect speculated on Election Night that the coming four years might propel the country to its apogee.

How the Trump 2.0 era proceeds could shape the country and world for years, possibly decades. Unlike in his 1st administration, he will prize loyalty over everything else, as he staffs a government that will be tasked with reinventing Washington and rebranding the United States. While MAGA world, Putin, Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu, and Hungarian PM Viktor Orban eagerly await the next Trump presidency, critics fret that Benjamin Franklin's famous words (“A republic, if you can keep it”) could foreshadow an ominous turn for the country that has led the world since 1945.

Internship Spotlight, cont'd.

These skills have been invaluable in both my internship and current roles.

My biggest piece of advice to others seeking internships is to apply for anything you can! I applied for this internship without expecting much, and although I wasn't selected for the Kansas City Chiefs internship I interviewed for, this experience opened the door to even better opportunities.

I applied for a social media position with The Daily Downforce and landed the job, thanks to the skills I developed. I'm also continuing to grow my experience as the Esports Social Media Coordinator on campus, pushing the limits of what we can do with our team's presence.





Scenes from the Heidelberg School of Music & Theatre's production of *Godspell*. Photo courtesy of Director Karla Kash

Beautiful City

A Review of *Godspell*

----- SERRIA ALLEN

On September 12th, members of Heidelberg Theatre took to the stage to kick off their season, "A Call for Empathy and Compassion!", with the 2012 revival version of the musical, *Godspell*.

Godspell is an adaptation of the Gospel according to St. Matthew. Written by David Greene and John-Michael Tebelak, the show is a mix of parables and songs pulled from the hymns of the Gospel. It takes place from John's baptism of the disciples of Jesus to the betrayal of Jesus by Judas resulting in the crucifixion of Jesus.

The show opens with "Prepare Ye," where the disciples are baptized by John, setting the tone for the rest of the show. As the song ends, Jesus nears the group wanting to be baptized by John, which foreshadows Jesus' demise in the end.

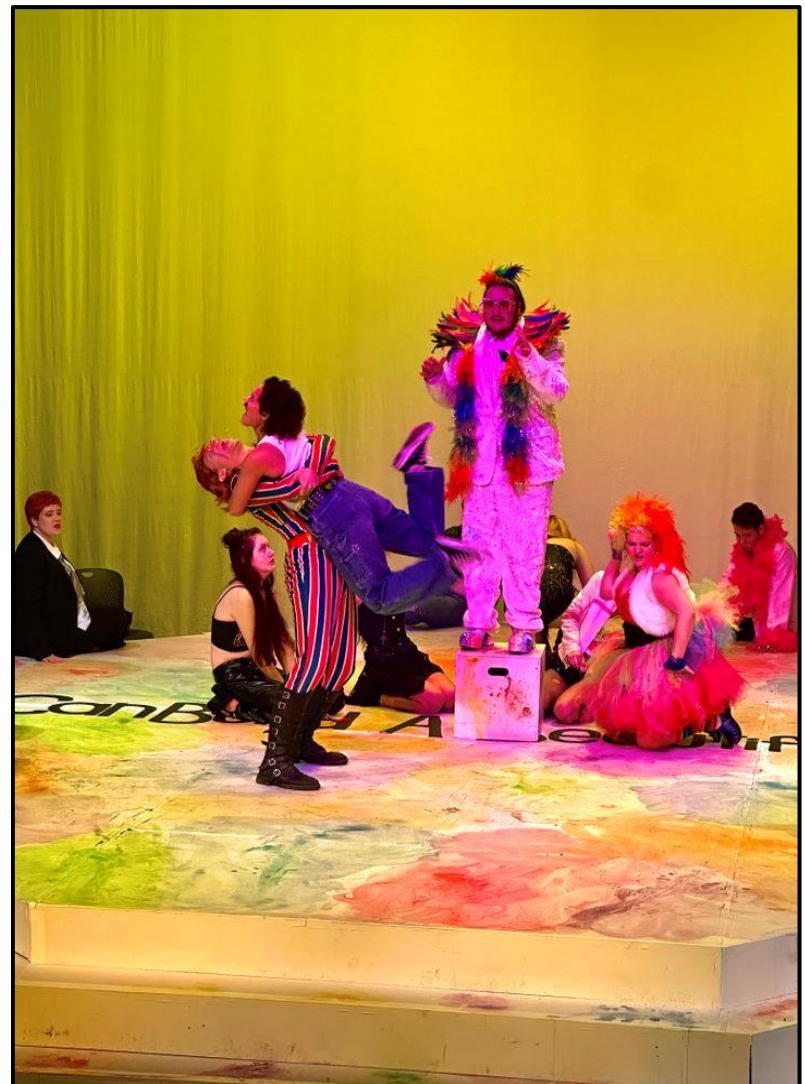
For the concept of the show, the director, Karla Kash, took a creative approach. Aside from Jesus and Judas, the cast played as themselves. However, each cast member was dressed as an LGBTQ+ musician icon.

