Lights Out!

Tropical Storm Causes Power Outages on Campus

Millena De Moura

On Saturday, September 8, the remnants of Tropical Storm Gordon arrived in Western Pennsylvania, which resulted in a power outage on campus and in several nearby counties. The effects of the storm lasted until Wednesday evening and left some areas with over five inches of rain.

The National Weather Service in Pittsburgh issued a flood watch for the area on Saturday. The flood watch covered parts of Eastern Ohio, West Virginia, and counties in Pennsylvania including Allegheny, Armstrong, Beaver, Butler, Clarion, Fayette, Greene, Indiana, Lawrence, Washington, and Westmoreland. Although there were no reported accidents in Pennsylvania, Tropical Storm Gordon left Mississippi, Louisiana, and parts of Alabama with states of emergency. In fact, around 30,000 people were without power across Alabama, Florida, and Mississippi.

Unfortunately, despite these states of emergencies, several people still lost their lives and resources to Tropical Storm Gordon. Eventually, the storm weakened into a tropical depression, but states that were still in its path were told to expect a lot of rain and possible damage. According to The Weather Channel's tropical weather expert, Rick Knabb, nine out of ten fatalities in tropical systems are because of water.

In fact, not everyone made it out of Gordon alive. The storm claimed its first victim in Pensacola, Florida, where a child was killed instantly after a tree fell on top of her family's mobile home. In Miami, Florida, a truck-driver lost control due to the heavy rain and crashed into a wall. In Kentucky, a cab driver was killed after he was trapped by floodwater. Once the emergency crew arrived, the cab was already underwater, and it was too late to save the driver. He was pronounced dead after they removed his body from the vehicle.

On a more local scale, Gordon still managed to make its mark on Pennsylvania. In Beaver County, residents were prepared for power outages as of Friday evening.

"We tell our residents they should be prepared for 24-48 hours without power depending on how widespread this may be," said Eric Brewer, director of Beaver County Emergency Services.

In Mercer County, the Shenango Valley Mall was forced to close after losing power on Sunday evening. Shoppers were only allowed to return on Monday evening when the power was fully restored.

According to FirstEnergy, over 470 customers were left with no electricity in Mercer County.

On campus, students were struggling with the power outage and rushed to areas that still had power.

"I plugged my phone in, hoping that the power would return soon, but my phone didn't charge," sophomore Taylor Gatesman said. "My alarm didn't ring and I missed my first class on Monday morning."

During the week, students continued to experience power outages. In Ferguson Hall, students also realized that there was no hot water.

"I thought the water was just taking a while to warm up, but I ended up having to shower with cold water," sophomore Mariah Hoff said.

FirstEnergy has recently updated their website in order to help customers prepare for future storms by allowing the company to alert them by text when a power outage occurs. They are currently responsible for 37,836 customers in Lawrence County alone and as of September 15, customers are experiencing no power outages.
I wasn’t paying much attention to the path in front of me, just to the time on my phone informing me I was late. My friend and I crossed the hill toward the main part of campus, and before we could cross the road, a truck sped past. Most vehicles stop, or at least slow down, when they see people walking in front of them. It’s a well-known law in America: pedestrians matter more than drivers. On a campus where most of the student body traditionally walks everywhere, those rules can apply even more so. Sometimes, however, they seem to apply even less at Westminster.

The workers who try their best to maintain the grounds, but it is also a result of this pressure. At Westminster, this urgency even extends down the sidewalk. “I love to be rear-ended by a car when I’m not hurry the person was in. People rushing to class or work were far less that the only factor that had any sort of effect was how much of a responsibility. If common courtesies vanish as soon as we feel we can get away with it, what does that really say about us? 

