

*Celebrating*

**50**  
**YEARS**



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**MVNU**

**1968 – 2018**

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# MVNU CELEBRATES 50 YEARS

## By Walter Blanks

Oct. 12, 1968, marked a very special day in MVNU history: its conception. There is much elation and exhilaration on campus as everyone has been celebrating 50 years of educating the hearts and minds of thousands. Since early August, facilities services personnel have been buzzing around putting up new banners on the light posts honoring certain people throughout the years.

The festivities started with a chapel service that had MVNU 50th anniversary shirts draped over every chair in the chapel. Dr. Linda Nease Scott (Class of '70) graced the students with a little blast from the past as she reflected on her time at MVNU.

"I had no choice in where I would

be attending college because my dad was the president," said Scott, "But Gods' plan was better than mine." Scott wanted to connect with the student in a way that they would understand, so she cleverly said, "Believe it or not, we were just like you all -- 18, 19, and 21 year olds sitting in chapel ... without the cell phones, of course. We shared one phone per dorm floor." There were many chuckles that rumbled throughout the auditorium; and instantly, there was a sense of togetherness in the chapel.

Following the chapel service, a ribbon-cutting ceremony took place at the Stephen W. Nease Center which will house the university's engineering program and a community makerspace, in partnership with Knox Labs.

The building was gifted to MVNU from Ariel Foundation. Engineering major Tagg Edgell was at the ceremony and was super excited to be there. "This ceremony bridges the gap between past engineers and students who are going through that process now. It is an honor to meet the people who have paved the way for us" said Edgell.

MVNU is also looking to celebrate the 50-year milestone in No-

vember during homecoming, which will include Cougar basketball, the MVNU Alumni Experience and the beloved rambunctious mascot Casey Cougar.

The Mount Vernon Church of the Nazarene congregations, MVNU alumni and the community will also join together and celebrate the work of God through MVNU and the community with special speaker Dr. Jesse Middendorf.

## *Bridges reflects on 50 years at MVNU*

One-half century of memories and tremendous growth has taken place and filled the minds of many at 800 Martinsburg Road since MVNU was dedicated in October 1968. From its humble beginnings to the evolution of the diverse liberal arts college it is today, MVNU has stood solid as a symbol of educational excellence while holding true to the values of The Church of the Nazarene. Among the numerous faculty members who have served their mission at MVNU is Bill Bridges.

Bridges was hired as the fourth faculty member by MVNU in 1967 and began in October 1968 as professor in the speech communications department. It was a two-year curriculum at the time and expanded to a four-year program in 1970 with the first bachelor's degrees being conferred in 1974. Bridges also taught drama classes and was adviser for the drama club. Bridges recalled that the first drama production, "The Staring Match," took place on campus in "The Barn."

After serving 12 years at MVNU, Bridges then felt inclined to return to his pastoral ministries, turning

the department over to Dr. Henry Smith. Bridges considers Smith to be the "Father of WNZR" but also sees himself as the "Grandfather of WNZR." He served different churches for 11 years before moving to Mid-American Nazarene University to work in the church relations department, directing the public relations groups. Bridges also served on the board of trustees for MVNU, representing two different districts.

"Our goal all along was to become a four-year institution," said Bridges. "We dreamed about it (college growth). It was difficult to envision what it might be.

Bridges admitted that often when he steps on campus today, his mind goes back to 1968 and how the school has developed from that point. Completion of the R.R. Hodges Chapel building is what he sees as a major accomplishment for the campus. He considers it a "dream come true" after telling his students that someday there would be a theater on campus. He considers it a privilege to be able to act the production "Lilies of the Field" in

(See Bridges on page 8)

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# Transition time for Tracy

By Eddie Dilts

Tracy Waal, formerly the director of admissions at Mount Vernon Nazarene University, officially started his new position as vice president of student life on Aug. 1, though he was not physically in his office until Aug. 8.

Although his office in admissions is cleared out, Waal is still working in the department until a new associate VP of enrollment management is hired. Then a new director of admissions will be hired.

Waal was initially told by MNVU President Dr. Henry Spaulding to consider the associate VP of enrollment management position, although Waal “was not sure about being moved away from students.”

Instead, Waal decided to apply for the VP of student life position, because having someone with MVNU’s voice be a part of the process seemed like a healthy thing, according to Waal, but he did not think he would get the job.



