

Senior Spotlight: Ethan Campbell By Julia Schaefer

Senior computer science major Ethan Campbell’s energy and adaptability have helped him to become a successful student throughout his four years at Heidelberg.

Campbell came to Heidelberg as an information systems major until the program was sunset in the fall of 2020, and he switched to computer science. He credits computer science professor Sean Joyce as the person who has influenced him the most while at Heidelberg.

“When they sunset information systems, he was the support I needed to help me navigate it,” explained Campbell.

Campbell came to Heidelberg because of the relationship he built with trumpet professor Thaddeus Archer while he was taking music lessons in high school. He has continued to participate in Heidelberg’s band while getting his computer science degree.

Campbell grew up with a mind for problem-solving, which he credits to his father. Campbell remembers, “He would bring things home they were getting rid of from the office, and we got into robotics together when I was very young.”

In his spare time, Campbell puts his energy into problem-solving. Just like his love for computers, he also picked up a hobby of repairing cars from his father.

“I really don’t know what got me started,” acknowledged Campbell. “Honestly, I just started watching youtube videos about it. When I was 17 I bought a truck that was running poorly and re-built the whole thing over a couple of years.”

Campbell is now applying everything he’s learned at Heidelberg and beyond. Last summer, he worked on cloud infrastructure as an intern for J.M. Smucker Co. During the school year, he works with Heidelberg CNIT.

“Learning how to communicate to different people about their technology is a very transferable skill. It’s exposed me to a lot of best practices and a ton of different techniques along the way,” reflected Campbell.

His work at CNIT has been limited by his involvement in other campus activities. In addition to the band, Campbell serves as Secretary of the Rho Eta Delta fraternity, is a member of Heidelberg Historians, and is also a corollary member of Delta Sigma Chi and Zeta Theta Psi.

“I’ve really sort of found my home with those organizations,” stated Campbell. “I have different reasons for joining each, but I’m happy I’m a part of them all.”

Campbell is looking forward to finishing his computer science degree and getting his MBA. Campbell says there are no plans for him to stop his “break-neck speed” after graduation, as he plans to accept a return offer from J.M. Smucker and will work there full-time come May.

“In computer science, sometimes you’re going to fail. In most majors, somebody is going to run into something they need to work on,” Campbell added. “The worst thing that you can do is stop.”



Image courtesy of Ethan Campbell

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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“Cocaine Bear”: A Satirical Rampage

By Makenna Finnegan

What’s better than a bear rampaging and slaughtering drug dealers in the forest? There is not much that can top that. The recent film “Cocaine Bear” is taking all media outlets by storm. The wild tale about a ravaging bear on high-profile, criminal drugs is taking the country by storm, regardless of generation.

The film follows a mother (Keri Russell), her daughter Dee Dee (Brooklyn Prince), and her friend Henry (Christian Convery) as they run and search for Dee Dee after the bear ravages through the forest. On top of that, three high-profile drug dealers fight to recover the cocaine in order to cover their criminal tracks.

Despite high tensions between human and bear, “Cocaine Bear” takes on a satirical tone and humorous events, making the story

all the more endearing.

On March 2, Max Weiss, a critic for “Baltimore Magazine,” reported “The film is well made, efficient, clever, and some of its funny lines will have you, um, snorting. But in the end, it’s still about a bear on a coke binge.” Weiss’s comment speaks for the people; the film’s vocal satire will have every audience rolling.

On top of the thrill and comedy, “Cocaine Bear” takes on the form of a 1980’s slasher film. With a retro plotline and character archetypes, the film brings joy to all audiences. In an article for The New York Times, Joe Zinoman comments that director Elizabeth Banks “doesn’t always dole out the viscera artfully (better to follow a leg with an arm, not another leg) but she commits to the too-muchness necessary for comedy.”

Though the film does not stand in elegance like other current creations, it holds well the state of the comedy and horror genres today. The satire and caustic dialogue, along with the gory horror, stands out against sly humor and subtle terrors.

Without a doubt, “Cocaine Bear” is not a refined and ground-breaking film, but some art is notable for the laughter it brings out of audiences.