I’m sure it’s impossible to fully appreciate what goes into every single thing that teaches us how we are, and this is being honest, such as ability is likely understandable. I mean, sometimes just you want to eat an Oreo and not know what they put into the white stuff. (Trust me, don’t look it up. I mean, sometimes you just want to eat an Oreo and not know what they put into the white stuff. (Trust me, don’t look it up. It’s impossible to fully appreciate what goes into every single thing that teaches us how we are, and this is being honest, such as ability is likely understandable. I mean, sometimes just you want to eat an Oreo and not know what they put into the white stuff. (Trust me, don’t look it up. It’s impossible to fully appreciate what goes into every single thing that teaches us how we are, and this is being honest, such as ability is likely understandable. I mean, sometimes just you want to eat an Oreo and not know what they put into the white stuff. 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Columnist

Erica McNatt

Sometimes, usually when I am having an emotional
strain, I forget exactly why I chose to become a history
major. When I look back at the classes I have taken,
I sometimes think that I should have chosen another
major or that I was just riding the wave of popularity
for history majors. Only recently have I come to
derstand this feeling—this sentiment is why I am
writing this article, so that others may not make the
same mistake I did.

The Holcad is a newspaper that was founded
in 1913 and was published up until 1937. It
covered local news and events, as well as
stories about students and faculty. The
Holcad articles from 1918, in particular,
have been a source of inspiration for me,
and I believe that they can be a source of inspiration
for others as well.

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Exploring abroad can be a moving experience with new places, ideas, and people. The Office of Faith and Spirituality organizes four faith-based “abroad” trips throughout the year, two conference-based and two mission-based.

The College of Arts and Sciences’ Annual Christian Conference (ACCC) provides a unique opportunity to practice services that reflect the 2019 conference topic, “CommunityCompelling.” The ACCC students stay in a house close to the conference center, which allows connections to be made amongst individuals who may otherwise not have met.

Dr. Robert Zullo, Associate Professor of Business and Sports Management, is the chair of ACCC. The ACCC Review Committee has determined the following topics.

- August 17-19, 2019: “The Good, the Bad, and the Ugly” at Hope College
- September 14-16, 2019: “Great Expectations” at Hope College
- October 25-27, 2019: “A Fine Line” at Calvin College
- November 15-17, 2019: “A Far Country” at Calvin College

Abroad-ening Perspectives

Eboo Patel is the 2019 Montreat featured keynote speaker. Patel is the founder and president of Interfaith Youth Core, a national nonprofit organization that works to advance understanding and respect for religious diversity, and to create opportunities for people to come together as equals in the public sphere.

Patel says, “I think that the best way to start the new year because it is a gathering of students who are like-minded and focusing on a specific topic.”

WC students were able to attend Montreat by October 1. Registration costs $205.50. Westminster College offers scholarships to students who attend Montreat.

The Great Department

The Office of Faith and Spirituality organizes four faith-based “abroad” trips throughout the year, two conference-based and two mission-based.

The Great Department

As you might have seen in these first few weeks of the fall semester, some of the academic departments on campus are not where they used to be. English, Art and Modern Languages now occupy the third floor of Patterson Hall with more offices than in the past year. The English and Art departments used to be on the second floor of Patterson Hall and the Modern Languages were on the second floor of the North Addition.

The reorganization also acts as a marketing strategy that helps Westminster send a better message about the departments and their faculty. These changes will allow the departments to more efficiently use their space as different majors grow and develop new requirements.

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The Social Sciences’ new spot in Old Main means that they have a great new space. The Social Sciences are housed in the third floor of Old Main with other majors that fit into the same region, such as history, political science, and psychology.

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Over the last few decades, musical artists have influenced multiple societies and cultures. From The Beach Boys, The Beatles, Led Zeppelin and Michael Jackson to Mariah Carey, Beyoncé and Ariana Grande, all of these celebrity contributors, reaching people of every age, race, gender, sexuality and ethnicity. Music has the ability to unite people and inspire connections with one another in a way that nothing else can. Through different genres and voices, we are essentially “singing our own poem” and find the music that fits the best. Music that we can relate with and have inspires us to do the things we need to get through the day.

One of my musical inspirations that began in the summer and came along with this summer vacation was Cole. A young genre-bending hip-hop artist who is recognized to highlight addiction and depression in the nation’s music culture. After 6 years and three albums, Cole most anticipated albums because of his rising popularity around the world. At St. John’s University in New York City, Cole went on to major in communications and business at this institution. This environment allowed him to excel musically and those around him no matter their race and orientation.

