The Mounties Softball team went 6-2 during the week of spring break 2019 in Myrtle Beach, N.C. This is the best record Mansfield has had since 2014, when they earned their first NCAA tournament berth. Chestnut Hill and Barton were swept by Mansfield and that momentum continued throughout the week.

Left fielder Joelle Snyder was a key component in their success, hitting .500 at the plate and earning a .769 slugging percentage.

Junior Cassidy Smith was named Athlete of the Week last week, making it the second week in a row that Mansfield softball players have earned weekly conference honors.

"It's exciting to see us start off so well this early in the season because it is momentum we can carry with us to get to the playoffs. We played well, and they were quality team wins" said junior Lesley Fritz. Fritz recorded her first home run of the season with a ball that soared over the centerfield wall.

Freshman Alexis Easling also stood out earning Pitcher of the Week after completing a no-hitter against Chestnut Hill with an 8-0 win, improving to 4-0. She pitched seven innings with six strikeouts and one walk, throwing just 86 pitches to get the job done. It was the first no-hitter since Caitlin Klobosits in 2013.

"Honestly, I had no idea until the very last batter, but I was convinced I just needed to finish the game and do what I had to do," said Easling.

Mansfield's offensive game also led them to secure the win against Chestnut Hill with ten hits in the 8-0 win. Leah McGovern started the rally with a one-out walk, advanced to second on a groundout, and eventually scored on a triple from Joelle Snyder. Deshae Jones, Shaelyn Marx, Lacey O'Donnell, and Devin Jones also recorded hits for the Mounties.

The game secured head coach Edith Gallagher's 450th win in her 28th season.

Roller-skating party takes place in KFC

More than 200 Mansfield University students came to Kelchner Fitness Center's (KFC) three-day roller-skating event.

KFC holds skating parties yearly. "The skates are delivered on Sundays. [On] Sunday, [KFC] is open to community, faculty, staff and their kids," said Amy DeLozier, the Director of Kelchner Fitness Center. Mondays and Tuesdays are held for the students of Mansfield University.

"In the past, attendance has been around 150 people," DeLozier said. Admission was free due to the student activity fund. Troy Skateland rents out skates and roller blades to KFC Center for the event every year.

DeLozier provided 12 sheet pizzas from Papa V's on the student-only nights. Pepsi donated water and Gatorade for the skaters. WNTE stepped up to the plate to help the University students, and community, have a good time. "We really want students to get out and engage in fun student activities," said DeLozier.

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Roller-skating party
World News

Headlines from across the planet
Blurs courtesy of bbc.com

- 02/16/2019 - South Africa deals with daily power cuts and outages
- South African homes, offices and businesses have been challenged by designated power outages, designed to prevent a total collapse of the overstretched electricity grid.
- Scheduled blackouts, or ‘load shedding’, is new not in the country, but the latest rounds have been the most disruptive yet, sparking a public outcry.
- The state-owned power utility, Eskom, one of the biggest power utilities in the world, struggles to meet demand, it has warned that it could run out of money by April, defaulting on its vast debt.
- International banks have described Eskom as the single biggest threat to South Africa’s economy, and saving it could involve the government injecting more money into the utility, and to assume responsibility for yet more of its debt.

- Potential risks from novel technologies such as artificial intelligence (AI) could lead to increasingly sophisticated cyber-weapons that could hold an entire nation’s data to ransom, or autonomous algorithms that could unwittingly cause a stock-market crash.
- The greatest threats most likely rely upon the failing global systems that sustain us, and the global economy that turns our environment into goods and services.

- The crisis at the utility poses a huge threat to the economy and to the political survival of President Cyril Ramaphosa, who faces an election in May.
- 02/15/2019 - Humanity faces various unlikely and likely catastrophes in 2019
- In 2019, there is a 1.5% chance for a severe pandemic such as the flu, a 0.6% chance of a nuclear war or a solar flare disrupting power grids, and a 0.001% chance of a super volcano erupting.
- The World Health Organization (WHO) and the World Economic Forum both listed climate change and its effects as one of their top risks for 2019.
- Recent UN talks heard climate change was already “a matter of life and death” for many regions, while many, believe it could lead to the collapse of civilizations and the extinction of “much of the natural world.”

