Humans vs. Zombies Takes Over Campus

by Anthony Bunn
Villager Staff writer

For those who believe that there will one day be a zombie apocalypse now is the time to stand up and revolt.

From April 22-29, the annual Humans vs. Zombie (HvZ) competition will be held.

For those who may be worried about the outcome of Humans vs. Zombies, no real zombies will be harmed for anyone’s amusement. HvZ is a game of man-hunt on steroids, played with Nerf guns, socks, and marshmallow “bullets.”

According to the official Humans vs. Zombies website (www.humansvszombies.org), it is “a game of tag played at schools, camps, neighborhoods, libraries, and conventions around the world. Humans must remain vigilant and defend themselves with socks and dart blasters to avoid being tagged by a growing zombie horde.”

On day one, an undisclosed participant is chosen to be a zombie. This person’s job is to infect as many people as possible on that day.

As the days progress, the infection continues to spread across campus. The remaining few will fend off the zombies as they attempt to survive the apocalypse.

HvZ veteran junior Kris De Jesus described the experience as an “adrenaline rush.” Others say the experience is both fun and epic, and worth joining in.

As cool as it may sound, however, Humans vs. Zombies doesn’t excite everyone. Some believe that the game is too violent because it promotes the use of realistic and must be marked with vivid colors of tape to set them apart. When players enter building or safe zones, the game every year. Through all the chaos and more Nerf darts than imaginable, strong bonds are often formed through this competition.

From nursing majors to those who study information systems, all kinds of students participate, as the event is orchestrated by various clubs around campus. In order to ensure as smooth a game as possible, club representatives gather to delegate the rules and regulations.

Some of the rules are put in place to appease administrative complaints. Vice president Claire Moore sent the following message detailing regulations regarding play: “to require participants to attend meetings regarding the rules, to recognize quiet hours in the residence halls and to provide detailed maps for play areas. Play is not allowed in any indoor facility including academic buildings, gymnasiums or residence halls.” Bathrooms, health centers, libraries and indoor athletic centers also traditionally qualify as safe.

Most would agree that it’s not fun to spend a lot of the game inside the safe zones, so it’s recommended that players shouldn’t spend more than two minutes “safe.” The boundaries and locations of safe zones must be clearly marked. Everywhere else is fair game.

According to the original set of rules, all players begin as humans, and one “Original Zombie” tags human players and turns them into zombies. Zombies must tag a human every 48 hours or they starve to death and are out of the game.

The Zombies are victorious when every human player has been turned into a zombie, and the humans win by staying alive long enough for the zombies to starve.

All Nerf blasting guns cannot appear realistic and must be marked with vivid colors of tape to set them apart. When players enter building or safe zones, the blasters must be hidden away.

Humans are required to wear a headband or bandanna around an arm or leg to identify them as players of the game. All zombies, except for the original instigator, are required to wear a bandanna around their head.

Some other random rules:

Humans may stun a zombie for 15 minutes by blasting them with a blaster gun or throwing a sock at them. Zombies may not use shields to deflect foam darts.

Players may not use cars or play in traffic.

Athletes and band members are safe during official practices, but not on the way to or from practices.

Similarly, students at required academic events are safe for the length of the event (even if this event is in a free-play zone), but they are not safe on the way to or from the event.

There are a multitude of blogs and wikis dealing with HvZ strategies, psychological warfare, development of hunting patience, identification of targets, and more. Zombie teams have loosely organized command leaders who have developed strong communication skills in order to mobilize zombies at a moment’s notice.

Love it or hate it, in a weird way the simulated carnage of HvZ can create a positive outcome. All are encouraged to join in the competition.
New art exhibit to connect nature, human images

by Siegfried Schmidt
Villager staff writer

Artist Chip Irvine sees humanity in nature, and his art reflects this vision. He will be unveiling his art exhibit at the Stevenson University Art Gallery located on the Greenspring campus on April 30.

Irvine was born in Baltimore, Maryland, and received his Master of Fine Arts degree in digital media from Towson University. He is a current resident of Studio 33 in Baltimore, where he is given a 450-square-foot studio to work in and can access it 24 hours a day.

Irvine has been working on Speaking Surfaces for the past five years, taking photos of nature starting in the mountains of Vermont and has worked his way down to Maryland.

Adjunct professor and Stevenson University graduate Jennifer Strasbaugh, who helped Irvine bring Speaking Surfaces to Stevenson, said about the project, “He sees these almost human-like images within the pictures he takes.”

The artist tries to find living presences within the photographs. Irvine uses macro-photography, photos that are extremely zoomed in and almost completely abstract.

Strasbaugh said, “It was a running joke between us that these figures would appear in the photographs and all you have to do is look for them.” Perhaps a non-artistic person would see a photograph with amazing color to it and consider it only a pretty picture, but when they take a closer look, they can see the outline of a face or a body part.

The picture thus is supposed to be the interpretation of the person viewing it. Stevenson has given Irvine the opportunity to use a professional printer, allowing him to take standard-size photographs and enlarge them to as big as 12 square feet. The photos will be mounted on thin board called sintra that will be hung on cleats to give the impression that the photograph is hovering off the wall.

Strasbaugh said that the mounting style will make it feel like viewers can walk right into the photo.

Irvine had over 100 photographs to choose from, and with the help of Strasbaugh, narrowed the collection down to 10 to 12 photographs.