When asked about her approach, Kash stated, "*Godspell* is a story about love, tolerance, acceptance, and being a good person. I want our contemporary audience to connect to the characters and understand the broader message."

Kash explained that the cast is not impersonating the character but bringing their personality into the music icon they are personifying. This is further backed up by the cast being named as themselves and not the musicians they are dressed up as. This shows that it is not about the characters themselves, but the story they are telling and portraying.

Zaria Keys, a senior Acting major, portrayed the role of Jesus. Keys has been a part of the Theatre department since her freshman year. Keys stated how *Godspell* was an incredible experience that was "beaming with positivity."

Growing up in the church with her father as a pastor, being able to perform stories she grew up hearing was a beautiful experience for Keys, "I really appreciated the message of *Godspell* and I believe it transcends religion. Building community is integral for us human beings and is the only way we can truly live in unity. I am so grateful that I could be a part of spreading that message on this campus."



Godspell. Photo courtesy of Director Karla Kash

The Real Hero is Inclusivity

A Student Research Paper



----- AMBER PARKS

“Everyone fails at who they’re supposed to be, Thor. The measure of a person, of a hero, is how well they succeed at being who they are” said by Frigga in Avengers: Endgame. Being yourself is something that many people struggle with, whether it be the superhero or the viewer. This quote has had a large impact on the viewers of different sexualities, gender identities and races and has inspired them to be themselves. From comic to movie, The Marvel Universe has become more inclusive to people of different backgrounds.

As the rise of LGBTQ representation in the media has progressed, Marvel has been right behind it. In the 2017 film, Thor: Ragnarök, Valkyrie became the first bisexual superhero. Phastos became the first openly gay superhero in the 2021 film, Eternals. America Chavez in the 2022 film, Dr. Strange in the Multiverse of Madness, has two mothers which became the first superhero in a movie with same sex parents.

Deadpool has been considered “the epitome of inclusive” by co-creator Fabian Nicieza because of his fluid sexuality in a 2015 tweet. Within the 2 movies, released 2016 and 2018, there are multiple examples of his sexuality being more than heterosexual. Loki, in the 2021 Disney+ show Loki, inspired me to come out as genderfluid and bisexual. Showing these different examples of sexuality in the public eye can help inspire others to be their true selves.

Ben Sherlock of Screen Rant says that there are 15 openly gay Marvel characters that might be coming to the Marvel Cinematic Universe. Hulking is conflicted about his sexuality. Iceman, who fights along X-Men, “stunned audiences by coming out as gay” (Sherlock).

A synthezoid named Vivian says “an attraction to boys is nowhere within me” (Sherlock) making her gay or asexual. Sherlock states that “Northstar was a landmark character for comic book history because he was one of the first gay superheroes”. Sherlock also says that in 2012 that Northstar was the first character that had a same-sex wedding in a mainstream comic!

Marvel superheroes have multiple different backgrounds, some of which have dealt with the loss of family. Spider-Man or Peter Parker has most famously lost his Uncle Ben. This death took a large toll on his life and shaped him into becoming the hero he is.

Another superhero who has dealt with a loss is Tony Stark or Iron Man. Stark’s parents were both tragically murdered by the Winter Soldier. Peter Quill, or Starlord, lost his mom to brain cancer in the 2014 film Guardians of the Galaxy. Steve Rodgers or Captain America was raised by his mother after his father passed away in World War I. His mother died shortly after due to Tuberculosis and left him alone by the age of 18 (Steve).

