Adelphi celebrated National Coming Out Day on Tuesday, Oct. 11 with several events, including the GSA Trinity Place Shelter Fundraiser, LGBTQ+ Support Picture, Pronoun Button Pick-up, Coming Out Panel, Flower Vigil and a Safe Zone Training. The jam-packed day was made possible largely due to the efforts of Jason Spradley, the Center for Student Involvement’s assistant director responsible for multicultural programming and community service initiatives.

“It’s very important to recognize Coming Out Day not only because of its national importance,” said Spradley, “but because Adelphi has many people in the LGBTQ community, and having this day of recognition shows how dedicated Adelphi is to inclusion and makes it known to students that there’s a place where they can be recognized and part of the conversation. Everyone wants to be recognized for who they are and how they identify.”

He also mentioned how important it was for university administrators like President Christine Riordan and Dean Jeffrey Kessler to show up for the LGBTQ+ support picture, which took place in front of the University Center. “It was important to show their support and let the students know they’re on the hearts and minds of the Adelphi community,” Spradley explained.

One of the most impactful events of the day was the Coming Out Panel, wherein students and faculty (specifically, our own Dr. Devin Thornburg) spoke on their experience coming out. Among the wealth of topics covered, the panelists spoke candidly on the reception that their friends, family and loved ones gave upon learning about their identities. When listening to these stories, a profound realization was made about the power of intersectionality; each person’s experience varied based off their personal age, ethnicity, race, religion and more.

For example, one panelist reflected on the difficulty that they faced while deciding whether or not to come out as a lesbian to their Caribbean family, knowing that they may not respond in a supportive manner. As a result of this diversity in experience, the “plus” in the LGBTQ+ community was reaffirmed: from person to person, identities are expressed and experienced differently.

“The panel is a staple Coming Out Day event that we have booked every year. It’s important to have student voices on the panel, as well as alumni and professors, so that there’s a varied narrative,” Spradley said. “We all have different experiences I wanted a diverse panel including people of color, religious and non-religious identifiers, trans, queer, asexual, etc. Not just gay and lesbian stories.”

“Panels are important because there needs to be more awareness,” said Ashton Wei, a senior psychology major. “We need to know the experiences of people in this minority group. We still have a lot to go through.”

Junior neuroscience major Mon Marshall, spoke to a similar point as to why she thinks Coming Out Day is so (continued on page 3)
A Word from the Editor

Fortunately for many of us, midterms are now in the rear-view mirror and we can look forward to some exciting upcoming events such as Halloween and the presidential election, perhaps one a little more than the other. We have a great edition for you with many significant articles and hope that you find it to be very informative.

After looking around this issue, you might notice that diversity seems to be the theme. The colorful picture on the front cover featuring the Coming Out Day LGBTQIA+ Support Photo was just one of several events that took place that day. Others included an impactful panel discussion, educational Safe Zone Training and somber flower vigil, which commemorated the 49 victims of the Orlando shooting. The Center for Student Involvement certainly did an incredible job planning the day. I was happy to hear from one of the editors that she was told a few people were encouraged by the event they came out to friends, which speaks to the success.

You may notice President Riodan and Dean Kessler in the support photo, as well as other administrators and faculty, serving as a reminder of how devoted the university is to diversity and the acceptance of all kinds of students. Diversity is such a high priority to the strategic planning process that it has its own committee.

This reminder is especially important during a time of tension beyond Adelphi, especially relating to the present political climate affected by the presidential election. We are becoming more and more accustomed to seeing blatant acts of racism, misogyny, homophobia and xenophobia when we turn on the news or look at social media.

With all the differing opinions and views that have come to the forefront of mainstream society, it’s not surprising that heated encounters have occurred on our campus. Our yearly treat, Chalk Up Day, which serves as an opportunity for students to be free to express themselves creatively, brought color to the paths of the university. Students simply left in awe by the brilliant, skillful pieces left by talented students. However, the freedom of expression resulted in a conflict over the heated topic of race and policing.

Throughout the month, there have been conversations for students to engage in pertaining to race such as the Ta-Nehisi Coates lecture and “Race and Policing: Where Do We Go From Here?” panel. You can see articles featuring both of these events in this edition, as well as an open letter we received from Black Students United to the Adelphi community. It’s an extremely powerful, emotional letter written by two executive board members, asking the entire community to attempt to see things through a different lens and understand the struggles and frustrations.

Recently, the role of The Delphian as “the voice of the students” has been challenged and I’d like to take the time to respond by inviting the student body to submit, especially editorials wise. We don’t wish to suppress any student’s ability to speak for what they believe in, but we can’t include your voice if you don’t take the initiative like Black Students United did with their letter. We try to represent the students fairly and in an unbiased manner, as I’d like think some newspapers and media outlets try to do, but we need your help to strike that balance and make sure every student voice is heard within reason.

Also, on behalf of my entire staff, I’d like to say goodbye to Jess Cooper, who served as our news editor for the 2015-16 school year and started the year as our features and entertainment editor. We want to thank her for all the time and effort she put into The Delphian and wish her the best of luck in her future endeavors.

-Bryan Grilli
Editor-in-Chief

Project Semicolon Promotes Mental Health Awareness on Campus

BY LAUREN REDFORD

According to the Project Semicolon website, a semicolon is used when an author could’ve ended a sentence but chose not to. In their campaign, the sentence is symbolic of one’s life and that a person is the author.

Brought to Adelphi in the fall of 2015, Project Semicolon is used as an initiative to introduce mental health knowledge and awareness on campus. Instrumental in introducing the program to Adelphi was director of the Health Services Center Jacqueline Cartabuke and health educator Lauren Dolinski.

“Jacqueline] had come across this project and thought it would be a great way to introduce a mental health initiative on campus without any negative stigma,” said Dolinski.

It spread its branches as a conversation-starter, meant to end the negative stigma surrounding mental illness. Though Adelphi is not directly affiliated with the Project Semicolon, it has still been used as an inspiration to those who need help and perhaps need some motivation to reach out to the resources that our school has to offer. Last month, peer educators staffed a table in the lobby of the University Center to educate students on campus on Project Semicolon and provide them with an opportunity to join the support list.

“Many students approached the table last year inquiring about this initiative and felt like it was a powerful message behind such a small character,” said Dolinski. “This small symbol has opened up a big conversation amongst students and staff and shows that Adelphi is a welcoming place.”

There are also students who are simply curious and would like information about the project or school assistance, MacBride said. No matter their background, all students were welcome to visit the table and sign up, and as MacBride put it, to understand that “their story isn’t over.”
Only about 10 students attended the Oct. 9 viewing event. The low turnout may have been due to the three-day weekend, with there being no classes on Monday.

