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OLAS Hosts Minority Report

JACK FOZARD
Feature Writer

At the annual OLAS event, Minority Report, a strong, clear message took a back seat to the lively social event that occurred in its place.

Amidst the beating music leading up to the event, hosted by the Organization of Latin American Students (OLAS), men and women showed up in nearly equal numbers to enjoy the plentiful food and drinks provided. This was an unusual way to start an event that did not begin until nearly 15 minutes after the 9 o'clock start time, taking place in Butcher Suite.

According to OLAS President Sabrina Cordova, the later start time was no accident.

"It was kind of a comfort thing, to ease into the topic," says Cordova, the newly-elected president

of OLAS. "Talking about minorities can be kind of an uncomfortable [discussion] for some people so by introducing food first, we thought it could be an icebreaker just to get people comfortable, talking with their friends and such."

After everyone had their fill of casual conversation, OLAS members gave a brief presentation on minority statistics in regards to education, providing data points to drive the point home.

According to the data presented, the dropout rate for Hispanics in the U.S. is around 14 percent, with the African-American dropout rate down to 8 percent from 15 percent, all compared to the 6 percent dropout rate of Caucasians in the U.S.

But for all the information presented about minorities having lesser access to education, no remedy or fix for this issue was proposed, nor were any statistics given



Minority Report gave statistics about minorities on college campuses. Photo by Jack Fozard

regarding the ethnic makeup of Pace specifically.

At a university where 51.1 percent of students are non-white according to CollegeFactual, with nearly 15 percent of that 51 being Hispanic or Latino, Pace is a diverse college compared to most around the nation, ranking 154 nationally.

For some, this seemed a departure from the norm, as the previous years had focused on representation of minorities past just statistics, instead "[sharing] with students how each ethnic group, gender and sexuality was portrayed through a variety of platforms such as movies, television and

social media."

According to OLAS Treasurer Christian Estrella, this was, in fact, different from the previous Minority Report events.

"The overall concept of what the event stands for [is] minorities in the workplace," says Estrella. "We

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P4K Raises \$16,147 for Local Children's Hospital

EMILY BRESNAHAN
Feature Writer

Over 200 Pace students came together for a great cause this past Saturday dancing for over six hours to raise money for Maria Fareri Children's Hospital. The fifth year of the dance marathon, started by Pace students, brought in a decent amount of students, but possibly not enough to push for a sixth year. But that was the last thing on everyone's mind as they danced for the kids who couldn't.

The night started out with the moral dancers, a group of volunteer students, showing those in attendance the dance that they would be learning throughout the marathon. During the night, the dancers took turns teaching parts of the dance, so at the end of the night students could pre-

form and send the video to the children at the hospital. Cathryn Neil, a senior biology major, was a moral dancer for the first time this year.

"I love being able to contribute to such an amazing cause," stated Neil, "it was so fun being a dancer this year."

Throughout the night, many speakers told their stories in connection to Maria Fareri Children's Hospital, including Meredith Buono, the manager of marketing and community relations for the hospital. She spoke of how proud she was to be a part of such an amazing event, and couldn't thank the crowd enough for all their hard work raising money for Maria Fareri Children's Hospital.

"At the end of tonight, we will be for the five years that you guys have been a part of this, over \$100,000 raised for Maria Fareri Children's Hospital," Buono said, "so we will ask you, for tonight, a lot of energy and a lot of happiness."

Many families whose children were treated at Maria Fareri Children's Hospital were also in attendance to tell their stories and promote more donations. The Sedor family, whose son Kamran's life was saved at the hospital, thanked all in attendance for their work in helping the hospital. His mother, Sumi, couldn't say enough about how amazing the hospital was and continues to be when helping their son.

"I'm so proud of Pace for supporting such a wonderful organization, Maria



The Sedor family, one of many families treated by the hospital who were in attendance. Photo by Emily Bresnahan.

"Each year I bid on a piece of art because of my passion for art, the impact it can have on us, and the stories behind the artwork. As a teacher, I always hope my students and families are safe, healthy and doing well and fundraising for this incredible hospital is one way I can help."

Nick Wang,
Pace Alumnus

Farei Children's Hospital saved my son's life and I am forever grateful."