Image Courtesy of Kevin Winter

This is the Way; Star Wars: “The Mandalorian” Returns for Season 3

By Aaron McCoy

As the first live action Star Wars television series, “The Mandalorian” took the galaxy by storm in 2019. After a two-and-a-half-year hiatus, “The Mandalorian” returned to Disney+ on March 1 for a much-anticipated third season.

Set in between “Return of the Jedi” (1983) and “Star Wars: Episode 7 – The Force Awakens” (2015), the series premiered shortly after Disney launched their own streaming platform, and it quickly became their main attraction. It’s been so popular, even non-Star Wars fans have flocked to the show.

Not only do casual fans enjoy “The Mandalorian,” but die-hard fans have praised it as well. With the help of a little green puppet, it tells unique stories within the Star Wars universe, while remaining faithful to elements of the three trilogies.

Despite its connections to the rest of the franchise and its inclusion of legacy characters, the show focuses on new characters in an era we haven’t seen before on screen.

We’ve seen countless projects that surround the Skywalker family, so it’s refreshing to see what other people are doing in the galaxy far, far away.

What fans love most about “The Mandalorian” is that it carries on the legacy of the Star Wars franchise without feeling like a basic re-hash of previous projects. If you need a refresher before the new season, here’s a mostly spoiler-free summary:

In the pilot episode, our stoic protagonist, Din Djarin hunts for a bounty that ends up being a creature that fans quickly dubbed “Baby Yoda.” Instead of handing over the bounty, the Mandalorian sees something special in his new friend. From there, Din and the little green force-wielder navigate the galaxy as they complete various missions and evade threats.

Tasked with reuniting “Baby Yoda” with the Jedi, season two sees Din searching for a new home for his friend while their bond strengthens. The second season

expands this era of Star Wars even more, bringing in legacy characters from previous series and movies and presenting the fallen Empire as the primary opposition.

Popular characters from the animated “Clone Wars” and “Rebels” shows, such as Ahsoka Tano and Bo-Katan Kryze, even make their live-action debut in the second season and set up future series in this timeline. In an epic conclusion, “Baby Yoda,” revealed to be named Grogu, is reunited with the Jedi, leaving his adoptive father’s arms.

After their reunion in the spinoff show, “The Book of Boba Fett” (2021), Din and Grogu are set for another season of adventures. The new season promises to expand this world even more and dive into the background of the “Mandalorian Way.”

Catch up on the first two seasons of “The Mandalorian” and tune in for season three, airing Wednesdays on Disney+.

Powerful Women in the Playbill

By Julia Schaefer

As Women’s History Month ends, we’re reflecting on the women who are building careers in Heidelberg’s theatre department and the feminist productions that opened this semester.

The season began in January with “Top Girls,” the story of a woman who makes sacrifices to succeed in the business world of the 1980s. The lead character Marlene, portrayed by second-year student Taylor Yunker, is advised by a cast of female historical figures. “Top Girls” was produced by a completely non-male team. “It was really cool,” Director Solana Petrone remarked regarding the experience. “Our rehearsals were a lot more comfortable. It felt like it was a different type of rehearsal because we all could relate to the stories we were telling.”Petrone also works as the foreman of the theatre’s Scene Shop, where she noted she has experienced the discomfort of being a woman in a traditionally male position.

20th Anniversary of the Invasion of Iraq

By Cameron Spraggins

On March 19, 2003, President George W. Bush announced that the coalition forces led by the U.S. had begun military operations in Iraq. President Bush decided to invade Iraq on the pretense that Iraqi President Saddam Hussein held Weapons of Mass Destruction, or WMD, which threatened the stability of the Middle East and the safety of the world at large.

President Bush prematurely declared the end of combat operations on May 1, 2003, as the reconstruction of Iraq following the ousting of Saddam Hussein proved far more complicated and protracted than the U.S. originally intended. According to the Council on Foreign Relations’ timeline of the Iraq War, the U.S. did not officially withdraw the last troops from Iraq until 2011. To this day, Iraq is not the stable democracy that the U.S. intended to promote. In Iraq and other Middle Eastern countries drawn in from the 2003 invasion, the invasion and the subsequent failure on behalf of the U.S. to effectively instill democracy has left lasting political and humanitarian ramifications.

