Students Take Action Against New Jersey Water Pollution

ALLISON LACASKEY

The beautiful Jersey Shore. The beaches and ocean, right in our own backyard. Did you know that 75 percent of New Jersey waterways are too polluted for swimming or fishing? These are waterways that eventually drain out into our ocean.

Since I was four years old, I’ve lived five blocks from the Belmar Beach, so the ocean is my backyard. Beach closings and litter bother me, so I want to do something about it,” said Mary Grace Murphy, member of the Monmouth University Chapter of the New Jersey Community Water Watch.

According to Murphy, this water pollution is caused by overdevelopment, aging infrastructure (old, neglected, underground pipes), and litter. Murphy says that if a beach is closed, the pollution is that people just aren’t aware.

That’s where Water Watch comes in. It is a statewide program based on college campuses whose cause is to clean up and improve New Jersey’s waterways.

In its second full year here at Monmouth, Monmouth’s Water Watch includes cleanups, stream monitoring and water testing, and education. In the past two years, Monmouth’s Water Watch members have cleaned litter from local beaches, and organized hurricane relief trips to the Gulf Coast. Members have also educated students grades K-12 in areas such as Neptune, Newark, and Trenton.

This year, the club has set out to teach 300 schoolchildren about protecting New Jersey’s waterways.

“Little kids are so impressionable. You go in there with a lesson and they get so excited about it,” said Terri Sarninski, member Nicki Sarninski said. This semester, one of the club’s projects is a Rain Garden, which will be constructed near Whale Pond Brook. Rainwater washes oil and other pollutants from cars in the parking lot into the water. The parking lot has eliminated plants that help filter those pollutants out of the water before they reach the brook. The Rain Garden will help this issue.

It will consist of two lime bean shaped gardens, deeper than a typical garden. Native plants will fill the gardens and help filter the storm water before the pollutants get into the brook. Whale Pond Brook leads into Lake Takanasee, which eventually leads into the ocean. The Rain Garden will help reduce the amount of pollutants going into our water.

Construction of the Rain Garden will begin in March or April, and volunteers are needed.

“Our goal is to get Rain Gardens cropping up everywhere,” said Maria Niran, Rain Garden project leader. Other events being held by Water Watch this semester include the Lake Takanasee and Piers Village cleanup and environmental education lessons at St. Rose High School in Belmar. For more information on how you can help, and a calendar of scheduled events, contact Katie Feehey, campus coordinator at (814) 450-5237.

“Shutting off lights when you leave a room and putting trash in its place is a big step in keeping our environment clean. Water Watch is a way to “have fun and know you’re doing something really important,” said Professor John Tedemann.

Water Watch meetings are held each Wednesday at 2:30 p.m. in the Rebecca Stafford Student Center, SC 202B.

President Gaffney Speaks Out About Climate Change

JACQUELINE KOLOSKI

During November 27-30, 2007, Monmouth University President Paul Gaffney II spoke at a conference in Hawaii regarding climate change.

“In Hawaii, they have been taking measurements of the top of one of the biggest mountains there for the past 50 years of carbon dioxide in the atmosphere,” said President Gaffney. He added that there has been a rise in this greenhouse gas due to human activities collecting the data.

The conference, he said, celebrated their data findings. “They brought climate, atmospheric and oceanic scientists to talk about carbon dioxide in the atmosphere and its potential effect on climate,” said President Gaffney. He was selected to speak due to his involved with the green movement.

President Gaffney has been studying oceanography and meteorology since his days in graduate school. However, the topic has been the subject of conversation since the mid 1980s. “I used to be in the business when I was still in the navy giving away federal money to universities for the navy,” he said. “Some of the money we gave away was to people who thought they had ideas about determining if climate change was happening or not.”

President Gaffney believes that climate change will occur regardless of man or around not. “On average, every 100,000 years for various reasons the world gets warmer and the world gets colder,” he said. The climate and the carbon dioxide in the atmosphere have been rising for thousands of years, he added. “Man has been around with the capabilities of putting things into the atmosphere for about two to three thousand years.”

The question is up for debate in whether or not man is making this problem worse and if it is possible to correct. “My opinion is that man is probably making it worse and man can probably make it better,” he said. “I’m not sure if we can completely reverse it. I think bigger things are going on.”

Taking carbon dioxide out of the atmosphere is a good start as it improves the air quality. “It may slow down what is going on,” he added. “Technology needs to continue to mature, we need to invest in technology,” he explained. “Our knowledge is not sufficient yet.”

He thinks that taking such steps as measuring the Earth as well as the ocean can help answer some questions. “We need to take other kinds of environmental measurements to see if we are doing it really working,” President Gaffney said.

He suggested measuring the ocean as opposed to the air because the ocean changes slowly while the air changes daily.

President Gaffney believes that some nations will be able to withstand the effects of climate change in the future. “We have a powerful, stable nation where we can make changes and we can adapt if the world gets warmer or the sea level gets higher,” he said. “[However] the poorer countries in other parts of the world can’t.”

He said that he is worried of the instability that could result if the climate change situation worsens. President Gaffney explained that when people think of global warming they think of only the climate increasing. However, some places around the world will experience different effects. Some nations will get more rain, will be colder, hotter, experience more storms, etc. “It’s different in every part of the world because of geography,” he said. “It could be just the opposite.”

