

# THE KILIKILIK

HEIDELBERG'S STUDENT  
NEWSPAPER



Dr. Marc O'Reilly & Berg students at the Model United Nations of the Far West Conference.

Photos Courtesy of Kami Stanfield

## Notes from the Negotiation Table: MUNFW Highlights

----- KAMI STANFIELD



From April 10-15, Heidelberg students took part in the Model United Nations of the Far West (MUNFW) conference in San Francisco, California. The conference allowed students to participate in a simulation of the United Nations, engage in diplomatic debates, collaborate with students from other universities, and gain valuable experience in international relations.

At the conference, Heidelberg students acted as delegates for the nations of Italy and Oman, representing their committees in diplomatic discussions. Each delegation was composed of four committees: the General Assembly, the Third Committee, the Environment Assembly, and World Press. Within these committees, students drafted resolutions and policy statements, engaged in debates, and collaborated with delegations to address pressing international issues.

Topics of discussion at MUNFW change

each year, with this year's larger theme being, "Between Chaos and Consensus: Moving the Sustainable Development Goals Forward." Within their committees, delegates tackled critical global challenges, including reassessing the financial architecture of the UN, addressing rural poverty, mitigating the environmental impacts of war, and responding to humanitarian crises.

Upon students' arrival in San Francisco, they began their adventure with a stop at In-N-Out Burger, a California fast-food staple. After enjoying some downtime at the hotel, some students opted to explore the vibrant city—visiting landmarks like the Coit Tower, Chinatown, and Little Italy. They even took a BART train to see the iconic City Hall at the Civic Center. The day ended with a walk through the city, allowing students to soak in the sights and sounds of San Francisco.

As the conference commenced, delegates listened to seasoned experts within the UN, including

veteran diplomat Gutaro Aitaro, who shared valuable lessons in navigating high-stakes UN discussions. Delegates then quickly dove into committee work, negotiating, forming coalitions, and of course, creating chaos amongst the other countries. Members of the World Press were able to write stories on the sessions, stirring up drama and adding to the chaos while providing a unique perspective on the intense negotiations and alliances formed.



Following in-depth discussions and diplomatic decisions, resolutions from committees across the board were passed, making strides in addressing global challenges that are present in the world today. The delegates' hard work and collaboration that took place during these intense simulation sessions showcased the students' abilities to adapt, compromise, and push for meaningful solutions. Much like Gutaro Aitaro shared on opening night, "The youth is not tomorrow, the youth is today," and the work that students are doing is vital to a brighter future.

Trip highlights included a visit to the iconic Golden Gate Bridge, enjoying local experiences such as visiting Pier 39, and riding the famous San Francisco cable cars. Ultimately, the conference was a great opportunity for Heidelberg students to learn, connect, and experience diplomacy in action – all while making unforgettable memories along the way.



# World Press News Coverage:

## 74<sup>th</sup> Session of the MUNFW Conference



----- KAMI STANFIELD

In many ways, MUNFW mirrors the dynamics of the United Nations, especially when it comes to fast-paced, high stakes press coverage. As a World Press reporter, one must navigate the back-room politics of diplomacy, from hallway negotiations to late-night caucuses. It is a role that demands not only sharp reporting, but a deep understanding of politics and diplomacy.

I had the opportunity to serve as a World Press reporter, representing the delegation of Italy. Previously, I served as a Third Committee delegate for the 71st session of MUNFW, which was held virtually due to the pandemic. Despite the format, the experience was enriching. For the 74th session, I wanted to take on a role that would hone my writing skills, especially under pressure.

Throughout the experience, I was able to interview delegates, sit in on committee sessions, and catch the unfiltered moments that occurred off-script and out of character — an experience not available to those confined to formal debate. I ultimately gained a deeper understanding of international politics, specifically within the complexities countries face when searching for consensus amid chaos.

What follows is an excerpt of news coverage I wrote throughout the conference:

### Discord in the Green Zone: Tackling Global Environmental Challenges at UNEA

As the delegates gather in the United Nations Environment Assembly (UNEA), they confront some of the most pressing environmental challenges of our time. From war-torn landscapes and degraded ecosystems to overfished oceans and disappearing biodiversity, the stakes are high.

These challenges are no longer future concerns, but present-day emergencies that demand global consensus.

Adding to the urgency is the 2050 global climate target, a commitment by the United Nations and its member states to achieve net-zero greenhouse gas emissions by mid-century. Failing to meet this milestone could result in irreversible damage to ecosystems, catastrophic climatic events, and the collapse of vulnerable communities.

With just 25 years left to hit this critical benchmark, the decisions made today, in bodies like UNEA, carry immense weight for the future. This year’s MUNFW theme, “Chaos and Consensus,” especially reflects the momentous act delegates must perform like balancing national interests with collective responsibility in a fragmented international landscape.

Yet, through caucusing, alliance-building, and the exchange of innovative ideas, delegates are working to transform discord into unity and fears into hope. By engaging in open dialogue and seeking globally inclusive solutions, delegates strive to build resilient policies that protect the environment and promote sustainability in an increasingly unpredictable world.

#### *Voices from the UNEA Delegates: Perspectives on Key Issues*

Korea sets a forward-looking tone, emphasizing both national responsibility and global solidarity. Korea shares, “The children of the future don’t want our excuses, they want our efforts.” Korea adds, “While Korea is making a lot of strides to mitigate environmental effects, we understand this is an issue that everyone is facing, and we would like to promote global solutions.”

