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The Stampede

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Esports: Are We Ready?

Jordan Burch, Staff Reporter

Video games are a large part of Milligan campus life, whether that be friends jumping in on Fortnite squads together, or students taking a break from studying to play a little Xbox. The dynamic of campus gaming is going to change completely at the start of next semester with the addition of an esports team. An addition like this raises the question: “are we ready?”

The ball is already rolling for the esports program. A highly qualified coach, Micah Ridley, was hired in January, and the Hopwood Room in the basement of the Welshimer Library has been chosen to house the new program. The basement was chosen because it was underutilized, centrally-located and safe area suitable for hosting esports, according to Mark Fox, the Athletic Director.

Ridley is a Milligan alum. He attended the school from 2007 to 2011 and was part of the Milligan soccer team. While at Milligan, he earned a digital media degree with a coaching minor. Before accepting the job at Milligan, Ridley was at King University, where he jump started an esports program. The program at King will continue on without Ridley, having hired one of his volunteer coaches.

Coach Ridley picked up valuable experience in his time at King Univer-



Milligan Esports team will be using PCs to play games such as Overwatch, League of Legends, and Starcraft. Commercial free use photo of esports gaming provided by Pexels.

sity. “I learned to stay open minded. I had my own ideas about recruiting and running a program that I realized didn’t always hold true. Especially with a new start-up program, it is important to get a well-rounded, similarly skilled team together. Although I want to go after the best player, I realize to build a successful program, I need the best team,” said Ridley.

“At first I had a hard time picturing the library basement as a location for esports, but once I went and looked at the room, I found it to have a lot potential,” said Riley. “It was bigger than I remember, and with a little paint and decorations, on top of the already adequate lighting, I think this room will be

great for the team”. The room was once used as a study room, but will now be the headquarters for Ridley’s crew.

Although the Hopwood Room has potential, there is still some work that needs to be done. This work is scheduled to take place over the summer. The “Esports Room” or “Esports Arena,” a name that is still pending, will undergo renovations during summer break. Along with physical changes like paint and decorations, there will also be an I.T. side to the renovation. Gaming systems, which will all be PCs, need to be hardwired in to avoid issues with WIFI based gaming.

See Esports on p. 3

My Two Words Returns for Spring Semester

Henry Holben, Staff Reporter

Milligan students gathered in Lower Seeger to hear the testimony of students, Somang Lee, Natalie Maurer, and Luis De La Torre on Wednesday, Feb. 6.

My Two Words is student-led event held by the Apostolos missions club. It seeks to provide students with a platform to share their testimonies and personal experiences. Speakers choose two words or phrases out of their message to emphasize the deeper meaning in their stories.

First up, Somang Lee introduced herself in Cambodian and gave her two words: “Independent” and “Dependent”. She described her experience growing up in South Korea and her travels abroad after graduating from elementary school and spending two weeks with her uncle in Cambodia.

Lee was surprised by the poverty and sickness she witnessed. After a missionary who worked with Lee’s uncle challenged her to study abroad, she felt called to do mission work of her own. Rather than continuing her education in South Korea, she pursued her studies in Cambodia.

“I think this is God’s plan,” Lee had said to her mother. “Are you going to stand in God’s way?”

She remarked how her self-reliance influenced her walk with God, “I did not think of God as someone I could get as a companion.”

She talked about learning to depend on God. She shared the story of meeting her boyfriend, Bunkry Leng while both were attending an international school together and the culture shock she experienced in each of the places she spent time in. Lee confessed feelings of uncertainty about her future.

“I am scared, but I just want to tell my seniors, it’s ok to be dependent on God sometimes, and always.”

The second speaker, Natalie Maurer shared her two words: “shattered” and “whole.” Maurer told the audience about the personal struggles of faith she endured after her father’s death from leukemia.

“Stories are more than just fairy tales.” She expressed the shock she felt when her father was diagnosed with Leukemia. In 2011, Maurer’s father was treated and later found cancer-free, but with an unexpected turn of events, the leukemia returned.

“Every solution created a new problem,” Maurer summarized the grief and anger she felt towards God after her father’s death with her first word- “shattered”.

See My Two Words on p. 3

Governor Lee’s GIVE may affect Milligan

Maggie Halloran, Staff Reporter

As a student, individuals may not always keep up with the newest legislative pieces, but Bill Lee, Tennessee’s newly elected governor, has proposed a plan that may interest students everywhere.