The opening public reception will be April 30 from 6 to 8 p.m., and an art talk will be held May 6 at 3 p.m. Both events are free, and the public may attend.

For more information about Stevenson’s arts and cultural events, contact Matt Laumann, manager of cultural programs.

Wellness Center provides coping help and resources

by Alex Elaine Parker
Villager co-editor-in-chief

The environment, physiological aspects, personal thoughts, and social strains are all sources of stress. According to an NBCNEWS article on mental health, one in five undergraduate students are constantly stressed out (source). Maybe this is a result of students not exactly knowing how to release this stress.

Stevenson University is dedicated to ensuring that all students are provided with the necessary resources to attain a healthy college experience.

The university’s Wellness Center offers a variety of options on both the Owings Mills and Greenspring campus for students who need a little assistance finding an outlet to cope. Its resources range from one-on-one appointments, group sessions, and individual reflection.

“The Wellness Center gives the opportunity to receive health assistance, as well as explore counseling for issues that may interfere with their success and happiness in college,” said Monae Hill, president of the REAL Peer Educators.

The Owings Mills campus is home to a handful of experienced counselors, psychologists, nurse practitioners, dietitians, and physicians that are available for regular meetings and appointments.

If students prefer group interaction, there are two new options available that take place in the Meditation Center on the Greenspring campus.

Stevenson Yoga instructor Liz Schuman leads a yoga session every Wednesday from 11 a.m. to noon. The purpose of this exercise is to create harmony and relaxation within the body and mind.

The second session is a guided meditation experience led by Janice Laforteza, one of the Wellness Center’s Peer Educators. Both of these sessions are free of charge and do not require students to sign up in advance.

The Menninger Meditation Center was created in 2010 to provide a space for calming and centering in the Stevenson community. It consists of communal room, three private rooms, a labyrinth and outdoor garden, and is located in a quiet spot just beyond side of Cuylida.

Each feature of the Meditation Center was specifically designed in conjunction with the university’s focus on wellness and mental health.

Along with these resources, the Wellness Center has a collection of mobile apps for students who are frequently on the go and are technologically savvy. These apps pertain to different sources of stress including mood, anxiety, stress, sleep, breathing, depression, and meditation. With a simple download, students can have support and assistance at the palm of their hands.

“I encourage students to attend sessions, make appointments, and use some of the mobile apps,” said Dr. Salvatrice Bonefas, staff psychologist. She added, “We offer a lot of resources and good options that I hope students take advantage of.”

For additional information about the Wellness Center and its services, call 443-352-4200.

World record to be challenged

by Shannon Burt
Villager staff writer

On May 6, Stevenson University will hold its first-ever Guinness World Record challenge for the largest exercise ball class.

Created by Mark Hergan, vice president of enrollment management, and Morgan Somerville, student employment manager, in collaboration with a key group of Stevenson students, this event is advertised as “one-of-a-kind” for all who attend.

Somerville said that the last record was held May 4, and this one will be debuting for the largest exercise ball class. The event must begin at 4 p.m. sharp.

On May 6, Stevenson University will host the event at Mustang Stadium at 3 p.m. as the event can be purchased for $5 at the Rock.

Although this event is a half-hour exercise class to be taught by Stevenson’s strength and conditioning coach, M.C. McFadden, no prior athletic ability is necessary. Those who participate need only a commitment to have fun and make history.

Admission and participation to the event can be purchased for $5 at the Rock, or by going online to Eventbrite.com and typing in Stevenson World Record Challenge.

All of the proceeds from the event benefit the Wounded Warrior Project, an organization dedicated to raising awareness and enlisting the public’s aid for the needs of injured service members, helping injured service members aid and assist each other, and providing unique, direct programs and services to meet the needs of injured service members, according to the Wounded Warriors Project website.

Registration on the day of the event begins at Mustang Stadium at 3 p.m. as the event must begin at 4 p.m. sharp.

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*Written by Stephanie Verni, Associate Professor of Business Communication, who spent 13 years working in baseball for the Baltimore Orioles.*

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Streaming music services pose threats to artists

**by Edward Bennett**  
Village staff writer

From cassette tapes to iTunes and Pandora to Spotify, the availability of music continues to evolve and carry innovation to another level. Recently, the music industry has begun streaming services reported to have a number of advantages. Listeners can access over millions of tracks—the “universal jukebox,” create and share playlists socially, discover new artists effortlessly through “artist radio,” and listen anywhere according to BPI (British Phonographic Industry). This mass availability of music would be great for consumers, but some artists are concerned about streaming services for music.

“Streaming” often simply means listening to music on a computer, without a physical copy. Streaming is divided into three broad categories: online music stores, non-interactive services and interactive services.

The elephant in the room during any conversation about streaming is piracy. Music executives in every camp know that if they make consumers unhappy enough, customers could just start stealing music quite easily.

For example, Taylor Swift removed her new album from the music service Spotify because she is not in favor of the transition of fees for streaming music. She believes that what is valuable should be paid for, so music should not be free. Other artists including Beyoncé, Coldplay, and Ed Sheeran are offering CDs and digital downloads for sale before putting them on streaming services. Yet the revenue for streaming music is rising fast, whether music artists like it or not.