Following that, France raises concerns about justice and equity for those most impacted by environmental fallout during conflict. France states, “France is disappointed in the lack of a unanimous consensus for seeking monetary reparations for individual countries disproportionately affected by environmental damage during times of conflict.”

#### *Rising Tensions: Unexpected Alliances and Compromises*

However, tensions have arisen within the UNEA, as Russia unexpectedly supported a resolution with the European bloc, on the condition that a stipulation clause be included in the draft. This move is notably uncharacteristic of their usual stance.

Italy expressed concern about the perceived inconsistencies in Russia’s approach to recent resolutions, noting, “The Russian delegation has taken varying positions on some resolutions, which has led to questions about alignment with their national stance.” Italy continues, “There was an instance where Russia showed interest in joining a resolution involving Ukraine and other allied countries, but later reassessed their participation as it became challenging to align the resolution with their national interests.”

Russia’s actions were viewed by some delegates as more symbolic than substantive. Italy adds, “Russia then proceeded to try and call a ceasefire with Ukraine to rejoin the resolution which is not what Russia would sincerely do.”

Ukraine made its position clear on the matter, emphasizing its diplomatic boundaries, proclaiming, “Ukraine would not sign a resolution with Russia. The European Union argued that they would not sign the resolution.”

This standoff underscores the broader challenges of reconciling political realities and perspectives with environmental goals, a challenge that UNEA delegates must tackle head-on.

#### *Consensus Prevails*

Amidst the anticipated chaos of diverging national interests and urgent global challenges, delegates at the UNEA find consensus by focusing on shared goals, compromising where necessary, and emphasizing past experiences of international cooperation. By prioritizing the collective need for environmental sustainability, delegates navigate differences, build trust, and ultimately craft solutions that balance national priorities with the global good.

# Commuting with a Purpose: What Every Heidelberg Commuter Should Know

----- TREY COMBS

As a commuter at Heidelberg, I've had the unique experience of navigating college life from a bit of a distance—literally. While I may not live in the residence halls or have a roommate to swap stories with in the dorm, that hasn't stopped me from becoming a part of this campus community. If you're a commuter—or thinking about becoming one—here's what you should know about making the most of your time at Heidelberg.

## Finding Your Place (Even Without a Dorm Key)

The biggest misconception about being a commuter is that you're somehow disconnected from campus life. That couldn't be further from the truth. From day one, I realized that it's all about intention. Whether you're grabbing coffee in The HeidelBean or hanging out in the Campus Center lounge, showing up and getting involved is the best way to feel included.

The third floor of Campus Center quickly became my home base—it's where I eat lunch, meet with friends between classes and even get homework done. Beeghly Library is another go-to, especially when I need a quieter space with good Wi-Fi and minimal distractions.

## Parking and Planning Go Hand-in-Hand

Let's be honest—parking can be hit or miss. The earlier you arrive, the better your odds. I always try to give myself a 10–15 minute before class starts, just in case I

end up in the farthest lot. And if you're like me and prefer not to carry all your books around all day, use your car as a locker. Just make sure to check the weather—nobody wants to walk across campus in a surprise thunderstorm without a jacket.

## Campus is Yours, Too

One of the first things I tell new commuters: your student ID is powerful. With it, you can swipe into campus buildings just like residents—including the dorm lounges and laundry rooms if you ever need to hang out or crash for a bit. Need a quiet place between classes? The lobbies in Miller or France Hall are warm, comfy, and close to most academic buildings.

Commuters also have full access to Seiberling Gym and the Saurwein Health & Wellness Center. The weight room, cardio machines, and basketball court are open to all students—commuters included. I've hit a lift session between classes or after a long day and left feeling 100 times better. Pro tip: bring your gym bag with you in the car, especially on long days.

## Sporting Events Are Fair Game (And Free)

Just because you don't live on campus doesn't mean you can't rep the Student Princes. All home games are free for students—just show your ID at the gate. From football Saturdays at Hoernemann Stadium to packed volleyball and

basketball games, Heidelberg's sports events are a blast and a great way to feel the school spirit.

I've met some of my closest friends from the student section, and it's a great way to wind down after a busy week. Whether you're an athlete yourself or just want to cheer on your classmates, you're welcome there.

## Get Involved and Stay Connected

Clubs and organizations are one of the best ways to meet people, especially if you're not on campus 24/7. Groups like Student Senate, Active Minds, Theatre Productions, or SAAC (Student-Athlete Advisory Committee) are always welcoming new members. Meetings are usually in the evenings, which works well for commuter schedules.

## Make the Most of Heidelberg

Being a commuter takes a little more planning and intention—but it also gives you freedom. You get to experience college life while still going home at night. With access to events, clubs, the gym, dorm lounges, and campus resources, there's nothing stopping you from making Heidelberg feel like home.

So, if you're commuting, don't sell yourself short. You're not just visiting—you belong here, too.

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](mailto:sallen2@heidelberg.edu), or our faculty adviser, Dr. Ted Carlin, at [tcarlin@heidelberg.edu](mailto:tcarlin@heidelberg.edu).