Lee has proposed, in his first legislative proposal as governor of Tennessee, a plan to produce more vocational and technical training opportunities for Tennessee high school students. These opportunities will be available to those graduates who may not need or want to go straight into college out of high school.

Lee promised, during his campaign, to work to expand vocational education and so far, he’s sticking to his word.

This endeavor would be funded mainly through revenues from the state’s general fund, but also it would be helped by Tennessee’s Education lottery. The initiative has been named the Governor’s Initiative in Vocational Education or GIVE for short.

The emphasis for this project is proposed to be on apprenticeships and work-based learning, but also on widening career, dual-credit and technical education opportunities at high schools around the state. Currently, high school students can take two dual enrollment courses with tuition and fees paid for by the Dual Enrollment Grant, but Lee hopes to expand this venture to four dual enrollment trade and technical courses covered.



Governor Lee has proposed a plan to produce more vocational and technical training opportunities for high school students. Photo provided by Nashville Public Radio.

“We have the opportunity to help students discover quality career paths and gain skills that are needed right now in the workforce by emphasizing career and technical education,” said Lee in a news release.

GIVE would allow communities to have funding to build programs that their specific communities need.

“It is time to make sure education in Tennessee embraces multiple pathways to success,” Lee said. “This initiative also puts students in charge of their future by preparing them for a good job right out of high school.”

The Drive to 55 initiative was launched in September of 2013 with the goal of getting 55% of Tennesseans “equipped with a college degree or cer-

tificate by the year 2025” according to driveto55.org. One of these initiatives inside the drive is known as Tennessee Promise.

As most recent Tennessee high school graduates know, back in 2014, Tennessee Promise was passed to encourage high schools students to finish high school and pursue higher education. This particular initiative offers seniors two years of free tuition to any community or technical college in Tennessee.

One other initiative under the drive is to encourage adults to go back to school for secondary education.

See GIVE on p. 2

Emmanuel, Milligan's Christian Seminary School

Jordan Burch, Staff Reporter

Across the road and up the hill from Milligan sits Emmanuel Christian Seminary. Emmanuel is a theological school embedded in the overall school of Milligan College. It is full of top of the line facilities and offers multiple different opportunities for Milligan students.

Not all Milligan students have much interaction with Emmanuel. In fact, there are many students who have never even been up the hill to the school.

"In all my time at Milligan I have never been up to Emmanuel," Sofoniyas Wedeneh, a sophomore, said. "I am curious as to what it looks like up there and what all they offer." Sofoniyas isn't the only Milligan student to share in this curiosity.

There are many options open to students who are curious about Emmanuel. Dr. Rollin A. Ramsaran, the Dean of Seminary, said, "I encourage Milligan students to come take a look around and meet with the faculty. We are always happy to speak with perspective students and even students who just want to learn a little bit more."

According to Ramsaran, there is an annual spring dinner for Milligan students that offers a chance for these students to learn about Emmanuel, meet with faculty, and have a free meal. Ramsaran highly recommends this opportunity to prospective students.

It is common for Milligan undergraduate students to continue their education at Emmanuel. Both Dr. Booher, adjunct professor of Christian Ministries, and Ramsaran mentioned a unique opportunity for Milligan students to take classes at Emmanuel while still enrolled at Milligan. This is a good way for students to get ahead on their degree and to enhance their learning.

"Because of the proximity between the schools, I have been able to continue participation and leadership at Grandview, play on the same ultimate frisbee team for ETSU, maintain relationships with former professors and even teach adjunct at my alma mater," Nathan Cachiaras, a graduate student at Emmanuel, said. "And yet, it has felt a new and exciting challenge in which I am continuing to learn and be formed for a life of service to the kingdom of God through the church."

"It has felt like a new and exciting challenge, in which I am continuing to learn and be formed for a life of service to the kingdom of God through the church," said Cachiaras.

There are several students and faculty are impressed with the learning

environment offered at Emmanuel.

"I really enjoy teaching courses at Emmanuel. There is a shared desire by the students to learn and improve. Within classes, there is a very encouraging atmosphere amongst the students," Booher said. Similar to Milligan, Emmanuel Seminary offers small, more intimate class sizes of about 10-30 students, according to Booher. This allows for an enhanced learning experience. The First Christian Church in Johnson City recently donated a grant to the Milligan Bible Department, this has helped strengthen the ministry programs at both the undergraduate and graduate levels.

The Seminary also offers apartment living in the Emmanuel Village. The Village is a collection of modern style apartments within walking distance of the Phillips building. The Village prioritizes Emmanuel seminary students but offers the extra living spaces to OT or other graduate students, according to Dr. Ramsaran.

