

THE THIELENSIAN



Volume 136 Issue 6

The student-run newspaper of Thiel College in Greenville, PA Friday, April 29, 2016

VanAken Reflects on his Experiences

by Tina Kramer, TKram138@thiel.edu

On April 13, 2016 President Doctor Troy VanAken was interviewed by Trent at WXTC about his experiences and career at Thiel College.

VanAken first explained the goals he tried to maintain while at Thiel College. He was a student-centered president, loved the students here, and naturally fit in around campus. VanAken himself is a first generation college graduate, and so is his wife, both coming from a school that was similar to Thiel, a small liberal arts college. Though his mother thought he'd be called to be a minister, he knew he was called to work with young people, especially at this point, when their education changes their life.

VanAken is most proud of the 10 percentage point increased retention rate, because this means more people are staying in college to completion and getting their college degree. Soon he'll be handing out degrees, which is a highlight for him every year.

"No one can take that [degree] away from you," VanAken said.

VanAken believes he is here to serve students' needs, so he tries to go to school events. Even his children have built a connection to Thiel students.

"I think you need to enjoy the journey that you're on. I can remember—even though it's been over 25 years ago—being in college. You know, the pressures of a particular semester, they way on you, and you just kind of say 'I can't wait for this semester to be over.' In reality, you have to enjoy the journey while you're on it. I know there is stress with upcoming tests, papers, and the other things that you're doing, but enjoy what you're doing right now."

[cont. on pg. 4]

Thiel Players perform rendition of Medea

by Tina Kramer, TKram138@thiel.edu

On April 15, 16 and 17 the Thiel Players, under the direction of Pete Rydberg, performed Liz Lockhead's rendition of Medea.

Alison Schmerich starred as the violent Medea, who turns to murder after her husband, Jason, pursues a new and younger love interest. Jason was played by Keenan Weimer, and his new bride, Glauke, was played by Tylor Whitely. The Nurse, Meagan Daugherty, the Manservant, Eric Casey, and the Chorus, Mya Hitt and Irene Hooks helped guide the audience through the plot by describing action that the audience did not witness first hand.

Darian Ennis was casted as King Creon, accompanied by

his guards O.T. Reid, Nicholas Ravida and Derek Mellons. The drama even featured young and upcoming actors: eight year old Benjamin Erb, Reynold's Elementary student Jacob Reeher and kindergartener Sammie Jo Reeher as Medea and Jason's children.

"Getting word-perfect was a frustrating task, and trying to discover Medea's MO was a challenge as well. I had to discover when she was being genuine and when she was not," Schmerich said. "My favorite part was smearing blood on Kennan's face, definitely. Later I went out into the world, after the show, with blood spatter on my face and discovered that no one cared. I went to Applebee's

like that, and I only had one person say something to me, and she was giggling."

In addition, the play also featured a huge behind-the-scenes cast, including technical director Fran Comstock, stage manager Jamie Ulrich, head carpenters Evan Sokira and Bruce Turcic, assistant stage manager Brianna Walkup, and production assistants Kara Busard, Nico Russo, Gino Russo, and Dylan Squires. Visuals and audio were crafted by Beth Edwards, Dan Desantis, Katie LaMark, Hunter Michaelis, Ellie Lauver, Alan Stevens, Aelita Ferrante, Mike Lehman, and Hans G. Myers, each having a specific title and responsibility within the show. Amanda Haut-



Alison Schmerich (Medea) argues with Darian Ennis (Creon) during the Players' production.

Photo credit: Tina Kramer
mann served as the house manager and Sara Gerdy handled

[cont. on pg. 2]

The Cycling Club as one of the College's newest clubs

by Hunter Michaelis, hmichaelis@thiel.edu

The Thiel College Cycling Club is currently in its second year of existence and is seeking to achieve a variety of short-term goals, such as SGA funding and recognition.

More pressing, however, is the club's goal to take a trip to Bowdoin, Maine on a 13-day trip, focusing on educating students during three of those trips. The trip is scheduled to take place May 9-22 and 10 riders are expected to participate. The goal is to promote Thiel College Neuroscience, the Greenville Neuromodulation Center, and FHC, Inc.



Hunter Young, President of the Cycling Club.

Photo credit:
Hunter Young

"What we'd really like to do is educate others about Thiel and our track, how exercise helps with the mind's health, and how being fit helps your overall health," Hunter Young



The Cycling club poses for a picture before hitting the road.