Minds @ Work Keynote Speaker Julija Šukys

Images courtesy of Sadie Estle

# Minds @ Work

## At Heidelberg University



----- OLIVIA BRENT/SADIE ESTLE

Heidelberg hosted its 32nd Annual Minds @ Work Research Conference on Tuesday, April 8th. This conference is an event where students and

faculty can present their research topics, and there was a total of 51 individual/group presentations given and 12 poster presentations set up in the Campus Center. Student researchers work with their professors on research topics throughout the year, and the conference serves to increase student interest and knowledge in academic research.

The event is also designed to

recognize, honor, and reward academic excellence and give students the opportunity to experience the conference format. This year, the conference was organized by Dr. Sarah Lazzari. This year’s keynote speaker was Julija Šukys, and she is an inspiring author and scholar who tells forgotten stories about individuals caught in war, exile, and silence.



Throughout the day, we attended multiple student presentations, and we have chosen four researchers to highlight in this article: three individuals and one poster. Our goal with this article is to shine a light on the participating students and faculty who have dedicated their time to research.

# Minds @ Work: Olivia Brent

## Plant Cell Anatomy Trade-Offs in Brassica rapa

----- SADIE ESTLE

### Overview of the research project:

This research project investigates the developmental trade-offs between specialized cell types in plants' leaf epidermis, specifically trichomes and stomata, and their coordination with leaf veins. The primary objective was to better understand how these features are allocated based on environmental demands and internal plant mechanisms and how their development from a shared pool of epidermal cells influences overall leaf function.

### Main objectives of the research:

By comparing hairy and hairless plant genotypes, Olivia aimed to analyze patterns in stomatal density, trichome presence, pavement cell distribution, and veins to uncover insights into the plant's strategies for balancing water



Olivia with faculty mentor, Dr. Noel Mano

conservation and gas exchange.

**Are there any skills you have developed through this research project?**

“Yes, I have developed several valuable lab skills, such as tissue preservation through paraffin embedding, precise microscopy techniques, and microtome sectioning to visualize internal leaf structures.

I have also gained experience in experimental design, data interpretation, and scientific communication. These are skills that are directly applicable to careers in biological research and medicine.”

### About the Keynote Address...

The Keynote Address from Julija Šukys focused on her lifelong fascination with archives. She sees them not only as physical collections of documents, but also as powerful symbols of memory, identity, and history. For Šukys, working with archives feels like solving a jigsaw puzzle, carefully piecing together fragments to uncover deeper truths. She shared how her writing process relies on curiosity, methodical exploration, stories and historical narratives.





Grace Porter with her Playing the Classroom research poster



Photo: Sadie Estle

# Minds @ Work: Grace Porter

## Play in the Classroom



----- OLIVIA BRENT/SADIE ESTLE

### Overview of the research project:

Grace presented a poster presentation on different types of play in the classroom and the purpose and benefits of play. She used her experience with student teaching to research the importance of creativity and play in the classroom, and found that play helps students to engage and expand their knowledge of different subjects. Grace also found that a teachers’ role in play is a huge contributor to whether a student

is learning while they play.

The purpose and benefits of play in the classroom include language development, cognitive development, social development, and physical development. Grace then highlighted different types of play in the classroom setting. These include parallel and associative play, dramatic/role play, physical play, exploration/sensory play, free play, and games with rules. Each of these different types of play have their own objectives and benefits, including increased fine motor and social skills.

### Main objectives of the research:

The main objectives of Grace’s research project were to highlight the importance of playing in the classroom and the different benefits

that organized play can have on students.

She worked to find ways to include play and interaction within the student’s learning experience, therefore expanding on social, fine motor, problem solving, and communication skills.

### Are there any skills you have developed through this research project?

“Throughout this research project, I have learned just how beneficial constructive play can be in the classroom setting. I once thought that the only way for students to learn was to be sitting in a classroom and listening to a teacher teach them new skills, but have since learned that there are many ways for a student to gain knowledge. Through this research, I have found a number of different ways to incorporate play into the classroom, and developed ways I can use these forms of play in my future classroom as a teacher.”



Payton Moser with faculty mentor, Prof. Douglas Woods

# Minds @ Work: Payton Moser

## The Price of Care: Understanding Cost Accounting in Hospitals

----- OLIVIA BRENT/SADIE ESTLE

### Overview of the Research Project:

Payton provided a description of cost accounting focused on activity-based accounting, time-driven activity-based costing, volume-based costing, which is the traditional and most commonly used costing, and cost-to-charge ratio accounting, which is used in healthcare. Payton showed the pros and cons of each cost accounting practice and showed how it works in specific businesses.

Payton also highlighted a research study by Hasan Ozyapici and Veyis Naci Tanis about the cost of gallbladder surgery. He ties in the two

different cost accounting practices with how they work within hospitals and how they affect the cost of care. Furthermore, he highlighted different ICU costs and why you are charged what you are.

Payton continued with a description of the Top-down vs Bottom-up costing methods. He showed the difference between paying with cash and paying with insurance and how those costs differ. He finished by recommending suggestions for hospitals when it comes to cost accounting.

### Main objectives of the research:

The main objectives of this research were to describe cost accounting and

the different areas of cost accounting. Payton also broke down insurance and reimbursement issues, and what insurance companies are charged individually compared to the cash payer. He also provided suggestions on how to regulate cost accounting in healthcare.