American father, who later abandoned the family. Growing up in a multi-ethnic environment, Cole grew up accepting those around him no matter their race and orientation. This environment allowed him to excel musically and academically. Upon graduating high school with a 4.4 GPA, Cole continued his passion for music by attending Berklee College of Music to hone his musical talents.

In 2010, Cole released his first album, Cole World: The Sideline Story. This could be said as one of his more anticipated albums because of its rising popularity in musical culture. After 6 years and three albums, Cole has truly moved his way towards being one of the biggest celebrity contributors, reaching people of every age, race, gender, sexuality and ethnicity. Musical artists can be considered some of the biggest influencer in the hip-hop industry. After collaborating with artists such as Jay-Z, Drake, Trey Songz and Kendrick Lamar, Cole has shown his flexibility in working with similar artists.

Although these collaborative projects share similar styles, Cole has been known to bring critical social topics. After the release of his album, 4 Your Eyez Only, Cole aimed to bring critical social topics, such as racial violence, incarceration, and discrimination in African American communities.

With these topics, Cole is known to highlight addiction and depression in the natural culture.

A Semester of Shakespeare

Dimalyn Oseyi

Theatre Westminster has been hard at work to incorporate its new tagline for the year “Drama Twist: A Modern Spin on Classic Plays.” The department has already held two semi-biannual workshops this month to bolster their mission: a musical theatre choreography workshop and a scenic painting master class. The two master full production “Love’s Labour’s Lost” and “Thankyou” will also incorporate the theme of putting a modern spin on the classics.

A unique first this semester is the musical “Love’s Labour’s Lost.” The show will open Homeschooling weekend, October 13-14. The musical is a modern adaptation of the same Shakespearean play, and senior theatre major Emily Eyler says it’s a “fun little twist” on the classic. The story, set in California, follows a group of men who swear to give up women for 3 months. If they can’t keep their word then they will be turned into women. This story will follow Prince Halbert as he tries to stay true to himself in order to win the heart of his father’s daughter, the king.

In order to make it as relatable as possible to students on campus, Eyler and fellow senior theatre major Kyle DePasquale will be working on this production of “Hamlet” for their senior capstone projects. DePasquale has adapted the play from its original length of four hours down to a manageable two, and Eyler will be planning and implementing the stage design. Eyler described her concept for the stage design as following, “The punch line of the play is the central issue of beauty to cover them up.” The stage will be natural and genuine, but will still include some mysterious elements to add dramatic effect to the different scenes. DePasquale and Eyler will also be playing the main characters of Hamlet and Ophelia, respectively.

Theatre Westminster has many exciting projects and productions coming up this semester, so make sure to keep a close eye on us! Also, the theatre department is always looking for motivated individuals to help them with behind the scene’s work. If you are interested in volunteering with the theatre or helping in any way please contact Christopher Strangfeld at strangfeld@westminster.edu.

Do you love a challenge? How about working on a team? Or being creative? Films and movies? Or one-of-a-kind experiences? Well, this is the challenge for you. The Broadcast Education Association Student Chillin’ 48-Hour Film Festival will test many of your skills, including creativity and meeting requirements within a time constraint. It requires teamwork, leadership and professionalism, which are all must-have skills in today’s world.

48-Hour Film Project

Kendal Ashman

The 48-Hour Film Project franchise has been active since 2001, and takes place in 130 different cities on six continents. The best news is, if your team wins, the team is invited to compete in the national competition this year: “Drama Twist: A Modern Spin on Classic Plays. “ The department has already held two semi-biannual workshops this month to bolster their mission: a musical theatre choreography workshop and a scenic painting master class. The two master full production “Love’s Labour’s Lost” and “Thankyou” will also incorporate the theme of putting a modern spin on the classics.

Students will have hours to shoot and edit films, and filmmakers are assigned a genre, a character, a line of dialogue and a prop on launch day, all of which must be included in the production. This adds another challenge on top of the time limit. This year, our very own Titans will be competing in the national competition from Nov. 2-4.

