

## Duking it Out

By Abby Almodovar

The MVNU Games have a challenge for every competitor—students begin by mustering brute strength to avoid splashing down in defeat at the fierce tug of war battle, and they end the week dressed for a glamorous red carpet to show off their creative masterpieces. The more hands-on students can design boats to race across the reflection pond, while the quick thinkers can compete in game show style trivia. From September 24-27, all of campus battled in teams each night for the glory of triumphing in the games.

This was Resident Director Trent Smith's first year witnessing these competitions, and he said, "Getting to see different residential areas coming together to duke it out and enjoy that community was a lot of fun for me." He explained that participation for the events steadily increased throughout the week, with positive involvement from both freshmen and upperclassmen.

The freshmen were certainly involved, as the ladies in Pioneer took the ultimate victory over other residential areas. In addition to residents, there was another group who made their presence known in this year's games—the commuters.

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Judah Keith, a senior communications student and commuter, won several awards for his short film "Perception" at the Rezzies, the final event of the week. He reflected, "The Rezzies were super fun. I'm super happy I attended, and I would've regretted it had I not put my film in and had I not attended my last year."

For future games, both Keith and Smith propose increased communication with details to let commuters know that they can participate and how to do so. Encouraging their involvement may help continue the precedent and competitive spirit that was set by students this year.



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# BOXING OUT THE COMPETITION

PIONEER HALL  
crowned champions of  
2024 MVNU Games



THE  
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Also in This Issue:  
Starting Point 5k Run  
Women's Volleyball



## 5K and Family Glow Night

*Bringing the light of Christ and community to campus*

By: Zoey Hover

The MVNU campus was set aglow as students and local families sporting an array of light-up gear raced their way to a neon finish line at the 5K and Family Glow Night event on Saturday. With a variety of treats and outdoor games accompanying the 5K, it was an evening of fun and fellowship for those who participated.

However, it was also an evening with a purpose. The 5K and Family Glow Night, hosted by local organization Starting Point Pregnancy and Family Resource Center and campus radio station WNZR The Lifeline, was a charity event funding Starting Point's mission to share God's love with those facing unexpected pregnancies and assisting in all aspects of family development through free medical, educational, and material resources and services.

Ethan Throop, a student participant at the 5K, said he was happy to know that he was benefiting Starting Point and the families in the local community just by having fun and running. He also appreciated the overall community and service connections the event provided by being on campus. "A lot of times, college campuses feel disconnected and cut off; but when people come in, there's a lot of really fun collaboration that can happen there, and the students can step into the community. It just makes outreach that much easier."

This student connection was no accident, according to Starting Point's Development Director, Jess Kirby. In fact, it was Starting Point and WNZR's main motivation behind hosting the community event on campus. Kirby stated, "Our heart is to be able to grow our relationship with the students on campus for both the reasons that one day they may need our services and because they are the next generation of leaders in this ministry."

"It seemed like the perfect thing we could do, that we could connect with this event, bring them [Starting Point] to campus, and just make all of this possible," said WNZR Station Manager Marcy Rinehart, expressing her hope that the 5K would generate student interest in connecting with the pregnancy center and their ministry in the community.



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**What is the name of the pastor who spoke in chapel for Fall Revival?**

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## On the Court Together

By: Sam Henthorn

It's no secret that the community of MVNU is very important for a lot of people. Students meet their lifelong friends here, thanks to how connected MVNU strives to make its campus. Nowhere is that more true than the MVNU women's volleyball team. These ladies put hard work into each game they play.

Lysi Snouffer, a senior on the team, expressed the point the team is at in this season, saying, "We're going to get to see a lot of great competition; it's just been a blast to play together and to work our hardest to get some wins, and I'm really looking forward to continuing our second round of conference play this Wednesday against Bethel."

Not only is the drive this season visible for each player, but these women also emphasize the importance of continuing to play the season great with newcomers. Abbey Niemesh, also a senior, explained, "We have some new people on the team—transfers and freshmen—and I feel like they've really just bought into our culture, and they've added a lot of great things to our team."

MVNU's women's volleyball team has one big strength, and that is playing the game as a whole and understanding the importance of each player on the team. Niemesh added, "The team mindset means pretty much everything because volleyball is such a team sport."

I mean, there's three main skills: passing, setting and hitting, and we have different people on the team that play different roles; so working as a team and with that team mindset, it leads to success, and I think it's super important."



With each member playing an important role on the team, they became tight-knit with each other. Each member's success is a success for the team. Snouffer revealed an important mantra that the women's team holds, adding, "We have a saying that 'her success is my success;' and just being there to celebrate your teammates, whether that's in practice or in games. Just continuing to push one another to do our best for the Lord but recognizing that we're all on the same team." The women's team makes it very clear that no part is small in the team. Each team member can lead them to a victory no matter who scores.