One of the most thrilling aspects of the night were the live auctions, which consisted of artwork by 22 year-old Rosina, who recently went into remission, and decorated t-shirts from patients in attendance.

Melissa Aponte, who bid \$250 for the first piece of artwork, started the night off strong. From then, bidding got intense, with one of the pieces of artwork

selling for \$700 for Delta Phi Epsilon and Phi Sigma Sigma!

Nick Wang, a Pace alumnus, bids on something every year, with this year being no exception. He purchased one of the art pieces by 22 year-old patient Rosina for \$225.

"Each year I bid on a piece of art because of my passion for art, the impact it can have on us, and the stories behind the artwork," noted Wang, who was one of the founding Board of

Directors for P4K.

"As a teacher, I always hope my students and families are safe, healthy and doing well and fundraising for this incredible hospital is one way I can help."

Even though at the end of the night, the \$20,000 goal was not met, the dance marathon brought smiles to the families treated at the hospital, and the Pace community is ready to continue fundraising until the end of the month to meet their goal.

Chris Nocket, From the Army to Pace

GERALD OLVERA
Feature Writer

Answering the 'call of duty' following the attack of the World Trade Center in 2001 was the last thing Chris Nocket expected to do.

However, the Poughkeepsie native learned that his cousin Mike had perished during the attacks. Like many others, he would join the ranks with other service men and women.

Nocket then loaned himself to the United States Army for the next four years as an 11C MOS (military occupational specialty) Mortarman. 11Cs, the indirect fire infantrymen, are members of a mortar squad, section or platoon.

Completing basic training and advanced infantry training (AIT) in Fort Benning, Georgia were the first steps. Then he would be sent to his combat unit on the Fort Lewis Army base in Tacoma, Washington.

"For three months we were always training," Nocket said. "Fight as you train, train as you fight. That is

what our Sergeants would say. With all the training you do, you hope that when the real thing comes, you will remember the training."

Meanwhile, after months of combat scenarios in different parts of the US, he would deploy to Iraq in October of 2003. Samarra to Mosul, his unit would be all over Iraq supporting US and Coalition (multinational) forces.

He recalls one night while being deployed in Iraq, where his company were about to intercept enemy forces in a heavily fortified town. Two AC-130 Specter Gunships were airborne to support his command and slammed the area with various munitions. 40mm to 105mm of high explosive, high incendiary, and armor piercing rounds lit up the town.

Finally, battle-hardened and experienced in warfare, he was awarded a mid-tour leave. Some members of the military do not elect to take a "leave of absence" during deployments.

"Because when you're there in a movie theater, you can wrap your head around the idea of this is 'the suck,' or this is 'the show,'" Nocket said. "Then you go on leave and you think, oh wait, this is the real world. It took me a week to get back in the mindset that I was still deployed."

Nocket would return back to the states in October 2004 and finished up his tour in the Army in January 2006. He would spend the next few years transitioning from soldier to civilian.

The Iraq War veteran is lugging books instead of mortars now. He has been

studying Digital Cinema and Filmmaking at Pace since 2015. He enjoys the atmosphere on campus and loves the energy of the faculty in Pleasantville.

"I feel that the more interest I show the professors here at Pace, the more interest I will receive from the professors," Nocket said. "I like the fact that we have solid educators who are passionate about what they are doing."

"For three months we were always training. Fight as you train, train as you fight. That is what our sergeants would say. With all the training you do, you hope that when the real thing comes, you will remember the training."

Chris Nocket,
Iraq War veteran
and Pace University
student

Letters to the Editor Welcome

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Phi Sigma Sigma Hosts Annual Talent Show

GERALD OLVERA
Feature Writer

Phi Sigma Sigma sorority celebrated their largest event of the Fall semester thus far. The Greek chapter hosted the annual Talent Show on November 14, in the Gottesman Room.

There were different acts that ranged from singing, dancing, and a comedy skit. A majority of the contestants were from other various Greek organizations.

There were two students that showcased their talents with instruments. Alpha Chi Rho junior, Joe Kelly played a guitar and sang *Wagon Wheel* by Old Crow Medicine Show. Rachel Weiss, a self-taught musician, sang *Someone Like You* by Adele while elegantly playing her ukulele. This was only her second time performing in front of a crowd.