Emmanuel Seminary encompasses four main departments: occupational therapy which has 64 students, engineering which has 55 students, physician's assistant which has 50 students, and seminary which has 144 students. Within the largest department, seminary, there are 4 particular degrees.

The first of these degrees is a Master of Divinity. It is a 3-year, 90-credit hour program that offers top level instruction for students interested in any theological profession. It encompasses everything from urban or rural ministry to international missions.

The second theological degree offered at Emmanuel is a Master of Arts in Religion. It is a 2-year, 57-credit hour program designed to prepare students for further academic study. The primary purpose of this degree is to help students get a theological background before pursuing further graduate or professional programs.



According to Booher, Emmanuel Seminary offers small, more intimate class sizes of about 10-30 students. Photograph of Emmanuel building by Jordan Burch.

The next degree is a Master of Arts in Christian Ministry. This is a 3-year, 48-credit hour ministry program perfect for people who already have ministry background, or are working in as a minister already. This degree is partially attainable online, which caters to the busy schedule of someone who is already employed and looking to increase their skills or knowledge. Students are only required to attend classroom sessions once a week.

The last theological degree is a Doctorate of Ministry. This is a 3- to 5-year, 36-credit hour program which focuses on combining work experience with further reflection and study. This program is focused towards professionals attempting to further their education, so the program is flexible with working schedules.

Along with the mainstream Seminary programs that are offered at Emmanuel, the facilities also house a couple of graduate programs. In B.D. Phillips Memorial building, which is the main educational building, you will find students pursuing degrees in the physician's assistant graduate program and the engineering undergraduate program. These are two developed programs with highly qualified staff, according to engineering department head, Dr. Greg Harrell. There is also a handful of laboratories, study rooms, and a well-furnished library in the building.

The other primary educational building at Emmanuel is the Thompson Center. This build hosts both educational and spiritual events. The primary educational use of the Thompson Center is for occupational therapy classes. There are also special lectures, fireside talks as well as fellowship retreats. Within the Thompson Center, there are 15 guest rooms which are ideal for hosting small to medium size groups.

THE STAMPEDE

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All letters should include first and last names, and students should include their majors. However, you are limited to two letters to the editor per semester. Please keep letters fewer than 500 words in length. **We look forward to hearing from you!**

GIVE, from front

According to driveto55.org, Tennessee Reconnect is the first of its kind in the nation to offer tuition-free community or technical college tuition to adults without an associate's or bachelor's degree.

GIVE will be another initiative underneath the Drive to 55 headline, and it could affect Milligan's enrollment numbers and even the number of transfers that we receive.

"I don't think making education ac-

cessible is ever bad. Milligan will just have to figure out how we play into that in Tennessee," Kristin Wright, the Head of Admissions at Milligan College explained.

Though free tuition to two-year programs was enacted a few years back, Milligan has not seen any major fluctuations in its enrollment according to Wright.

"The Tennessee Promise initiative has not noticeably affected our enroll-

ment because Milligan tends to draw a separate audience than those who are in those programs," Wright explained. "The GIVE initiative is also for a different audience than what Milligan attracts, so it will affect a different audience."

More information on the GIVE initiative will be available when the governor's legislative package comes out in the few weeks.

Editor's Note

I'm back! After a semester "abroad" (I was in New York City), I have found myself helplessly running around trying not to lose my step. This is my last semester as a Milligan student, and as I walked around campus for the first time since I came back, I felt stupidly nostalgic. Like many of you, I am so excited to get into the "real world". Another part of me, however, wants everything to slow down.

When I got back from New York, I spent December with my family. It was Christmas time and I was surrounded by my past. The thought of me officially moving out, on top of going from taxis and skyscrapers to corn and family, and the realization of paying rent, starting an internship, going back to classes.... it was a little much. I wanted to sit in my room and cry. So, I did. I called my mom to my room and cried. "Adulthood" is hard, my friends. Don't wish college away so soon.

We have enough to worry about here. We have spent four years pouring into friendships and a community. We have spent Wonderful Wednesdays puking up milk. We have spent hours trying to understand each other. We can still do that, we just have less time now.

Sadly, the question must finally be asked: what legacy are you going to leave behind? Will it be known that you were exclusive or inclusive? Were you open-minded or close-minded? Did you make Milligan safer or did you not seem to care?

We have 11 weeks to figure it out. Then, it's the "real world".