### Is there anything you learned through this research project?

“Before conducting this research, I did not realize there were so many issues regarding insurance claims and reimbursement. Medicare and Medicaid also totaled \$130 million in underpayments in 2022, and only paid 82 cents on the dollar for medical bills. These issues leave so many people in debt because of medical bills, and I did not realize just how bad it was until completing this research.”





Students helping students at this year’s Fresh Check Day. Photos: Toby Fath

# Fresh Check Day

## Some Time to Take Care of Yourself

----- TOBY FATH

On the Heidelberg campus, the 15th of April brought Fresh Check Day, an event highlighting and promoting mental health, to Seiberling Gymnasium. The event aimed to give students an interactive experience, through multiple participation booths, while also providing a chance to relax from classes, projects, and exams with free food and entertainment.

The goal for the Fresh Check Day team is to create a safe environment where students feel comfortable discussing their mental health and getting connected with resources available on campus.

The first thing you received when you walked through the gym doors was a slip of paper that you had to get stamped to enter a raffle. In order to

get stamped, you needed to visit at least five stations and engage with the activity at each booth. There was a mandatory booth that you had to go to, while the other four booths were free choice. After getting enough stamps, you could turn in the slip to get a chance to win a prize from the raffle, as well as a free voucher for food. The food came from a local business called Manny’s Munchies.



One station involved wearing “drunk” goggles. There were two challenges associated with the goggles: making a pyramid out of cups and trying to

walk in a straight line. This booth highlighted what it is like to be drunk and how it can impair your coordination.

Another booth focused on emotions and how easy they are influenced, by using water and food dye in a beaker as a visual representation.



Lastly, one booth allowed you to write something you dislike/hate, or just something negative in general, on a thin plastic plate. To symbolize releasing negativity, you then got to safely break the plate on the floor within a designated area.



Fresh Check Day is a national program created by the Jordan Porco Foundation. The annual event was sponsored by Heidelberg’s Student Senate and Stoner Health & Counseling Center.



# Fetch & Stitch

## Creating Dog Toys Out of Used Clothes



----- TOBY FATH

On April 8th, students gathered at the University Commons for a creative event centered around creating dog toys out of scraps of old clothing. Sponsored by Berg Enact-gift, the toys were for dogs at the Humane Society.

Tables were set up with free fabric pieces and scissors. For those who might not be familiar with DIY crafting, there was a video playing on the projector screen that showed and explained step-by-step instructions on how to create dog toys.

The event attracted a steady flow of students throughout the afternoon. Many came not only to get crafty, but also to enjoy the welcoming and relaxed atmosphere. There was free pizza from Heavenly Pizza, a fan favorite of the student body, as well

as drinks, which encourages everyone to stick around, create, and share their creations.



Students learned that old items that were once thought to be useless could be given a new purpose. Beyond the satisfaction of crafting, the event helped to teach a valuable lesson in resourcefulness. The success of this event highlights the importance of expressing creativity and resourcefulness on campus.





The Love for All Ball: Under the Sea Dance in the Wickham Great Hall on March 29th.

Photos: Toby Fath

# Love for All Ball

## Under the Sea Dance

----- TOBY FATH

The Love for All Ball was a social event where students could come together to enjoy food while dancing, conversing with others, and listening to music. The event was hosted in the Wickham Great Hall on the 29th of March. The Great Hall was decorated to commemorate the special occasion. Students were free to mingle, enjoying the opportunity to connect with their peers in a relaxed and enjoyable setting.



Food and drinks were located at the entrance of the Great Hall, free for anybody to take. The options ranged from a charcuterie board of crackers, cheese, and meats, to slices of pizza. It was the many options of food and drinks to choose from that helped make meeting people and mingling more enjoyable and memorable.



One of the biggest attractions at the event was the live entertainment. Located near the end of the Great Hall was a drum set and guitars provided on a stage for interested students to showcase their musical skills. As the night progressed, music filled the hall, creating an energetic ambience that encouraged dancing and further interaction among students.

The Love for All Ball, sponsored by Berg Allies, was a resounding success, drawing a large and enthusiastic crowd. Many attendees dressed to impress, arriving in elegant dresses and tuxedos for the casual event. The event's popularity speaks volumes about the student body's desire for future social gatherings within the community.

# BBPA's Self Care Night

----- KAMI STANFIELD

The Berg Body Positivity Association (BBPA) hosted a self-care night March 24th in Campus Center. The event featured face masks, snacks, coloring pages, board games, and painting nails. Students gathered together for a night of unwinding, connecting, and promoting self-love in a supportive environment. It was a night for students to take a break from their busy schedules and focus on their well-being.

The highlight of the night was spending time with friends and just being yourself on a stress-free night. It was a perfect reminder of how much joy comes from simply being in good company. Freshman Mari Weary reflected on the event, sharing, "This was a great gathering event to socialize and debrief after a stressful semester." Many students echoed this sentiment, truly appreciating the opportunity to slow down and reconnect with themselves and others.







Senior Ashley Ballard (above). Ashley and Kerry Copenhaver (right).  
Photos Courtesy of Kerry Copenhaver

# Senior Spotlight

## Ashley Ballard

----- KERRY COPENHAVER

Less than a month away, Ashley Ballard is gearing up for graduation. During her years at Heidelberg, she has accomplished an immense amount, and created lifelong memories along the way.