- 02/22/2019 - Israel’s Beresheet moon mission gets under way
- The first privately financed mission to the moon has lifted off from Cape Canaveral in Florida, on a trip that should take two months.
- Beresheet, as it’s known, will try to land on the lunar surface, take some pictures and conduct some experiments.
- SpaceIL, the non-profit behind the project, hopes Beresheet (“In the beginning” in Hebrew) will prove an inspiration to all those who follow its progress.
- Beresheet grew out of the Google Lunar XPRIZE, which offered financial incentives in 2007 to any non-government-funded team that could pull off a Moon landing.
- “If we can measure the magnetism of lunar rocks, we can begin to understand how and when their magnetism arose,” said Professor Oded Aharonson, of the Weizmann science team.
- The robot’s onboard magnetometer device will acquire measurements - and not just in one location, because Beresheet will, some hours after landing, hop to a new spot.

- 02/17/2019 - Over 40 individuals are accused of forging college admissions documents
- Desperate Housewives star Felicity Huffman and Full House actor Lori Loughlin are among those charged in a US college cheating scam, according to unsealed court records.
- The alleged scheme involved helping students cheat on entrance exams, as well as getting non-athletic students admitted on fake athletic scholarships.
- Elite schools Yale, Stanford and Georgetown were among the destination universities, but were not involved with the scams, and are internally investigating the issues.
- “These parents are a catalogue of wealth and privilege,” said US Attorney Andrew Lelling at a news conference about the investigation—the defendants are largely wealthy and also include CEOs of major companies.
- Federal prosecutors in Boston charged William “Rick” Singer, 58, who plead guilty to running the alleged scheme through his company Edge College & Career Network.
- 03/15/2019 - 49 dead in New Zealand Christchurch mosque attacks
- A gunman identifying himself as an Australian live-streamed the rampage at Al Noor mosque to Facebook, and he had espoused racist, anti-immigrant views.
- Australian Prime Minister Scott Morrison described the man as an “extremist, right-wing” terrorist, and described the event as a terrorist attack and one of New Zealand’s “darkest days.”
- The gunman targeted two places of worship during the attacks, which lasted around 10 minutes.

Continued on page 3 World News
World News
Continued from page 2

World News

- “The young guy who usually takes care of the mosque...he saw an opportunity and pounced on [the gunman] and took his gun,” Syed Mazharuddin, a survivor, said.
- Condolences were offered by political figures around the globe, including US President Donald Trump, British PM Theresa May, and Queen Elizabeth.
- Sunday’s crash, shortly after take-off from Addis Ababa, killed 157 people from 35 nations, and it was the second crash involving a 737 Max, after the October’s crash in Indonesia of the Lion Air jet that killed 189 people.
- The FAA said on Wednesday that a software fix for the 737 Max that Boeing had been working on since the Lion Air crash would take months to complete.
- Meanwhile, investigators in France have taken charge of the crashed Ethiopian Airlines aircraft’s black boxes as they attempt to uncover what caused the Boeing 737 Max disaster.
- On March 14, Russia, Japan and Tunisia banned the jet from their airspace, and late on March 13, the FAA told airlines to ground their fleets, but was criticized for not doing it sooner.

Students perform in National Association Teachers of Singing

BY CARL HELRICH
Secretary/Music Reporter

Mansfield students of Dr. Todd Ranney’s music studio performed at the National Association Teachers of Singing (NATS) competition.

Nine members of Dr. Ranney’s studio went on the road to Moravian College in Bethlehem, PA to compete against over 140 other high school and college performers. Each student prepared three songs for the board of three NATS judges, and performed their pieces alongside university accompanist Linda Seipler. Competitors were spread across several divisions of music genres, and Mansfield had names in the winners’ circle.