Photo credit: Thiel.edu

said, who is president of the club.

The club has anywhere from 20-30 members depending on the people who carry over from this year into the next. They are partnered with the Mercer County Train Association to create a biking trail everyone can use. Club advisement comes from Martin Black, Associate Director of Career Development, with overall leadership coming from Fred Kiser, '66 and Clarissa Miller '11. Cody Wagner joins Young as a student officer, serving as treasurer.

"It's amazing how little cycling there is at Thiel," Young said, "We've been doing more training rides. We'd like to purchase more fixer-upper bikes next year, and maybe have some set area where people can put their bikes and not have to worry about security."

Young, who is on the soccer team, has been working in a bike shop over the summers as

a mechanic and salesman since his freshman or sophomore year of high school and has a long history of cycling and athleticism. Both of his parents are avid riders. His mom is participating in the trip to Maine.

"Cycling is a unique form of exercise," he said, "Not a lot of people are into it unless they're brought in by someone. It's different to ride 50 miles, because it's mentally grueling since it's just you out there for so long. It's low impact, not too stressful on the body, and it really helps keep me in shape between the seasons."

In addition to the club's other goals and increasing awareness of cycling, they would like to partner with other athletic-based clubs to have rides every other week. There is a plan for kayaking and running, to name a few, in order to create a different form or triathlon.

"I believe a cycling club

promotes fitness and fun for all ages," Kiser said, "I've seen folks enjoy the kid-like fun that cycling provides. Cycling is social where there is time to talk and listen. Teamwork is needed to ride safely. Lastly, it is intergenerational. What other activity can be done with an elementary student to college rider and a retired individual?"



Fred Kiser, who is co-leading the cycling club.

Photo credit:
Fred Kiser

Students attend the Alpha Chi National Convention

by Liz Carlson, ecarlson@thiel.edu

Thiel College's Pennsylvania Theta chapter of Alpha Chi recently sent four student delegates and three sponsors to the honor society's annual national convention.

This year's convention was held in Alexandria, Virginia from April 8-11. The agenda for the weekend included several student presentations, region meetings, chapter strengthening activities, brunch and dinner, and a presentation from the conference's keynote speaker, Sonia Nazario.

Students Austin Hall, Robert Carpenter, Victoria Hermann, and Liz Carlson, along with faculty sponsors Dr. Frantz, Dr. Johnson, and Dr. Deets, represented Thiel College at the national convention.

The convention kicked off

Thursday night with dinner and student poster presentations. Friday began with region meetings. Thiel's College's own Robert Carpenter was selected to serve a two-year term on the Alpha Chi National Council as the region six student delegate. As the region six student delegate, Carpenter will represent chapters in the geographic area from Maine to Maryland.

"Being selected as a student delegate was one of those completely shockable experiences that I was not prepared for, but I am prepared to embrace it and look forward to the adventure I am about to embark on. I am honored and deeply blessed to have been selected. I am looking forward to being able to help build Alpha Chi and show its importance, not just here on

campus, but also across the nation. I will be involved in executive meetings as a board member and I am looking forward to helping Alpha Chi achieve its goals," Carpenter said.

Friday evening was designated as free time for those attending the convention to adventure around the Alexandria and Washington DC area. The group from Thiel ventured to the Nation's Capital Building for a private tour from Victoria Hermann, who is currently interning at the Capital as part of the Washington Semester Program. The group concluded their evening in DC with a walk to see some of the city's historic buildings and monuments, including the Washington Monument and the White House.

Saturday morning was filled



Students Robert Carpenter, Liz Carlson, Victoria Hermann, and Austin Hall are shown in Pennsylvania State Representative Mike Kelly's Office.

Photo credit: Austin Hall

with student presentations and accounts, scholarships, and how to effectively coordinate campus events.

[cont. on pg. 2]

Kappa Sigma; Chi Omega perform at Greek Week

by Austin Hall

AHall194@thiel.edu

This year's version of Thiel College's annual Greek Week was very competitive, with winners not being decided until the very last day.

All of the events were close calls with each organization representing their respective chapters to the best of their ability. Though each organization hoped to win, victory could only come for two organizations.