Daughter of Heather and Matt Ballard, and younger sister of Ryan, Ashley grew up in Centerville, Ohio and attended Centerville High School. Her basketball journey brought her to Heidelberg. Beyond athletics, she chose Heidelberg as her second home because of the MBA program, her major, and the exceptional Spanish program. She is majoring in Integrated Media with minors in Spanish and Business.

Throughout her four years she has been a varsity basketball player, a member of Zeta Theta Psi, a corollary member of Nu Sigma Alpha, and a student worker for Sports Information. Beyond campus, Ashley has worked at Best Break in Tiffin, and Point Guard College (PGC) where she coaches basketball camps during the summer.

Ashley also volunteered at Hope’s Landing in Tiffin, a nonprofit candle-based business founded to support local survivors of human trafficking and domestic violence, “I loved the experience. It was very humbling and I got to work with people who overcame hard pasts; it was very inspiring,” Ashley commented.

Being a student-athlete has been very



The college years provided Ashley with memorable connections and memories. As for memories, defeating Muskingum her junior year will be a feeling Ashley will never forget. And, her time at Heidelberg gave Ashley two great mentors: Professors Julie O’Reilly and Sieglinde Poelzler-Kamatali. Dr. O’Reilly was also Ashley’s advisor, “She really got me through college.”

Ashley’s advice to underclassmen is to, “Get involved. Get out there and make friends with people outside of your bubble.”

# Heidelberg Men’s Soccer

## Ready to Make Waves in the OAC



----- TREY PITZER

The men’s soccer team has had a rough couple of seasons in the last few years, including last season when the Student Princes finished with a 1-14-2 record. Picking up their only win against Muskingum University, the Student Princes finished ninth in the

conference. This group of young men have faced a lot of adversity throughout their Heidelberg soccer careers. From underwhelming seasons to coaching issues, these men have not had the ideal college soccer experience so far. However, over the course of winter break, the Heidelberg athletic department decided on a new head coach to take over the team.

On December 19, 2024, the head coaching position was filled by Michael Wright, who is no stranger to success. Coach Wright started his college soccer career as a player at Fredonia University, which ultimately led to an assistant coaching position

at his alma mater. After a year of coaching at Fredonia, Coach Wright moved into the Ohio Athletic Conference (OAC) where he was an assistant coach at Mount Union University.

During his three-year stint at Mount Union, the Purple Raiders found their way into the OAC tournament each year, finishing at the top of the conference this past season. This winning style and culture that Coach Wright is bringing to the table at Heidelberg is a breath of fresh air for the program. When speaking with the captain of the squad, Kaiden Reed said that, “You can feel the difference in intensity and energy all across the board...I really think this change is what we need for everyone to buy in.” With this new coach, new attitude, and new culture, the future is finally looking bright for Heidelberg men’s soccer.



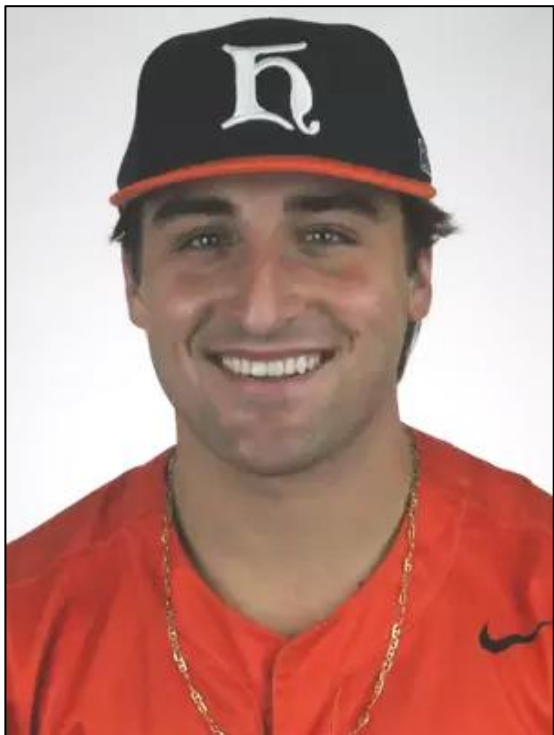
# Athlete Spotlight

## Dylan Matusak Heidelberg Baseball



----- JOEY KORZUNOWSKI

Dylan Matusak is a 5th year graduate student, and a member of the Heidelberg Baseball team. Dylan is a pitcher and in his 5th season at the Berg. He has stepped into the starting pitching rotation and he has flourished this season. In past years, he has been a reliable arm out of the bullpen, but head coach, Chad Fitzgerald, felt like his talents would be better in the starting rotation this season.



Dylan Matusak, Crown Point, IN

Heidelberg baseball is known for having an excellent, experienced pitching staff with players like Jackson Powers, Corbin Caplan, and Corey Brafford, who are all seniors this year.

But now, Dylan has been added to that group and has made the most of his opportunity. He has had some strong showings this season, such as a season high 11 strikeouts in his seven-shutout innings vs Elizabethtown back in early March.

This season has been a career year for Dylan as he holds an ERA of 3.54, a career low, as of April 28th with three games left in the season. He has also pitched the most innings of any season in his career with 61, to go along with 61 strikeouts, another career high. In

In addition, Dylan has allowed an opposing batting average of .255, which is a career low as well. It is clear that he has worked hard every single year to get better, and his stats have proven that each year.