In addition to the resentment of the American military presence by the Iraqi people, the failure to fill the power vacuum following the ousting of Hussein allowed for the growth of terrorist organizations such as the Islamic State of Iraq and Syria or ISIS. According to the Center for Strategic and International Studies

The following month, the main-stage production “Les Liaisons Dangereuses” took us further into history, exploring how women found power in oppressive situations. The intimate relationships of the French court are expertly manipulated by La Marquise De Merteuil, played by fourth-year student Elayna Brock. Finally, three musical theatre majors presented their senior projects, showcasing their independently produced shows that reflected on tough personal topics.

Lizzie Bowman directed “Growing Through Hardship,” a cutting of a play about a woman’s journey in a mental health facility. The emotional show provided the opportunity for freshmen and sophomores to debut in principal roles.

Solana Petrone returned to present her one-woman show “Tapping Through History,” which was inspired by her theatre mentor. Petrone said she admired the former Rockette for “being a very

beautiful feminine dancer who also stood up for what’s right.”

Bri Clark presented a self-written, directed and performed musical. The audience experienced her struggle with relationships and self-acceptance through a diary-like narrative. Clark works on and offstage, designing sets, hair, makeup and posters for many of Gunlach’s shows. “As a woman in theater, your career is based around how you present yourself,” reflected Clark. “There’s pressure to look a certain way and come off as happy despite knowing it is not always in your power if your hard work pays off. I knew I needed to share this story so I took it into my own hands.”

To close out the semester, the student-directed play “Porch” explored sexuality and friendship last weekend. The final show of the season is “Spongebob Squarepants the Musical,” which will take place the weekend of April 20 through 23.

in a post-war report of the invasion, the invasion of Iraq and subsequent attempts at regime change in the Middle East have left the region destabilized, ripe with sectarian violence and void of economic independence. Iraq is an oil-rich country, yet relies on neighboring Iran for nearly 40% of its electricity, according to security scholars Lily Hamourtziadou and Bülent Gökay in a September 2021 article for OpenDemocracy. Twenty years following the invasion of Iraq, Iraqi infrastructure is still incapable of generating electricity, let alone running a functioning democracy. As a result, the U.S. and Iran have been “jockeying” for control in Iraq, in the words of the Council on Foreign Relations’ Kali Robinson in a 2022 brief on Iranian influence in Iraq.

The Iraq war has dramatically influenced the political atmosphere in the middle east in the twenty years since the initial occupation. Whether it be the terror organizations that grew in response to American influence, the humanitarian crises that continue to mount in the region or the “jockeying” of influence between the U.S. and its rivals, it is clear that the Iraq War has yielded havoc. The attempt to mitigate these issues on behalf of the U.S. and the rest of the world is a development that will shape the remainder of the 21st century.

Reflections on Black History Month: Collaborating for Awareness By Kelsey Stanfield

During February, Heidelberg University commemorated Black History Month through the joint effort of the Office of Diversity, Inclusion and Belonging, the Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Committee and the Black Student Union.

Aaron Nelson, Director of Diversity, Inclusion and Belonging (DIB) and Heidelberg alumnus, organized several key events to raise awareness of issues surrounding Black identities.

One of Nelson’s events, the Justice Jog, was held on Feb. 23 and recognized Black victims of systemic injustice. Students and community members heard the stories of six individuals who lost their lives to racially motivated violence and then met with community organizations to debrief.

“I think the Justice Jog was the perfect event to commemorate Black History Month,” said Nelson in retrospect. “I believe it actually started something. Not only were conversations started, but they were also being produced by people

who generally wouldn’t be in the same room to initiate them.”

The Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Committee (DEIC) also assisted with hosting events.

“Heidelberg does really well with keeping our students safe,” said Kiera Harper, Assistant Director of Admission for Exercise and Health Science, as well as DEIC chair member and advisor for the Black Student Union (BSU). “But it is also crucial for our students to know what is going on in the world and somewhat prepare them for what some students have either experienced or how to prevent situations like those that can happen in their lifetime,” she continued.