Adam Price took first in the Lower College Musical Theater, Kyle Canno won third in the Upper College Song and Aria division, Matthew Merolla took first place in the Lower College Song and Aria group, and Rachel Gardner claimed third place in the same category.

NATS is an organization that hosts hundreds of competitions across the country, and is an important milestone in MU students’ careers.

“I feel very gratified for the students who attended and participated in [the] competition,” said Ranney. “They are all winners for the experience they gain and achievement in putting their talents up against others and they learn about tackling their fear of performing in public and doing their best in unfamiliar surroundings.”

Mansfield University perform voice recital

BY CARL HELRICH
Secretary/Music Reporter

Juniors Molly Cerep, a Vocal Performance Major, and Rosemary Wargo, a Vocal Performance Major, performed a joint soprano voice recital on February 16.

The two performers took turns singing short sets to the gathered audience, made up of friends, family, and a majority of Dr. Alissa Rose’s music studio, which is comprised of the students receiving lessons from a specific voice teacher.

Wargo, who began the recital, demonstrated an arsenal of non-English songs, beginning with ‘Deh Vieni, Non Tardar’ by Wolfgang Mozart, and including ‘Les Oiseaux Dans la Charmille’ by Jacques Offenbach. She continued her variety with ‘When He Sees Me’ by Sara Bareilles.

Cerep followed each of Wargo’s sets with songs including ‘Ave Maria’ by Franz Schubert, ‘I’ll Be Here’ by Adam Gwon, and ‘Live Out Loud’ by Andrew Lippa.

To conclude the recital, the performers sang ‘We Are Women,’ a duet by Leonard Bernstein, before bowing out with accompanist Linda Seipler. A group of Sigma Alpha Iota students, including Cerep and Wargo, performed a short piece to send the audience to the after-recital reception.

St. Patrick’s Day

lucky
rainbow
shamrock
green
irish
gold
leprechaun
limerick
parade
treasure
festival
saint
patrick
celtic
emerald

ireland
dances
druids
pot
pinch
seventeenth
blarney
orange

Adam Gwon, and ‘Live Out Loud’ by Andrew Lippa.

To conclude the recital, the performers sang ‘We Are Women,’ a duet by Leonard Bernstein, before bowing out with accompanist Linda Seipler. A group of Sigma Alpha Iota students, including Cerep and Wargo, performed a short piece to send the audience to the after-recital reception.
In this case, I had done a project to my ‘library’ of ideas, so often my be “played” like such. you could use to play metal strings, could hammer nails into, screws were a big piece of wood that you to “play” with the works. The works where attendees were encouraged 16. It was an interactive exhibit at Syracuse University School of Experience Assistant Professor coordinator and the First Year Exhibit allows viewer to interact with artworks An art exhibit of Leonard’s, BY DANIELLE SMITH Staff Writer for theater and I also have a degree in knowledge of set and furniture with a spike maul just like the one on the rail road hammering spikes example, one of the facilities folks at in some way,” Leonard said.  “As an directly with me or with the work people to be involved, or to engage the world from their point of view. I love to work with people. I love to of a conglomeration of objects and change the world by changing my methods and better tools. The impetus is the same, though: to change the world by changing my surroundings. ‘Truly I was making installation sculptures when I was a small child. If you think about it, a pillow fort is an installation sculpture, and is fundamentally the same as the installation I had in the Loomis gallery,” he said.

Leonard was asked what the best and worst parts of his job are, be answered, “My job is the best. The fact that I get to do what I do, and that people take an interest in it and want to tell me their stories and want to interact with what I make, all of that is the best. When I see a musician play a song on a guitar I build, or someone sit in a chair I made, or use a bowl I carved, all of that is the best. The best [part of my job] is that I use my hands, head, and heart and put objects into peoples’ lives, and that they tell me their stories, and that I become part of their stories somehow, all of that is the best. There really is no worst [part of my job]. There are frustrating moments, and there are a lot of failures, and there are times that things do not work in catastrophic ways, but these are all part of the process of learning and growing. Growth can really hurt. Learning can be very, very hard, and at times is embarrassing and frustrating, but that is not bad, it is part of the process.” As an artist, Leonard is passionate about all aspects of his job.