This is a great way to get involved and learn skills that will last a lifetime (and look good on your resume) and in job interviews. While it may seem difficult to create an entire film in 48 hours, this is a great way to work with people and learn how to finish tasks under large amounts of pressure. Not only that, but the experience will be a memory that last for a lifetime and a great story to tell your friends and family. This is a one-of-a-kind experience, and if you can have fun while doing it, then why not?
ACROSS
1. Belly laugh
5. Perennial entertainer
9. Converted to ice
14. Cupid
15. Translucent gem
16. Traditions
17. Farrah's fixtures
20. Entertainment centers; Brit.
21. Roman matrons' robes
22. Recruitment agency
23. Coal scuffle
24. Modish
25. Thomas or Robin
26. Bobby's paddles
27. Sally Ann's residence
28. Oriental maids
29. Descartes
30. Journalist Tristram
31. Greek porticoes
32. Large
33. Still
35. Oaf
36. Deep fissure
37. Bill of fare
38. Greek letter
39. Injections
41. Edgar's posture
42. Commercial come-ons
43. Greek letter
44. Kiln
45. Capture
46. Movie channel, briefly
48. Sir Alfred's speechifier
49. Author of Jane's drapes
50. Salad garnish
51. Tree-related
52. Small prevarications
53. Corner
54. Helen Hayes' residence
55. City of northern Switzerland
56. Disavow
58. Org.
60. Ross
down
1. Handles
2. Oriental maids
3. Sally Ann's residence
4. Reliquary
5. Highway menace
6. Chose
7. Freebie
8. North Pole employee
9. Galway, e.g.
10. Orante
11. City on the Oka
12. Greek letter
13. Being: L.
14. Cultural values
15. Religious retreat
16. Salad garnish
17. Cereal grain
18. Speechify
19. Sir Alfred's
20. Descartes
21. Strike dumb
22. Stinging rebuff
23. Triumph
27. Bobby's paddles
28. Sir Alfred's
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A natural question to ask as a first-year student is, “What is there to do around here for fun?” Westminster’s location in a small town in the middle of Amish country often leads to the perception that weekends will be quiet days where everyone stays in their residence hall rooms or does homework in the library. Thankfully, CPC does their best to make sure that this is never the case. This year, CPC has introduced the new Titan Nights program on Thursday, Friday and Saturday every weekend to provide another means of entertainment to the student body.

CPC, or Campus Programming Council, is a student-run organization that works with the college administration to provide evening entertainment options to students on campus. The events usually begin around 7 or 8 p.m. and are generally located in McKelvey Campus Center rooms such as Berlin Lounge or the Club Room. Past events have included a supply shop bingo night, Westminster Step Warrior and an open mic night. Other campus clubs are also indirectly involved with Titan Nights, such as Super Smash Bros. Club, which also meets at 7-8 p.m. on Thursdays in Berlin Lounge.

From the Titan Nights webpage it is easy to see what's happening on a week-to-week basis. The most recent event was the do-it-yourself tie-dye pillowcase night on Thursday, a pool tournament in Berlin Lounge on Friday and a board game night on Saturday. Next weekend will feature Westminster’s purplish bingo in Berlin Lounge on Thursday night, Student Government Association’s (SGA) Fall Fest on the quad all day on Friday and the Gateway Clipper trip in Pittsburgh on Saturday night. The last weekend of the month will have do-yourself zen gardens in Berlin Lounge on Thursday, Steel Blossoms, a country music duo, in Berlin Lounge on Friday night and a Campus Ministries-sponsored tailgating event on Saturday at 6 p.m. at Curry Stadium. All of these events can be found on the events calendar on mywestminster.

Williams explained that Titan Nights will continue every month throughout the course of the semester, and that CPC’s weekly meetings are at 4:15 p.m. on Monday in the Club Room. These meetings are open to all students. CPC is receptive of ideas for any events that students would like to see occur on campus. Williams also noted that any recommendations for future Titan Nights can be directed to Francesca Manilla, the assistant director of student engagement, in Student Affairs.