Tracy Waal

“I didn’t really pursue the job, and Dr. Spaulding didn’t necessarily pursue me,” Waal said. In the end, Waal got the job, and now he is excited to work with the student body.

“In admissions, you meet students who may or may not come to MVNU,” Waal said. “In student life, there is more of an opportunity for long-term relationships.”

Waal did say he would miss the admissions department, as they have been his family for the past nine years, though he expects the same bond can be formed with the student life office.

The student voice is one of Waal’s primary focuses as he’s been trying to “intentionally talk to as many students as he can.” Waal’s been spending time in the “caf,” eating with students in order to further this goal.

A survey went out in September, giving students an opportunity to help student life serve this campus, according to Waal. Student life oversees athletics, the counseling office, residence life, campus life, intercultural life and campus safety.

When it comes to his approach to the new position, Waal said he “wants to create an environment where students can live to their God-given potential. When someone comes to me with a proposal, my first question is going to be ‘how does this help students reach their God-given potential?’”

Waal recognizes that there are big shoes to fill accepting a position formerly held by Joe Noonan. “I can’t imagine how Joe was able to hold both this position and the student chaplain as well as he did” Waal said. “It’s a true testament to him and his heart for serving.”



MVNU President Dr. Henry Spaulding, left, addresses a crowd of visitors gathered for the dedication of the new engineering department on Oct. 12 at 104 S. Main St., Mount Vernon.

Photo courtesy of MVNU Marketing

## Engineering department opens in downtown Mount Vernon

By Jaxon Yoder

This year, MVNU has added an off-campus facility for the engineering program which was added mainly due to market demand. MVNU’s Dr. David Che said, “It was in response to the inquiry of the parents of prospective students who asked ‘Hey, do you have engineering?’”

The new facility opened on Sept. 7, and classes in the new building have since begun. “We’ve passed the state inspections, so everything is ready except for a few things here and there,” Che said.

The program entails a four-year education with a bachelor’s degree in science and engineering. Che said, “After four years, [the students are] ready to solve real world problems. I think it’s a good fit because MVNU fits the Nazarene tradition. The school motto is ‘To seek to learn is to seek to serve,’ and how

do you serve?” Che asked.

Che looks towards applying engineering to missions. “I’ve been talking to a retired MVNU professor who’s leading an outreach in Brazil,” He said. “We have churches there, but people don’t have jobs. How do we tap into their resources? How do you put them together and create business opportunities? That’s where engineering comes in.”

Looking toward the future, Che said, “The program has been growing. We have close to 60 students; of them we have roughly 20 freshmen. It’s growing, and we expect the program to bring in new students.”

Che hopes to keep the program going strong in the future, saying “Maybe in 10 years we can grow up to 200 students. There are more and more students who have a passion to serve the kingdom through engineering.”



*Gerardo Rivas was one of the many guest speakers celebrating the Latino culture at Festival Latino on Sept. 27. Photo by Michaela Hughes*

## MVNU's annual Festival Latino

**By Micaela Hughes**

MVNU's 12th annual Festival Latino was held Sept. 27 in the Prince Student Union. Over the years, Festival Latino has included food, games, music, face painting and other activities. This year, Festival Latino included a Latino Poetry Jam with various MVNU students.

"We've had a variety of speakers, singers, groups and students performing everything that is shaped around the culture," said MVNU Director of Intercultural Life Jim Singletary.

Singletary coordinates the event, but he said that it was because of student efforts that Festival Latino has continued every year since 2006.

The Latino fest has created an opportunity for MVNU students to enjoy themselves while experiencing a different culture. Singletary believes that the experience the festival brings is what makes it significant.

"There weren't very many or any

programs that had community impact, so we wanted to invite the community and families; I think that is what makes Festival Latino what it is."

Since then, students have signed up to be a part of the committee helping set up, tear down, decorate and serve food during the Festival.

Singletary believes that this is not only a good experience for those who may have not been exposed to the Latino culture, but it is educational for students.

"The least I can do his help you learn about a culture that is simply not yours," said Singletary.

With this event, Singletary hopes the students and the community can continue to enjoy and acknowledge diversity on MVNU campus.

"We always want to find a way to celebrate; that is part of my mission for intercultural life -- not only celebrate it but respect it," said Singletary. "To offer fellowship with food, fun and family -- there's nothing more special than seeing a Latino family be able to safely express who they are."

