Dr. King, Malcolm X Come to Life in The Meeting

By BROOKLYNN BIEGEBELLO  
Nov Editor

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Overall and the actors noted that connections can be drawn between the events depicted in Stetson’s script and contemporary social movements, primarily the Black Lives Matter movement.

“In a way, I think the produce-ction and some of the lines that they were saying, being that this was written in the eighties, I think a lot of the lines — everything that he’s saying spoken — is coming to fruition,” Overall said. “The script is almost prophetic in a way and that was really my motivation for bringing this production. I think now it’s time for us to do more than a few slideshows and a keynote speech. I think it’s time to — since things are happening in real life — I think it’s time to bring dialogue like this to people. I think it’s time for students, and staff, and everyone else to see it live and in color.”

Don Snipes played Malcolm X in the Office for Student Engagement’s production of The Meeting.
The Meeting, continued from pg. 1

Pictured: Don Sripa (Malcolm X) and William Bryon (King) clash onstage as their characters share grievances with each other’s ideologies in Jeff Stetson’s The Meeting. The performance, directed by Coordinator for Diversity Programs Dexter Overall, debuted on Thursday, Jan. 21 in Kochoff Hall. There was a second showing the following evening.

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Campus Celebrates Life and Work of MLK All Week
OSE coordinates events promoting diversity, inclusion

“Soup and Conversation: Has His Dream Been Achieved?” a production of the 1987 stage play, The Meeting, and a chalk wall activity that took place in the UC.

“MLK week programming for our office is a commitment to diversity and inclusion,” Raveendran said. “As an office, it is our commitment and responsibility to ensure that we constantly not just excite, but also push the limits for you to think outside of your comfort zone and to learn and to understand some things that may have been assumptions or notions that you may have come to campus with, or at that age that’s what you’ve learned so far and now the envelope is gonna be pushed and you’re gonna learn some thing different. That is the basic premise when we do any kind of programming.”

Raveendran also noted that these programs are an opportunity for students to use their new experiences to create new memories.

“MLK week programming is more to not only to remember where you come from, and your past and your history and the memories they come with, and also to then make your own history and your own memories,” Raveendran said.

“If people did not participate in these kind of activities or programs, it’s a missed opportunity for you to grow.”

By BROOKELYNN RUGGIRELLO
News Editor

The Office for Student Engagement (OSE) coordinated a robust schedule of events last week in celebration of the life and work of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.

Among the events were the “Conversation on Race,” “Soup and Conversation: Has His Dream Been Achieved?” a production of the 1987 stage play, The Meeting, and a chalk wall activity that took place in the UC.

Director for Student Engagement Reetha Raveendran said that the OSE’s focused effort to celebrate King aligns with their core values.

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The Problem with Social Media and its Effects

By Gabrielle Reed
Staff Columnist

The bored millennial scrolls through picture after picture on her social media feed of choice. There’s probably a model posing in a bikini, a cute couple engaging in a hug, and an attractive group of friends. To millennials, these are all goals. #BodyGoals, #RelationshipGoals, # SquadGoals. But have you ever thought that maybe some goals are just unattainable? Maybe it’s just best to look into the mirror, learn to like yourself, and set your own goals.

Not to say that being so much like other people also and aspiring to be like them is bad, just not at the expense of your own happiness. Believe it or not, it is proven that social media is one of the main reasons why young adults are unhappy. It can contribute to low self-esteem, poor behavior, and poor mental health. So obviously this is a major problem. If you thrive in the effects of cyber bullying, things get pretty negative.

For me, social media is a way to connect with other like-minded individuals, exchange ideas and promote positivity in the world. (I’m a creative person, so I naturally gravitate towards Tumbi and Pinterest). Sadly, as a young person in this day and age, it seems like I rarely get to connect with other people. I rarely get to pick people’s brains and have deep, meaningful conversations. And that sucks.

Social media and this “social-crazed” world that isn’t really that social, can truly affect your state of mind. Seeing negativity online or through any creative medium (i.e. reality TV shows) is bad for your brain. It’s just as bad as showing up in your everyday life. This can take a major toll on your spirit if you let it. Being conscious of what your followers or the people you follow on social media are putting out there makes a big difference. Likes or retweets don’t always mean positivity is being promoted.

I do occasionally Insta-stalk my favorite celebrities. Just like everyone else, I get curious and I scroll. I’m just very aware of what I allow to infiltrate my mind. Nowadays, I spend my time looking up new scriptures and positive quotes. I like Ted Talks and things that require me to think.

Keep in mind that turning off your computer and electronic devices can help you find inner peace. I try to spend time away from social media to think of all the things I’m thankful for. It helps me to focus on what my assignment is in this world: which is to love, inspire and shine my light.