Leonard gives a list of advice for aspiring artists: Rule 1: Make work. Lots of work. Make as much as you can, and when you are exhausted and just want to lay down for a week, put on a pot of coffee and make more work. Rule 2: Learn from your work. Making repetitively without contemplation is not the job. With every piece you make, step back when it is done and critique yourself. Be kind, but rigorous. What is successful? What isn’t? Why isn’t it? What assumptions did you make that you now realize were misplaced? Write all of your answers in your sketchbook. Rule 3: Keep a sketch book. Draw in [your sketchbook] daily. Use it to take notes, to draw through problems, to record your life. Never leave home without it. Fill your sketchbook frequently. Rule 4: Research. The world is the way it is for very specific reasons. Your car looks the way it does for a reason. Rain falls from the sky for a reason. Some countries are democracies, and some are not for a reason. If you are a creative person, all of this is vital information. Our job, whether our medium is words or wood or ink or clay or food or whatever it is, we need to be thirsty to know why the world is the way it is. And when we think we do know, we have to look again. Our job is to questions everything, to push and probe and question. Our job is to never just accept the world as it appears. That is the path to mediocrity. Rule 5: Be empathetic. We are comprised of the lives that touch us. The less we engage other humans, the less we really look and ask work to meet and feel other humans, the more mediocre our work is. Do not assume anyone wants to experience your work. They don’t. Assume they want you to engage them and talk with them and reach out to understand them. Assume that you are not working hard enough to do that. That is the way to rich relationships, and rich relationships lead to strong work. You are tiny [and] so am I. Individually we matter not at all. We are specks wandering around on a little blue speck that is floating through the infinite vastness of space. You think you matter? As the planet Jupiter. But you know what? You do matter. You matter to every person you ever meet. The bun on the sidewalk, the librarian, your teachers, your colleagues. We are simultaneously very important and completely unimportant. The creative fields are the way that we navigate that paradox.

Recycled items are Leonard’s choice of medium., “Go to a landfill. No, really. Go to one. That will be your answer. I challenge you to take a photo of everything you throw away for a week. Every coffee cup, every straw, every mismatched sock, every broken pen. Receipts, candy wrappers, broken shoelaces, plastic forks, cereal boxes. Take a photo of every single thing you throw away for a week. At the end of the week, look at all of those objects. Now multiply that by 7.53 billion. That’s why. We generate ‘trash’ at an alarming rate. Everything we put in a landfill says to those who come after us ‘I do not care about you, and I want your world to be worse than the one I inhabit.’ We are saying that to our children and grandchildren and great-grandchildren. But listen, it’s worse than that: When I throw away a potato chip bag, I am saying to you, yes, you Danielle Smith ‘I don’t care about whether the world you live in is as good as the one I live in.’ Because you will live after me. You are likely to see the flooding of New York City in your lifetime. This is serious business. So I use trash in my work to get people to think about this. That we are, on purpose and very methodically, making the world uninhabitable for those that come after us. It is malicious and petty and mean spirited. And we are doing it simply because we refuse to be empathetic because it is inconvenient to be empathetic.” The environment is an important issue according to the artist. He encourages everyone to try to help the environment.

“Does all of this sound too strident? I recognize that it is. But in reality, it is not strident enough. We need to be helping each other, and we are ignoring each other. We need to be welcoming people into our lives to share our wealth and we are shutting them out. We need to be giving and we are taking. We need to be replenishing and we are destroying,” he said.

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**Exhibit allows viewer to interact with artworks**

January 14 – February 14, 2019

(Rust) Echoes
An Exhibition of Interactive Works by Zeke Leonard.

**Reception**
February 14 – 4 pm to 6 pm

**Lecture**
February 14 – 2:30 pm to 3:30 pm

**Workshops**
Musical Composition
February 13, 1–3:30 pm

Design and Interaction
February 14, 9–11:30 am

**BY DANIELLE SMITH**
Staff Writer

Zeke Leonard is a program co-coordinator and the First Year Experience Assistant Professor at Syracuse University School of Design.