Dylan is originally from Crown Point, Indiana, where he played his high school ball at Crown Point High School. He said he decided to commit to Heidelberg out of high school due to the MBA Plus One Advantage program, as well as the School of Business as a whole, in addition to the opportunity to play college baseball.



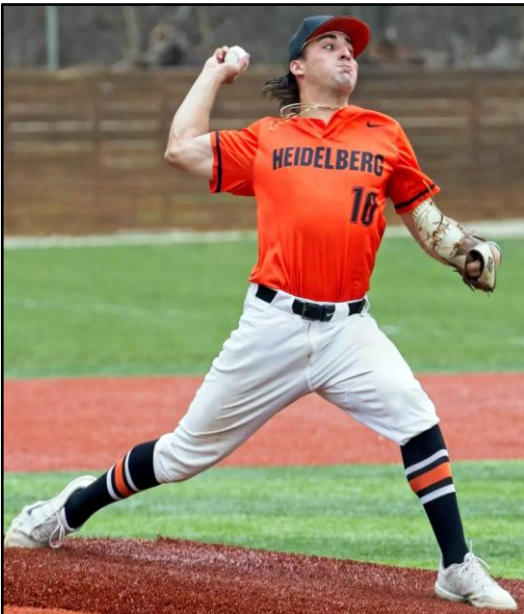
In addition to baseball, Dylan has started his own apparel company with one of his friends called “Moneyline Apparel.” His business sells shirts, sweatshirts, and hats as of right now, with a few different designs in play. His business is still in the process of rolling out all of its products, so it is not fully open for sale yet, but have been in the marketplace passing out samples and are pleased with the feedback they have received.

I personally have seen the hats that they plan to sell and they are definitely something I could see myself wearing. I’m impressed with his business.

Dylan states that he took what he had learned during his time at Heidelberg, both during his undergraduate studies and in the MBA program, to help build his business and brand. After graduation this year, Dylan wants to continue to build his business and brand into something even bigger.



Dylan is more than just a baseball player, as his business acumen shows. He has had a great career here on the Heidelberg baseball team and he has definitely made his mark on the program. Dylan is destined for success after graduation as he knows what he wants to do and what he needs to do in order to achieve that. Heidelberg baseball will certainly miss him. Best of luck to Dylan in the future!



Career Statistics									
Pitching Statistics									
	ERA	W	L	APP	GS	CG	SHO	SV	IP
2021	9.56	1	0	8	0	0	0	0	16.0
2022	12.27	1	2	10	1	0	0	0	14.2
2023	6.75	2	2	5	4	0	0	0	18.2
2024	7.71	2	2	11	6	0	0	0	32.2
2025	3.54	3	3	11	10	1	1	0	61.0
Total	6.48	9	9	45	21	1	1	0	143.0





# March Madness 2025

## A Tournament of Titans, Transfers & Turnarounds

----- TREY COMBS

The 2025 NCAA Men’s Basketball Tournament brought intensity, emotion, and plenty of headlines. Whether you followed every bracket or just caught the final buzzer, this year’s tournament gave fans a little bit of everything—elite programs, Cinderella stories, and the growing influence of the transfer portal. The Florida Gators emerged victorious, but the tournament’s story runs much deeper.

### A Clash of Heavyweights

This year marked a return to power for the top seeds. All four No. 1 seeds—Florida, Houston, Duke, and Auburn—made it to the Final Four, a rare occurrence not seen since 2008. The championship game featured Florida and Houston, two well-balanced, battle-tested teams. The Gators, who were ranked No. 1 overall heading into the tournament, leaned on defense and veteran leadership to edge Houston 65–63 in a game that went down to the wire.

Florida’s Walter Clayton, Jr. was named Most Outstanding Player of the tournament. After going scoreless in the first half, he came alive in the second, scoring 11 crucial points and shutting down Houston’s final possession with a clutch defensive stop. Coach Todd Golden, just three years into his role at Florida, now joins elite company with his first national title.

### The Transfer Portal’s Growing Impact

If there’s one trend reshaping college basketball, it’s the transfer portal. The 2025 tournament featured teams loaded with talent that didn’t come from traditional recruiting pipelines. Experienced players, many of whom transferred from mid-majors or other Power 5 programs, played key roles in deep tournament runs.

Programs like Missouri, Arizona, and NC State relied on transfers to fill critical gaps and create more mature, physically ready rosters. Shawn Phillips Jr., a 7-foot transfer from Arizona State to Missouri, made headlines even before March Madness began, representing the type of high-upside athlete now available through the portal.

This year, the portal’s influence felt even stronger than in 2024. Coaches now build rosters like GMs—blending high school talent with transfers who bring experience, physicality, and leadership. The portal has also made it harder to predict which teams will break through, adding even more chaos to bracket-making.

### Heidelberg Students React: More Than Just Brackets

Even though Heidelberg wasn’t dancing in March, the madness didn’t miss our campus. From the Campus Center TVs to late-night dorm debates over who would pull off the biggest upset, the NCAA tournament had students talking—and feeling every buzzer-beater.