Day one of Greek Week was the banner competition and dodge ball. Kappa Sigma and Chi Omega were awarded the best banner by a panel of judges. Kappa Sigma's banner featured a rendition of Captain Jack Sparrow under the title "K-Sigs of the Caribbean" while Chi Omega's banner presented their interpretation of "Candyland" coupled with artistic depictions of oversized candy. Not to be outdone, the brothers of Sigma Phi Epsilon persevered at the dodgeball tournament with a victory in the finale over the brothers of Delta Sigma Phi while the sisters of Alpha Xi Delta triumphed over Sigma Kappa.

The second day James Robilotta, a national inspirational speaker, presented to the Greek organizations. His speech discussed leadership tactics and featured many laughs, jokes, and beatboxing. Keenan Weimar, a brother of the Kappa Sigma Fraternity, was chanted all the way up to the stage to beatbox while Robilotta performed a spontaneous rap for the gathered Greeks.

Day three was the Greek Olympics, which featured a number of competitions among the fraternities and sororities. The brothers of Phi Theta Phi and the sisters of Alpha Xi Delta persevered in the egg toss. The tug of war saw Kappa Sigma's and Alpha Xi Delta's teams pull their way to victory.

[cont. on pg. 4]

Thiel

Happenings

compiled by Liz Carlson,
ecarlson@thiel.edu

Farewell Festival:

Fri. April 29 at 4 p.m. in Upper Quad

OBC Fashion Show:

Fri. April 29, 7-10 p.m. in the LHR
Benefits Sickle Cell research
After party beginning at 10 p.m. in the Glen Johnson Center

Sigma Kappa Carnival:

Sat. April 10, 4-8 p.m. in the Quad
Join the sisters of Sigma Kappa as they raise money for the Sigma Kappa Foundation!

Thiel Choir Spring Concert:

Sun. May 1, 3-4:30 p.m. at the Chapel

Finals Week Activities:

Free Massages, Senior Sip N' Paint, and More!
Be on the lookout for more info!

Thiel College's 142nd Commencement Ceremony:
Sun. May 8, 2-3:30 p.m. at the Passavant Center



HITCH'N POST BAR & GRILLE

Winner of Best Traditional Wing Sauce!

Featured on WFMI

Family-Friendly, Non-Smoking Restaurant
(With Great Ambiance, serving All American Favorites!)

OPEN DAILY FROM 11AM

DJ Oliver Party Friday Nights until 2 AM!

Great Value for Birthdays, Graduations & Parties!

Over 150 Items on the Menu
Appetizers • Burgers, Salads, Sandwiches, Sides, Desserts, Pastas & Pasta, Wine, Mocktails, Trainers

Daily Specials
Monday - Green Goddess
Tuesday - National
Wednesday - Burgers
Thursday - Wings
Friday - Fish
Saturday - Grilled Cheese & Pasta Bake
Sunday - Texas Chili

Senior & Military Discounts Available

438 Hadley Road Greenville PA 16125
Phone: (724) 588 2689

Students see State Representative for Alpha Chi

cont. from front page

Saturday concluded with a dinner, student presentation and a final speech by Sonia Nazario that truly inspired me. Los Angeles Times Journalist, Sonia Nazario spoke about immigration in the United States and the experiences behind her book “Enrique’s Journey,” which tells the story of a young boy from Honduras who makes the dangerous journey into the United States to be reunited with his mother. The book was available for purchase at the conclusion of the night, and Nazario stuck around for a book signing.

“The Alpha Chi Conference was an amazing experience that was so much more than an academic learning opportunity for me. It was a chance to reconnect with friends in our nation’s Capital. It was a weekend filled

with eye opening presentations and a final speech by Sonia Nazario that truly inspired me. I am excited to attend the conference in the future” Hermann said.

Next year’s annual Alpha Chi Convention is scheduled to be held in Louisville, Kentucky. Thiel College’s Alpha Chi chapter hopes to once again send delegates, sponsors, and potentially presenters.

NSLS inducts new members

by Kyley Raskob, kraskob@thiel.edu

On April 15 at 4:00 p.m. in Stamm lecture hall, The National Society of Leadership and Success inducted its new members and presented awards to various members of the faculty for their contributions to the Society and to Thiel. There were nine awards presented, a guest speaker, and 32 new members were inducted.

Christine Ciani, co-advisor of the Society, gave the welcoming address to the students and faculty members who attended the ceremony.

The chapter officers were also introduced by Dr. Jared Johnson, the other co-advisor of the society. The current President, Sam Sesti, then talked about the symbolism of the society’s shield.