An art exhibit of Leonard’s, titled ‘(Rust) Echoes’, was featured in Loomis Gallery on February 16. It was an interactive exhibit where attendees were encouraged to “play” with the works. The works were a big piece of wood that you could hammer nails into, screws you could use to play metal strings, and tin pieces and fire extinguishers hanging like wind chimes and could be “played” like such.

Leonard explained his ideas for the pieces he created, “For me, work comes out of work. Each thing I design or make gets added to my library of ideas, so often my work ends up being cumulative. In this case, I had done a project previously with fire extinguishers as gongs and had been working with dismantled pianos for some years. Then a friend and I started talking about the New York Central Rail Road. So, the project emerged out of a conglomeration of objects and events. “My favorite medium is people. I love to work with people. I love to hear their stories and to try to see the world from their point of view. So, a lot of my work requires other people to be involved, or to engage directly with me or with the work in some way,” Leonard said. “As an example, one of the facilities folks at Mansfield [University] came to the closing reception and had worked on the rail road hammering spikes with a spike maul just like the one in the show. We had a wonderful conversation about that, and he shared some of his memories with me. That is really my medium, then. It is experience, shared experience.”

Leonard has background knowledge of set and furniture design, “I came up as a set designer for theater and I also have a degree in furniture design. But really, because of my parents, I have been creating since I could hold a paintbrush. I have also over the years been a welder, a ship’s rigger, a shipwright, a carpenter, a musician, a whole bunch of things. It all ends up being research, you know?” he said.

Having an artist block is a common problem, and Leonard explains how he gets through it, “Work through it. Just make work. The least productive thing you can do is nothing at all. If you are trying to write and you can’t start, just write words on the page. Sometimes I will go into my studio and just start shaping a piece of wood or gluing things together. You have to make work until you get past the block. Not much comes of staring at a blank page, you need words on it to react to.”

“I have been making [art] since I was a child. What I do now is essentially similar to the forts I made out of refrigerator boxes when I was a kid, I just have more sophisticated methods and better tools. The impetus is the same, though: to change the world by changing my surroundings. ‘Truly I was making installation sculptures when I was a small child. If you think about it, a pillow fort is an installation sculpture, and is fundamentally the same as the installation I had in the Loomis gallery,” he said.

Leonard is passionate about all aspects of his job. As an artist, Leonard is passionate about all aspects of his job. As an artist, Leonard is passionate about all aspects of his job. As an artist, Leonard is passionate about all aspects of his job.
Lyons Visits Mansfield University

BY TY FAICHNEY
Flashlight Contributor

On Thursday, February 21, Gary Lyons, father of the student Mark Lyons, was a guest speaker at Mansfield University.

Gary Lyons, management of the Freight Division at Pennsylvania Grain Processing (PGP), gave a presentation on his company in Retan Room G1. With a plant based in Clearfield, Pa. and their parent company based out of Nebraska, PGP is a producer of ethanol and DDGS for most of Western Pennsylvania and Eastern Ohio.

PGP does everything besides grow the corn they use. They utilize the byproducts of the corn. The byproducts are shipped out to farms to be used as a feed product. PGP works closely with companies like Purdue and Tyson to provide feed for their chickens. PGP processes forty million bushels of grain every year which allows them to lead in production of ethanol in Pennsylvania. Ethanol is used in gas to help cars run more smooth and cleaner.

Lyons focused on getting students to start filling their cars with the newer pumps at bigger named gas stations such as Sheetz. These new pumps are blue and contain fifteen percent ethanol compared to the regular ten percent. The extra ethanol is better for cars as it provides cleaner burning and has a higher octane level. Most cars made after the year 2001 can use this new gas to fill up.

A small portion of the presentation tackled different jobs being offered by PGP, to benefit the students in attendance studying Environmental Sciences.

Environmental Science student Theron Binford attended the event and remarked that the event was, “an insightful presentation on ethanol production and business.”