According to Asymco analyst Horace Dediu, 2014 iTunes download music sales “might drop by an additional 40 percent.” Simultaneously, Pandora, Spotify, and other non-broadcast IP-delivered radio/music services are enjoying astonishing growth.

By next year, 170 million people will be listening to internet radio, up 10 million listeners from this year. Seventy-five percent of people age 12 to 24 listen to online radio monthly, and almost two-thirds of them listen weekly. The music world is changing fast, and new artists will have to adapt to this wave of streaming music. This could be more of an opportunity than the obstacle it initially appears to be.

Artists believe that streaming is bad because album sales will go down by a certain percentage. Scott Borchetta, CEO of Big Machine says, “The facts show that the music industry was much better off before Spotify hit these shores.”

The money is not the only problem for artists. The actual art or music that they create is more of an issue. Artists look at music as an art form and feel like streaming companies don’t appreciate the work that goes behind it. However, popular artists might make more money teaming up with streaming services such as Spotify because viewers are more likely to click on a popular artist than an unknown artist.
Brace yourselves: season five of Game of Thrones has arrived in style

by Frankie Reynolds
Villager staff writer

WARNING: THIS REVIEW CONTAINS SPOILERS FOR EPISODES ONE AND TWO OF HBO'S ORIGINAL SERIES “GAME OF THRONES.”

After a 10-month hiatus, “Thrones” is finally back. After arguably the most anticipated premiere yet, it’s safe to say that the series is heading into some new territory that is sure to provide viewers with even more unforgettable moments this year.

While the first two episodes may seem a bit slow, viewers must remember that the episodes follow the explosive finale of season four, essentially the climax of book three in “A Song of Ice and Fire,” the series on which the television show is based.

Season five will be taking elements from both books four and five, and, since this is almost all uncharted territory, it will obviously take some time to establish the setting and mood presented in those particular entries in the “Song of Ice and Fire” series.

So, where have four seasons of “Thrones” led viewers? For starters, Tyrion Lannister is dead, Tyron Lannister is on the run, and Arya Stark has finally made it to Braavos. Daenerys Targaryen has locked away her dragons, Stannis Baratheon has made camp at Castle Black, and Sansa Stark is with Peter Baelish, hoping to get out of Queen Cersei Lannister's reach for good. Season five has a lot of loose ends to tie up, and even though things haven’t quite been wrapped up in a pretty bow yet, they’re well on their way.

Season five’s first two episodes do a fantastic job giving fans a new setting for many of the characters, while still keeping the same mystic and historic atmosphere that “Thrones” has mastered in the past.

This season begins with a flashback from Cersei’s childhood — the first flashback in series’ history — a bold decision which pays off for two reasons: it shows viewers that her cruel personality has been a part of her nature ever since she was a small child, while also subtly informing viewers that this will be a huge season for her character.

Hopefully the sudden flashback is only the beginning of many fantastic storytelling elements for season five; even though there is less action thus far, the emotional way that the stories are told is as good as ever. Transitions between timelines are seamless, and things feel like they are slowly stitching themselves together more and more with each passing minute.

The premier is a direct reflection on the great work by director Michael Slovis. He has truly brought out the best in his actors during the first few hours of the new season, particularly with the story at The Wall.

Before the end of last season, everything in the north — particularly Sam and Gilly’s story — felt slightly bland compared to the rest of the realms, but since last year’s phenomenal battle at Castle Black, it has become a much more engaging story that is beginning to deviate from the books in striking ways. Slovis and the show’s writers have been on record saying that this season will stray from George R.R. Martin’s novels more than ever before, and so far they have been able to do so without losing the magic of “A Song of Ice and Fire.” Well done.

Season five is going to have a tough time being as good as season four, as the latter was a season filled with nonstop action coupled with the compelling storytelling “Thrones” fans have come to expect. It is just not possible for a show to do so action-packed year in and year out; there have to be some build-up episodes here and there, and that is what season five has been so far. In that sense, the new season feels like the beginning of season three, only the dragons are now 10 times bigger, something “Thrones” fans should be completely okay with.

Comaraderie through catastrophe: Relay for Life for a worthy cause

by Chloe Hedmond
Villager staff writer

On April 3-4, Stevenson University hosted Relay for Life, a fundraising cancer awareness event, in its Owings Mills gymnasium. It was packed with family, friends, and Stevenson students all affected by this tragic disease.

The overnight fundraising walk ran from April 3 at 6 p.m. to April 4 at 6 a.m. Relay for Life divides participants into teams, each competing to raise the most money. Throughout the night, members of each team walk around the track, each lap earning more money from the teams’ sponsors.

There were various games and activities surrounding the perimeter and interior the track. One of the sororities on campus created a “jail,” one of the more popular activities where people could pay to have a friend or stranger locked up. Those who were locked inside had to pay $1 to get out of jail.

MILE hosted the “The Treasure Hunt,” which participants seemed to enjoy. The runners dug their hand through a bucket of ice, found a penny, and redeemed it for a prize.

Colleen Shipley said, “I had never been to a Relay For Life before, so I was expecting people walking in the gym with music. Instead, I saw created booths with fun activities, and everyone was smiling and having a great time... I can’t wait to go again!”

Other booths included face-painting, Star Wars fights, and Dance-Dance Revolution.

More than any of the games or activities, the most memorable moment was the “Luminaria” ceremony. All the lights were turned off, all games were stopped, the room was silenced, and all attention was turned to the dimly-lit stage.