## Renovations and additions to MVNU campus

**By Michaela Hughes**

Students have been discussing the new additions to MVNU this school year, and of those additions the most talked about are the renovations at Cedar apartments on MVNU's campus.

Over the years, students have tried to avoid living in Cedar because of the updates that were needed. The renovations to Cedar took place over this past summer break.

"All buildings on campus are renovated or improved upon periodically, and it was determined that it was Cedar's turn this time around," said Cedar Resident Director Ben Williams.

MVNU's Director of Facilities Operations Anthony Edwards headed the renovations that were made to Cedar apartments which included the following: new carpet, new flooring and a fresh coat of paint in each apartment; new fixtures in the bathrooms and kitchen area; new window units in all the bedrooms and living rooms; and air conditions in every apartment.

Williams believes campus Facilities Services did an outstanding job and hopes students will enjoy their experience in Cedar as a result.

"Their hard work has contributed directly to helping students create a positive residential experience in Cedar," said Williams.

The decision to make updates to Cedar were based upon the need to have a better living space for students and, according to Director of Residence Life Joshua Kusch, it was the right time for the renovations.

Students are both excited and pleased with the new renovations.

"Cedar went from being the trashiest apartments on campus to being a borderline luxury hotel," said student Tristan Carwile.

"Cedar was a good choice for that

kind of effort and work and a little bit less desirable place for students to live. It was maybe one of the first apartment townhomes that were built, so it was older than some of the other ones," said Kusch. "So it seemed like the appropriate time and place to do some of that work."

Kusch is MVNU's new director of residence life, and he is looking forward to getting to know the campus environment this year and creating a positive environment for students.

Kusch has been enjoying the campus so far and learning how things work for students and faculty members on campus. He admits he has been experiencing a learning curve.

"I am glad that I was here most of the summer to become a little familiar with staff here; everyone I've connected with has been wonderful and so helpful," said Kusch.

He's excited to share moments with students through all the obstacles that come with the college life.

"The fact that we can create an environment where they can receive support, care and grow throughout that ... that's really meaningful," said Kusch. "I know our staff of resident directors and resident assistants are there to be with students in those moments."

Kusch shares that through interacting with students he hopes to create a place where students feel more welcome and experience the love of Christ.

"My hope, my goal and my vision for this year is that we can create a place where everyone feels like they belong, that they have a place."

With new additions to campus apartments, faculty and staff, MVNU students have many positive things to look forward to this school year.

# WNZR students take on Christian Music Broadcasters Convention

**By Rachel Rinehart**

In September, a group of Mount Vernon Nazarene University students attended the Christian Music Broadcasters Convention in Orlando, Fla. The CMB conference, otherwise known as Momentum, educates both professionals and students on how to improve their craft and prepare themselves for what God has planned for their ministries.

For the past couple of years, WNZR Radio has attended the conference with several students. The group was led by WNZR Station Manager Marcy Rinehart. The students were juniors Daria Swisher, Lilly Buckley and Rachel Rinehart plus senior Trevor Moore.

Christian Music Broadcasters exists to encourage, engage and equip their members to impact their communities for Christ. Their vision statement is, "CMB'S 600 members are a community inspiring its 50 million listeners to a closer relationship with Jesus Christ."

Buckley, Afternoon Drive co-host and production director at WNZR, thoroughly enjoyed the experience.

"This conference helps you learn from some of the top professionals in our field. They're giving you information that you won't get anywhere else, and that is applicable outside of our station, too. This is a great conference to let you know if this is what you want to do after you graduate," said Buckley.

During the conference, the group had the chance to meet some very well-known Christian artists.

Momentum Mix allows CMB members to have conversations with Christian music singers. This allows members to hear the stories behind songs, talk candidly with the artists and relate to them on a personal level.

The conference featured sessions with professional speakers such as Dr. Kevin Leman (Christian psychologist), Alan Burns (media analyst), Shauna Neiquist (author) and Trudy Cathy White (president of Chick-Fil-A).

Daria Swisher, Morning Thing co-host, loved the air-check sessions in which the students participated.

"Air-checks are when we play a short section of one of our on-air shifts for a professional talent

coach. It's just great to connect with other professionals in our industry. I liked the feedback I got because it helps me as I continue to be on the air here at WNZR and also for my future," said Swisher.

The conference also had several break-out sessions with topics ranging from social media to finding your on-air voice. Break-out sessions help CMB members to think outside the box when it comes to working, managing and ministering to others through the outlet of Christian radio.