So, in those moments where you feel frustrated, misunderstood and just plain crappy, don’t go to typing expletives on Twitter. Instead, spend a little quiet time alone. You’ll be surprised at how much growth you acquire just by doing that.

By Zohra Rehman
Guest Columnist

All of us get upset by something, whether that’s someone, a bad grade, work problems etc. Why do we get upset? Why do some of us get more upset than others? For the most part, the reason is our expectations that we have on people, things or relationships.

We hold expectations for everything, and they aren’t necessarily bad. For example, if I study hard for an exam, I expect to get a good grade. Sometimes expectations can be disappointing, especially when I expect something from other people. If I get upset with someone or vice versa, there’s usually an expectation coming from one or both sides that wasn’t met, that causes heartbreak.

There’s a difference between hope and having expectations. If we don’t get what we hoped for, it’s not as painful as what we expected to happen. With hope, there’s a chance that something will not occur. With expectations we tend to hope for a specific, certain outcome. There’s a saying that goes, “no expectations, no disappointments.” I think if we fully accept this motto to certain extent, our lives would be less affected by situations that don’t go the way we planned. Well it doesn’t hurt to try, does it?

Expectations, I mean Disappointments

By Ghadeer Alaradi
Opinions Editor

We’ve all been teenagers at some point in our lives, and we’ll all experience the turbulent relationship we have with our parents during that period of our lives. It’s a time where friends are the most important part of our lives, and fitting in is our first priority.

Now that I’m past that stage (thankfully), my little brother is currently going through the awkward teenage years. He’s growing up, and I don’t blame him for wanting to fit in with his friends and gain their approval. I clearly remember the days where I would constantly want to be around friends, and spending time with family was not something I was not particularly passionate about.

Now that I am a (somewhat) full grown adult, I yearn for beloved family time that happens once or twice a year. Since my parents and younger siblings are halfway across the world, I take advantage of the time that we do spend together.

When I was in high school, I took for granted the fact that the whole family lived in one house. I would come home to my mom’s homemade cooking and my little siblings playing around the house with the neighbor’s kids. I wanted to stay in a quiet room away from all the noise the kids would make, and now I miss the chaos that they would make around the house. Every night, we would all eat dinner together, which is something extremely rare nowadays.

My sisters and I grew up, and we’re all busy building our own lives. My life now is completely different than how it was five years ago. When I come home from class nowadays, I struggle to find something decent to eat. If no one’s home, I will google a recipe and end up using half the ingredients because I don’t have the other half and am too lazy to drive to Kroger to buy the rest. Speaking of grocery shopping, I have to do that on my own now and I didn’t realize how much money it takes to get a decent amount of food to cook at home.

No one really prepares you to grow up into an adult; it just happens. And when it does, you learn along the way. During the brutally cold winters in Michigan, my car would always have something wrong with it. I once drove all the way to campus to home with a flat tire without knowing it (I don’t recommend trying this). After this unfortunate situation, I learned to double-check that my tires are okay and what to do if I were to get a flat tire. The other day, my engine wouldn’t turn on and I had to call my dad to help figure it out with me. It’s these situations that teach me how to rely on myself, and transition fully into adulthood.

Growing up made me appreciate the little things that my parents would do for me like cook a nice meal, buy junk food for the house, or fill my car with gas for me. I’m still getting the hang of the whole adult thing, but I’m in no hurry; I’ll learn things step by step.
Out of This World Food: Mercury Burger Bar

By ALEXIS DORCHEK Guest Writer

When I travel down Michigan Avenue's brick-paved road, it signals one thing — Corktown Detroit — home to popular restaurants like Slows Bar BBQ, Gold Cash Gold, and Bobcat Bonnie’s. But this weekend I was due for a treat meal and my heart, and stomach, were set on Mercury Burger Bar.

Mercury is a small, upbeat diner mastering the art of creative, hand-pressed burgers, hand-cut fries, tater tots, and shakes. Walking into the restaurant I was hit with the aroma of fresh grilled burgers and it got my appetite going. Customers can choose to dine in red and black seats, or at the bar in which the restaurant centers around. The restaurant is cozy and a little limited on space, but the service is great so you don't have to worry about waiting too long to grab a seat.

Aside from the great atmosphere, the burgers are Mercury Burger Bar's specialty. They offer a wide variety of burgers. Whether you like to stick with traditional burgers with the usual fixings or you like to be adventurous and try burgers packed with flavorful ingredient combinations, this diner has something for everyone. Some of their popular burgers include The Local, a burger topped with pulled BBQ pork, cheddar cheese, slow, pickles and Dreamland BBQ sauce and the Topor Burger, accompanied by Corktown’s own “Topors” Hungarian hot peppers, grilled onions, cheddar, fried egg, hot sauce, burger sauce and crispy onion straws.