Johnson then introduced the guest keynote speaker for the night, Benjamin Falter. Falter was a high school friend of Johnson’s. He joined the military and served for six years before becoming a personal trainer. He spoke about his opinion of leadership and encouraged the inductees to “get within yourself, find what drives you.”

He stressed that “you have to take a stand and be decisive” in order to lead others. He congratulated the new inductees and wished them luck in striving for their goals.

Sam Sesti took the stand once again to address the awards given to the professors and faculty. Dr. Johnson and Christine Ciani



Dr. Jared Johnson presenting The Excellence in Teaching Award to Dr. Delbert Abi Abdallah.

Photo Credit: Kyley Raskob

The next awards given were the Excellence in Teaching Awards. Dr. Douglas Hazlett, Dr. Arthur White, and Dr. Delbert Abi Abdallah received this award for being excellent teachers and leaders in their respective fields.

The final awards given were the Excellence in Service to Students Awards. Jason Roller, Dan Blume, and Bobbi Mutinelli were given this award. They were awarded for their hard work in making sure students were helped to the best of their ability.

Next Ben Montozzi, the Public Relations and Activities Coordinator of the society, introduced Christine Girata. Christine talked about her struggles with language and communication growing up. She spoke about her transition from a deaf student school to a regular school, and the struggles that came with it.

In order to pass, she had to teach herself “how to be organized to efficiently get the job or task done,” she said.

Growing up told she would not be able to accomplish as much as other students, she said, “made me very independent and a stronger person.” She finished her story encouraging others to strive for what they believe in, even if people tell them they cannot do it.

Finally, the co-advisors inducted the new members. Sam Sesti handed out certificates and shook hands as the thirty-two new members walked forward to be officially inducted. The closing remarks were made by Christine Ciani and many pictures were taken of the new members and the awarded faculty.

Public Relations and Activities Coordinator of the society, introduced Christine Girata. Christine talked about her struggles with language and communication growing up. She spoke about her transition from a deaf student school to a regular school, and the struggles that came with it.

In order to pass, she had to teach herself “how to be organized to efficiently get the job or task done,” she said.

Growing up told she would not be able to accomplish as much as other students, she said, “made me very independent and a stronger person.” She finished her story encouraging others to strive for what they believe in, even if people tell them they cannot do it.

Finally, the co-advisors inducted the new members. Sam Sesti handed out certificates and shook hands as the thirty-two new members walked forward to be officially inducted. The closing remarks were made by Christine Ciani and many pictures were taken of the new members and the awarded faculty.


Thiel College Police Blotter


4-19-2016

A student reported a theft of a TV and their Laptop Computer.

4-19-2016

A student was cited for disorderly conduct.





From all of us here at *The Thielensian*, congratulations to all graduating seniors and the best of luck to you wherever your lives take you. To our senior staff members, your efforts on this newspaper will be deeply missed. It was a pleasure working with and knowing all of you.

- Hunter Michaelis, Editor in Chief

The Thielensian Staff	About The Thielensian
Editor in Chief Hunter Michaelis	<i>The Thielensian</i> is Thiel College's student-run newspaper, funded by the Student Government Association. Our mission is to serve the campus community by publishing timely, fair, and relevant news, sports, feature stories, and other information, and to provide a lively forum for student expression and the opinion of others on campus. <i>The Thielensian</i> encourages letters to the editor of 300 words or less by traditional mail and preferably by email. Letters must be signed (no pseudonyms, please) and a phone number must be provided for verification. Letters must be free from offensive language, personal attacks, obvious errors in fact, and libelous or potentially libelous statements. Letters are subject to editing for length and clarity, and we reserve the right to reject any letter. Guest columns, letters or other opinions expressed in <i>The Thielensian</i> are the views of the writer and don't necessarily reflect those of the staff and advisor or the college.
Copy Editor Tina Kramer	
Layout & Design Editor David DeVivo	
Student Life & Events Editor Mike Boratyn	
Sports & Academics Editor Justin Felgar	
Business Manager Chad Anderson	
Staff Writers Liz Carlson David Dye Austin Hall Kyley Raskob	
Paper Advisor Dr. Dane Claussen	Letters may be emailed to: Thielensian@thiel.edu

Thiel Players perform *Medea* as Spring Production

cont. from front page

The work of every crew and cast member was shown in the seventy-five minute show, featuring no intermission or breaks in action. Though the play was in many ways loyal to classical tradition, Lochhead's *Medea* does have some differences.