"This is my third year performing at this event," Kelly said. "I love to play and get the word out. I want more people to get involved and feel comfortable to participate as well."

Students were offered the chance to display their talents on stage in a group or by flying solo. Phi Sigma Sigma spread the word to other students about the event through multiple avenues of media.

The organization spared no expense for detail for the show. They even had their own Snapchat filter specifically for the event.

"This was the first year this event wasn't co-sponsored," Phi Sigma Sigma Vice President, Teresa Funk said. "The fundraising chairpersons, Noelle McCullough and Olivia Incerto, put a lot



Students cheering on fellow students at talent show. Photo by Gerald Olvera

of hard work in advertising and organizing this year's Talent Show."

The Gottesman Room was decorated to a theme comparable of American Idol. Giant star balloons were affixed to other assorted balloons and arranged into large bundles. These Helium infused arrangements were accented with long gold streamers that covered the walls and tables were decorated in the sorority's and university's colors of blue and gold.

Eight separate acts would perform through the night with a brief intermission for food after the first four contestants shared their musical talents.

Students had the luxury of enjoying a vast array of

prepared dishes. The Phi Sigma Sigma sisters personally served various pastas, rosemary potatoes, macaroni, salad, and chicken parmigiana to each guest that lined up for food.

The Talent Show judges were a panel of three Greek Life members. Jessica Paliswiat, a Phi Sigma Sigma alumni, Rinn Stuart, a sister of Alpha Lambda Sigma, and Irwin Narayan, President of Delta Kappa Epsilon, judged each act on impressiveness, creativity, originality, and overall 'wow' factor.

Comedy skit performed by Courtney Johnson had the crowd rolling with laughter. She had an aggressively funny approach, which no 'juicy' detail was

left out as she explained a Tinder date gone crazy.

However, the Gottesman Room went silent when Magen Wolmart serenaded guests with her rendition of *Gravity* by Sara Barielles. Everyone focused their attention to center stage as her voice covered the entire room. She would be crowned the winner by the judges at the end of show.

"This is a classic annual event," President of Phi Sigma Sigma, Allie Rogers said. "This talent show has been going on for many years, but we had great turnout this year with students and Greek members. A lot of organizations put on these events, but we were fortunate enough tonight to have the support, which will

give us momentum for next year's talent show."

"This is a classic annual event. This talent show has been going on for many years, but we had great turnout this year with students and Greek members."

Allie Rogers,
President
Phi Sigma Sigma

Culturefest Brings Diversity to Pace

ADIBA SIKDER
Feature Editor

Pace students celebrated and learned about different cultures during Culturefest at the Kessel Student Center on November 16.

Culturefest is a part of Pace's annual International Education week, which was created in order to educate students about the study abroad opportunities, different cultures, and about the International Buddies program.

"The International Buddies program was made to make international students more comfortable entering Pace," said Garfield Benjamin, an International Student Advisor. "Coming to a new country and a new school can be very scary."

Many students at the event were encouraged to be a buddy and they were asked to recall how scary their first time at Pace was

"The International Buddies program was made to make international students more comfortable entering Pace. Coming to a new country and a new school can be very scary."

Garfield Benjamin,
Pace University
International
Student Advisor

and how much scarier it must be for students coming to a new country for the first time to study.

Several international students recalled their first time coming to Pace and how the international buddies program made them feel more comfortable.

"I came from China six months ago. I have a buddy who helped show me where my classes are," said Long Yuan Chu, a junior and international student. "Everyone is very friendly and always says hello when I see them. It's nice."

Other international students that weren't a part of the international buddies program believe that faculty members played a huge part in making Pace their home.

"The first time I came here I was so nervous. I didn't know what to do or where to go, I was so lost," said Harshini Rajkumar, sophomore and international student. "John Reinhardt really helped me and directed me on where everything is. I learned that it's so important to ask for help even if they sound like stupid questions when I'm nervous."

During the event, there were several sections set up for students to participate in, including a food station, a study-abroad informational booth, an origami station, and a language station.

The most popular section during the event was the language station. Students were taught how to say hello and write their names in different languages by international



Culturefest booths. Photo by Adiba Sikder

students.

"I love learning about new cultures. Pace is so diverse but we don't have enough cultural activities like this in my opinion," said TJ Combs, a senior. "I joined OLAS for a little bit but it had very stereotypical events,"

Once students mastered

saying hello and writing their names out, they were taught common sentences such as "how are you" and "I'm sorry."