Esports, from front

"We're not going the WIFI route to avoid glitching and drops, especially considering that we will be in the library," said Ridley.

The esports team is hoping to involve the whole student body. There will be a club aspect to the team in an attempt to make it accessible for everyone to enjoy. The team plans on hosting events in which all Milligan students are welcome to attend, according to Ridley. There will be Fortnite and Apex tournaments, along with other games, in which students will be competing for prizes. Milligan students will also be able to get involved through walk-on opportunities. There will be a varsity and developmental team, students are welcome to come try out and depending on skill level, might be placed in either team.

On top of the esports club, Coach Ridley encourages and hopes that students will attend the varsity matches. This can be done through the twitch app, which will allow students, friends, family and faculty to support the competitors. Twitch is an app that is already prominent on campus.

"I love the twitch app. I am able to watch my favorite fortnite streamers play everyday," said Roberto Fernan-

dez-Garrido, junior.

The last thing left to do before esports is up and running is recruiting. This is a process that is already in the works. According to Ridley, there is already recruitment interest from prospective students for the fall of 2019 and the fall of 2020.

"This is very exciting, because it has implications the program will be able to grow exponentially. As Milligan continues to get ready and progress in the process of recruiting and developing a solid program, recruits will follow," said Ridley. This holds true for all new collegiate sporting programs when they are first starting out.

Another way in which the coach is able to reach out to recruits is through virtual Google Hangout chats. This is a way to reach recruits that may be far away successfully and easily. Despite the upside to the virtual chat method, Ridley prefers "boots on the ground" recruiting, in which he is able to meet face to face and build relationships with his prospective recruits.

Milligan is already ahead of the curve as esports is beginning trend for colleges nationwide. There are 73 collegiate varsity esports programs across the U.S., according to Espn.com. Un-

like the other sports at Milligan, esports will not be an NAIA sanctioned team, but a NACE (National Association of Collegiate Esports) sanctioned team. According to Fox, the team is already successfully registered for next fall, and all requirements are in place on that side of the program.

Esports will add a whole new dynamic to Milligan's campus. "It has the potential to grow enrollment and become a great thing on campus," said Fox. "It will allow for students with different interests and perspectives to join our campus. I am excited to see how the students embrace the program." This excitement, intrigue and curiosity is something shared by other faculty members and students.

There are still a few things that need to be done before the anticipated launch of esports in the fall of 2019. That being said, the majority of tasks have already been completed or are in the process of being completed. Students can be assured that as they arrive back from summer break, there will be a functioning esports team on campus.



Coach Micah Ridley announces Milligan Esports to start in 2019. Photo by Milligan.

My Two Words, from front

She described the support she received from a counselor at a summer program, Camp Calvary. Maurer discovered that she could accept the joy of Christ, and learn to be happy with the life she had.

"I am honestly thankful for the story he has given me." Said Maurer. Concerning the tragic loss of her father, "... he will be in my heart and part of my story" she said.

Torre's words were "inconsistency" and "service". He began his story by asking the audience two questions: "Are you scared of death?" and "Do you

question what you believe?" He then shared what he called "inconsistencies" growing up in a non-religious home in Mexico while attending a Catholic school.

Torre's testimony included a story about his recovery from a near-death experience.. He was attacked at the age of 15, while walking home. Torre remarked on the shock he felt upon waking up in the hospital.

"First thing I thought: they stole my wallet. I've got to cancel my credit card." Torre mused. After inquiring about his injuries and treatment,

Torre's doctors told him his recovery was a miracle.

When he was attacked, Torre had been wearing a t-shirt with a logo featuring the virgin Mary on one side, and then a single bloodstain on the other. Although he had been stabbed more than 10 times, he only has one scar from the incident.

"I learned my life's a gift." Torre was inspired by the experience to engage in service and mission work. Torre urged attendees to be active in their communities.

"God is God and he's the reason we're all here," Torre concluded.

Apostolos Announces Trip to Baton Rouge

Maggie Halloran, Staff Reporter



The goal of the Baton Rouge trip, arranged by Milligan's Apostolos club, is to relate to kids in the area where students will serve. Commercial free use photo of children walking provided by Pexels.

Several Milligan College students will make the almost fourteen-hour trek to Baton Rouge, Louisiana to serve with Milligan's Apostolos club during spring break.

According to their page on Milligan's website, Apostolos's mission is to "advance the work of mission around the world, in the local community, and among the student body." It consists of more than 50 members who are devoted to doing just that, and every year, Apostolos puts on a spring break trip

to a place in the United States where students get the opportunity to serve.