Music was played as cancer survivors and caregivers gave speeches about their personal experiences with cancer. The speakers were sincere, passionate and well-spoken, and the ceremony ended with a slideshow in memory of those who had passed away from cancer.

David Parker, Mr. SUJ, said, “I was very pleased to see that my late aunt’s photo made the slideshow. It definitely touched me.” Many people were brought to tears during this part of the event.

Following the emotional ceremony, participants were asked to stand if they knew someone battling cancer, or were supporting the battle against cancer. After everyone had risen to their feet, there was one unified walk around the track honoring cancer patients.

The Relay For Life ceremony was well organized and decorated beautifully. The event started at 6 p.m., the workers were friendly, and events were creative and fun. Stevenson University raised approximately $42,600 for cancer patients and research.

Though participating in Relay for Life costs only $10, some people wondered if the event was worth it. My answer is definitely yes. Join Stevenson University next year in its annual Relay For Life event!
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by Courtney Paro
Villager staff writer

This year will bring about big changes for the Sounds of Stevenson Glee Club. In May the club’s two founding members will graduate, but they are proud of the legacy that they will leave.

Seniors Diane White and Musu Kawusu-Kebbay founded the S.O.S Glee Club in September 2012. The idea for this club came about because they wanted something on campus that would give musically inclined students an opportunity to express themselves.

S.O.S Glee Club is well known for its biggest event, Night of the Arts, hosted each semester to promote all campus arts including the Black Student Union’s gospel choir and Allison Models. This event was first hosted in the spring of 2013, and has continued to grow significantly each semester since.

S.O.S Glee Club has one more event for this semester. On May 1 in Rockland Banquet Hall, the club will host its spring concert, “Curtain Call.”

With the founding members graduating, they promise that this concert will be one to remember. The group has prepared a variety of pieces for performance, and they will also honor the seniors with a tribute.

The founding members are excited to graduate in May, but they’re sad to leave their club behind. They have accomplished so much in the past three years, and they are proud of what they have been able to do.

“In 10 years, I have big aspirations for the S.O.S Glee Club. I would like to see the club expand in numbers, gain a well known positive reputation on campus, and host events that will effectively showcase the musical talent here at Stevenson University,” said White.

Beginning in the fall, the S.O.S Glee Club will have a completely new executive board. This will include President Priscilla Williams, Vice President Sydney Straughan, Treasurer Theodore Booker, Public Relations Chair Luciano Mastrangeli, Secretary Emily Rigenchbach, and Music Director Jennifer Vallecanas-Garcia.

Although White and Kawusu-Kebbay are sad to leave, they have faith in the club’s next leaders and are excited to see where the music will go from here.

Concert Band offers musical devotees another chance to shine

by Courtney Johnson
Villager staff writer

The sound of music greatly enhances life on and off campus, and although there is no major in music at Stevenson, those who enjoy learning about music can enroll in the new Concert Band class this spring.

Mark Lortz, the Stevenson University director of bands, teaches the class, which is offered as a two-credit fine arts course.

Concert Band, by definition, is “a band that is made capable of playing symphonic music by the addition of instruments (as the string bass and harp) not adapted to marching —called also symphony band,” according to the Merriam Webster dictionary.

Lortz said, “Every university in the country that has a marching band has a pep band and a concert band. So this class is being offered as an outreach to that.”

Lortz is helped in this class by Dr. Robert Suggs, professor of music and director of the Greenspring Valley Orchestra as well as the chorus.

Although he is not “directly involved” in the class, Suggs said he has encouraged the creation of a concert band class from the start. Both Lortz and Suggs agree that this class offers a “wider variety of music” than marching band does for the students.

Lortz added that although it will help students to have prior musical skill, it is not required. For those who are experienced musicians, the class will help to further develop their skills.

Lortz is also the conductor of the band. He composed an original piece, The Spirit of Stevenson, for this class, that will premiere May 3, 2015 at 7:30 p.m. in the gym on the Greenspring campus.

Suggs will be performing with the band “as somewhat of a soloist,” he said. He will be playing with a trumpet trio.

Lortz encourages the entire campus community to come out to this free event.

Gospel choir uses music, voice and song to unite and praise

by William Campbell
Villager staff writer

Christianity and music share various similarities, with both having the power to unite and bring people closer through passion. Combining the two, intertwining music with faith not only can bring people closer to Christ but together as people, this is what the Black Student Union’s Gospel Choir hopes to achieve, according to Charmaine Oden, the choir director.

The choir’s origins date back to the BSU’s creation when Stevenson was still Villa Julie College and there were only four African-American students enrolled. After the BSU grew to become the largest organization on campus, two subgroups were created, the Alliance Models and the Gospel Choir. Just like the BSU, the choir hoped to bring students together to foster spiritual growth and love for Christ through music. Their beliefs aren’t their only passions, said Oden.

“Gospel music has always been a big deal in my life. It’s allowed me to seek peace, comfort, and encouragement where other genres cannot.”

The choir isn’t a rag-tag group of singers who have never performed in a choir before, and although choir experience is not mandatory, the group is full of talented and passionate singers who together have a great deal of choir experience.