Adelphi Votes has hosted a number of events this semester to prep students for the president election in November, including a tutorial for first-time voters on using electronic voting machines by the Nassau County Board of Elections and Registration Rush, allowing those not already registered to vote to do so.

Despite the low turnout, the viewing event was important for the students who attended, several of whom said the second presidential debate would help them formulate a more solid decision about for whom they would vote.

“This election is very much about choosing the lesser of two evils,” said senior communication sciences and disorders major Dominique DeFrancesco. “In the first debate, Trump didn’t present himself well, but Hillary was more prepared, and it showed, but ended up making her look stiff. I’m watching and learning different things each time and I don’t know who to pick.”

“**This election is very much about choosing the lesser of two evils,**”

Freshman Thomas Meyers was looking forward to see whether Trump would take lead of the second presidential debate, as he didn’t perform well during the first one. “Who to vote for is a real toss up,” he said.

The second presidential debate became especially important after the leaked 2005 Access Hollywood video of Donald Trump describing how he sexually assaults women and a Wikileaks dump of thousands of emails from the server of Clinton’s campaign chair John Podesta.

“It’s disgusting, but not surprising to me,” said Autumn Bill, a freshman art major, about the video recording of Trump. “The Republican Party is now realizing what many already knew. It’s making the public more informed about who Trump is.”

However, Meyers argued that the public was not being fully informed on the indiscretions of the presidential candidates on both sides of the aisle.

“While both leaks are heinous, the media is only focusing on Trump’s comments in the video, showing a bias against one candidate,” he said. 

The final presidential debate will take place on Oct. 19, and there will be an Election Night Party, as well, hosted by Adelphi Votes on Nov. 8.

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**GSA students raise money for the Trinity Place Shelter.**

Students gathered for the Flower Vigil outside of the University Center where the names of the victims of the Pulse Nightclub were named.

Photos provided by Center for Student Involvement

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**Vigil and New Events at National Coming Out Day**

Adelphi Votes Events Continue as Election Nears

**BY GABRIELLE DEONATH**

On Oct. 9, Adelphi Votes, working closely with the Center for Student Involvement (CSI), hosted another viewing event in the University Center ballroom for the second presidential debate. Before the debate at 9 pm, Lori Canino from Swirbul Library gave a presentation about the databases available through the university’s library that allows voters to educate themselves further on hot button issues.

The debate viewing event was the third of four planned as there have already been events for the first presidential and the vice-presidential debates.

“Unfortunately, the other two have not ignited the energy of passion the first one did,” said Kathleen Watchorn, coordinator of Adelphi Votes.

Only about 10 students attended.
Chalk Up Event Leads to Clear Need for a Productive Dialogue About Race

BY BRYAN GRILLI

Adelphi’s Chalk Up Day is an opportunity for students to express themselves and their beliefs, and this is strongly encouraged by the administration and the Art Department. However, when there are multiple, sometimes contrasting opinions being expressed simultaneously, heated arguments can spark regarding some of the most sensitive topics of today. This was the case during the Sept. 28 event, when two clubs wound up having their drawings and messages challenged by other students.

That day the Criminal Justice Club worked in unison on a set of pieces with the Collaboration Project in front of the University Center. The Collaboration Project’s major theme over the past two years has been racial justice matters. This was tied in with the Adelphi Reads 2017 book this year, “Between the World and Me” by Ta-Nehisi Coates, and focused on a multitude of other areas as well.

“We have been lucky over the last few years that Carson Fox has given us this large area. Last year we had that powerful image of the protestor with the fist that said ‘Racial Justice Matters,’” said Dr. Stephanie Lake, director of the Criminal Justice Program. “This year, we did a similar thing where we drew an image of a young African-American girl holding a sign saying ‘Racial Justice Matters.’ We also had another more inclusive message in another area saying ‘Build Bridges, Not Walls,’” which was a reference to anti-immigration sentiment. Then finally, there was a third area where a student had drawn an image of hands as in hands up, don’t shoot.”

When the Art Department first starting accepting applications for space, the organizations Lake was representing were assigned the spot in front of the UC for their pieces. She mentioned there were small spaces in between the drawings, not inviting other students to draw there, but physical spaces nonetheless. They had been chalkling up since 10 am when a group of students walked up to the drawings and wrote “Blue Lives Matter” in the small spaces between the drawings.

“AS I was chalkling, I heard several students from my organization getting upset and say, ‘Lake, they’re writing Blue Lives Matter on our display’,” Blake recounted. “I am protective of my students so my first instinct was to say, ‘oh no, you can’t do that’ as I walked over.”

Lake said that they were technically weren’t writing on the displays themselves, but very close in between the displays. “The students were intentionally writing it as a counter to not only racial justice matters, but also hands up, don’t shoot,” Lake continued. “There was intent there. What they wrote was probably less than six inches away from one of the displays, juxtaposed.”

Lake stressed to them that she didn’t want them to feel like she was trying to prevent them from expressing their beliefs. “We want students to join in and feel like they’re a part of something, and we want them to express themselves in any way they want to. It was just clear they decided they were offended by our display and wanted to send a message.”

The professor attempted to have a productive conversation with the students, but it became apparent that wouldn’t be a possibility because of how worked up all parties were following the encounter. The situation was not conducive to constructive dialogue because they did not understand each other’s positions. “I get frustrated, not at them in particular, but because we were talking past each other and they weren’t understanding,” Lake stated. “I asked them if they understood why the students who worked on the displays were upset that they wrote Blue Lives Matter, and they responded by saying it’s a free country.”

What Lake and her organizations were trying to get the students to understand is that Black Lives Matter and Black Lives Matter are not anti-police movements, and the students in the organizations were upset not because they disagree with Blue Lives Matter, but because they were missing the point why it’s offensive to someone who feels disenfranchised and not heard.

“The reason why Black Lives Matter is a thing is all the evidence from our criminal justice system to the economic and political dispossession of African Americans that points to the fact as a general matter, black lives matter less to the American public, media and criminal justice system,” Lake explained. “When students are making a statement, whether it’s chanting or drawing, they’re not saying only black lives matter, but black lives matter too. When you say blue lives matter, it’s negating their argument.”

After the conversation was over, a student walking by the display went to cross out what the students had written, but Lake and several members of the respective organizations asked them to refrain because they did not want the expressions of the students who wrote Blue Lives Matter to be removed.