For some, it was about watching future pros shine. For others, it was just about enjoying the unpredictability and energy that makes March Madness such a staple in college culture. Here’s what a few Heidelberg students had to say:

“I had UConn going back-to-back, so I was shocked when they went out in the Elite Eight. But honestly, it was cool seeing Florida pull it off. Walter Clayton Jr. played like he wanted it more than anyone.” – Dalton, Junior Psychology major

“I kept saying from the beginning that Arkansas was going to be a problem. People laughed at my bracket, but they really showed up. That’s what I love about March—anything can happen.” – Ayden, Senior education major

“As a basketball player, I watch how teams adjust in pressure moments. Houston had it until the end, but Florida’s defense was just next level. These games make me want to get in the gym and work.” – Riley, Senior guard on the HU men’s basketball team

Whether students were rooting for the underdogs, supporting their favorite Power 5 teams, or just hoping their bracket didn’t bust in Round 1, March Madness once again proved why it’s one of the best times of the year—even from Tiffin.

### Upsets, Surprises & Standouts

Though 2025 may be remembered for its dominant top seeds, it wouldn’t be March Madness without some chaos. This year gave us:

- McNeese State’s first-round upset, where the No. 12 seed stunned the basketball world with an aggressive full-court press and fearless shooting.
- Arkansas, a No. 10 seed, battled its way to the Sweet 16, proving that grit and tempo can still shake up the tournament landscape.
- Colorado State’s surprise win in the first round showed how strong Mountain West teams have become in the past few years.

Freshmen also made major waves. Cooper Flagg of Duke was everything scouts promised and more. He averaged double digits in scoring throughout the tournament, helped lead Duke to the Final Four, and showed leadership well beyond his age. His performance all but confirmed his spot as the No. 1 pick in next year’s NBA Draft.

### How 2025 Was Different

Compared to recent tournaments, 2025 felt like a clash between the old and the new. On one hand, you had traditional powers returning to form. On the other, the transfer portal and NIL deals reshaped how rosters were built and how players chose their programs. The average age of players in the Sweet 16 was higher than in past years, thanks to the fifth-year seniors and grad transfers sticking around.

We also saw increased parity. While blue bloods dominated late, there were plenty of moments early on where mid-majors and non-traditional programs showed they could hang with anyone. This year’s tournament also had some of the lowest-scoring games in recent memory, signaling a shift toward slower tempos and strong defensive coaching.

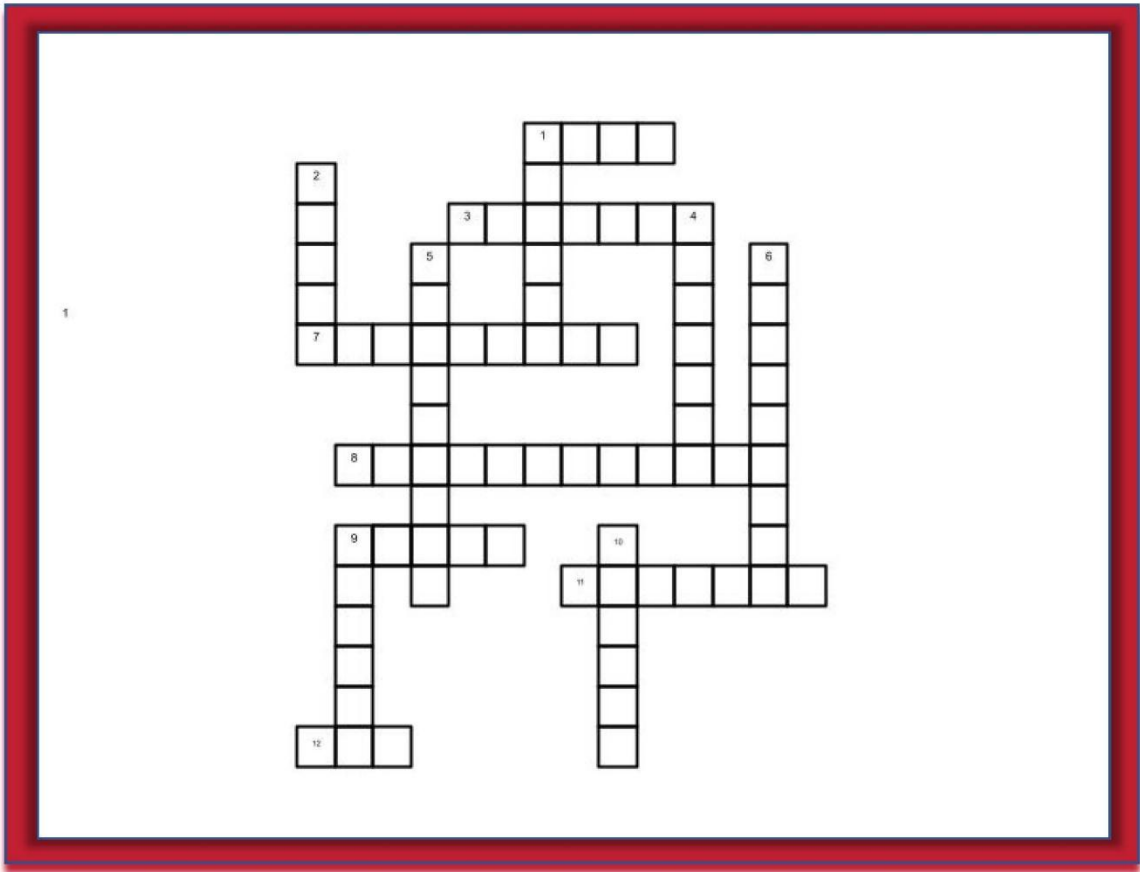
### Final Takeaways

If 2025 taught us anything, it’s that college basketball is in the middle of a transformation. Roster fluidity, more experienced players, and expanded fan interest have made March Madness more unpredictable—and more exciting—than ever.