Take, for example, Oden, who’s been singing in her church’s choir since fifth grade, performing as a soloist and has even sung the National Anthem at many Stevenson University sporting events. And it isn’t just Oden who has performed at Stevenson events. The choir has performed at many university venues including Relay for Life, Fall Gospel Night, Acapella Fest and Tastes of Cultures.

The Gospel Choir has also performed for events at other schools including Kignate at UMBC (the University of Maryland-Baltimore County) and the choir sang prior to the mass celebrated by Archbishop William Lori, the Archbishop of Baltimore, on April 20 in Rockland, as well as at the First Baptist Church of Baltimore and during the memorial of Stevenson student and football player Emmanuel Paul.

Contrary to misconceptions many might have about the choir, it is not open solely to African-American students. It is open to students of all races just like the Black Student Union itself.

The group’s next public showcase will be its annual Gospel Night on May 3 at 6 p.m. in the Greenspring Theatre.

Photo courtesy of S.O.S Glee Club
S.O.S. Glee Club is preparing for their final concert of the year on May 1, entitled “Curtain Call.”

Photo courtesy of S.O.S. Glee Club
S.O.S. Glee Club will join the Greenspring Valley Orchestra (left) and the Stevenson University Marching 100 (right) as a third musical attraction offered within the community.

Photo courtesy of S.O.S. Glee Club
BSU Gospel Choir Director Charmaine Oden, second from left, leads fellow singers during a Gospel Night this year in the theatre.

Photo courtesy of S.O.S. Glee Club
In May the BSU Gospel Choir hopes to achieve, according to BSU Gospel Choir Director Charmaine Oden, second from left, leads fellow singers during a Gospel Night this year in the theatre.
This year Stevenson University raised over $42,000 at its third annual Relay for Life event. The opening ceremony kicked off a night filled with games, food, and fun, all for a good cause, centered around a Disney theme, “When you wish upon a cure.”

The Luminaria Ceremony was a special event highlighting stories from caregivers, including Stevenson’s Kipp Colvin, and survivor Ashley Koepping. The audience was moved by these speeches that provided a time for reflection.

Relay for Life is an organized, overnight community event where students, staff, family and friends come out to support and fundraise for the cancer society. There were students and staff members walking around the track at all hours of the 12-hour fundraiser. Students were also active in the games stationed around the track. In order to play these games, participants had to buy tickets, which were $1 apiece.

Tickets were then taken as payment for participation in activities. The nursing program of Stevenson University, for example, staffed a photo booth station. Avalon Vanderslice, a nursing major, was in charge of this station and she believed it was a success.

“Many people found the props to be quite a hit to take a picture with. This provided a fun picture to express such a fun night,” said Vanderslice.

Phi Sigma Sigma guarded the “jail,” for which the people had to exchange a ticket to either put someone in jail or get someone out. In order for guests to enjoy food, they had to pay in tickets as well.

Aside from all of the entertaining activities and food, there were many generous fundraisers who helped Relay for Life raise the amount of money it did. One of these many fundraisers was Elizabeth Lau, a junior early childhood education major. Lau’s goal was $2,000, but with the help of family and friends, she was able to raise $3,695 for the American Cancer Society.

“I relayed for my grandfather, who has been suffering from multiple cancers the past eight years. Cancer treatments are very expensive even with insurance, so these organizations help to find a cure and help patients in need like my grandfather,” said Lau.
FEATURES

FOR LIFE

Article written by Rachel Dolle
Photos from SU Flickr
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Andrew Clayton, a senior business administration major, has earned national recognition for his leadership and dedication to serving the community.

In addition to being named a 2015 Campus Compact Newman Civic Fellow, he is currently Stevenson’s Service Corps president and SGA Director of Philanthropy.

Andrew came to Stevenson University from his home near Camden, New Jersey and played football during his freshman year.

During his sophomore year Andrew became involved with Service Corps, continuing the tradition of service he began in high school.

He credits his passion for helping the community to his mother who instilled in him a love of helping others. One of the events they have participated in together is a Susan G. Komen 5K Race for the Cure.

Andrew also explained that he enjoys getting other students involved in helping the community, and in events like Relay for Life. His dedication to helping others is inspiring; despite his busy work and academic schedule, he still finds the time to help people in need.

Some of the organizations Andrew works with are the Helping Up Mission, Villa Maria School, and Moveable Feast; he is also an active member of Mission: I’m Home, which according to their Facebook page “is an organization focused on rehabilitating damaged or destroyed houses enabling displaced families to return home.”

People aren’t the only ones he loves to help; Andrew also volunteers at the animal shelter in Phoenix, and at the Irvine Nature Center.

After he graduates, Andrew plans to stay in the Baltimore area. He hopes to continue with his activities by implementing service events at his work, and remaining involved with the organizations he encountered while part of Service Corps at Stevenson.

Andrew will be at Walk MS on April 26, 2015 in Westminster, Md. at Carroll Community College. Registration opens at 9 a.m. and the walk starts at 10 a.m. Andrew hopes that students will join him.
Women’s lax clinches bid to Commonwealth Conference playoffs by Tony Rossi

The Stevenson women’s lacrosse team continued their season with resilience as they finished their last few weeks of regular season play, clinching second place in their conference.

Although the 2015 campaign began with losses to Salisbury (14-6), Gettysburg (10-9), and Franklin and Marshall 13-8, the Mustangs bounced back with a six-game winning streak, including their latest games over Lebanon Valley College on April 18 and Lycoming College on April 21.