On the other side of campus, near Swirbul Library, Black Students United had a similar experience with their piece that listed the names of the people of color who have been unarmed and killed in encounters with police officers along with the body outlines.

“I went to work on another piece for Females of Culture United for Success and later returned with my mentor, Jennifer Ganley and a colleague, to show the piece,” said Maya Faison, the president of BSU. “As we approached the piece, I noticed Blue Lives Matter had been written just below it. Just as I was attempting to figure out how I felt about the response to our piece, I saw a student underlining it.”

After a moment, Faison approached the student, who was joined by a few of his friends. She talked to them all, asking them why they felt the need to write under the piece and they responded by saying their drawing saying Blue Lives Matter had been crossed out and their actions were retaliatory.

“I assured them my executive board did not cross out their piece,” Faison continued. “One of the students explained to me that he was related to cops to which I responded that I understand their frustration and that I personally respect police officers and do not believe they are bad. However, there is a larger issue.”

Faison also mentioned she shook hands with two of the students, introduced herself as the president of BSU and welcomed them to contact her so that they might engage in further conversation. She has not yet heard from them.

During a time when race relations are tense both on-campus and beyond, Lake stressed the importance of diversity and having a productive conversation between people of different views and walks of life.

“Diversity is one way to make people feel more welcome because there are more people around to share your perspective and not deny your pain and frustration, which is basically what the Chalk Up situation was about,” Lake said.

She noted that panel discussions can be successful, but often tend not to have everyone at the table. Lake is part of the Conversations on Race series, which puts on a lot of events that get people in the room at tables with each other, but she said it’s difficult because most events are voluntary and students avoid them based on the title of the event from both sides.

“It’s not until people hear each other and see why they feel the way they do, we’re never going to get past the wall that’s been up between these groups. It’ll continue to be an escalation of anger, frustration and fact-free debate, that doesn’t serve anything but to harden the resolve of both sides,” Lake stated. “Interactions can lead to clarifications of misunderstandings and provide a way to move forward and change the dialogue.”

The site of Black Students United’s Chalk Up piece. Photo provided by Maya Faison

A group of students participated in a Black Lives Matter demonstration, emulating the protest of quarterback, Colin Kaepernick, during the National Anthem at Midnight Madness. There was mixed reaction, including hostile social media backlash following the game. Photo provided by Dr. Stephanie Lake

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BY DANIELLE MCDougALL

If one is to propose a title for 2016 to sum up the notions that characterized it, let it be the year of student activism. The thought that, decades from now, students of all ages across this country will read textbooks detailing the sociopolitical turbulence of the latter half of this decade alone with the same degree of disturbance that we now read of the trials endured by myriad marginalized groups over the course of the 1960’s should be shocking. And yet, it isn’t.

According to a database kept by “The Guardian,” 847 people have been killed by the police or died while in their custody in 2016 alone. Of those dead, 129 were unarmed at the time—that means over 15 percent of the American people have died at the hands of law enforcement officers in instances where they posed no immediate mortal threat. Moreover, 44 percent of those dead were black and Latino individuals.

It is for those lives lost that Col-lin Kaepernick, famed 49ers quarterback, made the equal parts polarizing and brave decision to stand in solidarity with the Black Lives Matter movement by kneeling during the playing of the U.S. national anthem. And it is, in part, for that reason that the new generation of people who will vote in their first presidential election next month have made a fervent effort to expose and hold persons accountable for the discriminatory institutions that they have had a part in creating and are attempting to uphold.

It is against this backdrop that Adelphi has begun a new semester. And that Ta-Nehisi Coates, MacArthur “gen-
erosity” awardee and author of the critically-acclaimed book “Between the World and Me” graced the stage of the filled-to-capacity University Center ballroom on October 5.

Coates spoke about the power of perpetually learning. His appreciation for two major things in his life became apparent. One was the liberty given to him to explore the complexities of his life and culture via reading. The second were the figures in his life – his father and professors at Howard University (a historically black college) – who encouraged him to question what was proposed as fact, to ask, as his father told him, “is this really true?”

“My book is not an advice book and I’m not an advice person,” he told the audience. “I’m a student; I’m a student trying to answer certain questions. It’s very hard for me to…stand up as a sort of voice of wisdom to [white] people because it destroys the questions that are in your heart.”

And though this may not be an authoritative statement, the power of it lies within the fact that it values the questions that we hold, instead of trying to give definitive answers to them – precisely what Coates said robs people of the satisfying nature of learning on their own, of understanding what once confounded them. This journey to understanding, he said, came at the price of recognizing the extent to which people “lie” to you by way of perpetuating myths. Myths as Coates said he learned, such as the fact that race was, indeed, a construction created for the purpose of discrimination and manipulation of people’s socioeconomic and political circumstances. (In instances of redlin-
ing, for example, where black people were systematically denied government-subsidized loans because of the “high-risk” areas in which they lived.)

This candid celebration of learning in order to reach enlightenment spoke to Danielle Medina, a senior political sci-
cence major and gender studies minor. “I thought the most profound thing he said was that he’s a student. So it reinforces the idea that his book is not an advice book, but he wants everyone to learn and he’s still learning. He is genuine in his under-
standing of himself as a learner, even with the pretext of his whole book that is pretty revolutionary.”

It resonated in a similar manner with senior and English literature major Kaitlin Estez, who said: “One of the most profound takeaways of this event was that it really exposed the significance and the necessity of discourse […] this re-
ally painted a picture of how powerful it is to have these conversations and to en-
gage in them wholeheartedly. There’s not a one-bit answer and there never will be, but I think one answer is to always be talk-
ing and always be asking questions.”

Additionally, Virgilio Lopez, a senior business major, valued Coates’ input as an alum of a historically black university, stating that, “it’s great to see it [racism on campus] from another person’s perspective.”

This worldly perspective that Coates was able to develop over his years is precisely the one he implored the audience to develop, if only for the purpose of navigating a climate wherein a black student may not feel represented – a sentiment that was met with rousing, empathetic applause.

During the Q & A that followed Coates’ talk, a student said: “I don’t feel like I have the same space where you might have felt that you could talk. So, what would you say to a black somebody that feels like they don’t have the spaces to really ask those dire questions and just go about being in a four-year institution? Because I study political science and came to this school thinking that I’d come here, study, and not have to talk about being black. But the first year I get here, [I’m hit] with the topic of race, so that hit me like a pile of bricks. I was tired of talking about being black. I’m from the Bronx – I feel like I have to talk about that way too much already. And I’m simultaneously being told that I could be anybody that I want to be, but there is a very real possibility that I could graduate here after four years and work at McDonald’s.”