In addition to educational events, social events were also arranged by the student-led BSU.

On Feb. 10, the organization held a game and karaoke night to encourage students outside of the group to get to know the club. Then, the group hosted a brunch takeover in Hoernemann Refectory on Feb. 19 and shared Black culture with Heidelberg’s student

body.

Makayla McDonald, president of the organization, noted that BSU understands the importance of diversity across Heidelberg’s campus.

“In my opinion,” said McDonald, “BSU is not just for people of color. It is for any race who wants to join, support, and be heard.”

Although Black History Month has come to an end, the BSU is still looking forward to hosting social events.

The group is currently organizing its annual Afro Ball on March 25. Students are encouraged to wear their best sneakers and join the BSU in Wickham Great Hall at 7 P.M. Tickets are available for purchase from the BSU for \$10 until March 22, or can be purchased for \$12 at the event.

For students interested in learning more about BSU, they can find more information by checking their Instagram and Twitter accounts under the handle @Berg_BSU. The club meets weekly at the Ubuntu house at 21 Circular Street at 5 P.M. on Thursdays.

A Few Froggy Friends By Isaiah Shiley

With spring just around the corner, there are many things for Heidelberg students to look forward to. Smelling the fresh grass while walking to class, attending a softball game or track meet with friends and studying next to an open window are all activities unlocked with the passing of winter.

For some though, spring is time to marvel at the new life seemingly springing from the bushes, and this article will outline a few particularly froggy friends the astute Student Prince may see this spring: the northern green frog, the American bullfrog and the gray treefrog. The northern green frog (*Lithobates clamitans melanota*) is the first of our froggy friends. These small frogs grow up to 3.5 inches long, and are easily identifiable by the two pronounced dorsal ridges running down their sides. Out of these three frogs, the northern green frog is the one you are most likely to come across, as the Ohio Department of Natural Resources’ “Amphibians of Ohio Field Guide” lists them as the most abundant frog species in Ohio.

People in all 88 counties can find northern green frogs this spring by following their croaks, which are described as “the plucking of a bass string on a banjo at well-spaced intervals.” The second common frog is the gray treefrog (*Hyla versicolor*).

The gray treefrog is smaller than the northern tree

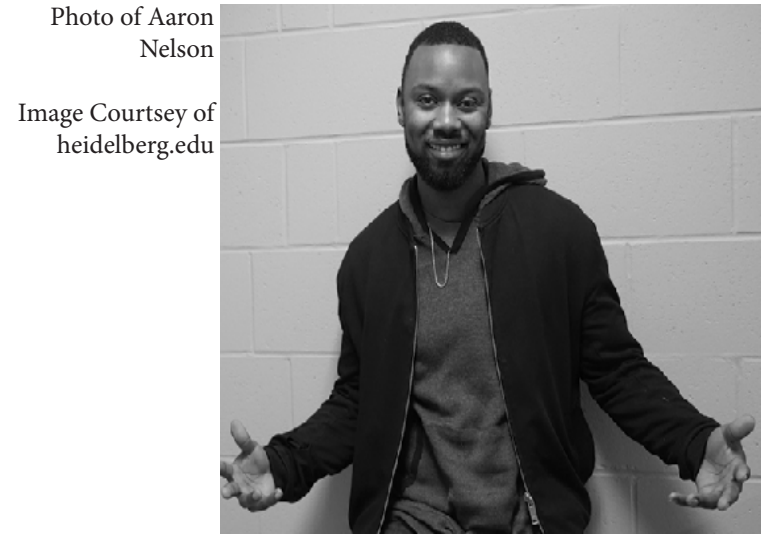
frog, ranging from 1.25 to 2 inches in length. To make up for their small stature, they have adapted to living a majority of their lives in trees.

Additionally, they can change their color to match their surroundings, giving them excellent camouflage. Regardless of their color, gray treefrogs can be identified by light-colored spots on the sides of their head, bright yellow inner thighs and a short, high-pitched chirp.