Schmerich's *Medea* after killing her children near the play's conclusion.

Photo credit: Tina Kramer

“In her adaption of Euripides’ original script, Lochhead plays up *Medea*’s “otherness” by en-

visioning the play in a Scottish Corinth, wherein the residents speak in varying degrees of Scottish brogues, offsetting *Medea*’s “High English.” Rydberg said. “While most of the play remains faithful to Euripides’ original, there are noteworthy differences. Loch-



Photo credit: Tina Kramer

Schmerich said. “I didn’t expect this to be boring, but we laughed a lot. So much that we had to take a break sometimes because we couldn’t keep it together. But when you do a show as dark as *Medea*, you need laughter.”

Though *Medea* is a tragedy, the cast and crew still managed to enjoy producing the show.

“It surprised me how much fun we had during rehearsals,”

by David Dye, ddye@thiel.edu

If you’ve watched TV or been on the Internet within the last week or two, odds are you’ve seen the trailers for the upcoming film Keanu, starring Keegan-Michael Key and Jordan Peele from the comedy show Key and Peele.

Even though the film hasn’t been released yet, judging from the trailers it seems like the movie is exactly what it needs to be: a two hour skit from Key and Peele.

Probably the best show on Comedy Central right now in my opinion, me, my friends and family all enjoy Key and Peele and for good reason: it’s funny.

Not just that, it deals with everything from politics to movies to race to history, managing to have a point without hitting the audience over the head with a particular agenda.

We’ve watched their skits on YouTube enough that I can recite the skit “Retired Military Specialist” by heart (and have done many times).

What does the show Key and Peele have to do with Keanu? Well like many successful shows or comedians, eventually the time comes when Hollywood decides the best thing to do would be to give (insert here) a movie to cash in on the brand recognition.

Look at Chris Farley, after being one of the funniest people on SNL for a while he went on to star in movies as both a leading and supporting character.

A large part of the reason Farley’s film appearances were considered just as funny as his SNL appearances were because Farley got to do the same things he always did, except with a bigger scale and more on-screen development.

Now let’s compare that with Key and Peele. Both comedians can play the comic relief or the straight man, both wear extremely immersive costumes, and both can do an incredible

Key and Peele’s movie is what it should be



David Dye, staff writer
Photo credit: David Dye

array of impersonations. Aside from the people themselves, the majority of Key and Peele’s skits involve someone normal ending up in an ex-

traordinary situation or taking a serious situation and making fun of it.

Judging from what the Keanu trailers have shown, this looks like exactly what audiences are going to get. Key and Peele play normal people having to pretend to be someone else, and undergo a kidnapping and gang violence in order to save a kitten.

We have the straight man, the disguises, the serious situation, and a comedic element all at work here; basically the same formula from Key and Peele being applied to the big screen.

Will Keanu live up to the

success of Key and Peele? No one can be sure, but initial reviews seem to be positive.

Considering what the film looks like so far, perhaps people who like the show will like the movie, and if the humor of the show doesn’t appeal to you, then odds are the film won’t draw you in. But if you are on the fence about going to see it, I suggest taking the risk. These guys are hilarious and clever.

Personally, my friends and I are looking forward to seeing Key and Peele finally get a film of their own.

Is the *Jungle Book* as strong as the animated version?

by Chad Anderson, canderson@thiel.edu

With its second take at the big screen, *Jungle Book* was very well done. Nearing the 50th anniversary of the original movie release, Disney could not have chosen a better time to do a remake of it.

Within nine days across two weekends, the *Jungle Book* has raked in \$377 million and held down the Huntsman sequel which debuted the weekend of April 22.

For those who do not know the *Jungle Book* story, it is about a boy who is taken in by a wolf pack and is raised by them and other animals in the jungle. Conflict enters when the boy’s fate comes into question of whether or not he belongs in the jungle and the boy goes on a journey to find who he truly is.

I was very impressed with the entire movie. With a lot of animation being introduced with the animals I was concerned that I would find myself

thinking about that rather than enjoying the movie.

Instead I noticed only a few spots where it was clear digital work may have been overused, but that seems to be a part of the industry currently. Some spots seemed a little rushed through and the movie could have definitely been longer. But in the end, the digital effects worked in portraying the differences between each animal or character.