Thor lost his mother Frigga in 2013s Thor: The Dark World. In the 2019 film, Avengers: Endgame, Thor is seen heavily grieving the loss of his mother so much so he goes back in time to see her; something everyone wishes they could do with a passed loved one.

Along with loss of family, family was also created by adoption. Whether this be a legally binding adoption or creating a family not bound by blood, multiple superheroes fall into this category. Strong examples are Peter Parker being adopted by his aunt and uncle while Peter Quill was taken in by ravagers and created just as strong a bond with Yondu as Parker with Uncle Ben. Loki was adopted by Frigga and Odin Borson and loved them just like an adoptive child loves their adoptive parent(s).

Seeing representation in the media is important, which makes She-Hulk relatable for feminine readers.

On page 18 of Bitch Magazine’s “She-Hulk, Attorney at Law”, author Tammy Oler writes about the importance of representation to the women readers in the 80’s and 90’s. Oler also says “Even for a woman as powerful as She-Hulk, work-life balance was elusive” within the same page, which refers to many women having long days at work and some even being mothers and using downtime within their personal life to work.

Jen Walters, as explained by Oler, is a feminist who strives to be her true and honest self past the veil of She-Hulk. “In 2004, a revamped She-Hulk series from writer Dan Slott emphasized She-Hulk’s “normal” human state as Jennifer Walters, taking the character in a radical new direction by using the tension between Jen’s job as an attorney and her life as a superhero to explore issues of identity, power, and gender in comics” (Oler 17).

Female superheroes have been on the forefront of Marvel films beginning with the 2019 film Captain Marvel. Between Canada and the United States, Captain Marvel grossed 426.83 million dollars. Since then, Marvel has released, as of November 18, 2022, Black Widow, Wandavision, She-Hulk, Ms. Marvel, and soon to release The Marvels, Echo, Ironheart, and Agatha: Coven of Chaos. One of the most empowering female Marvel scenes has to be the female Avengers uniting to defend the Infinity Gauntlet in the 2019 film Avengers: Endgame. Many young girls now have figures to look up to as strong empowering leads instead of sidekicks.

The representation of people of color has very much improved within the past 5 years. Black Panther and Shang Chi have been such a large influence in the African, African-American and Asian communities. Black Panther promoted the inclusion of African and American people and cultures and the genre of Afrofuturism while staying true to the cultures.

Continued on the next page

The Real Hero, cont'd.

Created after seeing the success of Black Panther, Shang Chi changes the stereotype of Asians playing villain characters in Western films while keeping the martial arts and Chinese culture intact. Like the young girls seeing female superheroes, children seeing African and Asian superheroes can be a great role model.

Marvel has begun to expand the universe even more when they pushed disabled characters to the forefront. Professor X who became paraplegic after a bad accident and is now in a wheelchair. Daredevil is Blind due to a chemical accident which heightened his other senses just like a true blind person. War Machine is unable to walk without assistance after being shot out of the sky and becoming paralyzed. Bucky Barnes lost his arm after falling off a train in WWII and has a high-level prosthetic or robotic arm. The Lizard or Curtis Connors was a disabled scientist and just wanted to regrow his arm using lizard DNA. Echo or Mya is a mute or even Hawkeye with hearing loss shows the advancement of inclusivity.

Physical disabilities are not the only thing being represented more often. Mental disabilities were highlighted in multiple series Marvel released. In early 2021, Wandavision highlights Wanda's constant struggle with trauma, grief, PTSD of losing her boyfriend Vision and brother. Wanda also struggled with bipolar disorder consistent with mood swings. Wanda struggled so hard that she created her own fantasy world, Westview. She controlled the people of the town to try and

create this perfect world with her fantasized husband, Vision and two sons Billy and Tommy.

In 2022, Moon Knight broke barriers by being a superhero with Dissociative Identity Disorder (DID). Author Scott T. Smith in "Uncanny Bodies: Superhero Comics and Disability (Graphic Medicine Book 18)" discusses the multiple personalities in great detail, making sure each persona has equal worth (Smith 94). Smith talks about how comic books use mental distress as a plot device (Smith 95).