After their early-season winning streak, the team lost their next three games to Clarkson University 12-8, Union College 16-7, and Messiah College 11-10. However, they regained focus to finish the season strong.

The end of March and early April provided stories for the Mustangs that gave them momentum for a final push as the season wound down. They beat Albright College 10-6, Hood College 20-1, Arcadia University 14-3, and Alverson College 18-4.

The Mustangs currently have a record of 10-6, 6-1 in the conference as of press time, and have secured a position in the MAC tournament.

Against Lycoming College on April 21, the Mustangs scored the second-place berth in the conference playoffs with a decisive 21-4 win as senior Kathryn Merrick came away with eight points on six goals and two assists, the strongest showing in her career.

The team’s 13 goals in the first half nearly beat their previous record of 14, and the Mustangs also celebrated the achievement of goalie Leanne Biter as she was named Commonwealth Conference Defensive Player of the Week for the second time in as many weeks.

Sophomore midfielder Olivia Monteiro challenges a Lebanon Valley opponent in a conference game on April 18. Monteiro finished with a career-high four goals, contributing to the Mustang’s victory, 14-10. The win secured the team’s spot in the Commonwealth Conference playoffs.

Merrick led the way with five goals, followed by Monteiro with two. Merrick also ended the day with two assists. One of the keys to the game was Stevenson’s ability to capitalize on free position shots, going 7 for 11 compared to Albright’s 0 for 5. The Mustangs continued to fire away at the goal, with 36 shots compared to Albright’s 18.

The game was marked by penalties, including three yellow cards doled out to Merrick, junior midfielder Jordan Porretto, and sophomore midfielder Rachael Akhtar.

Against Arcadia on April 11, the Mustangs eked out a 14-13 win, led by four goals on four shots by junior midfielder Carli Bafford and four goals on seven shots by Heher. Once again, the number of shots on goal taken by the Mustangs proved to be of help in the win.

The victory was the 100th for head coach Kathy Railey in more than nine seasons at Stevenson. Railey, who ranks in the top 20 in career wins, has a 164-104 career record in over 15 seasons as a head coach, according to gomustangsports.com.

Against Commonwealth Conference foe Hood College on April 8, junior Tori Wagner gathered a career-high eight points with six goals, leading the way for the Mustangs’ sixth-largest margin of victory in school history with a 20-1 win against the Blazers.

Monteiro and Heher each chipped in three goals, and Merrick and freshman attack Molly Gonzalez each had two goals.

Railey played four different goalies in the Hood game, with sophomores Gabriella Brooks and Taylor Lyles getting their first minutes of the season. Bitterner got her sixth win of the season, leaving the game with Stevenson in front 8-0, and the Mustangs never looked back after that.

The team will need to continue this momentum into the next set of games in order to continue on this high note into the Commonwealth Conference tournament.

In the Mid-Atlantic region, the #1-ranked position is held by Franklin and Marshall College, the second by Gettysburg College, and the third by Washington and Lee University.

Currently, Stevenson’s team is not ranked. However, the Mustangs have been garnering votes throughout the season.

The Mustangs will head into the first round of the Commonwealth Conference tournament on April 27, and will hopefully move on to the semifinals on April 29. The championship game is slated for May 1.

The team will bid farewell to seniors Amanda LeGar, Kathryn Merrick, Taylor Wright, Chelsea Cavey and Meg Gill on Senior Day, April 25.

Baseball digs in for final push in long season before Commonwealth playoffs by Ryan Winner & Alex Parker

As Stevenson’s baseball team wraps up their third month of play this season, they have played a total of 34 games up and down the East coast. As of April 18, the Mustangs have an overall record of 15-16-2 and a Commonwealth conference record of 11-7.

“This season’s offense is a bit better than last year, which has given [Miller] more opportunities to drive in runs,” said head coach Jason Tawney. He added, “but he is just very consistent in his approach and how he plays the game.”

“Although our pitching has been the key to our success, our pitching has been the key to our success,” Tawney said.

The Mustangs have an overall batting average of .274 and an on base percentage of .378. While the team is strong offensively, they struggle late in the game from leaving runners on base.

While the team’s batting has been solid this year, the pitching staff has suffered due to the large number of games in a short time span.

The team has already had seven different starters, which is much higher than the four or five starters that the team would usually need when playing a normal schedule. Yet the pitching staff has been hit hard, giving up a .292 batting average to the opposing teams.

“When you are playing 10 or 11 games in seven days, you have to dig deep into your pitching staff, and we have some guys who haven’t thrown well when they have gotten their opportunity,” said Tawney. He added, “With that many games, you are bound to have a bad appearance,” Tawney said.

The team has a bright future, with three freshmen performing at a high level already. John D’Aquanno, Dan Williams, and Jake Dimon have all excelled when given opportunities this season. With Miller in his final season, having these freshmen already playing at a high level makes losing the senior a bit easier.

“[D’Aquanno, Williams, and Dimon] have all been impact players. With each of them, getting comfortable with a 40+ game season is key. In high school, they played 15-18 games each season, so the wear and tear both mentally and physically play a huge role in getting better each season,” Tawney said.

With the season getting closer to the end, the team will have to figure out the rotation and find a group of players who work well in their roles.