If traditional burgers aren’t your thing, there are turkey and black bean burger options as well or you can opt for a grilled cheese, a classic Reuben, or a buffalo chicken sandwich. Salad options are on the menu also.

When it came down to selecting my burger of choice, after looking over the menu for about 15 minutes, I finally made my decision. I went with the Southwest Detroit burger. This was by far the best burger I have ever had. On a burger bun, there was the burger patty itself, topped with a charred slider (spiced Mexican pork sausage), jalapenos, Muenster cheese, tortilla strips, fresh avocado and zanahorias, which are pickled, spiced carrots. The flavors and spices of the meat were perfectly paired with the smooth, milky flavor of the cheese and the heat from the jalapenos gave the burger a little bit of spicy flare. The added crunch from the tortilla strips made for a nice texture as well. All of the ingredients meshed well with one another, making for a well-rounded, delicious tasting burger.

What is a burger without a set of fries? Now I’m a sweet potato lover, so of course I selected the sweet potato fries. They were perfectly fried — a little crunchy on the outside, but soft on the inside. Simple, yet satisfying.

Mercury Burger Bar also offers seasoned and garlic fries. They make specialty fries such as potato (French fries with cheese curds and light brown gravy) on top, chili cheese fries and bacon fries. One item that caught my eye and I’ll have to try the next time I visit is their Tater Tachos, which are tots covered with cheese sauce, crumbled bacon, jalapenos, salsa, and cilantro sour cream.

Another thing that I have to go back for is one of their shakes. They have classic flavors like vanilla, chocolate and strawberry, but they also have a Faygo Orange Creamsicle, Boston Coolers and their Hummer (kahlua, dark rum, and orange cream). They have classic flavors like vanilla, chocolate and strawberry, with a rich and sweet shake; make Mercury Burger Bar your number one destination. For unique, quality tasting burgers this is the place to go.

Mercury Burger Bar is located at 2136 Michigan Ave. in Corktown Detroit.
Film Screening Focuses on Black Women Civil Rights

By CHALO’N CHRISTIANNA JEFFERSON
GUEST REPORTER

On Jan. 19, the University of Michigan-Deарborn had a screening of “Reflections Unheard: Black Women in Civil Rights.” It was held in Kochoff Hall A in the University Center as a part of MLK Day of Service, which a series of events during the week to honor Martin Luther King.

The film spoke about how finance, family and segregation affected the African American society and had personal accounts from women of the Feminist Period in the 1940s through the 1960s. The film also showcased a time when women were starting to openly embrace feminism, especially in the black community.

In addition, this documentary also referenced the struggles black women faced when fighting for equality in the workplace. This wasn’t only shown as a black woman issue, though. The film highlighted that many women of different nationalities shared the same struggle and showed females of all cultures uniting in protest against this concept known as “the gender pay gap.”

Susan Estep, the program manager, felt the showing was relevant to issues today. “Women should come together and unite, not be as divided through feministic and women’s issues,” Estep said.

Sharecia Carter, the Director of Women’s Resource Center, felt the movie was necessary for historical purposes. “Knowing the history of African-Americans is important in order to continuously move forward,” Carter said. “Some of the issues addressed in the production are repeating and it’s important to bring awareness.”

Carter also said that this movie was important for addressing issues in today’s society. “By promoting more organization for women of color,” Carter said, “we will bring more awareness to these social issues.”
The University of Michigan-Dearborn is well acquainted with Davenport University. According to previous schedules on UM-Dearborn’s athletic sites, six of its varsity teams (men’s soccer, women’s and men’s basketball, volleyball, hockey and softball) have played Davenport.

The women’s basketball, men’s basketball and volleyball teams have played the Panthers since 2006. Davenport games can be found on the UM-Dearborn hockey schedule starting with the 2009 and 2010 seasons, respectively. Men’s soccer, a new varsity program, has played the Panthers since 2012.

But next year could mark the final chapter in the series between UM-Dearborn and Davenport.

Davenport accepted an invitation to join the Great Lakes Intercollegiate Athletic Conference, a NCAA Division II conference spanning Michigan, Ohio. On Jan. 15, Davenport hopes to start competing in the conference. A formal departure to the GLIAC would be made by July.

With Davenport’s potential departure to the GLIAC, the NCAA decided to break down its divisional structure. UM-Dearborn in those six aforementioned sports. The numbers were astounding, so the say the least.