The major challenge with this film was with balancing it between a child’s film and the darker notes that were included throughout. I personally found it to be a little too grim for some children perhaps, and the lack of any serious comic relief presented its own set of problems.

A good job was done reducing the amount of blood by rushing through the action scenes and focusing on characters just outside of the situ-



Chad Anderson, staff writer
Photo credit: Chad Anderson

ation.

After a scuffle or action packed scene, the boy would have more dirt and red marks on him than previously. By the end, some blood is shown but nothing truly significant.

Overall, I would be happy to go see the movie again. I think it would be worthwhile to also read the book to compare the tone of each to get a better grasp on the story.

Where should society draw the line on animal cruelty?

by David DeVivo, ddevivo@thiel.edu

I warn whomever may be reading this article, I do go in to graphic detail so this is not for the faint-hearted. With that being said, this month a man in Orlando, Fla., dangled his dog by the scruff of its neck over a second-floor balcony. Meanwhile threatening the dog and telling witnesses that he would drop the dog on to its head on the ground below.

Witnesses yelled back and tried to rescue the dog, but the man was to dangerous to confront. So someone decided to post the video of the dog dangling, and the clip went absolutely viral on all social media. The Orlando police upon seeing the video, search the area where the video was filmed and on Tuesday announced that a 23-year-old man, Ransom May II was arrested on a charge of cruelty to animals, and his arrest made the news nationwide.

Meanwhile, in the United States this year, almost nine billion chickens will be dangled upside down on conveyor belts and slaughtered. And if the birds are not lucky and the process doesn’t work properly, the birds are overcooked alive. I am not aiming to compare a dogs life to that of a chickens, since most of us do not eat dog like we eat chicken. But one dogs mistreatment got way more attention than all the horrible things happening to billions of baby chickens.

Look, I don’t believe in reincarnation. But if I’m wrong, let’s hope you and I are lucky enough to come back as puppies and not as chickens. Compassion in World Farm-

ing, an animal rights group, has been trying to enlighten the public on the different reasons the poultry industry today is usually inhumane for birds, straining for farmers and potentially unhealthy for consumers. We are the consumers, so that should alarm you if the people who make a lively hood off of farming are now questioning the practices being done. I mean if you think these chicken barns are meant for the chickens best interests, go watch a stomach-churning YouTube video on the insides of a chicken barns.

These chicken barns are built to maximize the littlest amount of space for a single chicken to have. In other words, the building is designed to keep the chickens all clustered together. Do you see the problem with clustering the chickens?

You should, because the black plague spread throughout Europe very fast due to the living conditions of people back then. Due to the chickens being extremely close to one another, diseases are able to be spread extremely fast through chicken farms. The number one worst disease chickens are now getting and spreading is called Gangrenous Dermatitis. The grotesque disease eats their muscles, bones, and organs away, until the chicken falls over dead.

Eric Hedrick, who raises 1.1 million chickens a year in West Virginia, said he had no evidence that the disease harms humans. But added, “I’d be apprehensive about buying a chicken in the market.

Two students recognized for April Student of the Month Award

by *Kyley Raskob, kraskob@thiel.edu*

Two seniors were awarded Student of the Month for the month of April; Daniel McFetridge and Ashley Johnson. Daniel McFetridge will be graduating this semester and starting his job with Wessex Construction Company in West Middlesex, Pennsylvania. Ashley Johnson will be returning next year to complete her education degree with student teaching.

Mcfetridge will be graduating with a Bachelors in Computer Science and an Associates in Web Design. He currently works at Thiel as a

tutor in math and computer science, and he has worked as a leader in Supplemental Instruction. McFetridge earned the Extraordinary Effort Award from The Learning Commons earlier this semester for his outstanding work in these positions. He is planning on working after graduation at Wessex Construction Company where he is currently interning.

McFetridge graduated from Linesville High School in Espyville, Pennsylvania. He lives with his grandparents, Peggy and Daniel McFetridge and his father, Kevin McFetridge, also

lives in the area. In his spare time, he enjoys fishing, coding, playing video games and reading. He also enjoys spending time with the brothers of his fraternity, Phi Theta Phi, of which he is currently the President and Academic Chair.