An interview I conducted with Sarah Malik, Bachelor of Applied Science graduate from the University of Cincinnati says that Thanos has mental issues of his own. She states that Thanos is a "narcissist and a sociopath" as he "sees his and his way only and will not accept any other way." Malik also says Hawkeye suffers from major PTSD and is depressed after the passing of his dear friend Natasha Romanoff, otherwise known as Black Widow. Referring to the Disney+ show, Hawkeye, Malik discussed the correlation between PTSD and the flashback scenes depicted.

Captain America was a super-soldier in WWII who had to take on Hydra, the Nazi science program. He was credited with so much while Soldiers of today deal with many mental health issues and very little praise. Catarina Inoue says "some research has suggested that approximately 14% to 16% of U.S. service members deployed to Afghanistan and Iraq have PTSD or depression" (Inoue).

In May of 2019, writer Johnny Oleksinski from the New York Post,

claims that Marvel directors Anthony and Joe Russo are "pandering for money" by having characters come out of the closet in an article titled "Why we don't need a gay Marvel superhero." Oleksinski also argues "Black Panther and Captain Marvel were ballyhooed as if they were human rights victories as much as films, because who needs, I dunno, actual legal and societal achievements when you've got pretty lip service from Hollywood?" Although legal changes may not have happened, society was inspired by the empowering Female and African superhero leads and their stories.

In conclusion, Marvel superheroes have become more diverse over the past 10 years. Stan Lee, creator of the Marvel comic book universe, once said "America is made of different races and different religions, but we're all co-travelers on the spaceship Earth and must respect and help each other along the way." The late Chadwick Boseman, actor for Black Panther, once said "People of African descent, most of us grew up accepting and loving Spider-Man. I still love Spider-Man. I still love the Incredible Hulk. I still have those characters that were white role models, superheroes, heroes - whatever you want to call it. You basically had no choice but to accept those." From different sexualities, disabilities, genders and racial identities, Marvel has created figures that people can watch and relate to. Seeing their favorite superheroes have a lifestyle that is so similar and yet so different can be inspiring. This could help them have a fantasy to help escape the hardships of their reality.

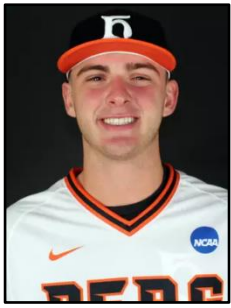
The article was written for Dr. Desirae Matherly's WRI 101: College Writing II course in the Fall 2022 semester. Complete citations used in the article can be obtained from the author. During the 2024-25 academic year, The Kil would like to publish interesting academic student research. If you would like to inquire about possible inclusion in an upcoming issue, please contact Dr. Ted Carlin at tcarlin@heidelberg.edu.

The Kilikilik is ALWAYS looking for students to join us as writers, photographers, editors, designers and social media content creators. Even if you just have the time to write one article or take some pictures of an event or happening around campus, we'd be happy to have you on the staff. Please contact our Editor-in-Chief, Serria Allen, at sallen2@heidelberg.edu, or our faculty adviser, Dr. Ted Carlin, at tcarlin@heidelberg.edu.



The Sports Notebook

Recent Results from Berg Athletics



----- LUKE DRISKELL

Men's Basketball:

Nov. 15: Heidelberg came up short in a high-scoring battle against Manchester, falling 88-92. Trailing by 11 at halftime, the Student Princes mounted an impressive second half comeback, outscoring Manchester 54-47. However, the missed opportunities at the free throw line and the three-point shooting from Manchester ultimately made the Spartan lead insurmountable. Markell Johnson-Nichols led the Student Princes with 20 points and 4 assists, while Eric Panning added 19 points and Kevin Reynald, Jr. chipped in with 17.

Nov. 16: The Student Princes pulled off an impressive upset win over no. 9 Calvin, with an 85-78 victory. Despite falling behind by double-digits early in the first half, Heidelberg rallied to take a 44-38 lead at halftime. In the second half, the Student Princes held their ground, responding to every Calvin comeback attempt with timely scores to secure the upset win. Elijah Harden led the Student Prince charge with 20 points. Eric Panning contributed 19, and Zane Leitwein and Markell Johnson-Nichols both added 14.