New Cellular Phone Law to be Effective March

JACQUELINE KOLOSKI

Beginning March 1, 2008, New Jersey motorists will be ticketed for using cellular phones while operating a vehicle, according to a new law signed by Governor Jon Corzine.

This new law passed this past November and amended the current law N.J.S.A. 39:4-93, will be considered a primary offense, as noted in the February 2008 Traffic Bulletin from the New Jersey Division of Highway Traffic Safety.

Ken Walker, Deputy Chief of the Monmouth University Police Department, said, “This change would authorize law enforcement officers to stop and ticket motorists whenever they are observed unlawfully using a handheld wireless telephone.” According to the February 2008 Traffic bulletin from the New Jersey Division of Highway Traffic Safety, the motorist will receive a ticket between $100 and $250, but no points will be put on his or her license.

When asked the reason why the new law is necessary regarding cellular phones was amended, Walker said that accidents as a result of cell phone use “was a contributing factor.” Walker hopes that it will reduce the amount of car accidents that are caused due to cellular phones.
MACDONALD, C. 2008. SIFE Sets Sights on Local Community

On Wednesday, many people interested in history here at Monmouth, gathered in Wilson Auditorium for the beginning of forth of a film festival based around famous revolutions in history.

“The four films not only treat the topic of revolution, but the directors of the films revolutionaries as well,” says Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs, Thomas Pearson. The film being shown on Wednesday was the movie was Polished Director, Andrzej Wajda’s film Danton. Wajda spent his life as a speaker against political oppression, and shows this with his epic direction in the movie.

The movie takes place in France in 1794, after the French Revolution, and is accurately portrays the struggle between the two iconic figures known as Maximilien de Robespierre and Georges Danton. It maps out the two characters’ struggle for freedom, as they feel it is necessary for the people of France.

The film focuses on Robespierre in the scene that his ideas against Danton lead to his weakening and downfall. On the other hand, the view of Danton is also of the terms of his last few acts as a leader of a revolution up until his beheading and how his ideas act against the revolution. The movie shows us the major tenets of a revolution, and the wit and courage it takes for a leader of a revolution to be successful. It focuses on the Kings of Terror, and how its effects still play a role in France even today.

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Catholic Center hosts Valentine’s Day Party

On Thursday, February 14th, Valentine’s Day, the Catholic Center hosted its annual Valentine’s Day party for all of the center’s members and their guests to attend. “The Catholic Center’s Valentine’s Day party should be the best, since all of their party’s rock,” Jenn Mastrangelo, a freshman, History and Political Science major stated as the center’s girls were preparing the food for the party to begin.

The guests enjoyed a warm cooked meal around the center’s kitchen table, and were treated a long, delicious and very social meal together, full of exciting conversation and laughter.

Ashley Hoppe and Gabby Furmato cooked over a hot stove to make a delicious meal consisting of salad, pasta, chicken and dessert. The house was full of some yummy Valentine’s treats for their fellow members and themselves to feast on.

“The meal was awesome; it was way better than anything served on MU’s campus,” Sean Quinn, a senior, History, Political Science and Secondary Education major stated. “I love sharing meals with my friends at the center. The Catholic Center’s members are all some of the closest friends that I have here at Monmouth University,” Sarah Clemency, a Theatre and Music Education major stated.

After the girls had finished their share of the food, they enjoyed some delicious Valentine’s desserts. “The desserts were the best,” Anna Clemency, a senior, Theatre major declared.

The guests also took a Valentine’s Day quiz. Ashley won the tiebreaker and the game.”

“Every time that we have a Saints quiz, I’ve won! I rule!” Ashley pronounced after she was the winner of the quiz, against all who played.

Ashley won a $25 gift certificate to Friday’s, and Ashley promised the members that she would take them out and treat them all to a drink, in her honor!

“The girls took many pictures to capture the great moments at the party. “This Valentine’s Day party was one of the best that I’ve been to. I love all my friends at the center; they are my entire Valentine’s,” Jenn stated.

“I had a great time tonight! I always have fun at the center, stated Sarah. “I love being a member. I am so overjoyed whenever I am here.”

Everyone was so happy throughout the entire party; it was a success. “This Valentine’s Day party was such a great one. It was only spent with friends, but they are some of my best friends, and I am so happy to have spent the night with them,” Anna stated.

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Pep Band Gets Involved

The Monmouth University Pep Band performed at the Men’s basketball game on January 26 in Boylan Gym.

At first glance the Monmouth University Pep Band stands out as a group with a lot of enthusiasm. The band has played at countless football and basketball games and actually traveled to Ohio, Florida and Philadelphia when the Monmouth Basketball team won.

The Monmouth University Pep Band is made up of all volunteers and provide school spirit and enthusiasm for the football team, as well as the Men’s and Women’s Basketball teams.

When asking a current member of pep band why do you enjoy it so much the response was quick, “...because it’s a lot of fun, you just get to hang out and be around your friends.”

Although the Pep Band is rather small they have created strong friendships. Recently the band purchased five new Pearl Competitor Series marching drums and they are starting a “Pep Line” for anyone who is interested in drumming.

The Pep Band also has a brass and woodwinds section. Volunteers audition and are interviewed in a relaxed atmosphere. Tryouts and interviews are held at various points in the summer and spring, and at any weekly rehearsal session.

There are countless reasons to join Pep Band from receiving attendance awards to making great friendships. Unlike some other college bands, MU’s Pep Band stays up to date with current music and is frequently heard playing “Jump on It” at the games.