The students also participated in several Momentum networking

lunches where they could talk with professionals, hand out business cards and receive advice for the future.

Marcy Rinehart believes this conference is very valuable for MVNU radio students.

"It offers many opportunities for students to connect with professionals for future internships and jobs. The conference speakers are providing valuable information to help Christian radio stations succeed and grow. I have seen doors open for numerous students as a result of our attendance to this conference."



Flanked by band members of For King and Country Joel and Luke Smallbone are, left to right, Daria Swisher, Marcy Rinehart, Rachel Rinehart and Lilly Buckley.

## Nixon retiring as MVNU librarian

**By Jaxon Yoder**

This year will be Paul Nixon's last year as MVNU's library director as he prepares for retirement at the end of the academic year.

Nixon first came here to fill the position of the MVNU Public Services Systems Librarian in fall 2001 after leaving his position as a medical librarian in Kansas City, MI.

"I was the library director a few years ago when a previous library director retired," Nixon said, referring to his first term as library

director in 2009. "Then we had someone else come in; and after he left, I became the director again. So, over the course of 17, 18 years, there's been a number of different hats that I've worn."

Nixon reminisced on the changes that the library has seen in his years working there. "It's been good. We've gone to less of an emphasis on in-house resources to what we can access electronically outside of the four walls of the library," he said. "Students can now access

our resources electronically from anywhere -- on campus, where they live, a coffee shop or wherever. I think it's a marvelous thing for them to have."

"I think they've been good changes," Nixon said. "They've been here to help facilitate student use of the library as well as helping them with their study skills and getting help with tutoring."

"I'm gonna miss the people that I've worked with, the students," Nixon said, looking back at his

time at the library. "They're a delight to work with."

While Nixon was certainly happy with the growth the library has seen in his time working there, he's also happy to be moving forward. "I guess I won't miss the snowy winter mornings, having to get up and be here by around 7 o'clock, that kind of thing," He said, laughing. "It'll be kind of nice to just sit back and listen to the weather report and know I won't have to go anywhere this morning."

# An inspiration to all, Patten defies the odds

By Matt McKenzie

The Mount Vernon Nazarene University men's baseball team is pleased to have the return of a huge contributor in senior Yanni Patten after battling cancer this past year. Patten was diagnosed with Diffuse Large B-Cell Lymphoma (DLBCL) of the spine in February 2018 and underwent back surgery and extensive chemotherapy before being recently told that he is now cancer free.

The impact of not having Patten was shown on the field for the baseball team as the team went 24-26 overall and 10-17 in the Crossroads League in 2018. In the 2017 season, Patten led the team with 56 hits,

“It has been a blessing to have Yanni back on the field . . . It has been a long road for him, but he has continued to stay positive.”

Coach Keith Veale

plus he also had 33 runs batted in.

Patten knows that being on the field means that he is joining people that he considers his brothers.

“Being a part of the MVNU baseball team is like having a second family,” Patten said.

This fall during practice, Patten was able to participate in batting practice and fielding, as well as

continuing to pursue his degree in engineering. Patten was a Daktronics-NAIA Scholar-Athlete during the 2017 season.

Head coach Keith Veale knows having Patten back is very important, and he is thankful.

“It's been a blessing to have Yanni back on the field,” Veale said. “It has been a long road for him, but he has continued to stay positive.”

Patten has had a very long and challenging recovery process. “While recovering in the hospital, I had to regain strength and balance, and it was a very difficult experience” Patten said.

The MVNU community was very



Yanni Patten

important during this time. MVNU athletics department and the community raised over \$2,000 through the #YanniStrong campaign to help provide Patten with the required treatment.

The team regained a great player and person, and the campus and students are very excited to have him back.

## Local fans enjoy LeCrae at Sonfest

By Ellie Parker

The campus of Mount Vernon Nazarene University was buzzing with students and community members for Sonfest 2018 on Sept. 22. Performing at the all-day music festival were Christian artists like I Am They, The Young Escape and Family Force 5, with popular rap and R+B artist Lecrae headlining.

Also available for festival-goers were inflatable games, a petting zoo, and a fire and aerial performance by Cincinnati Circus. Vendors and Christian ministry groups set up tables to sell merchandise and raise awareness about issues such as human-trafficking.