Men's Cross Country:

The Heidelberg Men's XC team placed eighth at the OAC championships with a total of 233 points to finish the year.

Women's Cross Country:

The Heidelberg Women's XC team placed eighth at the OAC championships with a total of 230 points to finish the year.

Swimming:

Heidelberg swim, now 0-3, hosted Ohio Wesleyan and Ohio Northern last weekend, losing both meets.

Football:

Nov. 16: Heidelberg falls to Baldwin Wallace, 10-14, on Senior Day. Baldwin Wallace's offense struck first, finding the endzone midway through the first quarter and adding another score late in the second. Heidelberg answered just before halftime, with Ty Poorman connecting with Matthew Drdul on a 2-yard touchdown pass with 13 seconds remaining. In the second half, the only scoring came from a 22-yard field goal by Ethan Ramsdail.

Poorman finished with 180 passing yards, one touchdown, and one interception, while also rushing for 25 yards. Drew Miller led the ground game with 51 yards on 17 carries. Drdul led the receiving corps, hauling in 7 receptions for 65 yards and the lone touchdown.

Under Coach Scott Donaldson, Heidelberg finished the season 5-5 (4-5 OAC).

Men's Golf:

The Heidelberg men's golf team had a strong fall season, led by Josh Ferdon, Emerson Grassbaugh, Logan Niese, and Cameron Spraggins, each maintaining an average below 80. The season highlights included first-place finishes at both the ONU Wilson Invitational and The Battle of Sandusky, as well as a second-place finish at the Mountain Valley Collegiate Classic in Altoona, PA.

Women's Golf:

The Heidelberg women's golf team had a successful fall season, led by Brooke Barnes, Lydia Dietz, Danielle Powell, and McKhala Eckert, all maintaining an average in the 80s.

The team secured a second-place finish at the ONU Wilson Invitational, and third place finishes at the Mount Union Fall Invitational and OAC Fall Preview.

The fall season was highlighted by Eckert's hole-in-one at the Beaver Fall Classic and Dietz's being named OAC Golfer of the Week following her sixth-place finish at the same event.

Men's Soccer:

The men's soccer team endured a challenging season, finishing with a 1-14-2 record. Hussein Faraj and Brenden Turner led the team in goals, netting two each. First year goalkeeper, Ryan Miller, tallied 97 saves and recorded one shutout.

Women's Soccer:

The women's soccer team had an outstanding season, finishing with a 10-4-5 record. Their season ended prematurely with a devastating loss to Otterbein, 3-2, in the OAC tournament.

The team showcased an impressive offensive performance, netting 33 goals with 21 assists. Leading the attack were Brianna Braatz and Syd Hewer, who each scored nine goals and contributed six assists. Junior goalkeeper Brigid Enright had a standout season, tallying 114 saves with a .905 save percentage (8th in the country) and recording nine solo shutouts, along with one combined shutout alongside first-year goalkeeper Maddi Springer.

Braatz and Enright earned All-OAC First Team honors. Braatz was also named OAC Freshman of the Year, the first time a Heidelberg women's soccer player has earned this honor.

Enright was named OAC Goalkeeper of the Year, becoming the first player in program history to receive this honor. Hewer and Olivia Perry received All-OAC Second Team honors.