McFetridge plans on taking a break from classes to work in his field to gain experience before going on to Graduate School. He would eventually like to receive a Master's Degree in Information Systems. Upon receiving this award, he said "I appreciate that the college and faculty have appre-



McFetridge and Johnson were honored as Students of the Month

Photo Credit: Kyley Raskob

ciated all of my efforts, both through service and my academics. I'm very honored."

Johnson is majoring in English Secondary Education. She currently works at Thiel in the library, and has held other jobs on campus, such as a tutor in the Writing Lab. Johnson plans on returning to Thiel next semester to finish out her degree through student teaching.

Johnson is originally from Perry, Georgia where she went to Perry High School. She moved to Greenville, Pennsylvania a few years ago to complete her degree. She is married to Dr. Jared Johnson, an assistant professor in the English Department here at Thiel Col-

lege. She enjoys cooking and spending time with their two cats, Keeley and Hiei, and their dog, Oscar.

When she heard about the award, she said, "I didn't really know what to think. I just thought 'oh okay, cool!'" Johnson plans on graduating from Thiel and finding a job teaching English at a nearby high school. Later on, she plans on going on to attend Graduate School in the near future to get her Master's Degree in Library Sciences.

Greek organizations compete in annual event

cont. on from front page

The five-legged race resulted in a win for both the brothers of Delta Sigma Phi and the sisters of Zeta Tau Alpha. Wrapping up the night was Sigma Phi Epsilon and Alpha Xi Delta taking home a win in the obstacle course.

The fourth day of Greek Week was the Academic Bowl. In pseudo-Jeopardy style, Than Oo, the Director of Student Activities, posed questions from different categories including Math/Science, History/Geography, Humanities/Arts, Pop Culture, and Drugs/Alcohol. At the end of the night, the brothers of Kappa Sigma eked out victory over the brothers of Delta Sigma Phi while the sisters of Chi Omega triumphed over the rest of the field.

Day five of Greek Week saw the western Pennsylvania favorite of summer outdoor games: the Corn Hole competi-

tion. Each organization sent up their two best players, but only two organizations could come out victorious. At the end of the competition, Kappa Sigma and Alpha Xi Delta were the last two organizations left standing.

Finally, the sixth and final day of Greek Week was the announcement of the winners of Greek god, goddess, hero, and heroine. Jeff Coffey of Delta Sigma Phi won Greek god along with Dylan Stevens of Sigma Phi Epsilon winning Greek hero. Sigma Kappa's Kourtney Polvinale was voted Greek goddess, and Chi Omega's Emily Trunzo won Greek heroine.

Along with the announcement of these winners, each organization participated in Sing-and-Sync. This competition includes two separate musical numbers, one in which the members of each organi-

zation sing and another where they lip-sync while dancing to different songs. The victor for the fraternity sing were the brothers of Kappa Sigma while the brothers of Delta Sigma Phi took home a victory for the fraternity sync. The sorority sing went to the sisters of Alpha Xi Delta with the sisters of Zeta Tau Alpha winning sync.

At the end of these performances, the total number of points were tallied and the victors were announced: the brothers of Kappa Sigma triumphed with a total of 500 points and the sisters of Chi Omega came out victorious with a total of 440 points. This was Kappa Sigma's first time in their chapter's history that they had ever won Greek Week, while it had been over 17 years since Chi Omega prevailed in Greek Week.

Titans strikeout Tomcats

by *Justin Felgar, jfelgar@thiel.edu*

The Westminster Titans defeated the Thiel Tomcat's in a President's Athletic Conference Women's Softball doubleheader on Saturday.

The Tomcats struck early when Alana Callahan ran in a run off of a single from Caitlyn Carney in the first inning.

Carney was three for three in the first game and Callahan recorded a single and double.

Shyanne Sanders put two hit two doubles for the Thiel effort.

Isabella Bungo allowed one run on two hits in her two innings pitching relief.

Westminster put up a three and zero lead in the first two innings of the second game.

Thiel scored in the sixth



Women's Softball Seniors pose with uniforms.

Photo Credit: Thiel SID

inning when Callahan scored three runs for nine hits in her off of a pop fly by Madison Fullmer. Westminster held the Tomcats at bay however, and took the win.

Sanders was two for three in the second game, hitting a double.

Brianna Flynn allowed

three runs for nine hits in her five innings pitching.

The Thiel senior players were honored during senior day.

The Tomcats will face the Chatham Cougars Tuesday at 3:30 at home.