Student Activities Office is presenting a bus trip to New York City

The ticket sales began on February 27 at the Campus Bookstore, the Mountie Den. The Coach bus will depart at 6:30 a.m. in front of Laurel Hall. Students will be dropped off in Midtown Manhattan on 8th Avenue and 50th street. It is requested that students arrive 15 minutes prior to the bus departure times for the passenger load-in/check-in. The tickets are $17.

The bus will make one 30-minute rest stop both going to and coming back from New York City.

Sayre Campus students can contact the Mansfield University bookstore, the Mountie Den, to purchase bus tickets. Contact the Mountie Den at 1-800-577-6798 or 570-662-4922.
“Let Freedom Sing”

BY ALEXANDRA HEIN
Flashlight Contributor

Student Activities Office held the “Let Freedom Sing” event on Wednesday, February 27, at 7:30 p.m. in North Manser Dining Hall. The “Let Freedom Sing” event featured historical film footage and an informative narrative, along with live musical performances in celebration of Black History Month.

Featured in the event was music from Marvin Gaye, Bob Dylan, The Staple singers, Curtis Mayfield, and James Brown, who were essential in providing a soundtrack to the revolution that was the Civil Rights Movement. Activists sang in police wagons, with live musical performances in celebration of Black History Month.

In addition to music, there was historical footage highlighting significant actions taken by activists during the movement. Footage ranges from Rosa Parks refusing to move her seat, to Martin Luther King Jr. coordinating a formal Montgomery bus boycott and exercising his idea of civil disobedience. Civil disobedience was the concept of disobeying the law in a nonviolent way. Activists endured much hardship from oppressors, but civil disobedience transformed the movement from a primarily African-American following to one of unity with people of all races. Because African-Americans did not react to the abuse they faced, the movement gained support and publicity from people all over the country through media coverage, which was essential in the passing of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 and the Voting Rights Act of 1965.

PASSHE Undergraduate Women’s Leadership Institute looks for students to attend

BY ALEXANDRA HEIN
Flashlight Contributor

The President’s Commission on the Status of Women (PCSW) is looking for nominations for students to attend the 31st annual PASSHE Undergraduate Women’s Leadership Institute. The Institute will be held at Mount Asbury Retreat Center from Sunday, June 2, to Thursday, June 6, 2019.

The Institute is a weeklong event in the summer and held every year. Two to four women are chosen from each PASSHE school to attend. It is about $600 per person. Applicants must apply by sending in a summary to alexhein@mansfield.edu of why they would like to attend and why they should be chosen. Mansfield’s President’s Commission on the Status of Women (PCSW) covers the cost of one student, while Mansfield’s Student Government Association (SGA) covers the other cost.

Women from each of the fourteen PASSHE universities are chosen to create, maintain, and promote a network of women. Attendees of the Institute have the opportunity to develop and strengthen their leadership skills, creativity, and respect for dialogue, collaborative skills, and diversity. It gives young women a chance to have a better understanding of women’s issues and the potential for their leadership in society. Students that attend are required to develop a campus project reflecting on the skills they learned at the Institute under the direction of a mentor.

2019 Annual Showcase of Student Scholarship recognizes student work

Mansfield University’s 9th Annual Showcase of Student Scholarship is in Alumni Hall Student Center on April 17, 2019 from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.

The annual showcase is to show students’ scholarly and creative work, celebrating through recognition of what students have accomplished. Students can submit an application to participate in the showcase. The application deadline will be March 25, 2019.

For students to apply, they will need a faculty sponsor. Students will work with their sponsor to complete the Showcase of Student Scholarship 2019 Application. The Google Form can be found on the North Hall Library website (lib.mansfield.edu/studentshowcase).

Students should provide a brief abstract or content description to appear in the program. The abstract should be 50 words or fewer. Students will also need to submit a summary of their presentation with 250-500 words ahead of time to be in the application form. Complete sections 1 and 2 of the Google application form. Do not complete section 3, that is for faculty endorsement. After submitting the form, students will receive a confirmation email with an “Edit Response” link. The link will allow the student and their sponsor to edit the submission until the March 25 deadline. Then, forward your confirmation email to your faculty sponsor.