Last semester they played for the President’s Brunch and this semester plan to “open” for a reggae concert at the Student Center featuring the band, Verdict, march in the South Amboy St. Patrick’s Day Parade and play during the Relay for Life event in Long Branch.

With all of the upcoming events that the band participates in, Pep Band is a major opportunity which everyone should look into.

With more than a decade of experience, the Monmouth University Pep Band is another extracurricular program offered on campus.
GET INVOLVED IN CAMPUS ACTIVITIES!!

732-571-3586 • 2nd Floor, Rebecca Stafford Student Center • activities@monmouth.edu

Campus Events This Week

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 20
- Break the Cycle, Be the Change • 10:00 AM • Wilson Auditorium
- Info on Becoming a First Year Peer Advisor • 2:30 PM • Carol Afflitto Conf.
- Time Management • 2:30 PM • Bey Hall 223
- SGA Auction • 2:30 PM • Anacon Hall
- Film - Hands of God • 7:00 PM • Wilson Auditorium
- Exercise - Legs • 7:00 PM • Fitness Center

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 21
- Workshop - Leading Through Diversity • 2:00 PM • Afflitto Conf. Room
- Orientation Leader Applications Due • 5:00 PM • Student Activities

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 22
- If the World is Flat . . . • 6:00 PM • Pollak Theatre
- Film: State of Fear • 7:00 PM • Pollak Theatre

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 23
- Great Black in Wax Museum Trip • Departs 9:00 AM • From Student Center
- Women’s Basketball vs. Long Island • 3:00 PM • Boylan Gymnasium
- Men’s Basketball vs. Long Island • 7:00 PM • Boylan Gymnasium

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 24
- NO EVENTS SCHEDULED

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 25
- Exercise: Abdominal and Low Back • 8:00 AM • Fitness Center
- Beauty and the Greek • 10:00 PM • Pollak Theatre

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 26
- Classroom Karaoke • 7:30 PM • Pollak Theatre
- Libbie Schrader - Singer /Songwriter • 9:00 PM • The Underground
- Relay for Life Kickoff Party • 6:00 PM • Anacon Hall

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 27
- Test Taking Strategies Part 2 • 2:30 PM • Bey Hall 223
- Food for the Soul • 2:30 PM • Young Auditorium
- Exercise: Abdominal and Low Back • 7:00 PM • Fitness Center
- Guitar Hero • 8:00 PM (tentative) • The Underground
- Screaming Orphans • 9:00 PM • Pollak Theatre

To have your campus-wide events included, send an email to activities@monmouth.edu. We do not list club or program meeting times in this schedule.
Tuesday February 26th
Pollak Theatre
Doors Open at 7:00 pm
Show Starts at 7:30 pm

Come check out your fellow students karaoke with your favorite Monmouth faculty and staff!!!!
Enjoy the show while these great duets sing your favorite karaoke hits!!

TICKETS
$5 BEFORE THE SHOW
$7 AT THE DOOR

If you are interested in participating in this year's show please contact Brandon at s0568173@monmouth.edu

Do you feel dog-gone awful?
See us about your Wisdom teeth or Jaw Pain!

Dr. John Frattellone
Oral & Maxillofacial Surgery
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Located in Lincroft, NJ
The Outlook is currently looking to fill associate and assistant editorial positions. If you are interested, please attend Monday general meetings at 8 p.m. for additional information.

Interested in writing, editing, photography or layout & design? Join The Outlook! General meetings are Mondays at 8 p.m. in The Plangere Center Room 260.

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A Letter from President Gaffney

Dear Students:

I want to talk to you very briefly about campus safety, as I did last year. In the last few days there have been four tragic shooting incidents on campuses; two on college campuses. The early reports indicate lone actions by severely troubled individuals.

Monmouth University re-doubled its efforts in security and safety after the Virginia Tech incident. We increased investments in campus security, hired additional security personnel, further upgraded the communications alert system that we have had in place for over two years, heightened training for our full-time commissioned police force, conducted mental health awareness training for faculty and staff, and appealed to you.

Appealed to you? Yes. We asked every student (and employee) to be aware of his/her surroundings, to watch out for each other, and to get help for a classmate, teammate, roommate, or friend when he/she seemed troubled. The University will again scrutinize its security procedures. I ask you, again, to watch out for each other and to take care of each other.

Sincerely,

Paul Gaffney
P.S. Please share this note with your parents. I will share it with faculty, administrators, staff and on-campus contractors.

Mueller’s Sidewalks

There is something unique about the sidewalks of Pt. Pleasant Beach. George Mueller’s sidewalks—an individuality that resurrects my childhood with every footstep I apply to this beautiful weathered bridge of cement which runs (rung by rung) up and down the streets of town.

On certain streets, the sidewalk might climb up over the roots of a powerful tree, forcing the traveler to ascend to new heights upon the shattered plates, before descend back to the mortality of earth, the path continuing under branches which capture the shades of springs, the secret symphonies of June bugs, autumn of Indian summers, and cold grey ocean winters. On certain streets, the sidewalks are worn like river stones, slumbering lost in meditations concerning the lore impressed upon its nature.

It is through this interaction, between traveler and sidewalk, that a precious dialogue is formed. It is my hope that these sidewalks, Mueller’s sidewalks, our sidewalks, will be preserved in their individuality, their personality, and allowed to remain a sanctuary of memory and contemplation.