Coates seemed genuinely surprised by the student’s question. “Here’s what I’ll say: no university, not even Howard, is myth-free,” he said. “I have two pieces of advice to give. The first is to learn a foreign language; that is really important. The world is not America; a foreign lan-
guage it’s huge, it’ll last you for the rest of your life. Second is that I think you should do a semester at an HBCU [historically black college or university]. I do think that it’s worth just doing an exchange. It’s not perfect, but that’s my philosophy, though and I love them. [I love] all their faults and all of their beautiful genius because you. So I urge you to do those two things.”

Coates shared with the audience his reflection on a meeting with Jordan Da-
vis, a young black man killed in 2012 over music being played “too loudly” at a gas station, a recipient of “the talk” – and all-
too-familiar speech given to black men on how to move about in a world that could easily brutalize them: “What have I found is that you don’t have to be lied to…I’m not against the idea of dispensing advice, but it’s not a bulletproof vest, man…it’s just not.”

It is admittedly difficult to cover the sheer breadth of every topic covered by Coates during his powerful lecture, though that appears to be the point: in a year where we are feeling the weight of this deluge of hatred, violence and seemingly seismic shifts in sociopolitical discourse, there is no one solution that can be provided to centuries-worth of institutionalized discrimination and its effects. Thus, we must recognize the profound value in exploring the source of solutions – in being ac-
tive students of the world in which we live – so that we can then begin to dismantle them.
Chalk Up! Colorful Chalk Drawings Take Over Campus

BY EMILY ELEFONTE

On Sept. 28, the walkways of Adelphi’s campus were covered in vibrant designs as the university’s fourth Chalk UP! event took place. Even with looming clouds overhead, the students and faculty crowded around Adelphi and worked together to bring their designs to life.

Chalk UP!, which assigns locations to every club and organization on campus, has proven to be an entertaining way for the Adelphi community to unite and express their creativity.

As one of Adelphi’s most interactive and appealing events, Chalk UP! has remained very popular among students.

“It’s one of my favorite events of the year because everyone comes together and we get to share our worlds, interests and likes,” said Kristen Coraggio, a senior communications major.

With representations from social action and volunteer-based clubs to academic societies and Greek organizations, Chalk UP! is a true representation of the diversity of student life at Adelphi.

For some, the day is about admiring the beauty of each creation, but for others, the freedom of expression means a bit more. Lauren Boldreau, a freshman nursing major, was appreciative of the event.

“I came from a Catholic school where this would never be allowed, so it’s nice to come here and have it [the message of acceptance and equality from Adelphi’s Gender and Sexuality Alliance] out in the open,” she said.

With over 80 campus-based clubs and organizations, the event is a way for students to communicate the values of their club/organization with their fellow peers.

In between creating a colorful portrayal of the love symbol in American Sign Language, the members of the American Sign Language club said that although many people do not understand sign language, they are trying to spread the love sign, as “kindness is a language we all understand.”

Art professor Jennifer Maloney also participated in Chalk UP!. Maloney worked alongside her students to construct patterned, geometric shapes that brightened the path from the middle of campus to Levermore Hall. Maloney said she saw it as an opportunity to merge what she was teaching in her 2D design class with the imaginations of her students. Maloney explained that her class used “nodes and vectors in geometry as a jumping off point for creativity.”

In addition to the awareness that Chalk UP! provided to everyone who wandered through campus, students said it was also a fun way to unwind and draw upon their artistic abilities.

As she sketched the outline of a Delta Gamma anchor, junior art major Dorren McDevitt discussed how she loved being able to utilize her major to make something beautiful for the campus.

Chalk UP! even managed to attract alumni like Leah Nicolich ’16, who returned to Adelphi just to participate. Nicolich, with the help of Valerie Rodriguez ’16, worked to replicate a wonderfully detailed cover of “LI Pulse” magazine.

Although due to rain, the chalk designs did not last longer than the day, collectively, the drawings represented the true identity of Adelphi students. They visually showcased Adelphi’s diversity, while also emphasizing that the students are united by the common goal of making a difference in the world. The striking illustrations confirmed the talent and passion of Adelphi students, and in return, made this year’s Chalk UP! another success.

Adelphi students took to the walkways of campus and brought a lot of color.

Photos provided by Emily Elefonte

The GSA’s piece
Adelphi’s King and Queen Crowned at Family Weekend

BY REBECCA SINGH

Adelphi’s Family Weekend hosted one of the most anticipated events of the school year on Saturday, Oct. 1 – the 2016 coronation of Adelphi’s king and queen. This year’s king, Kendall Francis, and queen, Eryka Windley, were crowned for their hard work and exemplary dedication to the university.

They both said that preparation for such an event was not an easy feat, especially for students who are fully committed to their academics along with their vigorous involvement on campus. Spreading the word was top priority for those running for king and queen. According to Francis and Windley, they took time out to make flyers, post on social media such as Instagram and asked friends to cast their vote.

Francis is a senior computer and management information systems major with a minor in marketing.

“I’m president of my fraternity, Pi Lambda Phi, as well as a resident assistant in Chapman Hall. I’m involved in other areas, but those two are my major time commitments this semester,” he said.

Windley, a senior marketing major, is deeply involved in campus life. Windley is Vice president of Swing Phi Swing Social Fellowship Incorporated, president of the Multicultural Greek and Fellowship Council and an orientation leader. Further, she is a peer assistant leader, a Bridges peer mentor and the manager of the women’s basketball team.

She also is a strong advocate of encouraging students to get involved as soon as they can. “Getting involved helped me break out of my shell and become a leader on campus and everyone has a chance to do just that if they just get involved,” Windley said.

Francis said students, freshmen in particular, should not try to become involved in every organization on campus, but should find something they are passionate about and to which they can dedicate themselves.

Although they were both very busy, Francis and Windley said they were motivated to take their Adelphi careers and involvement to the next level.

“I was encouraged by friends to run, but before then, I had considered running because I saw it as a great way to end my Adelphi career,” said Francis.

“The opportunity to be Adelphi’s king, I’ve gotten the opportunity to learn from many Adelphi leaders, and I hope that as king I’ll get the opportunity to do the same for other Adelphi students.”

Standing on stage with the entire homecoming court, our leaders said they felt nervous, but knew that whoever took the crown would be the greatest advocates for the university.

“I was nervous and excited because all of the candidates for queen were equally great, and anyone of us would have made a great queen,” Windley said.

“We were so lucky to be with such great people,” Francis said.