“We have a very strong team and a very good opportunity to win the conference tournament this year,” Tawney said.

The first round of the Commonwealth Conference tournament will begin on April 30. If the Mustangs win, they will advance to the second round.

“We are looking to put it all together in these last few weeks of the season before the conference tournament starts,” said Casper.

On April 25, the team will take on Albright at home in a double-header starting at 1 p.m. for the final conference game of the season.
Sports

The Villager | April 27, 2015

SU to start women’s sand volleyball, men’s ice hockey teams

by Landon Easler
Village staff writer

With the addition of women’s sand volleyball and men’s ice hockey to the already large base of Division III athletics at Stevenson, the university now has 27 official athletic programs.

The inaugural season for sand volleyball is set for the spring of 2016, while men’s ice hockey is scheduled to begin in the 2016-2017 winter season. Stevenson added women’s ice hockey to the program in the 2012 season, ending its first year with a record of 6-25-1. After just two years, the Mustangs have already shown a strong improvement, ending the 2014-2015 campaign with a 16-6-1 record. The women’s team currently holds practices and games at the Reisterstown Sportsplex, which will also be the home of the men’s team.

“The decision to start the women’s ice hockey team before the men’s team was very intentional,” said Brett Adams, director of athletics. “With a 16-6-1 record, the women have already shown that hockey at Stevenson can be very successful.”

The men’s ice hockey team will participate in the ECAC West Conference, joining Hobart College, Nuernmann, Nazareth, Elmira, Utica, and Manhattanville.

Both men’s and women’s indoor volleyball teams have shown success in recent years. The men’s team lost in the CVC conference finals to Rutgers-Newark, while the women’s team won the Commonwealth conference championship, beating Messiah College, and later losing in the NCAA second round to Christopher Newport University.

As of the 2014-15 season, there were 42 universities that offer sand volleyball as a collegiate sport, 39 of whom are Division I schools. While Stevenson is considered a Division III school, the university’s team will compete against higher divisions.

“To create a national championship, all three divisions must compete,” said Adams. “For sand volleyball, the national championship will be combined between the three divisions.”

Most of the teams that Stevenson will have to compete against not only are larger schools, but many of them are on the west coast.

Of the 42 schools, 19 of them are located in California, most notably Stanford and the University of Southern California. Due to the distance, many of the matches will be played during the spring break.

With the addition of sand volleyball, Stevenson becomes the first Division III school to offer the sport. Coach Dave Trumbo is currently the women’s indoor volleyball coach and will also be the first coach of the new team.

In sand volleyball, there are just two people per team with no substitutions. Thus, stamina is much more important, as it is the challenge of moving in the sand and integrating the wind and glare of the sun into strategy. Games are played to 21 points, and a match is best of 3. Teams switch sides every 7 points in games to 21 and every 5 points in games to 15 (a tie-breaker set). The ball cannot rotate sideways after coming off the fingertips and can rotate very little forward or backward. Players cannot set the ball over the net unless the shoulders are square to the direction the ball. Open hand touches are not allowed. A ball cannot be taken with open hands (set) unless it is hard driven and downward. The block counts as one of the three hits, but the blocker can contact the ball a second consecutive time after the block.

~ from NCAA.com

Teamwork helps softball team battle through the end of the season

by JustinElam
Village staff writer

The Stevenson University women’s softball team continues to make strides on the field. With each game, the players and the coaches can see the bar is even higher.

As of April 22, the team is 13-16 overall and 9-3 in the Commonwealth Conference.

They were able to hold their own against Salisbury University in a doubleheader on April 1. Salisbury is ranked second in the nation, and Stevenson’s team showed great potential against their perennial foes.

Although both ends of the doubleheader resulted in losses for the Mustangs, 3-2 and 1-0, the team came away with the two one-run losses having done their best against a perfect game pitched by Salisbury’s Rachel Johnson.

In 31 contests against their former Capital Athletic Conference rival, the Mustangs have yet to come out victorious.

Two close losses the next day to Widener College, 5-4 and 6-3, saw the Mustangs commit five errors leading to six unearned runs in the doubleheader.

Errors have plagued the Mustangs this season. During the five-game losing streak in late March and early April, the Mustangs’ opponents scored almost 60 percent of their runs off Stevenson errors.

Against Albright College on April 4, the Mustangs came away with two solid wins, 5-0 and 4-1, in the Commonwealth Conference doubleheader. Junior Kristen Mueller grabbed her 100th career hit in the outing with a triple.

The Mustangs faced Alvernia College on April 9, playing at home at the Weinhberg-Fine Stadium in Owings Mills. The team won the doubleheader, defeating Alvernia 12-3 in the first game and 16-6 in the second. Junior Emily Solter tied an 18-year record with two grand slams in an inning, leading the onslaught of the Mustangs’ bats, which came alive for three home runs in each game.

Stevenson split with Eastern University on April 15, winning the first game 3-1 but dropping the second 5-4. In the win, senior shortstop Stephanie Ayres grabbed her 100th career hit, and freshman pitcher Jasmyn Ogletree earned her seventh win.

On April 17 the team beat Commonwealth Conference opponent Hood College, 4-1 and 12-0. Game two’s 17 hits by the Mustangs were led by a three-run home run by junior pitcher Molly Hoyt and a three-run homer by outfielder junior Kaitlyn Seger.