ATTENTION SENIORS and GRADUATE STUDENTS - If you think you will finish in May, apply NOW for graduation!

March 7, 2008: LAST day to submit an e-FORM ‘Application for Graduation’ and graduate in May.

April 4, 2008: LAST day to submit e-FORMs for ‘Substitution’ or ‘Waiver’ and graduate in May.

APPLICATIONS, SUBSTITUTIONS or WAIVERS RECEIVED AFTER THE DEADLINE DATES WILL NOT BE PROCESSED, THEY WILL BE HELD UNTIL JUNE 2008.

Sincerely,
The Office of Registration and Records
1 February 2008

MICHAEL HERBERT
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

Super Tuesday Solved Nothing in the Democratic Party

Super Tuesday was the closest the United States has come to picking a notional primary with a total of forty two states (and American Samoa) holding primaries or caucuses. It was touted as the day when nominations were made. We got that, at least on the Republican side, now Sen. John McCain has a strong lead, but the race is now more muddled than ever. Depending what website you visit either Barack Obama or Hillary Clinton has the lead in delegates using the proportional style allocation the Democratic National Committee has decided upon.

On the Democratic side there were twenty two states up for grabs. Sen. Obama won more states overall (Obama 13, Clinton 8 New Mexico is still outstanding), while Sen. Clinton won the states with the most delegates up for grabs (NE, NY, MA and CA). If the Democrats had a winner take all contest like the Republicans, it is the case that the race could have been decided.

That is not the case however; the Democrats have a proportional contest where the delegates are given by congressional district. With that approach the candidates are now closer than ever, with no clear front runner. Super Tuesday ensured that the Democratic Nomination would not be within anyone’s grasp in the near future. The contest will continue on throughout the coming months and even then we still might not have a clear winner.

The events of this past weekend, with Sen. Obama winning LA, NE, WA, and ME, pulled the candidates into a virtual tie. As we look forward Sen. Obama is favored in all of the contests on Tuesday, Washington DC, Maryland and Virginia. He will be riding high when the next big day of contests approach on March 4th, states include Pennsylvania and Texas and 444 delegates up for grabs. We could have a clear favorite by then, but with the rules the Democratic Party has in place, it is anyone’s guess. The process could come down to the conven- tion where the unpledged super delegates could very well select the party’s nominee. Then there is the issue with Michigan and Florida, where both states were penalized for holding their primar- ies too early and stripped of their delegates.

The Democrats are facing poten- tial disaster. If the primaries and caucuses can not yield a nom- inate before Super Tuesday, the nom- inate before Super Tuesday, then there is the issue with Michigan and Florida, where both states were penalized for holding their primaries too early and stripped of their delegates.

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Side 1: Iliterate Voting is Fruitless

**Krisztin Mikola**
SOPHIE'S POLITICAL SCIENCE CLUB

Life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness are the fundamental principles the United States was built upon. Availing itself of this full potential and making the best life for you and your family is the main priority of most Americans past and present. In order to obtain these goals one must instill trust and devotion to our government, fighting for the best system the country can have. In order to obtain these goals the government must instill trust and devotion in its citizens, and the citizens must fight for the best system the country can have.

American citizens are encouraged and expected to participate in the election process. It is becoming knowledgeable about the political issues that plague this great nation. In order to surpass the great accomplishments this nation has already made, citizens of the United States need to choose the best candidates possible to hold political office, especially the highest position in the land.

In November of 2008 we will face one of the most important elections America has seen, and simple participation is not enough. In recent times, there has been a re-initiating a literacy test for voters that has dominated both political and national conversations. This is total ignorance or right out de-nounced this ideal, without even considering the importance it may have to our nation’s present state. A voter literacy test would not impede on personal liberty but would instead help our nation to keep the country from a constantly digressing situation.

In recent years the American political system has seen scandal, injustice and treason. The government only pursue these issues after a political representative has committed a crime, and even after long investigations. Judicial action, the criminal may be pardoned. In order to avoid the expensive and long tribulations, we, the voters, need to take the first step. Insuring voter integrity is the first step to bettering America. This process can be started with a simple test gaining voter knowledgeable of the issues our nation faces, and the stand that candidates have taken. Going back to the intentions of our founding fathers we can discover that many of them feared our nation would be destroyed by the selfish and greater our country in government just for the sake of participating. I do not want to discourage people from being active in our political system, however, I wish to ascertain that the vote is a vote against the development of our great country.

The importance of guaranteeing the integrity of every voter, but the government can eliminate the possibility of impropriety in political system. A simple test showing voters ability to comprehend ballots, political issues, and candidates qualifications may help solve this problem. The literacy test will not inhibit the nation nor its vast freedoms, but instead create an ideal situation where voters can refrain from their political knowledge edge. The tests will eliminate voters who may not have the nation’s best interest in mind. Television, internet, and newspapers have been constantly bombarded with slogans calling for every citizen to get out and vote. I do disagree with this notion and encourage every politically educated person to participate. However I do not agree with the idea of voting just to vote. Voting for the sake of voting, while making no effort to learn about the candidates, is not how America is, in a crisis politically, internationally, and on our world stage. The US will not advance the nation, but worse, deter it from advancing further. Both the nation rests on our laurels and assume each political figure running for office has the best interest of the state. A_Function that the United States has to be Prime Minister for upcoming landslide election coming soon. This is why Vladimir Putin spelled out his desire to be Prime Minister for upcoming election. Putin was offered the prime minister position by Dmitry Medvedev – Putin’s protégé but shortly after the nomination of Medvedev to Prime Minister came true.