The faculty sponsor will be able to access the student’s application through the “Edit Response” link in the confirmation email the student forwarded to their faculty sponsor. Review sections 1 and 2 of the student’s application. The submission can be edited until the March 25 deadline. The faculty sponsor can complete section 3 (faculty endorsement) and then submit the form.

Students will be able to submit posters, oral presentations, PowerPoints, poetry, music, and media exhibits. Students must be in attendance during the tentative schedule of events, which can be found on the North Hall Library website (lib.mansfield.edu/studentshowcase).

If you have any questions, contact Dr. Jeanne Kagle (Professor of Biology) at jkagle@mansfield.edu. Approvals of student participation in the showcase and the program schedule will be sent to participants by April 8, 2019.
Editorial: New Zealand faces deadly terrorist attack

By Lucianna Minoia
Editor-in-Chief

Fifty people were killed in mosques in Christchurch on Friday, March 15, in New Zealand by an Australian man charged with murder.

A 28-year-old man opened fire at two mosques in Christchurch, New Zealand, on Friday, March 15, 2019, killing fifty worshipers. The attack was committed by a man who bore white nationalism. It’s assumed it was the gunman who posted a manifesto online before the attack, expressing his nationalist views. Minutes before the gunman opened fire, reportedly emailed Prime Minister Jacinda Ardern the racist manifesto. The email was also sent to dozens of news outlets and lawmakers. The 73-paged manifesto was titled, “The Great Replacement” and told of his intentions. It also told of his support for the far right’s anti-immigrant agenda.

The attack could add fuel to an already much-debated issue about gun control. The man used five guns he gained legally. Andrew Arulanandam, a spokesman for the National Rifle Association said, “It doesn’t matter if these senseless tragedies occur in the United States or abroad. Our deepest sympathies are with the victims and their families. This was the act of a monster. To the extent the NRA is ridiculed for extending our deepest sympathies to those harmed by this horrific event, we make no apologies for our thoughts, words, or prayers.”

The gunman should not be the focus of the media. It should be the victims. I have chosen not to name the gunman because that’s what terrorists crave is attention. Our attention, instead, should be on the victims.

Abdul Aziz was praying with his four sons when he heard gunshots. He didn’t run. He saw a credit card machine which he flung at the gunman. He tried to distract the attacker, risking his own life to save others. “I was prepared to give my life to save another life,” Aziz said.

Gun control is not the only aspect of this tragedy. White nationalism has been on the rise in recent years. White nationalists’ groups focus on the idea that non-whites are inferior. Neo-Nazi groups, which are part of the white nationalist spectrum are part of the picture. They add hatred of Jews and a love of Adolf Hitler and Nazi Germany to their white supremacist beliefs. They also hate gays and lesbians. This right-wing fringe believes they are under attack by multicultural forces that undermine, according to the white nationalists, “their” civilization.

Richard Peters, the gunman's court-appointed lawyer, said the gunman is quite aware of where he is and what he’s doing. The attacker knew what he did. He planned out an attack to murder those who have different beliefs from him.

The gunman lived streamed his attack on Facebook for 17 minutes. It’s assumed he wore a camera via helmet.

President Trump condemned the attack, saying white nationalists are only a small group of people. According to the Southern Poverty Law Center, “The shootings come at a high tide of global anti-Muslim sentiment. In the U.S., President Donald Trump’s ‘Muslim Ban’ barring people from seven majority-Muslim countries from immigrating sparked fierce political debate. And far-right candidates and parties around the globe regularly demonize Muslims for political gain.”

The killer showed his true colors by engraving the “14 words” on his rifle. Terrorist David Lane assassinated Alan Berg, a Jewish radio host, in 1984. Lane is infamous for saying, “We must secure the existence of our people and a future for White children.” Fifteen minutes into the live stream, the gunman said, “It’s time for the fuel. Let’s burn these f**king mosques to the ground,” and “There wasn’t really time to aim because there were so many targets.”