Students at the language station spent most of their time socializing with the international students after they were done with the exercise and were more

interested in learning jokes in a different language and about their countries.

"Events like this really help bring students of different cultures together. It's so important for college students to be exposed to diversity and soak in something different from themselves," said Benjamin.

Bus To Downtown White Plains Would Be Helpful to Students

JOSIAH DARNELL
Opinion Editor

Almost every college campus you can think of has a transportation system that takes students to the closest city, if the campus isn't in the city already. The reason for that is so students have access to resources that they normally wouldn't have access to. Resources like a Walmart, a mall, some eateries, a movie theater, and most importantly a bus station.

Each and every last one of these resources has a huge impact on a student's college experience and that's why colleges make sure to have these things within a student's reach.

In Pleasantville, there is no Walmart, bus station, and major restaurants that people are familiar with; however, they are all in White Plains. White Plains is a twenty-minute drive from the campus and that's the problem because what are students supposed to do if they have no car? They could take the Metro North, but then you'll have to worry about paying a fare.

This is where that transportation system comes into play. There is already a transportation system established at Pace, the problem lies within the destinations the buses go. Those destinations include Memorial Plaza, where the Metro North can be taken, the New York City campus,

and the White Plains Law School campus.

Even though the Law School is in White Plains it is not in Downtown White Plains and that is where all the student essentials are. It is also about a fifteen to twenty-minute walk. If students barely want to take a five-minute walk to class fifteen to twenty minutes is out of the question.

If Pace University knows that White Plains is a town that will draw students to it, and I'm sure they do, why not make it a destination for the buses? It'll be so much more convenient for students.

The bus station will make trips back and forth from home easier, Walmart will supply students with cheap dorm and personal items, the eateries there give students more variety than On's and Domino's, and overall they'll have a lot more available to them.

A city's presence is what college students need, especially those who come from rural and suburban areas. It is what helps students become culturally diverse and open minded about the world that's around them.

The minute students start getting the opportunity to experience White Plains more and more, without worrying about getting there, I'm sure they'll start to like the school more and more and that has the potential to change the culture of the school alone.

Pace Should Consider Day Care On Campus

JOSIAH DARNELL
Opinion Editor

Enrollment in college comes at no age limit. You can enroll whenever you feel financially and mentally fit. With that, you have the students who come into college either right after high school or a couple of years after high school. Then you have students who have already decided to start their lives and want to pursue a degree to get them over the top. Either way, any student coming into college can have a whole other life. That life may include children.

As much of a blessing children are, their lives heavily impact the decisions made by their parents. Any student can have children and because of that, schedules might be limited to the amount of time they have between work, school, and home. That could lead to the possibility of the college process becoming longer. One thing that would make things easier for students with children would be to have a day care center on campus.

There are many students who are attending Pace that have children at home and some have children on the way. Without having a day care center present, it complicates things. Payment and scheduling for a babysitter

comes into play. Students would need to make sure the babysitter is available for the time they have classes. If things go wrong, either with them or the babysitter; both parties need to be reached with ease. If there is a day care center, all the student has to do is check in with their child or children from time to time to make sure things are okay.

Having a day care center on campuses is nothing new. In fact, there are high schools with day care centers in them and I'm sure there is an abundant amount with colleges that do too. It's convenient and it makes sense. It'll make that aspect of life easier for students.

On top of that, there are students who are education majors and plan to work with children in some fashion in the future. This could allow them to get hands on experience that they need and could serve as a confirmation as to if that is truly the profession they want to pursue. That'll also open up job opportunities as well and allow Pace student to continue to broaden their horizons.

If Pace wants to be that school who gives their students the advantage over their competition, then building a day care center should be on the list of things to help them do that.

Minority Report

Continued from page 1
focused more on the education side, but the other times it was [focused] on jobs."

For student Deija Williams, Minority Report could've benefited from some changes.

"I would've liked to hear about people of color and how they feel when they're applying for a job," says Williams. "[Also] about some fears they have [out in the world]."

Hispanic and Latino unemployment rates are at a record low for the past decade, at 4.7 percent down from 12.7 percent in 2010, according to the U.S. Bureau of Labor.