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KRISTEN MCMONAGLE
STUDY ABROAD
February 20, 2008

THIS WEEK OVERSEAS...

Imagine hopping on a plane, going to a country where no one speaks English, and having to find your way in the bitter cold dark snowy night. That was my weekend end in Stockholm, Sweden and it was the most amazing one of my life thus far. It was a spontaneous adventure filled with many amazing moments that made me realize if I can do this, I can do anything!

It was a late night when my new friend Cayce and I decided to book a weekend trip. We sat in the lobby of our dorm building and searched the internet for good deals on flights.

A round trip flight to Stockholm was surprisingly cheap, under $100, so after a few easy steps we had plane tickets to Sweden.

We took a late night flight on Thursday that took about two hours and was smooth the entire time. Both of us were terrified to fly, so it made for an interesting trip, but we landed safely!

An hour bus ride took us from Stockholm Vasteras Airport into the main bus and train terminal of Stockholm, where it was very late, very dark, very cold, and very empty.

After a bit of roaming and a round trip from London where Regents College is located.

That night Cayce and I found a hotel prepared to conquer Stockholm in the dark. That was my weekend in Sweden was especially cold, but after a bit of money translation we realized Stockholm was surprisingly cheap, under $100, so after a few easy steps to the hotel's sauna, and learned about Swedish fashion, and architectural masterpieces we were able to climb into a "sew-er" and see the effects of acid rain-water, explore a living rainforest, and look at huge Swedish Cat sculptures. (Shh!) It was a very unique experience.

The shining winter sun in Sweden is deceiving, because it looks mild outside, but it's actually cold, very cold, and very cold. The next day we put on even more layers of clothes and went to museums. First, we went to the Water Museum, Aquaria, where we were able to climb into a "sew-er" and see the effects of acid rain-water, explore a living rainforest, and look at huge Swedish Cat sculptures. (Shh!) It was a very unique experience.

The view of the beautiful Vasa Museum in Stockholm, 9 that night Cayce and I found a hotel prepared to conquer Stockholm in the dark. That was my weekend in Sweden was especially cold, but after a bit of money translation we realized Stockholm was surprisingly cheap, under $100, so after a few easy steps to the hotel's sauna, and learned about Swedish fashion, and architectural masterpieces we were able to climb into a "sew-er" and see the effects of acid rain-water, explore a living rainforest, and look at huge Swedish Cat sculptures. (Shh!) It was a very unique experience.

"Tagen" means train. Who wants to see the changing of the guards? (Shh!) The next day we put on even more layers of clothes and went to museums. First, we went to the Water Museum, Aquaria, where we were able to climb into a "sew-er" and see the effects of acid rain-water, explore a living rainforest, and look at huge Swedish Cat sculptures. (Shh!) It was a very unique experience. If you are considering studying abroad in any of the places that Monmouth offers, I totally recommend it. It will be the greatest experience of your life. Cheers!

Kristen McMonagle
Overseas Environment
Imagine hopping on a plane, going to a country where no one speaks English, and having to find your way in the bitter cold dark snowy night. That was my weekend end in Stockholm, Sweden and it was the most amazing one of my life thus far. It was a spontaneous adventure filled with many amazing moments that made me realize if I can do this, I can do anything!

It was a late night when my new friend Cayce and I decided to book a weekend trip. We sat in the lobby of our dorm building and searched the internet for good deals on flights.

A round trip flight to Stockholm was surprisingly cheap, under $100, so after a few easy steps we had plane tickets to Sweden.

We took a late night flight on Thursday that took about two hours and was smooth the entire time. Both of us were terrified to fly, so it made for an interesting trip, but we landed safely!

An hour bus ride took us from Stockholm Vasteras Airport into the main bus and train terminal of Stockholm, where it was very late, very dark, very cold, and very empty.

After a bit of roaming and a round trip from London where Regents College is located.

That night Cayce and I found a hotel prepared to conquer Stockholm in the dark. That was my weekend in Sweden was especially cold, but after a bit of money translation we realized Stockholm was surprisingly cheap, under $100, so after a few easy steps to the hotel's sauna, and learned about Swedish fashion, and architectural masterpieces we were able to climb into a "sew-er" and see the effects of acid rain-water, explore a living rainforest, and look at huge Swedish Cat sculptures. (Shh!) It was a very unique experience. If you are considering studying abroad in any of the places that Monmouth offers, I totally recommend it. It will be the greatest experience of your life. Cheers!

Kristen McMonagle
Overseas Environment
New Stars on Season 6 of Dancing with the Stars

Adam Corolla-Comedian
Christian De La Fuente-Latin Actor
Shannon Elizabeth-Actress
Steve Guttenberg-Actor
Marissa Jaret Winokur-Actress
Penn Jillette-Magician
Mario-Singer
Marlee Matlin-Actress
Pricilla Presley-Actress
Monica Seles-Tennis Actress
Jason Taylor-Football Star
Kristi Yamaguchi-Figure Skater

TAYLOR CORVINO
STAFF WRITER

When you thought there was no more room for another competition based reality show judging America's talent, think again. MTV has partnered with American Idol judge and Grammy award winning producer Randy Jackson to create Randy Jackson Presents America's Best Dance Crew. MTV is searching for the one crew to crown America's Best Dance Crew and will bestow the $100,000 cash prize.