Sonfest 2018 was sponsored in part by The Switch, a national anti-trafficking network, which aims to “switch the trajectory,” and “provide resources for victims of human trafficking.”

Sonfest 2018 wouldn't happen without more than 100 student and faculty volunteers. MVNU sophomore Tori Weiland volunteered at the secondary festival entrance taking tickets from students and guests. She said that even though the outside temperature was cold, approximately 65 degrees and cloudy, “The turnout was great!”

MVNU junior Molly Scheich attended Sonfest for the second time. She said, “I think it was a great opportunity for families to interact and enjoy some good music.”

Scheich also enjoyed perusing the ministry tables to “learn more about the issues in the world.”

High school sophomore Sam Parker said that he really enjoyed spending time with his friends and hearing “new, really cool music. I had never heard of Lecrae before, but I love him. I'm definitely coming back next year.”



Rap and R+B artist Lecrae was the headline act and thrilled many during the festivities at Sonfest on the campus of MVNU on Sept. 22.

Photo by Maddie Sestina

# A new era for women's soccer

By Anna Chrysler

MVNU's new women's soccer coach brings a "blue-collar mentality" to the game.

Sarah Maracani, the head coach at Olivet Nazarene University last season, shared her excitement, expectations and goals for the team this year. Overall, Maracani said, she expects to see hard work, positive attitudes and competitive play in her first season with the Lady Cougars.

"I am excited to get to know the girls, not just on the soccer level, but also on a personal level," Maracani said.

Members of the coaching staff said they are looking forward to investing into a new community and expressed high hopes for this coming season.

"I know that the team has been

competitive in the Crossroads League Conference, and I want to continue that. In the past they have slowly made their way into the top 25, so hopefully we can continue towards that, and make an opening round bid," she said.

Maracani said the team's mentality, culture and past experience will lead to future success.

She has a blue-collar mentality and expects her team to have the same mindset.

"My players are not afraid to get dirty, not afraid of hard work," Maracani said.

"Another thing is culture. Culture is a huge thing because you are competing together, working together, for each other, for God, and everything else falls into place," she said.

The team will strive to build off previous successes but will also

focus on moving forward into a new era.

"With every coach, it's going to be a little bit different with their style and what they are looking for," she said.

Maracani's own experience as a goalkeeper will add to the team's dynamic and knowledge of the game. Maracani was a four-year starting goalkeeper at Spring Arbor University.

She was a two-time Second Team NAIA All-American. Her senior season, she was an instrumental part of the Cougars' NAIA championship run. That year, she was named the National Tournament's Most Outstanding Defensive Player.

After her collegiate success, Maracani furthered her career, playing in the National Premier Soccer League for Lansing United.

"Being a goalkeeper, you see what works, what doesn't work from a different perspective than any of the other players," she said.

"Coaching the future goalkeeper, I know the light that the forwards are working in and what the goalkeeper and others are thinking, so it is definitely going to be an advantage for our team," Maracani said.

Coach Sarah Maracani's husband and assistant coach, James Maracani, will take the managerial role for the team. He said the culture created will carry a team through the season.

"I hope that together, coaching staff and team, we can build a culture in the direction of a new era. We are going to amp everything up, we are going to work hard, and hopefully that will lead into success," James Maracani said.

# Cross country runners making lasting impact

By Matt McKenzie

The Mount Vernon Nazarene University cross country teams are relying on their seven seniors to set the pace for this season. On the ladies side, the seniors are Kristen Cook, Rachel Gerber, and MaKenzie McKirgan. Seniors on the Men's side include Brennan Crawford, Jacob Lofton, Matt McKenzie and Noah Menuez.

The teams will look upon the leadership and experience of these seniors for a great season, which started Aug. 31 at Kenyon College, followed by a meet at Indiana Wesleyan on Sept. 7.

Both teams have major goals for this season, according to McKirgan, whose goals include making nationals and placing high in the Crossroads League.

"Last year the women barely

missed the national stage; so this season, we definitely have our eyes on making it," McKirgan said.

The seniors are a part of a lady's team that is receiving votes in the first NAIA Cross Country poll. Last season at the Crossroads League meet, hosted by Marion University, the women's team placed fourth overall.

McKirgan is a two-time national qualifier in the marathon, plus she was 15th at the Crossroads League Meet.

Gerber is looking forward to building off a successful track season to lead into this cross country season.