“I was ready for all the responsibilities that come with this title. I’ve had a lot of practice with managing school work and other leadership positions on campus, but I think I will be fine,” said Windley.

As seniors, both Francis and Windley are now reflecting on their last three years at Adelphi and looking ahead to the future.

“I can’t really imagine leaving just yet,” Francis said. “There’s still so much for me to do this year.”

“I’m ready for all the responsibilities that come with this title. I’ve had a lot of practice with managing school work and other leadership positions on campus, but I think I will be fine,” said Windley.

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“I can’t really imagine leaving just yet,” Francis said. “There’s still so much for me to do this year.”

Student Access Office Adopts New Name But Offers Same Support

BY MATT SCHROH

The Office of Disability Support Services has been renamed the Student Access Office. But the services it offers remain the same: to ensure equal access to all of Adelphi University’s programs, services and facilities for students with documented needs and to provide an accessible and supportive campus environment.

The physical office itself – located in the University Center in Room 318 – is headed by Director Rosemary Garabedian and Assistant Director Brian Flatey, who said they had been mulling over the name change for quite some time.

“Rosemary and I, along with our staff, had been thinking about it for a few years,” said Flatey, who has been working there since 2014. “We wanted to create a more open environment for all students to help them achieve their goals at Adelphi. A large factor was to take the focus off [the word] ‘disability,’ truly creating a more diverse demographic for the Student Access Office’s services to help. Although the office prides itself in aiding students with disabilities, it does more than just that.”

The Student Access Office remains ready to help any student who needs it. The office provides cost-free assistance and services, encourages independence through the training of students with disabilities and serves as a liaison and resource for the University faculty, staff and administrators to foster a greater awareness and appreciation of issues of concern to people with different needs. The Student Access Office is also tied with the Writing Center, the Learning Center and the Bridges to Adelphi program, among other campus resources.

For more information, visit the office or http://access-office.adelphi.edu/.
“Race and Policing: Where Do We Go From Here?” was the title of a panel discussion held on Oct. 12 in the Ruth S. Harley University Center, Room 201. It was organized by the Center for Student Involvement and was co-sponsored by the College of Arts and Sciences, Student Affairs, Multicultural Affairs, Criminal Justice and Diversity Committee. The panel members were faculty, students, a racial justice activist, New York City Detective Carl Achille and former New York City Detective James Coll who were there to discuss the current racial climate in regards to policing in the U.S.

One of the topics covered was media representation and public opinion of policing and police brutality victims. Panelist Kerbie Joseph, an educator, youth counselor and local activist, highlighted her perspective of this topic, suggesting that victims are often criminalized by the media. Detective Coll countered that sometimes video footage can be out of context and misleading.

Stephanie Lake, an Adelphi criminal justice professor, said police violence isn’t new. “What is new is that the violent actions are being recorded and displayed at hyper speeds. The problem is not police, but rather policing as an institution, which pits the public and the police officers against each other.”

Another contentious topic that was touched upon regarded police trust among communities of color and included a conversation about black-on-black crime, broken window policies and the need for police presence in certain areas.

BY DANIELLE MEDINA

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Another contentious topic that was touched upon regarded police trust among communities of color and included a conversation about black-on-black crime, broken window policies and the need for police presence in certain areas. Kindeya Chiaro, vice president of Adelphi’s Black Students United, commented on the systemic segregation due to relining, that the statistics of black-on-black crime were not that different from white-on-white crime, and lamented the “overwhelming silence among ‘good’ police officers.”

“They aren’t police officers who do recognize injustices standing up against them with the Black Lives Matter Movement if all lives really do matter?” asked Chiaro. This statement drew applause from the audience. Det. Achille explained that a lot of people in law enforcement believe the Black Lives Matters movement has merit.

During a question-and-answer session with the audience many people commented on specific parts of the discussion that they felt needed more clarification, such as psychiatric testing of police officers and where we go from here as a community. Among these questions was one posed by an Adelphi freshman of color asking the panel’s advice of what he should say to his younger brother in regards to what would happen to them if they were stopped by the police. He added, “I’m a good person...and sometimes that’s not enough.”

Officer Achille said that this was the toughest question for him. “It starts from home and it starts from education.” As to the original question of “where do we go from here?” answers revolved around education and involvement of both police officers and the community to foster change in a cohesive way.
Badass Teachers Explain Their Fight for a Seat at the Table

BY GESELLA MALDONADO

The educational activist group Badass Teachers Association (BTA) held a special event on Oct. 3 in the Thomas Dixon Lovely Ballroom. Adelphi students of various majors, administrators and education department faculty, as well as teachers, young and experienced, arrived at the University Center that evening to watch and participate in the education reform debate panel, “Fighting for a Seat at the Table.”

Professor Mary Jean McCarthy, who was the moderator for the panel and part of the School of Education committee, and Tracy Hogan, who was also part of the committee, helped to organize this annual event for their students. McCarthy said the speakers were invited so that students could have a broader understanding of important topics pertaining to education.

Marla Kilfoyle, BTA executive director and a public school teacher for 29 years, led the panel, which consisted of discussions about what is and is not working in the public school system. Kilfoyle, who’s also a member of the New York State Allies for Public Education, has been part of the BTA for three years, helping to fight against what she believes is an organized protocol that is designed to “dismantle public education.”

“We’re in a climate now where public education, public school teachers and children and their families are under attack,” says Kilfoyle. “We want to make sure that we’re keeping this strong system together, that equally and equitably serves all children.”

The panel itself featured BTA teachers Jennifer L. Wolfe, Jamaal A. Bowman, Deborah Little, PhD, Adrian Brooks, MA ’08 and Michael J. Hynes, Ed.D. Kilfoyle spoke for the introductory lecture, discussing the BTA’s origins as a social media group, its growth into a nonprofit alongside their collaborative efforts with nationwide federal support, and the ill’s of the American public education system as a result of difficult policies such as Common Core.

During the Q&A, teachers spoke of their efforts to improve student lifestyles at school. Hynes talked about increasing recess time. Bowman advocated for better treatment towards minority students at low-income schools, and Little encouraged more communication between teachers and students. But their overall message remained the same throughout the presentation, which was, as Bowman said: “What matters is the power of [everyone’s] voice.” Wolfe added that future educators must be “activists the minute you step into the school building.”

Numerous students who participated in the event were also part of Adelphi’s STEP Education program, including the Future Teacher’s Association (FTA). Some said that what they discussed had renewed their aspirations to become teachers.