Other than statistics, an activity where groups had to define words such as resilient, all of which were supposed to represent attributes of minorities in America, filled the time following the presentation.

As for the focus of

Minority Report going forward, the event could lean more toward workplace-related discussions, according to OLAS members.

"For next year we could do a poll and see [what] the students want Minority Report to be based on," says Cordova. "Maybe it could be [focused] on the workplace next year, maybe a different topic for next year."

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Dancing: Activity or Sport?

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ers and basketball players are practicing, we are too and it takes up a lot of time.”

Bowie says those who do not consider dancing a sport have been given an inaccurate description of the challenges of dancing.

“No one has really told me dancing was not a sport, but I’ve heard people say it around me and it annoys me because dancing is exhausting,” Bowie said. “We do

close to two minutes in a routine and it is draining. Those two minutes feel like an eternity during a performance. People don’t realize how long every minute is in a dance.”

Torio shared a similar point of view.

“People don’t consider it a sport because I think when people picture a sport, they see the basic athletics like football, basketball, lacrosse, and I think they think danc-

ing does not require nearly as much effort,” she said. “It requires a lot of memorization for the choreography, stamina, time, practice and technique. So, there’s a lot that goes into it.”

While Bowie believes athletics does not show enough appreciation for the team due to what she views as a lack of scholarships given relative to other teams, she has noticed the Pace Community is noticing



Dancers on Pace’s Dance team believe it’s incorrect to not consider dancing a sport. Photo Courtesy of Pace U Athletics.

dance more now than when she was a freshman.

“When we do hip-hop routines, the crowd loves it,” she said. “They seem

to like us now. We really have improved a lot and the dynamic of the team itself has changed significantly since my freshman year.”

Wali Lundy

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go to the Super Bowl, retire and run off to the sunset, but that’s not the case for most players... It’s a tough league, but I’m just happy with the experience.”

Being out of the league allowed Lundy to focus more on his other passion: Creating music.

“I think it’s something inside that the heart desires,” Lundy said about his passion for music. “I always had a passion for listening to music, recording the top songs on the radio and trying to mimic those artists, I think it was just something I liked to do. I feel like I’m a music artist at heart, it’s just a part of who I am.”

“It was an outlet for me to write a lot of my emotions and feelings, and putting them down on paper and being able to recite them,” Lundy said.

There is a common saying in the world of sports and art that, “athletes want to be musicians and musicians want to be athletes.”

Lundy believes no one should have to pick one or the other.

“You don’t have to be boxed in with one passion, you can do more,” he said. “I pray that I toe the line of being both athlete and musician. I’m not just trying to be just one because I love both.”

Lundy has returned to football, but now as a coach.

“I came back for the love of the game,” he said. “I had been out for so long that I was starting to get that itch to be around the game and the locker room again, and give what I learned from my coaches throughout my career and give it back to the players now.”

With Lundy as running backs coach, the Setters had one of their best rushing seasons in the program’s history in 2017 and running back Jhalen Bien-Aime racked up nearly 1200 all-purpose yards. Lundy believes the future is bright for Pace’s rushing attack in the years to come.

“I think if they go through the off-season and build from what they did last year, our backfield can be very good and one of the best in the league,” he said.

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Wali Lundy: Coach, Former NFL Player and Musician

KWADAR RAY
Sports Editor

It was opening day of the 2006 NFL season and Pace University's running backs coach, Wali Lundy, got to see his favorite NFL team, the Philadelphia Eagles, play the Houston Texans at Reliant Stadium.

The South Jersey native watched in awe on the sideline, seeing his favorite players trot onto the field.

However, Lundy could not stand shell-shocked, as he had a job to do. That job was to beat his beloved childhood team in the first game of his career as the starting running back for the Texans.

"Going out there and playing against Donovan McNabb, Brian Dawkins, Jeremiah Trotter, and guys I grew up watching was crazy," Lundy said. "It seemed surreal being on the field with those guys after watching them play for so long."

Lundy and the Texans lost the game, but that one loss pale in comparison with the losses Lundy suffered earlier in his life.

By the time Lundy was nine, both his parents had died. He, along with his five

siblings, were then raised by their grandmother.