The 12 original crews perform weekly in front of a live studio audience and work to impress a panel of expert judges. The judges include ex-NSYNC member JC Chasez, choreographer Shane Sparks, and rapper Lil' Mama. The crews also must work hard to impress the millions of viewers at home; at the end of every episode it is up to America to decide which teams will be voted into the bottom two.

In the subsequent week’s episode, the bottom two teams then battle it out on stage, showcasing their hottest moves. The judges then decide which of the two teams remain in the competition and which team has to pack their bags and go home.

Teams consist of five to seven men and women who collaborate and choreograph creative and original routines that are performed each week. Teams are faced with different challenges each week, from recreating moves seen in popular music videos and movies, or recreating well-known dance moves from history. The top four, voted by the viewers were granted a free pass in the next episode, but still had to perform. The bottom four teams were then further divided in half again. The final bottom two teams then duel it out. The crews this week were assigned different popular music videos and isolations, was slotted to perform Chris Brown’s video “Wall to Wall.” This music video took the crew out of their element, incorporating smooth transitions into their dancing. The group was able to overcome their initial slippiness and gave a great performance.

Live In Color was assigned “Hey Mama” by the Black Eyed Peas. Live In Color has brought fast reggae beats to the stage with high energy and their signature boots and skates. This week the group had to slow down their moves to the down beat of Hey Mama and the concept of the video was not used. Lil’ Mama praised the crew claiming that they did better when they were working with more serious music and they were able to show their technique with the slower tempo.

Jabbawockeez was next to take the floor dancing to Omarion’s “Ice Box.” Shane Sparks is quoted as saying that this was their “Best performance yet.” JC Chasez also commented that JabbaWockeez is a team to look out for. They had been repeatedly flying under the radar when compared to more famous judges. The judges were quick to compliment the crew for choreographing a better routine then the original music video.

The last team in the top four this week was BreakSK8, a team of all men who literally dance while on roller skates, full of stunts and slides. The judges expressed in previous weeks that they wanted to see the men do more dancing then their creative stunts, and they did just that. BreakSK8 danced to “Get Up” by Ciara and JC Chasez noted that the group knows their strengths and consistently plays up the crowd.

The bottom four teams for this week included Iconic, Status Quo, Bruno, and Femme 5. Iconic is our very own local dance crew from Icon Dance Center in Englishtown, New Jersey. Iconic, although in the bottom four, was safe from elimination this week and given Chris Brown’s Kiss Kiss. The team is best known for their Broadway style and professional training. Iconic delivered big this week impressing the judges with their creative choreography and tight moves. While the judges appreciate their class and technique, they wanted to make sure that the team gets a “street” vibe in the following weeks to come.

Then there is Status Quo who was given an older song by MC Hammer, “Can’t Touch This.” Their dances are usually full of personality and sass. Femme 5 also executed a very strong performance but at times danced more like solo artists rather then a cohesive group, which wound up being the deciding factor. In the end Femme 5 was sent home.

The last team in the top four this week was averaged in the top four as Fysch 5’s take on “Hollaback Girl” by Gwen Stefani. Both teams really wanted desperately to stay in the competition but supported whoever won in the name of “girl power.”

The bottom two teams that went face to face were the only all female groups in the competition, Fysch n Chicks and Femme 5. Both crews wanted desperately to stay in the competition but supported whoever won in the name of “girl power.”

The final battle came down to Fysch n Chicks rendition of Beyonce’s “Freakum Dress” versus Femme 5’s take on “Hollaback Girl” by Gwen Stefani. Both teams really wanted to leave this week making the final decision the most difficult yet for the panel of judges.

We saw a different side of Fysch n Chicks, mastering the art of dancing in heels and sexy dresses, but always able to deliver saucy. Femme 5 also executed a very strong performance but at times danced more like solo artists rather then a cohesive group, which wound up being the deciding factor. In the end Femme 5 was sent home.

There are now seven teams remaining in the competition and it is up to you to decide who will be voted off in the coming weeks. To see if local hip hop crew Iconic stands a chance for another week, cast your vote and tune in to Randy Jackson Presents America’s Best Dance Crew, Thursday nights at 10pm on MTV.

Photos/Photography:
Dancers audition to be on America’s Best Dance Crew.
Bruno, host Drew Lachey, and Carrie Ann pose for the excitement of their show.
Bruno beats Carrie Ann.
This Season’s top 24 Idol contestants.

This season also gave contestants the opportunity to perform with instruments. Brooke White took advantage of the option, and the judges loved her performance. On the other hand, the use of instrument did not prove to be helpful for some. Jake Mello performed with a drum set, which Simon critiqued as “horrible.”

The last Hollywood audition was performed by an unprepared Josiah Meldrum, the teenager who is living in his car. He and the band could not get along during rehearsals, so he was eliminated. Simon commented that his voice was wonderful, but he was eliminated because he could not sing without the band unless he was 100% certain it would be a standout performance. However, based on his past performances, the judges let him through to the top 50.

When it came down to the final five, Simon and Paula continued to argue over who would be in the top 24. Last minute decision making would continue on. There was also no group segment, so the drama this year was more personal, rather than interactive.