“Especially as a freshman, learning what was discussed actually makes me want to be a teacher more now,” said Sara Chersi, a freshman environmental studies major. She said she considers teaching to be a profession where the responsibilities are just about the same as a parent, despite how scary it may seem to be at first.

Elizabeth Messina, a junior history major, agreed that the panel was very informative about the current condition of public education and what future educators and their supporters should do about it.

Both Chersi and Messina are members of the STEP and the FTA.

Quite a few students said they felt that the dinner and dessert reception afterwards, hosted by the FTA, was an excellent way for them to have discussions with the panel.

“This is something new we’ve done in the lecture series and I feel that it was a great way for students to interact with faculty as well as the speakers,” says Brittany Willoughby, a junior math major, student of the STEP program and president of the FTA. “A lot of times we don’t think about the questions that we need to or want to ask when they give it to open discussion.”

McCarthy said: “It was a wonderful opportunity to have a spirited speaker about a very important topic.”

“It’s better that we get new people in to listen and to understand the message about what is happening right now,” added Kilfoyle. “They’re the soldiers of tomorrow.”

Pokémon Go-ing too Far? A Proposed Law May Stop Related Vandalism

BY JESSICA CAMPITIELLO

With the launch of the app in July, it seems like the world is infected with Pokémon fever. People flock to stores to buy Pokémon products. They flood the internet with game nostalgia. Even shops and restaurants have been taking advantage, giving out perks to dedicated players.

Although this is fun, the game sparked much controversy since its release. Notably are the reports of trespassing and vandalism. This is such a problem that there is currently a law on the table, proposed in August by Illinois State Representative Kelly Cassidy, known as Pidgey’s Law. This would allow game developers two days to take down a location-specific site from their games if requested by the property’s owner. Afterwards, they will have to pay up to $100 each day until it is removed. This could spell trouble for Niantic, Pokémon Go’s developer, if it is passed.

Joseph Carbone, a New York State criminal defense attorney in Farmingdale, believes that Pidgey’s Law is a good idea. “It has the same premise as a do-not-call list,” he stated. “It will help stop harassment.”

This is a positive aspect of the potential law, but Carbone believes that it should only apply to private property, as there is validity in discouraging the app from causing trespassing. If there is damage on public property, however, there should be more focus on finding the person responsible rather than blaming the developers. Said Carbone, “It is the responsibility of the player to not commit crimes.”

Joseph Koehler, a junior computer science major with a concentration in game design at Adelphi, agrees that trespassing and vandalism have occurred from the game. “Niantic should have had foresight,” Koehler said.

He said there are certain aspects of the game that could be improved and should be changed. Although some problems stem from Niantic’s own failing, he believes that is less of the developer’s problem and more of a failing on the behalf of the player. “Do not go onto private property,” he said. “If you’re not sure whether or not you’re trespassing, just don’t go. Niantic can’t tell what is and isn’t private property. The player must decide what is right.”

While there have certainly been problems, not all of the game’s reception has been negative. Many business owners enjoy using the game to help boost sales. Many locations have not had poor experiences due to the game. Christine Fortier, owner of Maureen’s Kitchen in Smithtown, recently discovered that her restaurant hosts a Pokémon Go gym. A gym is a hotspot location for players to battle their Pokémon, level up and win in-game rewards. She said her restaurant is always very busy, yet she has never felt threatened due to the app. “It’s been all fun, so I’m not worried.”

Pokémon Go has become widely popular since its release, but with that popularity comes the danger of user error. Most people enjoy the app without any problems, but some are not as lucky. While it may not directly be their fault, people feel that Niantic should take responsibility for the wrongdoings that have occurred.

Although people have complained, Niantic does not want to be responsible for the actions of their game’s players. Carbone stated, “Maybe they should have thought of that before developing such a dopey game.”
Dear Adelphi Community,

BY MAYA FAISON & KINDEYA CHIARO

Dear Adelphi Community,

We have a simple question: Have you ever wondered what you would do if you were alive during the Civil Rights Movement? Did you ever think about whether you would have boycotted Montgomery buses, participated in the Freedom Rides or marched alongside MLK in Selma? Would you have protested the senseless killings of black men and women that plagued the country? Would you have stood up for justice?

Or would you have stood from the sidelines and watched as innocent black men and women were murdered? Maybe you would have defended the actions of those who hung us from trees?

It’s easy for you to think that you would have fought alongside our struggle for civil rights and justice. But what if we told you the Civil Rights Movement was happening right now - right in front of your eyes? Would your answer still be the same?

Because we are here to help you see our harsh reality: the Civil Rights Movement never ended. Our struggle continues, except that we’re not being hung from trees anymore. Instead, we’re being murdered in the streets by those who are sworn to protect us. It doesn’t matter if we’re unarmed. It doesn’t matter if we have a college degree. It doesn’t matter if we cooperate. It doesn’t matter if we’re 43 years old or if we’re in seventh grade. We could be playing in a park, selling cigarettes on the street or sitting in the car with our 4-year-old daughter. The only thing that matters is that we merely exist with melanin in our skin.

Do you know what it’s like to wake up everyday with the fear of becoming a hashtag? Or how traumatizing it is to see another one of our brothers or sisters senselessly killed, and continuously see the justice ripped from underneath our broken and beaten bodies while others try to justify our death?

Now imagine what it’s like living in this reality while going to a university where the majority of people there don’t look like you. Time and time again you watch your brothers and sisters get murdered; and while you are struggling to even perform simple everyday tasks, those around you are completely unaffected and don’t even realize that you’re grieving. You’re mentally and physically exhausted, but you need to go to work. Your brain is trying to process another death in the community, but you need to sit through classes. You’re terrified to get behind the wheel of a car in Garden City, but you need to go to the store. These are our lives 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, 365 days a year. We don’t get a break. We don’t have a uniform and a badge we get to take off when we want. Our melanin was not a choice.

If what we just said has angered you, we implore you to reflect on why that might be. Are you angry at the injustices that continue to plague the black community? Or are you angry that we brought up this issue? If it’s the latter, you may want to reconsider what side of history you think you would have been on.

As Ta-Nehisi Coates wrote to his son in “Between The World and Me:” “And it is so easy to look away, to live with the fruits of our history and to ignore the great evil done in all of our names. But you and I have never truly had that luxury.”

We realized early on that in order to feel as though we truly belonged to this community, we had to tone ourselves down. Assimilate. There were no spaces on campus where we were free to be. If we wanted to see people who looked like us we had to join a club that met for an hour once a week.

Right now somewhere on our campus there is a student of color going through this same experience. There is a student of color unable to connect with their peers. There is a student of color who is alone, sad and vulnerable.