Endearing Excellence

Busy Weekends with CPC’s Titan Nights

George Puncher

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CPC, or Campus Programming Council, is a student-run organization that works with the college administration to provide entertainment for the student body throughout the semester. CPC plans, promotes, and executes both on- and off-campus events from musical acts and comedians, to trips to movies and baseball games, as well as Fist Friday, which is an entertainment event that occurs at the beginning of every month, and the New Titan Rally during Orientation. CPC’s biggest endeavor is the yearly Gateway Clipper Fleet trip, commonly called Beat Poms, at the beginning of fall semester. They also select the movies shown in Mueller Theater on weekends.

Titan Nights is the newest addition to the collection of events organized by CPC and runs Thursday through Saturday. Sophomore Brandon Williams, vice president of Campus Programming Council, explained that the idea was proposed by the college administration to provide evening entertainment options to students on campus. The events usually begin around 7 or 8 p.m. and are generally located in McKelvey Campus Center rooms such as Berlin Lounge or the Club Room. Past events have included a supply shop bingo night, Westminster Step Warrior and an open mic night. Other campus clubs are also indirectly involved with Titan Nights, such as Super Smash Bros. Club, which also meets at 7-8 p.m. on Thursdays in Berlin Lounge.

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Those who have spent much time mulling over creative writing topics have probably been given the advice “Write what you know” as a cure for writer’s block. The principle seems simple—use of research and of composition in one full swoop. Yet for the newest member of the Westminster English faculty, the joy of writing lies in the research itself. Dr. Trisha Cowen has traveled across continents and researched back over half a century digging into the stories of women taken into sexual slavery by Japan during the Asia Pacific War. Cowen was first introduced to these “comfort women” in a world history class she took while studying the Asia-Pacific, Dr. Cowen says we are still battling being able to something was tangible did not mean the difficult past with which it was associated was erased.

In spite of the lengths she went to to find answers about comfort women, Dr. Cowen says she is still being able to bring long periods of silence about our country’s own difficult history and about the ongoing issues of rape and sexual assault. In this way, the value of her fiction extends deeper than simply providing a believable account of an under-documented group: the fiction provokes a humanity potential that is able to transform borders and decades with more fluidly than a typical history book.

Dr. Cowen says her interests in marginalized cultures inspire much of her work teaching. She hopes to teach courses in fiction studies, fiction writing, and Native American literatures, and is excited to take on new topics here at Westminster. Having taught at SUNY Binghamton and Alfred State, she is well-versed in more, although her recent stint at the University of Central Arkansas may have gotten her a bit too used to temperatures above freezing. If you’d like to learn more about her newest English professor, pay her a visit in Patterson Hall 310 or better yet, sign up for “Monsters and Folklore, Film and Fiction” with her next semester.

Dr. Cowen sits outside a comfort station in Nanjing, China. Credit: trishacowen.com
Mac Miller Dead at 26

Dani Grady

Westminster welcomes Student from Down Under

Christen Duerring

Westminster College welcomed New Zealand native, student, and theatre major Hamish Mathwin. He is one of the first international students to come to Westminster and he will be attending starting this fall. Mathwin speaks highly of his homeland. “Personally, I think it’s the perfect place to live.”

Mathwin landed in Pittsburgh by a photograph of his mother and an architect father, The New Yorker reported. As a boy, the teen played music and taught himself how to play the guitar and drums before seriously getting into rapping when he was fourteen. The artist graduated from Pittsburgh Technical Allderdice High School in 2010, and he was given a key to the city in 2013, according to WPXI.

Mathwin is now a Titan, a midfielder on the men’s lacrosse team. Hamish is the team’s first international player. The move to America had challenges for him. He found it hard to adjust to the 14-hour time change. He also struggled with driving on the right side of the road. However, he sent out emails to colleges across the United States. He touched base with the men’s lacrosse team at Westminster College and connected with head coach Patrick Geiger.

Mathwin was raised in New Zealand by his Australian parents. He was interested in going to America and he was recommended to Westminster College by his family like Australia so much, they encourage anyone interested in traveling to put their name on the list. Mathwin and his family will move to America in 2020. Mathwin and his family will move to America in 2020.

Westminster student Hamish Mathwin is a member of Westminster’s lacrosse team at Westminster College and connected with head coach Patrick Geiger.