"My grandmother was a very strong woman," Lundy said. "She was a very godly woman, so she raised us in the church. When I was a kid I hated going everyday. Now looking back, I realize how good it was for me to keep me out of trouble and keep my mind focused."

It was his oldest brother, Shaheed, who pushed Lundy and his other siblings to play sports.

"My oldest brother was really the motivation for all us playing," Lundy said. "He always pushed us to play sports. He really put the motivation in us to be good and be the best we can be."

Lundy transferred from his small high school in Florence, N.J., to Holy Cross High School to better his chances of making it into a Division I school.

Lundy then committed to the University of Virginia (UVA) as a running back, which presented much more competition than New Jersey high school football.

"You get to camp and it's not like high school," Lundy said. "Coming from being one of the biggest guys on the team to a little guy,

you realize this is a different world."

After Lundy's understanding of the difficulties of competing in college football, he stepped up his play. In the last game of his freshman year, Lundy ran all over West Virginia in the 2002 Continental Tire Bowl.

With four touchdowns and 203 all-purpose yards, Lundy was named MVP of the game.

"I made it on the Sports Illustrated cover and just to have my picture there with the other bowl players was really cool," Lundy remembered.

With nearly 4500 total yards during his tenure at UVA, Lundy entered the 2006 NFL Draft with hopes of being an early round pick. However, with injuries shortening his senior year, his draft stock plummeted. He was selected in the sixth round by the Houston Texans.

"It was just a blessing to get drafted," Lundy said. "Of course I think I should've been drafted higher, but the chips fell where they fell."

Being a sixth round pick put Lundy on the roster bubble, meaning he could be released at any time. However,

he impressed head coach Gary Kubiak and made the team.

"It was beautiful," Lundy remembered. "You go camp and it's a hundred guys fighting for their livelihoods, and just to get through that was one of the hardest things I ever done. It's just very satisfying to be able to accomplish your childhood dream."

Lundy was named starter to open the season. He played in 14 games and accumulated 750 total yards.

Two games that stood out that season to Lundy were against the Jaguars, in which he scored his first NFL touchdown and against the Titans, where he had his first 100 yard rushing game.

"Just to do that in the NFL against other pros is a big accomplishment," he said.

NFL does not just stand for National Football League; it also stands for "not for long." In the NFL, there is no job security. Your time can be up at any time and if you suffer a lingering injury, then your chance of being cut is heightened.

After high expectations, Lundy was injured in the last preseason game of his second season. The Texans



Running Backs Coach Wali Lundy still holds records in college football. Photo Courtesy of Pace U Athletics.

released him and officially put an end to his playing career. Lundy still finds it difficult to discuss.

"It's what have you done for me lately' in the NFL, and I was out for a year and a half, and tried to come back but it just wasn't the same," Lundy said. "It still kind of bothers me to this day, but it is what it is."

"It was tough when you dream about a career as a professional athlete and it comes true, but it just don't hold up to what your expectations of what it should've been," Lundy said. "Everybody wants to

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Dancing: Activity or Sport?

KWADAR RAY
Sports Editor

There are a plethora of debates in the world of sports: LeBron versus Jordan, Brady versus Manning, Bonds versus Ruth. The list never ends.

However, a debate that does not gain much traction, yet nonetheless worthy, is whether or not dancing is

a sport.

Some may be quick to discount it and just consider it an activity or an art. However, the physical toll and sacrifices needed for dancing are more than some may know.

"I remember when I first joined the team freshman year and we had a diet diary," said junior Infiniti Bowie, a member of Pace's dance

team. "Fitness is so important and the workouts are strenuous. Crunches, squats, lunges... it's all intense."

Freshman Carmen Sofia Torio believes the intricacies of dancing is more complicated than most know.

"I don't think people understand how complicated dance is," said Torio, who is a member of the dance team. "Even when I tried out

and got into it, I thought we were just going to perform hip-hop routines, but once I got on the team I realized it was much more technique that we needed to practice and know. So it takes a lot of training and practice, a lot more than I expected."

The Dance team practices twice a week, two hours each session. If you account for the three hours

during football games and the two hours for women's and men's basketball games, dancers are dedicating 10 hours out of their week to their craft, not including training they do on their own time.

"Dance requires a lot of practice and training to build up our stamina," Torio said. "Just like football play-

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