This letter is for that student:
Have you passed someone of color in the halls at all today? Have you called your friend or mom asking them how can you stay? Have you contemplated transferring just to go to some place new? Have you asked yourself why very few professors look or act like you?

Have you found that hair product that was made just for your curls? Have you been able to discuss your hair struggles with some other nice black girls? Have you been asked where are you from? Or heard “you don’t behave like them”? Have you adjusted the way you speak just so you could make a new friend? Have you ever rethought your response? Have you stopped what you were saying? Have you recanted your response and in its place said you were playing?

Have you seen the executions? The murders in the street? Have you seen the men of color laying down right at your feet? Have you thought about your family? Have you thought about your friends? Have you wondered or asked will the injustice ever end? Has your professor mentioned their names? Does your class know who’s been slain? Do you have to process alone because the people like you are always to blame?

If you feel as though you fit? And your answers have all been yes. We want to tell you that we understand your stress. You are not alone at Adelphi. There are people here for you. There are professors who are conscious and there’s always BSU. In the wake of all the murders this is what we need for you to do: We need you to remember that you matter - whether you think your side is black or blue.

In this world we get one chance and we are all so interconnected. Nowadays it is so easy for people to feel so disrespected. On a campus time is short, but four years to learn it all. Mistakes you’ll make, more than one, sometimes you’ll even fall.

We are not all that different. There are no sides to take. Each of us lives on this planet and we have to claim our stake. So young person of color walking down Nassau, nervous to be stopped in your tracks: just know that there is someone who will always have your back.

--Maya Faison, President, Black Students United and Kindeya Chiaro, Vice President, Black Students United

Follow their Facebook account & Instagram: adelphi_bsu for extra details and information.

Adelphi University Black Students United meets on Mondays at 6 pm in the University Center 215/216.
Apathy & False Equivalency at the First Presidential Debate

BY BRIAN JENNINGS

On Sept. 26, 2016, the burdened mind of our nation turned its attention to Hofstra University, where Donald Trump and Hillary Clinton sparred in the first Presidential Debate. Hillary Clinton came out wearing a war paint demeanor that resembled a stately Mr. Rogers and served as a sponge to Trump’s haphazard blows, thus allowing him to spectacularly implode without her performing well in any conventional way. She was naturally tacky, forcing out painful exertions of enthusiasm while providing solid, yet unspectacular policy promises with the vigor of a tenured math teacher.

Trump generally acted like a misinformed malcontent opening himself up for some truly treacherous errors — errors that would cost a conventional candidate the election. He stammered wildly over a series of repetitive claims that, when tossed together, made no sense. The great blunder of Trump’s inaugural debate was, in fact, something he boasted about in the days and weeks leading up to that fateful day. It was clear from the get-go that Trump’s brags were very real, as most pundits and talking-heads agreed the Donald showed up horribly unprepared.

His carelessness was evident in his answers. In a particularly dark moment for the GOP, Trump fumbled through a limited arsenal of jazzy quotes when attempting to answer the moderator’s question regarding the divide between law enforcement and America’s inner cities. “...We need law and order. If we don’t have it, we’re not going to have a country. And when I look at what’s going on in Charlotte, a city I love, a city where I have investments, when I look at what’s going on in various parts of our country whether it’s — I mean I can just keep naming them all day long — we need law and order in our country.”

Trump has a habit of making a claim, referring it back to himself, saying he could name endless examples to support this claim without ever mentioning more than one, and bringing it all back to his original statement. He speaks as if he’s a seventh-grade history student rushing through an arduous in-class essay.

Clinton is regarded as a measured and rehearsed candidate, constantly appearing strained when trying to connect to the American people. As a politician, she will never be able to convince the majority of our public that she’s genuinely concerned with their problems. However, when juxtaposed with a man who acts as if he’s a man of the people, only to constantly sell his electorate out for a dollar apiece, makes “Crooked” Hillary look as straight as the third baseline she’s now rounding, back home to the White House.

Trump even went as far as to question whether or not cities like Chicago would require such invasive measures of law enforcement as stop-and-frisk, a practice that allows officers to profile certain races without the threat of provable cause. As the words spilled from his thoughtless mouth, I wondered whether or not he realizes that he’s running on the most constitutionally-conscious ticket in the modern political spectrum. How can Donald Trump reasonably question Hillary Clinton’s stance on the Second Amendment if he openly opines about limiting the Fourth, which protects against unlawful search and seizure?

Our political system has become an insider’s club afraid of the courage that lies within the grassroots of America. The people are disenfranchised and in turn have forsaken their government as not only dysfunctional, but not even worthy of their time. At Hofstra, we saw a horribly defective after-school special on what happens to a government left up to its own devices, but we cannot allow ourselves to be blinded by false equivalency. Have your problems with Hillary Clinton, doubt if you must her claims and convictions. But don’t mistake a career public-servant as devious while putting blind faith behind a man who didn’t even appreciate his moment in history enough to prepare.

The stats were cruel to The Donald, who didn’t account for were the promises that didn’t account for. Trump’s game at times appeared almost noble, as the hell-raising jock dismantled phony suits and made mince-meat out of the promising sheen of the GOP-issued, Hitler Youth pomade in Ted Cruz’s hair. Yet, the physics Donald didn’t account for were the promises that a kingdom built on the fear and bones of your fallen foes can never stand the test of time, especially when you want to about-façette and play presidential all the way to the White House.

As he stood in the ruins of his own accord, Trump had to feel the irony of the Shakespearean tragedy that had become his campaign. Here he was, a cowboy behooven to no one, now an island of one, those he pit against each other now uniting in their cause to take him down. There will be no abortion for the national nightmare he alone has concocted. From now until election night, Donald Trump will simply have to face the music. There’s no sympathy for a devil who puts his own name up in lights.

No Sympathy for the Devil at the 2016 Debates

BY BRIAN JENNINGS

Two weeks came and went between the debates, though not much was said from either side until just days prior to the highly-anticipated second round. It was in fact, the Town Hall debate on Sunday, Oct. 9, that provided by far the darkest hour of the 2016 presidential election. As the candidates walked out to centerstage, the cold curiosity on the minds of everyone in the room was locked on whether or not Hillary Clinton would shake Donald Trump’s hand. This, after all, came 48 hours after an audio tape was leaked of The Donald and network TV’s favorite swamp rat Billy Bush engaging in what the GOP candidate tossed off as “locker room banter,” as Trump boasted of his propensity to “grab them by the p**sy.” The unfortunate “them,” of course, could be any wife, mother or daughter with the misadventure of finding themselves in the same room as that ugly, orange brute.