"This previous track season, I just barely missed making nationals, so there is a drive to do my best to get there this year," Gerber said. "The best part of this season is knowing we have a very strong team that can



Megan Cook



MaKenzie McKirgan



Rachel Gerber



Matt McKenzie



Brennan Crawford



Jacob Lofton



Noah Menuez

Photos courtesy of Bruce Heflin Photography, Gahanna

get us to nationals."

Cook, who has been a huge contributor for the women's side in her three years, is looking forward

to the team aspect.

"In my three years on the team,

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# VanNest serving as interim chaplain

By Jehane Hoagland

While MVNU continues its search for a full-time chaplain, Dr. Doug VanNest, professor of pastoral ministries, is serving as interim chaplain.

The University was left without a chaplain following Rev. Joe Noonan's resignation in the spring.

"We are doing the interim, because we want to do the search well," VanNest said. "This is too

important of a decision to rush."

The process of finding a new chaplain is extensive, requiring a large search and review of candidates.

"We want to find a chaplain who can be a pastoral presence on this campus, not just to students, but to faculty and staff as well," VanNest said.

The job opening will be re-opened in the spring.

"We want to find the right person

to fill the hole," VanNest said. "We all want to be praying for the future and what that looks like."

Until then, VanNest is making plans for the current semester.

"We want to look at everything we do; are there things we could be doing better in developing spiritual lives of students?" he asked.

VanNest is looking forward to the upcoming semester.

"I'm excited to be in chapel more. It's a reflection of who we are," he said. "I'm also excited just working with the chaplain staff."

The chaplain staff runs most of the daily operations, which allows more time for his other responsibilities.

This year, VanNest has been promoted to dean of the MVNU School of Theology and Philosophy.

"It's a rough start; a lot happens at the beginning of the year," VanNest said.

Dr. VanNest joined the faculty of MVNU as a professor of pastoral ministries in the fall of 2016.

"I really believed that I wanted

to spend the rest of my ministry preparing people for their ministry, he said.

VanNest served as a pastor for 17 years and was the district superintendent of the Southwestern Ohio District for nine years.

VanNest is from Cincinnati, OH. He is a graduate of MidAmerica Nazarene University, Nazarene Theological Seminary and United Theological Seminary.

## Seniors

(Continued from Page 7)

the team has been the best part, and I am looking forward to bonding with the new runners," Cook said.

The men have strong goals coming up for this season, and one of them is placing high up in the Crossroads League after the highest finish in school history last year.

One of the big contributors this season is Brennan Crawford, who is a two-time national qualifier in the Marathon. He also is the highest returner for the team as he placed 18th overall at the Crossroads League Championships.

Crawford is looking forward to the challenge of being a senior leader.

"With this being my senior year, I will have the challenge to lead the lower classmen," Crawford said.

Another huge piece to this senior class is Jacob Lofton, who will look to stay healthy as injuries have caused some missed meets the past three years. He will look to his experience to have a great season.

"I have been around this team as a leader for the last three years, so

the experience I have is critical for a successful season for me," Lofton said.

The last senior that has also been a strong contributor the last three years is Noah Menez who enters this season as the second-highest returner after placing 20th at the Crossroads League Championships. Menez is looking forward to working with his teammates to try to make a run at nationals.

"I am looking forward to working with my teammates to see how we are able to place and what we are capable of," Menez said.

Coach Chip Wilson knows this group of seniors is a special group on and off the course.

"These seniors came in three years ago and jumped right in with really good success," Wilson said. "I am looking forward to their leadership on the course but also what they do in the classroom and on campus."

With a solid group of seniors, the team will be looking to make a splash in the Crossroads League and the national stage.

## Bridges reflects on MVNU 50th anniversary

(Continued from page 2)

Thorne Performance Hall. "When I stepped onto that stage, I felt like I had come full circle," said Bridges when being the first to be on stage in this production when giving a monologue.

When looking at where MVNU has come in the last 50 years, "I think we established a firm foundation, and I believe the University is continuing that tradition," said Bridges. "It's always been my hope that MVNU would always be a Christian university, always a Nazarene university, and always be a university with the highest educational ideal. At this point, I pray this continues to be the pattern."



Currently serving as interim MVNU Chaplain is Dr. Doug VanNest while a search for a permanent new chaplain is conducted.

Photo by Maddie Sestina

For more on all the  
Cougar sports teams,  
go to [www.mvnuougars.com](http://www.mvnuougars.com)