This year's choice was Baton Rouge, but they have also been to places like Chicago and Texas for short term mission work. The trip will take place March 2nd through the 9th. Students will be working alongside Danielle Thomas, a Milligan alum, and Renew Church, a church plant based in Baton Rouge to use sports as their vessel for ministry.

Thomas actively works with the

organization Sportquest which works to minister to at-risk youth through sports outreach. She has her doctorate in Sociology and is an instructor of Sociology for Louisiana State University. Ellie Mullens, a senior at Milligan and the chair of Apostolos, reached out after hearing Thomas lecture during one of her classes and hearing her preaching in chapel.

"Our plan is to put on camps and trainings for children, but also what we're really excited to do is put on blitz block parties for kids and their families Monday through Wednesday," Mullens said. "Everyday we will be going door to door to invite people to come hang out, play games, have dinner and worship with us at night."

Students will venture down and begin with a training session at Renew Church on Sunday after services to learn about street evangelism and community outreach. Since the trip goes through Mardi Gras, schools will be out from Monday to Wednesday, and that is when Milligan students will

be able to work.

The goal of the trip is to relate to kids in the area, which is one of the most racially segregated left in the States, through sports and connecting with their families.

Once the schools are back in session, the crew will get to go on a tour of Baton Rouge on Thursday and learn about church planting.

The cost of the trip to students is \$150, which will cover all but three or four meals, housing and transportation. Renew Church is graciously providing students with places to sleep and many of their meals through community dinners. The trip also has 6 SFP credits available.

"The point of these trips that we put on is for short term mission relief. We want to encourage people like Danielle who are doing long term missions, and we want to open the eyes of students to long-term missions," said Mullens.

If you are interested in going on this trip, contact Ellie Mullens or Brad Wallace to sign up or learn more.

Esports: What Is It?

Ike Ndulue, Staff Reporter

President Bill Greer recently announced that Milligan College will be establishing a new co-ed eSports program headed by Milligan alumni and new Director of Multimedia Services Micah Ridley.

In a press release on Jan 18th Micah Ridley, who prior to joining Milligan has had experience developing the eSports program at King University says, "The eSports community is inclusive, entertaining and competitive. That is why the collegiate scene is the perfect place for eSports to grow, as it also forms a healthy atmosphere for students to be successful."

Esports competitions are fueled by some of the biggest and most successful video games like, League of Legends, popularly called "League" and titles like "StarCraft" and "Overwatch"

from Blizzard Entertainment. The sports are based on tournament-style competitions that have individual or group video game players playing against each other. It has recently become a billion-dollar industry.

With a global audience of 380 million for eSports events, and 165 million of them termed as "enthusiasts", the esports industry has become an ideal space for brands and sponsorships.

Colleges across the U.S are getting on board, there are currently more than 50 colleges with varsity eSports programs. A non-profit organization called the National Association of Collegiate Esports, NACE has emerged as the de-facto governing body for collegiate eSports. NACE championships have given thousands in prize money which is used towards scholarships for

the winners.

"We are competing in a couple titles for this coming year with the ability to add titles as there becomes interest," Ridley said. "In regards to what we will be competing for, we will be competing in a conference, region and also for a national title, just like any other collegiate team would be."

Ridley's job, like many other esports coaches, would involve recruiting players to be a part of the program, developing training sessions for the team, scouting opposing teams to find their weaknesses, developing a gameplay strategy for each game, ensuring our students are being successful academically, developing the students outside of the game with things like community service, and building a team chemistry that can help win games.

Milligan Hosts Creative Energy Lecture on Pal's Partnership

Henry Holben, Staff Reporter

Earlier this month, Milligan hosted a lecture and reception in the Gregory Center showcasing the marketing and artwork created by the advertising agency, Creative Energy for the Pal's fast food chain.

The event accompanied an exhibition of art and other marketing material created by Creative Energy for Pal's. Students, faculty members, and Creative Energy employees attended the event. Communications professor Art Brown, the curator of the exhibit, introduced the lecturers from Creative Energy: president and CEO, Tony Treadway, Vice President Theresa Treadway and Executive Creative Director, Will Griffith.

Treadway discussed his company's origins in 1992 and the beginning of its partnership with Pal's, one of Creative Energy's first clients. Tony Treadway described the early challenges his company faced of marketing fast-food

and competing with large national and international fast-food chains. "How many ways can you talk about a hamburger?" he joked.