As an act of solidarity for all women, Secretary Clinton gave him a simple, disarming look, and then turned away to her seat. This set an ugly tone for the evening, as Donald Trump realized he had finally, and perhaps mercifully, hit rock bottom. Only there would be no sympathy for the devil on this Sunday night.

Without giving Trump’s juvenile brain time to process this ego nuke, Anderson Cooper fired a poignant opening question: “Do you feel you’re modeling appropriate behavior for today’s youth?” Clinton proceeded to jump all over the question, but this reporter had no time for her cookie-cutter speech of shame aimed at The Donald. No, the real journalism was happening right on Trump’s lonely face. As she worked the room with her yarn tale vision of America without ever letting the audience forget what a bad little man Donald Trump is, Trump sat on his stool like a child rightfully called to the principal’s office. Never have I seen Trump look so small and powerless. For the first time in his career, Trump was getting publicly pushed around by a high-profile rival, not to mention that notorious Liberal Banshee named Hillary Rodham Clinton.

This was a particularly low moment for The Donald, now addressing us for the first time totally stripped of his tacky image, his power-lust dogma now running completely sterile. Oh, how he loathed with the eyes of a beaten dog and screamed like a priest long since tried and convicted of perversion, now hopefully trying to deliver a hypocritical sermon into his broken Econo-lodge mirror.

He called out Bill Clinton as a sexual predator and alluded to a power-hungry moment where he would be President and Hillary Clinton would be in jail. The stats were cruel to The Donald, who believed Secretary Clinton was getting preferential treatment from the moderators. When the final tally came in on speaking time, Donald had actually outtalked Clinton by about two minutes, proving that a man used to being rubbed down like a king will always feel marginalized by impartial treatment, especially when that fair play involves a woman.

What Donald doesn’t realize is the violence never ends, not when you’re King Lear. Trump arrived on the campaign trail riding a monsoon of bombast, candor and bully bravado, aiming to take down any weak-minded professional politician he could find. Trump’s game at times appeared almost noble, as the hell-raising jock dismantled phony suits and made mince-meat out of the promising sheen of the GOP-issued, Hitler Youth pomade in Ted Cruz’s hair. Yet, the physics Donald didn’t account for were the promises that a kingdom built on the fear and bones of your fallen foes can never stand the test of time, especially when you want to about-façette and play presidential all the way to the White House.

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Parking Still a Premium and the Resident Regulations Don’t Help

BY LAUREN LANOUX

Parking on the school’s campus is a struggle, no matter if you’re a commuter or resident. Every Sunday night, shuttle drivers must take dozens of trips from the Garden City Pool to the university. This is due to the fact that resident students cannot park on campus during the week if they are an underclassman. Adelphi University is a commuter campus, so every morning hundreds of cars pile into the campus and leave later that night.

The result is that resident freshmen and sophomores who have cars can park on campus after 7 pm, but have to move them later that night or early the next morning. This is a common inconvenience to working students like me, and planning the shuttle bus can always be tough. The school claims there is a shuttle to the pool every five minutes, but that is just not true. I have waited over 20 minutes just for a shuttle.

Sophomore Merita Purelliku is a commuter who can never seem to find parking for several of her classes. “The lot is always filled by 9 am and I can never get parking. I drive around for at least 10 minutes on campus everyday just to find a spot.”

Ulla Parmentier does not have to park in the community pool because she is a senior. “I have had to drive my friends to their cars in the community pool parking lot before and I could not imagine having to do that every time I wanted to go to my car.”

Freshman Britt Friedman states: “I do not even have a car on campus, but it is still really unfortunate that others will have to travel off campus and in the winter. The wait is going to be awful.”

I can see the clear need of having to put the cars at the pool, but that doesn’t mean it is not an inconvenience. Adelphi is primarily a commuter school, therefore the commuters come first. But something should be done to provide enough spaces on campus to help students find parking so that they don’t have to be late for classes, work and meetings. And at the very least, the shuttle should run more frequently.
In this new series, we’ll be interviewing seniors playing in their final year of eligibility in their respective sports. These Q & A’s will be a chance for athletes to say goodbye and to reflect on both their four years playing college athletics and on the sport they’ve dedicated so much time and effort to.

Lena Pollich, a four-year starter for the Panthers, is currently in the middle of her final season wearing the Brown and Gold of Adelphi. The Massapequa native was named to the NFHCA All-America Second Team in 2015 and is currently one of the leading scorers for the Adelphi squad, which is currently ranked ninth in the nation.

Q: How many years have you been playing field hockey?
A: I started playing field hockey when I was in fifth grade, so this is my eleventh year playing.

Q: What does field hockey mean to you? Why?
A: To me, field hockey is my way of decompressing and relaxing. I’m able to enjoy the burning in my legs and gasping for air, because I’m able to step away from whatever problems may be going on in my life, whatever future tests I may be stressing about and just play. I have made friendships on this team that will surpass just our college years, so I’m able to laugh and smile when I’m with my team and play alongside my best friends.

Q: How have you been molded as a person by the sport? Do you think it’ll help you in the future? Why?
A: Growing up, I was never extremely outgoing by any means until I stepped on the field. Being placed on a field, where if you don’t communicate you will not be successful, forced me to break out of my shell that I had settled in. This will definitely transfer over into my future. When you are on the field for 11 years, actions become habits. Those habits don’t just go away, they stick with you throughout your life.

Q: In the many years you’ve been playing, what have you learned about yourself and about others?
A: While playing, I’ve picked up more than just how to hit the ball or how to dodge my opponents or how to score goals. I’ve learned to push myself past my limits. I’ve run sprints where the lactic acid has flowed through my legs, making them feel as if they weighed a thousand pounds each, and I didn’t think I could take another step. But then my coach blew the whistle signaling another sprint, and there is no choice but to dig deeper than I thought was possible and run. Field hockey is a team sport so I have learned teamwork in the rawest sense as possible. No matter how great you are or how great your teammates is, the only way to be successful to your full potential is to have an undying trust in your teammates and to work together to achieve your common goal. I’ve been taught to celebrate the wins and how to learn from the losses, no matter how ugly they were.

Q: How are you going to take these lessons and apply them once you’ve graduated?
A: The aforementioned lessons, as well as the hundreds of others, that I have learned while playing will stick with me for the rest of my life. They will carry over into my everyday life in my career, in my family and in my relationships. You will always need to work with someone else in your career at some time or another. You are never fully alone or working by yourself. The teamwork aspect alone will help me substantially.