VanAken reflects on his Thiel presidency

cont. on from front page

"Live in the moment, consume knowledge; you're going to do that for the rest of your life. You're going to want to look back, and say 'I took advantage of these particular opportunities.'" VanAken said.

VanAken also wants students to appreciate the great academics and lifelong connections that are available at Thiel, especially creating bonds with classmates, since they define a part of who you will be later in life.

As for the great amount of funds being raised, VanAken believes he was in the right place at the right time, giving credit to the donors, such as James Pedas, that have made the fundraising goals possible.

VanAken claims that Thiel has taught him patience, since some of the things he wanted to

do took years to accomplish. It gave him confidence in his values, such as maintaining a student-centered focus and seeing the best in young people. He also learned a lot while recruiting international students.

VanAken equates moving to Elmhurst to raising children—though some things will apply to both, they are still very different campuses. He hopes he can do something similar to what he did when he first came here, which was called "Imagining Thiel." This prompted many good ideas to start creating plans.

VanAken hopes the next president will be what this institution needs, and not be selfish. He hopes they will set a direction and an agenda for the college, since Thiel has

good faculty, great students, and dedicated staff. However, VanAken has left his mark on Thiel. During his first year, he insisted that students get to go and celebrate his inauguration; from this, the Black and White Ball was created, and continues as a Thiel tradition.

As an ending statement, VanAken wants everyone to remember that Thiel is not done; there is a number of exciting new projects that are planned, such as the new science edition, but it can't stop there. Thiel needs to continue to improve residence halls and everything else on campus.

Tomcats swat Yellow Jackets

by *Justin Felgar, jfelgar@thiel.edu*

The Thiel Baseball team won a double header against the Waynesburg Yellow Jackets on Saturday.

Senior Matt Elko persecuted the Waynesburg batters in the first game, striking out thirteen batters to tie his career best. Elko only allowed two hits and a walk.

Dan Koller put Thiel on the board in the fourth inning off of a double play from third base. Consecutive doubles by Koller and Trent Smith in the fifth inning put three runs on the board for the Tomcats.

Thiel cameback from a shaky start in the second game to earn a nine to six victory over the Yellow Jackets.

Thiel tied Waynesburg one to one in the first half and put up runs in third, fifth, and sixth innings of the second game.

Brian Genco put up the first



Thiel Baseball wins double header against Waynesburg

Photo Credit: Thiel SID

run of the fifth inning with a single to right field which led freshman Nick Fowkes to score.

The Tomcats will play the Geneva Tornadoes Wednesday April 27 at 4:30 at Geneva.

	SUN	MON	TUES	WED	THURS
Supplemental Instruction Sessions					
Accounting II ACCT 123 (Oakes/Witosky) Julia Fink		7-8:30 pm AC - 40		8-9:30 pm AC - 40	
Calculus II MATH 182 (Richins) John Thiel	8-9 pm AC - 13			4-5 pm AC - 13	8-9 pm AC - 13
Quantitative Reasoning MATH 125 (Hecking) Terri Eddy		8-9 pm AC - 4	8-9 pm AC - 4		8-9 pm AC - 4
Elementary Statistics MATH 211 (Kim/Shellenbarger) Mandy Slupek	6-7 pm AC - 34	9-10 pm AC - 34		6-7 pm AC - 34	
Gen Chem II CHEM 160 (Khalsa) Derek Runge	2-3 pm S - 210	8-9 pm S - 210			7-8 pm S - 210
Intro to Neuroscience NSCI 202 (Butcher) Nick McNutt	6-7 pm AC - 201	7-8 pm AC - 201			8-9 pm AC - 201
Group Peer Study Sessions					
Physics II PHYS 184 (Torigoe) Mike Long	3-4 pm S - 1		9-10 pm S - 1		9-10 pm S - 1
Gen Chem I CHEM 140 (Stanisky) Cheyanne Fedder	9-10 pm AC - 108		9-10 pm AC - 108		9-10 pm AC - 108
Spanish II SPAN 151 (Carlson) Dana DePaulo			8-9 pm AC - 233		9-10 pm AC - 233
Psy Research Methods PSY 222 (Pickens) Sam Raymond		6-7 pm AC- 108			6-7 pm AC - 108
Review Sessions					
Minorities SOC 251 (Sutton) Olivia Royal				9-10 pm TLC Classroom	
Microeconomics ECON 221 (Giannini) Katherine Orczeck	Will be announced in class				