The American bullfrog (*Lithobates catesbeianus*), the largest of Ohio’s frogs, is the last of our froggy friends. The size of these frogs - up to six inches in length - makes them easy to spot, but they can also be distinguished by their dark green and brown coloring.

During the late spring and summer, the American bullfrog can be found lounging around ponds and streams in 84 out of 88 counties. Those looking for American bullfrogs can listen for their “deep resonant call.”

This spring, consider keeping an eye open when near streams or ponds. The northern green frog, gray treefrog and American bullfrog are but a few of the many frog species native to Ohio, and you never know what other froggy friends you may encounter in your travels.



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We are increasing our social media presence this semester. 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/>”



Image for “This is the Way; Star Wars: “The Mandalorian” Returns for Season 3” on page 2.

Image Courtesy of rottentomatoes.com

Heidelberg Men’s Basketball Sets Sights on OAC Championship By Aaron McCoy

The best month for basketball fans has arrived—let the madness begin. This year, a significant change was made to the women’s national tournament. Instead of having four regional sites (one for each set of 16 teams), there will be two regional sites where 32 teams will compete to reach the Final Four, which will be held in Houston, Texas. The men’s tournament will still compete at four regional sites to earn the right to play in their Final Four which is also held in Houston.

March Madness will conclude for the women on Sunday, April 2, while the men finish up on Monday, April 3, with their respective National Championship games.

A NO. 1 seed has won the men’s national championship in each of the last five years, according to the “ESPN Field of 136” show. However, this year has seen more parity than ever. The field of 68 teams is led by NO. 1 seeds Alabama, Pur-

due, Kansas and Houston.

Only two of those teams received automatic bids to the tournament by winning their conference tournament. Kansas was blown out by 20 points by Texas in their conference championship game, and their head coach has been out with health issues. Additionally, Houston lost one of its starters to injury in the conference semifinal game, leading their conference championship loss to Memphis by 10.

Alabama has overcome a lot of outside noise since the end of January. Even with all the pressure, on and off the court, they managed to win their conference championship by 19 points.

Purdue was victorious in its conference tournament, narrowly defeating Penn State, who the team had beaten by 20 points just over a month ago. Purdue also struggled in the last few weeks of the season going 3-3 in their last 6 games.

In the women’s tournament, the

top seeds advance to the Final Four more consistently than in the men’s tournament. The four NO. 1 seeds include South Carolina, Virginia Tech, Stanford and Indiana. UConn, the major power of women’s college basketball, received a NO. 2 seed, as did All-American Caitlin Clark and the Iowa Hawkeyes.

The last couple of years have seen more upsets in the women’s tournament, resulting in increased viewership. For example, NO. 2 Iowa was defeated by NO. 10 Creighton in last year’s tournament. Thanks to star Caitlin Clark, many fans wanted to see Iowa make a deep run, but upsets are an exciting part of March Madness.

The month of March promises to highlight the best men and women in college basketball, bring exciting games to viewers across the globe, bust some brackets, and as always, bring the NCAA loads of money.

Heidelberg Alumna and PALS Creator Passes By Tim Buckey

The Heidelberg community was devastated to learn of the passing of Patricia “Pat” Adams on Friday, Feb. 10, 2023. Adams was the founder of the Patricia Adams Lecture Series, otherwise known as PALS.

Beginning in the fall of 2010, the idea behind the lecture series was to highlight significant women who have succeeded in their field of work. Ashley Helmstetter, Assistant Vice President for Alumni Engagement & HYPE Career Ready, stated that “The Patricia Adams Lecture Series meant the world to Pat.”

Over the years, twenty-two speakers have visited Heidelberg’s campus to share their stories. Adams selected empowering women to share their unique stories and showcase their impact on their industry. Examples of these empowering women include Ann M.

Fudge, Susan Graber, Mrs. Laura Bush & Barbara Pierce Bush and Kristin Chenoweth. Having a large variety of speakers has allowed students to learn and connect with many different fields of work.

Faculty, staff and students have built impactful relationships with Adams and her family. “To be able to meet Heidelberg students, interact with them, get to know them, and hear their stories throughout PALS, impacted her as much as it did the students,” stated Helmstetter.