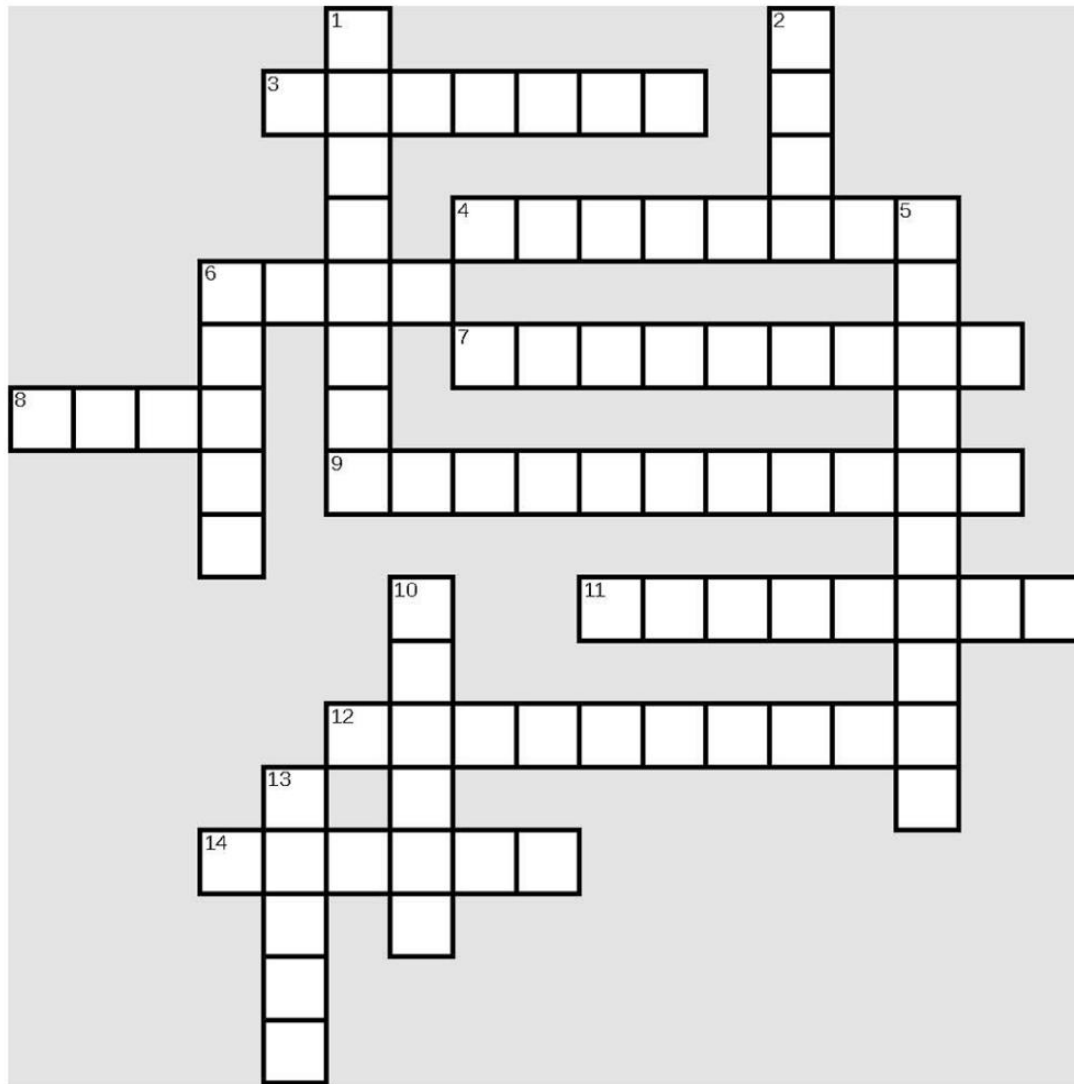
Volleyball:

Under Coach Jason Miller, the volleyball team wrapped up their season with a 14-15 record. Lexi Wachtman led the attack with 206 kills. Close behind was Grace Porter, who delivered 201 kills. Maddie Reed played a pivotal role, leading the team with 563 set assists.

Defensively, Grace Dohanyos led the team with a stellar 556 digs.

Riley Tople and Dohanyos were both named All-OAC Honorable Mention. Tople averaged 2.08 kills per set, tallying 179 kills. Dohanyos not only racked up 556 digs, she also eclipsed the 1,000-dig milestone in her final game of the season.

December Crossword Puzzle



Across

- 3 Where the music is either hit or extremely miss
- 4 Come here to laugh, to cry, and even dance a little
- 6 Purple and grey all the way
- 7 They've finally opened?
- 8 You'll never be cold here
- 9 Every class has them, everybody fears them
- 11 We fear them every year...
- 12 Pumpkin spice is always nice
- 14 I heard cheese curds...

Down

- 1 Where the aroma is always off
- 2 Late nights here are always a fiesta
- 5 Unbeatable fries & cheesy bread here
- 6 The man, the myth, the History legend
- 10 The go-to fit for morning classes
- 13 Our fearless student prince

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