On April 18, the team dropped two conference games to Messiah 4-0 and 6-1. Although the games did not result in their favor, there were a few highlights from this doubleheader. Senior catcher Courtney Cook hit her first home run of the season, and the Mustangs clinched a spot in the 2015 Commonwealth Conference tournament.

Cook finished 2-for-2 with a home run and a double. While she led the team offensively, Seger added two hits.

On April 21, the Mustangs lost a doubleheader to Frostburg State 4-3 and 13-3. The team battled in the first game but lost the second game in five innings.

Hoyt made her first starting appearance since March 17, striking out the first two batters of the game. Ogletree had a leadoff single followed by a shot down the left field line for an RBI by Hoyt.

Although the team has found itself in second place in the conference, challenges still come their way.

“Class schedules are always challenging, but the biggest one on the field is finding a way to play to our potential consistently,” said coach Joey Lye. She added, “We have a lot of talent and we’ve shown how well we can play as a team. But there’s always that one challenge - how do we put our best foot forward every day?”

Even with the problems facing them, motivation never dies within the team. Lye said that building a strong culture is important to the players, and teamwork is a major focus.

Lye explained how she motivates her players: “Instead of focusing on the desire to win a championship, our focus is on quality at bats, doing the little things. We know that when we take care of the little things and pay attention to how we are interacting with our teammates and working together. So in the end, all of those things will create our success.”

The dream season for the team isn’t just about winning the championship. They focus on the growth of each individual who plays. Teaching each player teamwork is a crucial piece of the vision.

“My dream season is where the team comes together and has each other’s backs – putting everything they have on the field, every day,” said Lye.

The team’s goal for the next year is to build upon the culture they have created. Consistency both on and off field will continue to be important. In the future, Lye wants more “communication, trust, teamwork, and next season we’re sitting comfortably above 500. But most importantly, we continue to have strong sense of team, and a strong sense of family.”

The Mustangs play away on April 28 against Washington (Md.), for the last regular season game. Updates on dates and times for conference play can be found on gomustangsports.com.
As the regular season comes to an end for Stevenson men’s lacrosse team, winning conference games has become more important for the Mustangs if they want an opportunity to compete in the NCAA national tournament.

After defeating Alvernia College 27-2 on April 15, the Mustangs became 5-0 in the MAC Commonwealth conference. The win against Alvernia also put them at a record of 10-4 for in-conference and out-of-conference games. The Mustangs maintained their #7 rank in the nation for Division III men’s lacrosse.

On April 21, the team beat Lycoming in a conference game 21-5. Overall, the Mustangs performed strong offensive-ly, with nineteen players scoring.

Seniors Colin Dabney, Callum Robinson, and Taylor Morgan combined for three goals, one assist, 10 ground balls, and eight caused turnovers. This win extended the Mustangs winning streak to six games in the series.

Stevenson also dominated the game on defense. Senior midfielder Sam Wyatt and senior faceoffman Dylan Stedman and Justin Buonomo combined to win 19-of-30 faceoffs. Wyatt and Buonomo both each added one assist.

On April 18, the Mustangs faced Lebanon Valley College at home. Stevenson finished the game with a 25-4 victory against their conference opponent. In the win, junior attacker Stephen Banick scored five goals, including the 100th goal of his career. Banick is the second player of his career at Stevenson with 80 percent on clears in the game. Junior goalie Marc Poust finished the game in his first appearance as a Mustang.

As of April 22, Stevenson had one conference game left before the conference tournament. The Mustangs are first in their conference right now and expect to finish first without looking too far ahead. Winning the conference will give them an automatic bid to the NCAA tournament.

“It’s important we win these next games to pick up momentum for the conference and national tournament,” said senior midfielder Josh Rufolo.

Kyle Karsian and Harrison Farmehall each earned their first career goals.

“We played well and got a lot of different guys on the field which is always a good thing everyone got a chance to contribute it was really a team win,” said senior midfielder Tony Rossi.

The offense set a school record of 13 goals in the second quarter, which included five goals in less than two minutes.

On defense the Mustangs caused 18 turnovers, three by senior Callum Robinson. This is the fourth game in a row Stevenson has managed to get 15 turnovers or above. The Mustangs also had a total of 61 ground balls, making this the second time this season they have finished with at least 60 ground balls.

The team was nearly perfect in clears (20-21), which almost doubled Alvernia’s percentage. A dominating defense held the Knights to only 15 good clears. Penalty time was also even for both teams, at three minutes apiece.

On April 11, the team earned their ninth win of the season in a 21-3 victory against Arcadia College. Senior attacker Tyler Furhman scored a career-high seven points. He was one of 14 players to score a goal or contribute to an assist for Stevenson. The Mustangs have outscored their opponents 72-13 in four conference games this season, according to gomustangsports.com.

The team won 21 of 28 faceoffs in the game with 62 shots on goal and 48 ground balls. The Mustangs were 80 percent on clears in the game. Junior goalie Connor Sken earned his third win of the season with one save and allowing one goal in 30 minutes. Freshman goalie Marc Poust finished the game in his first appearance as a Mustang.

As of April 22, Stevenson had one conference game left before the conference tournament. The Mustangs are first in their conference right now and expect to finish first without looking too far ahead. Winning the conference will give them an automatic bid to the NCAA tournament.

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