Tony Treadway discussed the success Pal's has had, noting that with only 29 units total, Pal's is already a model for branding. Treadway described many of items on display at the exhibit. The exhibit featured posters promoting Pal's, photography and text that outlines the history of Pal's itself, a sculpture and artwork created for a mobile game app. Tony Treadway commented on the widespread success of the Pal's mobile game, remarking that Creative Energy was one of the first advertising campaigns to create a video game to promote a fast-food chain.

The speakers shared some of the company's experiences with Pal's. Theresa Treadway shared the origin of Pal's iconic reader board and messages originated with feedback from Pal's

employees and their "thoughts of the day." Tony Treadway told the story of the first TV ad Creative Energy did for Pal's, which featured a live cow being shaken, "to make milkshakes".

The lecturers discussed some of the marketing strategies and restraints used when advertising for Pal's. Will Griffith emphasized the importance of consistency in the message of Pal's advertising. "You can't say or do things that aren't Pal's" he remarked. Tony Treadway said that his company always strives for Pal's creator Pal Barger's mission for his fast-food chain: "To create joy" with all ad material they create.

After the lecture, audience members were invited to ask questions. After the question and answers session, guests were offered complimentary snacks and Pal's sweet tea. The exhibit will remain in the Gregory Center lobby until March 19.

Milligan Design Students are Featured at Dos Gatos

AJ Trabold, Social Media

The Milligan Fine Arts and Graphic Design programs got time in the spotlight with a photo/art gallery at the Dos Gatos Coffee Bar in downtown Johnson City. This was a celebration of all the hard work that has gone into the fine arts and graphic design courses, and the students that have worked diligently to create their art.

The gallery opened Friday, Feb. 1, and was warmly received by students and faculty alike, as well as members of the community. Dos Gatos owner, Dick Nelson, was also very happy with the turnout.

"We were hosting shows like this for about 10 years in the Nelson Art Gallery, and this is the first one we've had since we moved locations", Mr. Nelson explained. "We intend to host a show every month, with each one starting on the first Friday of every month. I've always loved the Milligan shows, and I can't wait to have them come back!"

Several students feel the same way about coming back. Graham Denton, a junior majoring in chemistry and minoring in graphic design, hopes to do a show like this again soon, "I had done a couple shows during high school, and I'm very honored to be a part of another show on this scale, and to see my pieces amongst everyone else's."

Amy Shumaker, a junior majoring in graphic design and photography, was also very proud to have her work displayed. Having partaken in a Milligan gallery as a freshman, she says that "it is a very strange feeling see how far your work has come, but a good feeling at that."

With Milligan harboring several bright and creative students in the fine arts programs, it shouldn't be too long before the cats and buffalos play together again, and Dos Gatos again becomes a temporary home for some of Milligan's student's works of art.

Disclaimer:

The reporter, AJ Trabold, had work in this art gallery, but stayed away from it to bring you a better story.



Kaci Sams, graphic design major, displays her poster in the Dos Gatos cafe along with other students from Milligan. Photo by AJ Trabold.

Students React to Esports

"I am open to new ideas, but I feel like people who came to Milligan for things like music or other programs with limited facilities will be adversely affected because of limited funds available."

- **Antoine Fergusson (Junior)**

"I think it's great for community, but I don't think it should take away any kind of funding that traditional sports have."

- **Nicole Williams (Junior)**

"I think it's beneficial for some students to get scholarships for that kind of activity but as a separate activity not as a traditional sport."

- **Izzy Siegel (Junior)**

"I think it's a good thing to give people who may not be physically athletic this great opportunity."

- **Samuel Pakili (Sophomore)**

"I feel great, I am a great proponent. It hits a demographic that most sports don't. Esports athletes train really hard and I wish I was here to see it grow on campus."

- **Josh Mangano (Senior)**

"I've gotten to see how much enjoyment exists in esports fan base, so I'm excited to see it come to Milligan. I believe at some point cheer and dance were perceived as non-sports too."

- **Heather Vancleve (Senior)**

"I think it engages a different section of the student body."

- **Yonas Sorri (Freshman)**

Fast Facts!

Here are some remarkable statistics published by Newzoo, a global analytics provider.

- Brands will invest **\$694 million** in the esports industry, 77% of the total market. This will grow to **\$1.4 billion** by 2021.

- Global esports revenues will reach **\$906 million** in 2018

- The number of esports enthusiasts will reach 165 million, a year on year growth of **+15.2%**.