Heidelberg will continue to honor Adams by maintaining PALS for students. President Rob Huntington said, “Her daughter, Sherri Adams, will pick up the mantle in representing her mother at future PALS events.”

Continuing the tradition of PALS will allow students, faculty and staff to learn the stories of in-

fluential women in the workplace, and what shaped them into the people that they are today.

Students who are interested in the same industry have the opportunity to get more hands-on experience through the series. For example, students involved in Heidelberg’s School of Music and Theatre recently had the chance to sing in front of Broadway star Kristin Chenoweth and receive feedback.

Adams leaves behind an opportunity for Heidelberg students to take inspiration from influential individuals and incorporate such lessons into their own lives.

Helmstader shared, “She would want all of us to continue her legacy by participating in PALS events and continuing those conversations that connect everyone and bring people together.”

Faculty Spotlight: Dr. Jiachun Hong By Ellis Herner

This past fall, Heidelberg University welcomed Dr. Jiachun Hong into the family. Dr. Hong was offered the position of Assistant Director of Media and has since been working hard to bring his many years of expertise to the program.

Hong began his college career as an international studies major at Peking University in Beijing, China. Hong fully realized his passion for media when a documentary team was sent to make a 100th anniversary special for the university.

“China Central Television (CCTV) sent a team to make a documentary about the university,” remembered Hong. “Several classmates and I helped with that project, and that’s the first time I remember coming in contact with the idea of making a documentary.”

After graduation, Hong began working for CCTV. He worked with international news but still had a desire to further his education. After two years at CCTV, Hong traveled to Hong Kong to pursue his master’s degree.

Hong attributed much of his love for media and film to a class he took in Hong Kong entitled “Qualitative Research Methods.”

“We did a lot of film studies in that class,” acknowledged Hong. “I was thinking that it was very interesting, and that it could potentially be a career for me. That was also the first time that I felt I could be a professor. I watched him teach and thought ‘I want to do what this guy does.’”

After graduation, Hong began to work as a documentary filmmaker for CCTV. There, he was professionally trained and worked on 45-minute documentaries that aired on the network.

“Each of my documentaries were viewed by 10 to 20 million people, and because of that it was a big challenge for me,” stated Hong. Hong worked on 10 projects for CCTV and later became an independent filmmaker.

While Hong enjoyed working for CCTV, he wanted to become a professor. Only ever working as an assistant graduate professor at Southern Illinois University, Dr. Hong’s first job teaching by himself has been at Heidelberg. When reflecting on his first semester teaching at Heidelberg, Hong remembered the most difficult parts of the transition.

“The most challenging part was becoming familiar with what the students expected from me,” explained Hong. “Most of the students at my previous institution were very good at shooting (film) and editing, so we mainly talked about how to make it better. Here, students had little to no experience, so it took me a while to adjust to what they needed.”

Regarding his favorite class to teach, Hong mentioned the Film Studies class that he taught last semester. “I have worked in the documentary industry for so long, I have so much that I wanted to share with the students. I loved helping them shape their documentaries,” acknowledged Hong. “It was great to see the students here develop their skills, go from a person with no experience to a person who can make great documentaries.”

With several years of experience behind the camera, Dr. Jiachun Hong is already doing a wonderful job shaping Heidleberg’s media program. The university is eager to see what he has planned for the program in the future.

Alternative Spring Break Trip:



Picture from Sharkhead’s, a gift shop in Mississippi, from the return trip. Pictured left to right: Taylor Ratliff, Emma Wright, Cadence Frankart, Kelsey Stanfield, Jackson Helmholtz (Image Courtesy of Taylor Ratliff)



Students from Catawba and Heidelberg pose in front of Back Bay Mission before departing to return to campus. (Image Courtesy of Back Bay Mission)



Heidelberg community members pose with their newly built stairs. Back left to right: Jayden Slaughter, Jackson Helmholtz, and Isaiah Hammer Front: Disabilities Coordinator Alyssa Kontak (Image Courtesy of Jocelyn Everett)