In the manifesto, he called non-whites “invaders” who threaten “their” civilization. They also hate whites “invaders” who threaten “their” civilization.

In Pennsylvania alone, there were 36 hate groups tracked in 2018. It’s part of reality that hate groups exist, and they’re not going away anytime soon.

To make a positive impact in such a tragedy we could donate. The New Zealand Islamic Information Centre is a nonprofit organization that is supporting Muslims and Islamic communities in New Zealand, and they aim to raise $1 million to help with the short-term needs of the families who lost their loved ones. If you're unable to financially help, you can consider organizing or attending a vigil to express condolences and solidarity with New Zealand’s Muslim community.

Honors Students plan week of action

By C.J. Moran
Flashlight Contributor

The Mansfield honors class (HON 4455) of this semester is focusing on human rights advocacy and is working with Scholars at Risk (SAR), an organization that promotes academic freedom. The class chose to advocate for Xiyue Wang. Xiyue Wang is an American graduate student from Princeton University detained in Iran since August of 2016. He went to Iran to study the Farsi (Persian) language and the government of the Qajar dynasty, which was the ruling government in Iran from the 18th century to the 20th century. He is a vivacious scholar, who knows multiple languages. In other words, learning is not just a job for Wang. It is a lifetime commitment.

Wang had finished the majority of his research in Iran and was just trying to get home to his wife and his now six-year-old son when Iranian officials jailed him on charges of espionage. He had followed Iran’s rules while he was in Iran and had gotten all of the approvals he needed to do the research prior to entering the country. The most likely motivation of his detention is political, not wrongdoing by Wang. With this in mind, it is important to get the attention of American lawmakers, because they have the power to press the Iranian government to release Wang.

Last month, the class had a videoconference with Wang’s wife, Hua Qu, to discuss his situation. Wang is currently in the notorious Evin Prison in Tehran. He has developed arthritis in his knees and his overall health, both mental and physical, is deteriorating. Although he is able to speak with his wife regularly over the phone, his wife is gravely concerned for his well being.

He is serving a ten-year sentence. The class is organizing a week of action (March 25–29) to draw attention to his unjust imprisonment. The only way he will be released is if pressure is applied to the Iranian government, which means his case must remain in the spotlight. During the week of action, honors students will be stationed throughout various locations and at various times on campus for students to sign a petition calling for his immediate release. Wristbands of solidarity will be distributed to those who sign the petition. Stay updated on the case by following their Twitter account @MansfieldSAR.
Mounties play against Shippensburg

BY JAIDEN DIPALMA
Flashlight Contributor

Mansfield University women’s basketball team took on Shippensburg University on February 23, 2019, at 1 p.m. in Decker Gymnasium.

The team lost with the score of 65 points to Shippensburg’s 75 points, making their overall record 2-22. Although Hatch was unable to play due to a career-ending injury, she had great things to say about the game. She stated, “I was so proud of the girls; it was one of the best games they have played all season. I wish I could have been out there with them but unfortunately, I was sidelined due to my injury.” She continued by saying, “It was a special game for many reasons, being honored as a Mansfield athlete was humbling and an experience that I have been looking forward to for a few years now. I am so happy I got to spend my last season with this group of girls.”

Sophomore Erin Gibbons from Forte Fort, Pa. spoke a few words about the game, stating, “We came out strong and passed the ball really well. We previously had a tough loss against Shippensburg University at their home gym and although we came up a few points short, we played much better as a team this time around.”

Mounties lose to Shippensburg

BY LEXI GRIFFIN
Flashlight Contributor

The Mansfield Mounties Men’s basketball team lost a squeaker to the Shippensburg University Red Raiders on Saturday, February 23, 2019.

The team started with a rough season from the beginning, but have continued to work hard. Mansfield came out strong, but lost in an overtime heartbreak 74-72.

“The game was in our favor the whole time as we played our best defensive game of the year. It came down to the wire in overtime, and a player on the opposing team hit a game winning shot for them,” Ryan Bernstein, a transfer senior from the Bronx, NY, said.