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Miller was raised in Pittsburgh by a photographer and an architect father, The New Yorker reported. As a boy, the teen played music and taught himself how to play the guitar and drums before seriously getting into rapping when he was fourteen. The artist graduated from Pittsburgh Technical Allderdice High School in 2010, and he was given a key to the city in 2013, according to WPXI.

Since then, Miller has created four other studio albums, making music. He began his journey in the industry when he was a teen singing in various music competitions. According to CNN. Miller’s music career developed from his original mixtapes. In 2012, when the artist was 19 years old, his first album “Blue Slide Park” was released in August. Miller was scheduled to go on a North American tour to promote this album beginning in late October. The final pronouncement of Miller’s cause of death will be delayed until toxicology tests are completed.

For students here on campus are also struggling with the loss of Miller. Senior Emily Grimes graduated from the same high school as Miller. She explained that though they did not attend the school at the same time, Miller came back to visit students when she was a sophomore. “From the first time I met him, I could tell he was a genuine person,” Grimes said. “Sometimes when you meet celebrities, there’s always that risk that their public image is just that—an image. Miller seemed like he was a genuine, caring man. Mac Miller will be greatly missed,” Cox said.

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A Stab in the Dark...From a Light Designer?

Sarah Harris

**Biochemistry Major**

Sarah Harris is a senior biochemistry major, hoping to pursue a graduate biochemistry degree. She is the president of the Westminster College biochemistry student chapter of the American Society for Biochemistry and Molecular Biology (ASBMB), and the secretary for Chemistry Club. She works as a TA in the chemistry department as well as in the Academic Success Center. In her free time, she can be found at Miracle Valley Church, either playing bass guitar or working in the audio recording studio. Additionally, she works as a light designer for Hickory High School and Hickory United Methodist Church, and as the layout editor for the Westminster Debob.

Why did you choose Westminster?

Initially, I didn’t want to come here. I actually really wanted to go to Pitt. However, the financial support that Pitt offered was...well...not sufficient. Westminster’s offer, thanks to the Honors writing scholarship they awarded me, was much more generous, and that was why I made my initial decision to tear the school. I was familiar with the campus, especially because my sister Laura had attended Westminster, but, oddly, the tour made my decision for me. In a chance encounter, I got to speak with Dr. Helen Boylan. She was so passionate about chemistry that it made me want to have that same passion. I also learned that, at that time, Westminster was ranked as the number one private university in the nation for women in STEM. And I asked myself: why not? Now that I’m here, I can’t imagine myself anywhere else.

**Why biochemistry?**

Biochemistry, for me, is exploring the aspects of chemistry that your body utilizes. This is a very basic definition, and someone else might give a different description, but my interpretation of the field pretty much reflects why I chose to study biochemistry. I remember the day my organic chemistry teacher asked what I wanted to study in college, and his face when I told him I didn’t know. At the time, we had been learning about enzymes and how it interacts with the body. So, I said: I don’t know. He laughed and declared a biochemistry major, which was, essentially, a stab in the dark. But I ended up liking it.

What's your Honors research about, and why do you find it intriguing?

So, I’m looking at the way the cell degrades histone mRNA. I find it intriguing because before I started my research, I didn’t really consider the magnitude of the process: not just how a cell handles a biomolecule, but all of the steps that go into one regulation molecule. It’s astounding that that’s just the human body in a team. Your body knows how to handle this process, but scientists like me are just trying to figure out how it does it.

How much time per week do you spend at your church? Why do you do it? What drives you to take on the roles you did? Necessity, interest, or something in between?

My typical week involves between 5 and 10 hours of work at the church, depending on if we have practice throughout that week or multiple services. I don’t wanna say that my decision to play bass guitar was made on a dare, but it kinda was. We had just lost our bass guitar player—he switched churches—and my family has been involved with the music team for my entire life. So, when the music leader came to me and asked if I wanted to learn to play the bass guitar, I just said: Yes. We don’t wanna say that my decision was made on a dare, but we also think it was a good idea. (But, at that point, I did have a role on stage,...two?)