For fans, it’s a golden age of competition. For coaches and players, it’s a new era of opportunity, strategy, and adaptation. And for bracket-makers everywhere? It’s just getting harder to call.



# May Crossword Puzzle



Across

- 1 – The impractical Joker of Tiffin
- 3 – The front of this shop is adorned with 3D fruits
- 7 – The new “brew” in town
- 8 – This Greek group has a painted rock in the river
- 9 – The only King in town
- 11 – The dessert served here is NOT ice cream despite the similarities
- 12 – Chicken chunks rule supreme here

Down

- 1 – Heidelberg’s youngest president
- 2 – Drinks, karaoke, and a giant stuffed mammal
- 4 – The new and improved cinema
- 5 – Cabin \_\_\_\_\_
- 6 – Tiffin’s mayor
- 9 – Frisbee golf, slides, and tee ball here
- 10 – The animal of the green school across the river

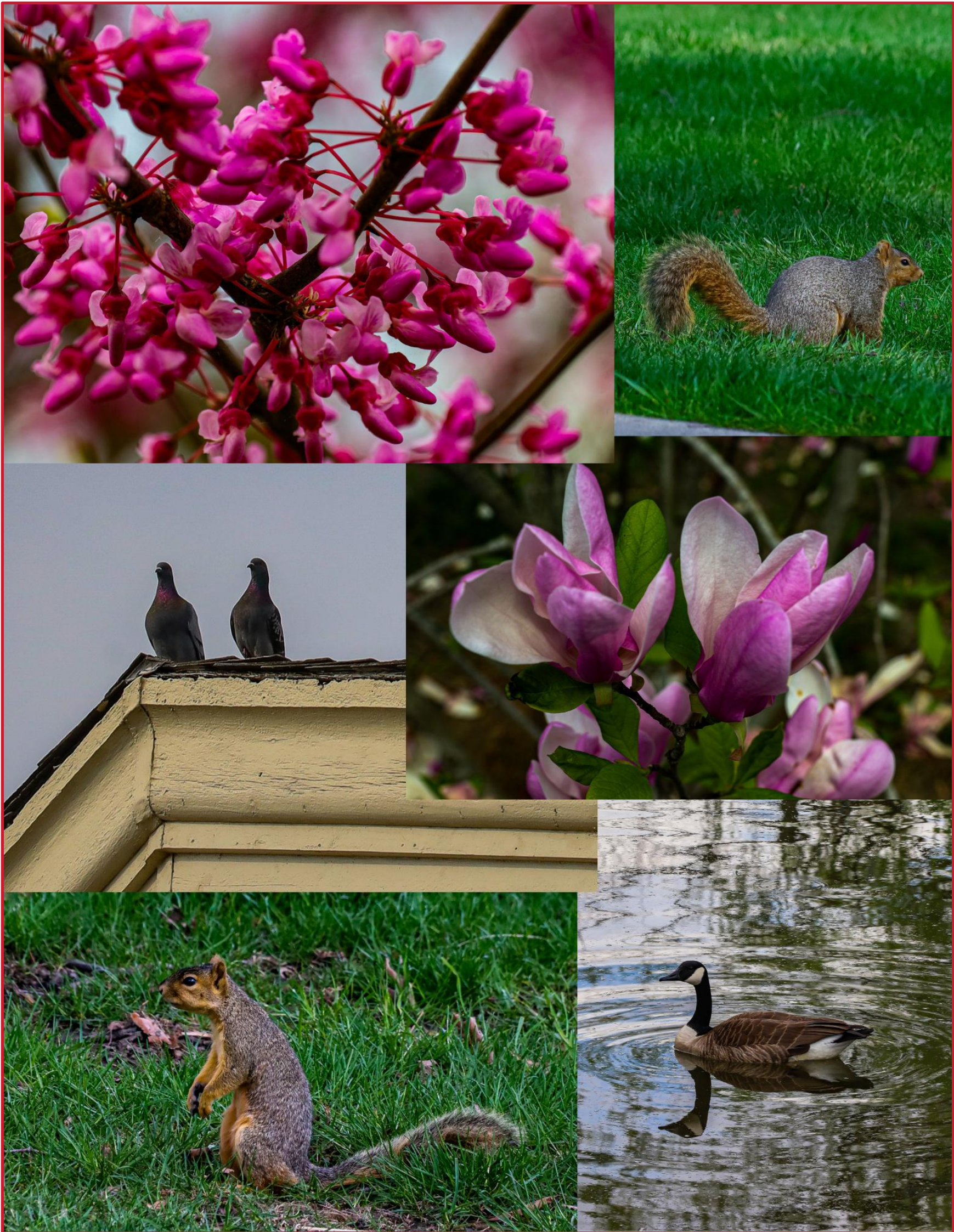
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# May Photo Collage by Corbin Sturgeon



Crossword Answers

Across

- 1-Murr
- 3-Molyets
- 7-Sevenbrew
- 8-Philaethean
- 9-Hunan
- 11-Frozone
- 12-MST

Down

- 1-Miller
- 2-Bears
- 4-Starvue
- 5-Creations
- 6-Wilkinson
- 9-Hedges
- 10-Dragon