The Outlook

Entertainment

Upcoming Concerts to Rock Your Senses

ALEXANDRA JOHNSON

STAFF WRITER

Many great live acts will be taking the stage in the Tri-State area. Knowing that it would be nice to hit every concert in the area, your bank account probably is not as plentiful as the line-ups. Plan ahead wisely, because there are definitely some impressive acts that won’t break the bank.

Coming up in mid-March, The Spill Canvas will be opening for Yellowcard’s acoustic tour. If you are unfamiliar with their music, The Spill Canvas blends witty lyrics with the upbeat and driven rock songs to deliver a live show that sets them apart from other acts. All of their music is extremely catchy, and will have you dancing to the energy of their songs along. These guys definitely know how to put on a great live show. Also coming on the tour will be PlayRadioPlay!, Treaty of Paris, and Secondhand Serenade. These bands will be rocking Irving Plaza in New York City on March 15. Tickets are priced at $15, and there are also tickets available for March 17. With tickets priced at $15, the small cost will be worth five tickets at their hitting the road together.

Later in March, Say Anything and Manchester Orchestra will team up with Billy CROY and Weatherbox for a tour of their own. Say Anything thrives on fun music that revolves around the innermost emotions that sex, love, and friendship evoke. Their crazy music matches up perfectly with their on-stage demeanor. As one of the most fun bands to watch perform, they will definitely be one show you will not want to miss out on.

In early April, Star Miser will be performing at the starting line, but if you want to see the match-up, you will have to go online. The cast’s performances, especially Hayden Christensen, who always delivers a sort of fantasy feel to it, an adventurous movie that has a roar reminiscent of old, will and his daughter, their names, some scenarios and╧—writes for The Outlook. The Starting Line has pumped from the theater smiling.

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Steer Away Graduation Jitters

One Monmouth Alumna shares her tips on how to be satisfied and successful with your career choice

DANIELLE DECARLO
FEATURES EDITOR

At the end of every semester, lots of MU students graduate and are able to embark on their next journey in life – to find a job in the real world. For about 99.9 per cent of these students, it is extremely scary and petrifying to take this next step, but remember there have been plenty of alumni that have found success, whether it was through another employer or all on their own.

One example is Christa Riddle. She graduated from Drew University as an English major and a writing minor, and attended graduate school at Monmouth University in 2005 with a Master of Arts in teaching. She has started her very own business called All About Writing.

Arts in teaching. She has started her very own business called All About Writing. Some of the services All About Writing offers are: writing of speeches, newletters, brochures, articles, biographies, etc., editing and proofreading, resume writing, and writing tutoring.

“We are judged on our appearances and first encounters, and sloppy writing puts forth a bad introduction,” Riddle said. “This can often undermine what a person is trying to say or convey through writing.”

All About Writing isn’t the only thing that Riddle has done since she finished her schooling. During her career since graduation from Drew, she has worked two years as a teacher, three years as a writing tutor, three years as a lawyer’s administrative assistant, four years as a licensed insurance underwriter, and eleven years as a part-time small business manager, and of course attended graduate school here at Monmouth. As you can see, it is amazing what one person can accomplish once the days of classes are over! “You definitely have to stick with what you like,” Riddle said about deciding on a job after graduation. “Upon graduation, everyone gets into general careers, or pointed in a certain direction, and that’s okay; you want a good job. However, a lot of people fail to connect with what they really like. I didn’t do that right away. I wish I had earlier.”

For a lot of students, this will be the last time that they can see, it is amazing what one can do, but like so many other students she was pointed in a different direction, and writing tutoring.

“You’re so young when you graduate,” Riddle said. “How do you really know what you want to do then? You have to focus on what you enjoy and that will lead you.”

Riddle’s choice to start her own business, All About Writing, was given some motivation by her dad’s mantra, “Do what you do best and do it with a passion. Success will follow.” Of course starting your own business is difficult, but if it is something you really love, you can make it successful. There are a lot of benefits for Riddle of owning her own business.

“I have an 8 year old at home, and when I was teaching I was getting home so late and I worked all the time,” she said. “I wanted something I enjoyed doing, and also be able to make my own schedule. This way, I can balance my own life.”

Riddle believes having her own business gives her tons of other benefits, too.

“You can learn a lot more than you think when it comes to all aspects of your business,” she explained. “I have to make advertising decisions, financial decisions; it’s a variety of things. I also like meeting people different people. I love learning all about them.”

If you are interested in starting your own business after graduating, Riddle offered a few tips for those of you interested.

“The biggest thing is to get involved in joining the town and the local Chamber of Commerce. The business owners will give you business tips, and it’s great to network within the community. If I hadn’t joined, I would have been off to a really slow start; any community support is great,” Riddle said.

If you don’t know exactly what to do right when you graduate, there’s no need to panic. There are plenty of options, and in the end, if you are doing what you really love, you’ll never work a day in your life. Starting your own business is a great option if you want to be in control, so to speak. If you’re unsure of where you want to go, don’t get discouraged. The perfect option is out there for you!

Once again, don’t panic if you’re feeling a little lost about what to do after graduation. You are definitely not alone, there are plenty of other students in the same boat as you. The right option is out there for you, and we are all so young when we graduate that it’s best not to rush such a big decision. Find out what YOU want to do first.

If you want more information about All About Writing, you can visit the website at www.allaboutwritingconsulting.com.