Since then, we've come up with a vision for the lights and created the effect of a dark, creepy forest. Together, we've worked together in a lot of ways to make the light designer better. It was awesome! That was also my first year working for the Methodist church—I did one of my plays because their light designer got halfway through rehearsals and I’ve been doing it ever since.

Before I graduated high school, I got a job from the director at school saying that the light designer had quit and she wanted to know if I was interested in helping her out. Obviously, I’m a girl who can’t say no, so I said: Sure, why not? So, now I work the musical every spring break.

What, in your mind, is the biggest distinction between the arts and the sciences? How do you bridge this gap?

I feel like its very objective to say that there’s a giant divide between the arts and the sciences. While I may or may not agree with the STEAM movement, I feel like our brains can use these two different fields to make connections. And so, saying that they’re independent fields...no, it’s not completely wrong, but it’s not completely right either. The two fields can build off one another. For example, in my brain, I can use songs to remember biochemistry, which is the nerdiest thing I’ve ever done. Without that subset of music, I would never be able to do that. On the other hand, my scientific side drives me to see patterns and create order, which comes in especially handy when thinking about biochemistry. Because of my scientific background, I can see the order that other people might not see.

How did Westminster as an institution contribute to your pursuit of all your different interests? Did you feel encouraged, or was it something you had to find for yourself?

Westminster has been the most supportive community that I’ve been a part of—especially the chemistry department. I don’t know how to describe it other than: You walk in, and everyone’s door is open. Everyone is so accessible. I never felt like I had to fight for anything. I just feel supported. I thought their support made me into the person I am today.

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One of the problems the seniors are leading the team through is the overall consistency throughout matches. Freshman, Samantha Kelly, explained, “Our team’s biggest weakness is obviously we will have a slow start and not pick up the intensity until the end of the game.” The team is dedicated to improving in every practice, as senior Rachel Toporcer stated, “We are improving our communication by finding conflicts in matches so that we can call a ball locally and by trusting that our teammates calling for the ball will make a controlled play. We are improving our level of play by thinking of every game as one play at a time.” But, she explained, “no matter who the opponent is, we hold ourselves to the standard that we know we can play at.”

The team has developed an enormous confidence within themselves, Toporcer expressed, “I’m not sure what the weakness would be, but our team has a heart that is good, which is tough to beat!” And with this confidence, simply comes working to improve every chance the team gets. Toporcer continued, “The best way to get past a weakness is to stop and take it away. We were struggling to get up to speed until last week when a small drill was added for the defense. Considering weaknesses is a real strength.” The seniors appreciate the importance of the team’s strongest strength this season. The positive attitude and mindset that the Westminster volleyball team carries is going to be what guides them to the PAC prediction of a championship win. “Teams is family,” Toporcer stated, “[and] every single play, we say that’s doing this together. We all eat together every day and study together every night. We wouldn’t be as good as we are if we weren’t one.”

The Titans went up against Mount Aloysius on September 18th at 7pm. Their next home game and tri-match is September 21st against Washington and Jefferson. This team is off to an extraordinary start, and with the support of Westminster College, they can achieve their ultimate goal to win PACs.
If somebody were to check the recent news and updates on the NFL, they would think that the United States National Anthems protests have become as prominent as touchdowns, field goals, interceptions and fumbles. Protests started in 2016 and the 2018 NFL season didn’t start out any differently when two Miami Dolphins wide receivers, Kenny Stills and Albert Wilson, became the first players to protest this season.

These protests have been going on for two years and there still seem to be a lot of differing viewpoints on the situation. From some people’s perspective, protesting during the National Anthem represents hating the police, hating the military, or hating the United States in general. However, Kenny Stills, made it very clear that this is not the case when he protests. Stills told the Times; “Instead of people saying, yeah, let’s do this, let’s make change, let’s make our country a better place, it’s like, no, don’t do this then, this isn’t the right place, you don’t like the police.” All that Stills seems to be saying is that he is silent protesting, like has been done for years in the United States, to try to create a change for equality. It seems like this is one of the most followed disputes in the United States over the past few years, as even President Trump has tweeted about it.