The Sweeney Effect

The University of Michigan-Dearborn’s men’s basketball team had won consecu- tive games since mid-October.

Since Jan. 2006, UM-Dearborn has won 0-23 against Davenport. Men’s basketball is 3-9-1 all time against the Panthers but is on a 1-3 losing streak since Sept. 2008. Davenport lost a 1-3 game to De- arborn last season but has a 5-2 record in the series since 2009. Hockey is 4-17 against the Panthers since 2010 and 3-3 in their last four matchups against the Rapid Lakes.

Megan Swick knocked down a three pointer with 18 seconds left. The Wolverines rallied the way they did and couldn’t help but think, “when will this team start competing for a national championship as early as March.

Regardless if the hockey series remains. UM-Dearborn has the chance to take Davenport’s seat at the big boy table.

The university has shown it’s willing to put more focus on athletics. It’s re- vamped its website and social media efforts and is trying to get people in the stands. Games are being broadcast.

But for UM-Dearborn to take the next step, the medi- um is essential.

The women’s basketball team started the season 2-0 when they took on the Panthers at College Saturday, winning their first game since Feb 2015. The Wolverines had a wireless season last year after going 0-16 from only six games in 2015.

There’s a reason why Davenport is the last of many mediocrity.

Both times they have won 17 WHAC titles, 18 WHAC tournament titles one NAIA title and one NAIA championship title across the six sports and the timeframe UM-Dear- born’s athletic site has archived. That’s a whole lot of winning.

Sweeney added. “If Davenport leaves for the NCAA, you will be left. Someone will surely take its place at the top, and UM-Dearborn has the chance to do just that. But how will the Wolverines want it?”

When Sweeney took over, the team shot 27.5 percent from the field, 31 percent from three point range and aver- aging 49.5 points per game. Since Sweeney has taken over, the team has shot 37.3 percent from the field, 26.5 percent from three point range, and is averaging 58.7 points per game.

But it’s not just offensive that’s on the rise. UM-Dearborn is thriv- ing under new leadership; they have improved on the defensive side as well.

Opponents are shooting four percent worse from the field and averaging nine less points per game. Before Sween- eey, the Wolverines got out rebounded by an average of nearly 15 rebounds per game. With their new coach, UM-Dear- born is averaging more rebounds per game than their opponents. And not just because it’s a week road trip.

Before Sweeney took over, the team had a 43-4 record against the Panthers and had a 41-4 record against UM-Dearborn the past seven seasons.

In this game one when I didn’t know one play” said Farhat. “You just have to stay confident and trust in your teammates.

The Wolverines around Farhat have made it easy to build the trust.

As a team, the Wolverines shot 44 percent from the field against Northwestern Ohio. Along with Farhat, Marcus Williams and Xavier Croffel, the Wolverines made early for the move to the NCAA. They should the Panthers stay, they remain to be seen.

It’s a whole lot of winning.

Rapids last season. The Wolverines are at full strength and seem to have found a groove.

Sophomore All Farhat was settled nicely into his starting guard role in his fifth game with the team as they took down Northwestern Ohio University 70-59 Wednesday.

Farhat was tied with three other Wolverines for the team high in scoring with 12 points, and sealed the win with an emphatic block at the end of a 7-15, 4-10 Wolver- ines/Hoosier Athletic Conference comeback.

The guard, still fresh off of his transfer from Eastern Michigan University, talked about the trials and triumphs of getting with his new team.

“IT’s tough playing for a few different sys- tems. It’s much different now compared to the past. It’s a whole lot of winning.

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As a team, the Wolverines shot 44 percent from the field against Northwestern Ohio. Along with Farhat, Marcus Williams and Xavier Croffel, the Wolverines made a few big plays. It was fun for the crowd.

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It took nearly eleven weeks and twenty one attempts. But the monkey is finally off their backs.

The University of Michigan-Dearborn women’s basketball team notched its first win of the season Jan. 23 defeating Marygrove 65-61. And as odd as it is to say about a team getting their first win 21 games into the season, the Wolverines dominated.

UM-Dearborn started the game on a 10-0 run that proved to the crowd that this game was going to be different. The Mustangs wouldn’t get their first basket until nearly four minutes into the game.

With 1:36 left in the second quarter, Kendall Rose found Natalee Spala streaking to the basket and hit her with a quick pass that Spala laid into the net to give the Wolverines a 10 point lead. As the quarter was nearing the end, Olivia Hauser stole an inbound pass and fed a shot with three seconds left. She would miss the shot, but it was the urgency that was impressive. It showed that no matter how much time was left, this team was going to give it their all.