For a lot of students, this will be the last time that they will pass by the Monmouth University entrance as they embark on their next journey after graduation. or all on their own.

“... a lot of people fail to connect with what they really like...you have to focus on what you enjoy and that will lead you.”

CHRISTA RIDDLE
On finding a job after graduation

Don’t search the newspaper for your dream job. Search your mind and decide what you really love instead.

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Riddle’s choice to start her own business, All About Writing, was given some motivation by her dad’s mantra, “Do what you do best and do it with a passion. Success will follow.” Of course starting your own business is difficult, but if it is something you really love, you can make it successful. There are a lot of benefits for Riddle of owning her own business.

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A lot of students are confused as to what they want to do after graduation. Don’t fret though, it’s normal! Follow what you like to do, your determination will lead you to success!

The Kortney Rose Foundation is a local organization that raises funds for pediatric brain tumor research. Named for Kortney Rose Gillette, a third-grader who attended Wolf Hill Elementary School in Oceanport, the foundation offers many opportunities to get involved. Sponsor a fundraiser, participate in a walk or help with labeling during club meetings. For more information please email Kristen Gillette at kortneyroseorg@aol.com or visit the website, www.thekortneyrosefoundation.org

All donations are made to the The Children’s Hospital of Philadelphia. This is a great opportunity to make a difference on a local level for individuals or groups. Projects are one-time or ongoing. Questions? E-mail volunteer@monmouth.edu or stop by the Office of Service Learning and Community Programs, Room 301c in the RSSC.

This diploma can take you in any direction you desire, whether you want to be employed or be your own employer - it is entirely up to you.
**February 27**

2:30PM–4:00PM  
Young Auditorium

**Food For The Soul**

Stephanie Martel of Vibrant Health and Wellness will discuss “primary foods” such as relationships, career, spirituality and more. “Sometimes we are fed not by food, but by the energy in our lives.”

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Pollak Theatre

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Tickets go on sale TUESDAY, JANUARY 22, 2008

FOR QUESTIONS OR SPECIAL NEEDS, PLEASE CONTACT THE MONMOUTH UNIVERSITY OFFICE OF STUDENT ACTIVITIES AT ACTIVITIES@MONMOUTH.EDU OR BY PHONE AT 732-571-3586.

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What are you looking forward to most this semester?

COMPILED BY: SARAH ALYSE JAMIESON

Carlos
sophomore
“The end of it.”

Perry
sophomore
“Winning the Lacrosse NEC (North East Conference) Championship! DOMINATING!”

Ashley
senior
“Going to Vegas with my wonderful roommates.”

Tommy
junior
“The resurrection of Tau Kappa Epsilon.”

Emily
senior
“Tuesday nights at Jack’s.”

Gerard
senior
“GRADUATING.”

Sara
junior
“April showers to be in April, and not in February.”

Taylor
junior
“Finishing out the school year on a good note.”

Rachael
freshman
“Warm weather, for the beach.”

Mike
junior
“Tour 21.”

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“Warm weather, for the beach.”

“Tour 21.”

What are you looking forward to most this semester?
With the season coming to a close, Monmouth finds itself in a must-win situation at FDU. With clutch performances from starters Ya- niah Hines, R.J. Rutledge, Whitney Cole- man, and a big contribution from Jhamar Youngblood off the bench, the Blue and White put together a strong second half performance to defeat the Knights 66-58 and keep their postseason dreams alive.

On Saturday, February 16, the Hawks of Monmouth University traveled to Staten Island, New York, to take on the Wagner Sea- hawks, the number-one team in the NEC. Wagner entered the contest with an 11-2 record in the NEC, and an impressive 18-6 overall record.

Jhamar Youngblood came off the bench to contribute his second career double-double, scoring 19 points against Fairleigh Dickinson, with 11 points and a career best 13 rebounds.

White tied the game with 11:30 left to go after a Youngblood free-throw capped a 6-0 Monmouth run. The Seahawks went on yet another run to go up 50-44, but a three-pointer from Simpson pulled Wagner within 3 in with 8:14 remaining. Wagner held the lead until Rut- ledge hit a trey from the wing to knot the score at 59-59 with 1:28 left in the contest. After a Wagner free-throw, Monmouth was able to secure the win. Monmouth dropped Wagner for 54 points and provided the 6-0 Monmouth bench 24-21. Howev- er, the Knight starters combined for a season-low seven turnovers and 11-21 from the free-throw line.

Jhamar Youngblood came off the bench to contribute his second career double-double against Fairleigh Dickinson, with 11 points and a career best 13 rebounds.
The Hawks open up the season with a two-game month of the February 26, with the first pitch set for 5:00 p.m. 84 (busting his own record set in 2006 - 82). Brach, who tossed a no-hitter against Long Island and was named NCBWA National Pitcher of the Week for his performance, is now second on Monmouth's all-time list with 207 strikeouts. The first-team all-league performer was also named to the ABCA All-Region team of the upstart All American Football League. Former Monmouth line backer Mike Castellano recently signed a one year contract with the Arkan- sas team of the upstart All American Football League. Mike Castellano is the favorite to win the NEC this season. I am really excited about the NEC season this year. I feel confident that we can compete very well in the NEC this year.

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The Monmouth Hawks Baseball team was picked to finish first in the NEC in the league’s preseason Coaches’ Poll.

Full Story on Page 19