This statement from Colin Kaepernick, the first player to protest during the National Anthem in 2016, really pounds Stills’ statement into the ground as to why NFL players are protesting and why they aren’t. According to vox.com, Kaepernick said this on August 28th of 2017; “I have great respect for the men and women that have fought for this country. I have family, I have friends that have gone and fought for this country. And they fight for freedom, they fight for the people, they fight for liberty and justice, for everyone. That’s not happening. People are dying in vain because this country isn’t holding their end of the bargain up, as far as giving freedom and justice, liberty to everybody.”

The reason this quote is still prominent today is because he was the one that started the protests and is still one of the most well-known and active supporters of the movement, even though he is a free agent.

One of the most recent reasons why Kaepernick is still a big face and name in the protests is because of his new ad campaign with Nike. Vox.com writes that Kaepernick is; “an inspiration for hundreds of other NFL players who have continued to kneel in protest of racial inequality during the anthem, and, most recently the face of Nike’s “Just Do It” campaign in 2018.” The mayor line that was used in the ad is “Believe in something. Even if it means sacrificing everything.” This ad has lit a spark on social media with people agreeing and people disagreeing. However, it is good for the players in the NFL that are still playing, because this ad has taken some of the heat off of them and put it on Nike.

In this writer’s opinion, the NFL protests are here to stay for a while, even if the NFL creates a rule against it. The NFL is one of the United States’ biggest industries.
Aries
How do you know you’ve learned from your mistakes? When you make different ones. That’s the best evidence there is, even better than the evidence of your success. Success proves you’re getting something right, but new mistakes prove you’re taking risks and really, fully living.

GeminI
You’ll glimpse your future, but it’s only one version—the version that will happen if you continue on this path. But any change you make now, however small, will change everything. Don’t underestimate the power of making small adjustments. Indeed, it will drastically change where you end up.

Leo
A responsibility will fall to you because you’re the only one who sees what needs to happen. It’s like you’re steering lemmings from the cliff ahead. A sign won’t be enough to redirect the crowd and neither will an explanation. Head the group and run in the direction they should go.

Libra
Though you feel like a one-winged creature looking for another one-winged creature, the truth is that humans are unwinged and can’t fly without putting trust in society. This week, you’ll make a plan, figure out who is reliable, invest your hopes and take flight.

Sagittarius
Loyalty is important to you, but it’s not something you think about. Maybe it’s because you’re a straight shooter, and you assume that others are, too. The stakes will be raised this week. There will be more to consider. Think carefully about what you say and to whom. Give your trust judiciously.

Aquarius
Someone will make it known that his or her life is more fun when you’re in it. That fun energy doesn’t have to be turned on and off just to delight people around you. Put some of it into your own scene. Your relationship with yourself is the one that will color all other relationships.

Taurus
There are so many ways to be kind to yourself. Some will seem like a good idea, but when you do them, you’ll learn they don’t do the trick. When that happens, try something else. The better you know yourself, the more likely you’ll be able to make yourself happy.

Cancer
You notice everything this week, including how people are dressed and what that says, clues they leave about where their affections lie and other evidence of their inner worlds. Because you’re so perceptive, it would be difficult to keep secrets from you. You’ll use what you learn constructively.

Virgo
The outsiders don’t know much about your goals or successes. So you can’t really take their advice, praise or criticism too seriously. Only you know what counts. Trust your own judgment. When it’s meaningful to you, it’s meaningful. Let your opinion of yourself be the one that matters.

Scorpio
You might feel like you’re bossy, but that’s what the boss should be. You’re also very respectful of your crew. Continue to carefully phrase your requests and to state your vision in a way that helps others get on board, and you’ll be successful in motivating those around you to fulfill the goal.

Capricorn
Friends will include you for reasons beyond the obvious. It’s better if you know what those reasons are. There’s nothing wrong with them, though maybe someone’s pride is keeping them from telling you the whole story. Anyway, you always love to help, especially this week.

Pisces
What do you do that reinforces your self-worth? Your life is precious. Your experience is precious. Don’t wait for others to prove this to you. Give yourself what you need and want. Do what it takes to help yourself understand how important and essential you are to the whole.