The second half would be no different. And the Wolverines would show no mercy.

Rose would miss a three point attempt, but Megan Swick would collect the offensive rebound and hit a lay-up with 1:39 left in the third quarter. The Wolverines from that moment on would go on a 20-4 run to finish the game.

The feeling after the game was expressed the same way from many of the women. It was about time. “Oh my god, this is long overdue we’re really happy. Everybody pitched in, everybody played their role, everybody rebounded, they moved the ball well, it’s just one step to improve and it was a big step confidence booster for everybody,” Marisa Sauve said.

The sophomore forward was a force to be reckoned with near the basket. She led the team with 16 points and hauled in 17 rebounds. Spala contributed with 11 points and six rebounds.

Hauser was a spark coming off a shortened bench. She scored 14 points and went 6-for-13 from the field. It wasn’t her shooting that impressed her coach, but her energy instead. “(Hauser) had 14 (points) but I’ll be honest the energy that she brought when she came into the game was huge, and then in the second half she got opportunities for lay-ups and stuff so that was great,” interim head coach Jordan Sweeney said.

Megan Swick joined the double figures party scoring 11 points. This was her sixth straight game of scoring 11 points or more. Swick also played an important role defensively recording a team high of five steals.

On Jan. 26, when UM-Dearborn hosted Northwest (Ohio), they would fall to the Racers 65-61 in overtime. The Wolverines found themselves with an eight point deficit at halftime. But a relentless effort from the team and outstanding shooting from Swick paid off in the fourth quarter.

With 18 seconds left in the fourth quarter, Swick knocked down a three point shot to tie the game. The Wolverines would inbound the ball with three seconds remaining but Sauve’s last second shot attempt would hit the outside of the rim. In overtime Swick’s shooting didn’t cool off. She knocked down another triple with 2:09 remaining to give the Wolverines a one point lead. But a couple turnovers in the next few possessions would give the Racers a clear lane to victory.

Swick, who scored a career high 26 points, said that turnovers was the difference maker between the two teams during the extra session.

“In overtime we had a couple bad turnovers and I think that turned it around for us. We just kind of got a little frazzled, it was our first overtime of the season,” Swick said. “We just needed to settle it down a little bit and take care of the ball.”

Being down by eight at the half, the Wolverines zpered in on what they needed to do to rally back. They upped the defensive play and limited the Racers to just nine points in the fourth quarter.

Spala explained that staying together as a team was a main talking point at halftime. “I think just staying together and playing hard... Yes we were down by eight at halftime; we knew we just had to take it one play at a time. So that’s basically what we did — we focused on every play,” Spala said.

The Wolverines prepare for a game against Oakland.

Women’s Hoops Crushes Marygrove to Earn First Win

By JERAMY STOVER
Sports Editor
@JStover96

The second hop in their step. And when the box score was released you realized the difference.

UM-Dearborn shot 38.6 percent from the field, just .03 shy of a season high. The Wolverines also recorded 14 assists as a team, which sometimes undervalued skill: confidence.

But Sweeney changed that, and more. Even in the first game you noticed it – just not where it would be obvious.

When you looked at the scoreboard things looked familiar. The Wolverines trailed Mad- son by more than 20 and the two teams’ scores weren’t getting any closer.

But watching the team play, you noticed a different hop in their step. And when the box score was released you realized the difference.

UM-Dearborn shot 38.6 percent from the field, just .03 shy of a season high. The Wolverines also recorded 14 assists as a team, which was at the time a season high.

Then after a thrashing from an Indiana Tech team that shot the ball like it was their major, the Wolverines took on the Racers from North-

The Sweeney Effect

By JERAMY STOVER
Sports Editor
@JStover96

"Sweeney/Sweeney/Sweeney!" That chant echoed into the hallway at the Northwest Activities Center Saturday afternoon. It came from the locker room of a win.

But the chant wasn’t for a star player who led her team to victory. Or for someone who hit the game winning shot.

"Sweeney/Sweeney/Sweeney!" or "Sweeney/Sweeney/Sweeney/Sweeney!" was at the time a season high. "Philosophy or anything like that," Sweeney said. "He didn’t know the Wolverines when he first took the job, but he knows a lot more about them now. And he played a part in that.

When you’re still searching for your first win and 17 games have been played in the season, frustration is an understatement. Confidence is lost, and belief is running on fumes.

But Sweeney changed that, and more. Even in the first game you noticed it – just not where it would be obvious.

When you looked at the scoreboard things looked familiar. The Wolverines trailed Madison by more than 20 and the two teams’ scores weren’t getting any closer.

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The Sweeney Effect continued on page 7