Bookstore Combating Drop in Textbook Sales

ANTHONY PANISIIDI
CONTRIBUTING EDITOR

The University bookstore is part of a nationwide trend, with students from all over the country turning to textbook rental websites. It appears college bookstores are headed towards a future that does not incorporate textbooks as the "bread and butter" of the business.

"Although the University bookstore strives to earn 75 to 80 percent of its profit margin from textbook sales, it is currently hovering on the lower end of that margin," according to Bill Rainey, 60, the store manager.

"The problem is there are a lot of things they can do. And they do," he said. "The prices may at times be less, but it is not necessarily as convenient as buying on campus. The books may not be received before classes start, one needs to be careful if it is the correct edition, and returning the book may not be as easy as returning it to the bookstore," he said.

While other college bookstores, such as Rutgers, have a contract with an outside bookstore to help draw business, such as Barnes and Noble, Craig said this would not be beneficial to the University. The bookstore’s profits would then go to Barnes and Noble, as opposed to helping keep the University's bookstore in business.

Textbooks continued on pg. 3

Guggenheim Library Moving Forward with Mobile Connection

NICOLE FERA
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

In today’s world, technology has made everything available at the tip of students’ fingers through the use of smartphones or tablets and all they have to offer. Recently, the Guggenheim Library joined this mobile information society, creating a website that is available on most smartphones.

Linda Silverstein, the creator of the new mobile website, said that students have access to sites that can be accessed on a smartphone from the library’s main page. One of the sites is the library catalog and the other is the library website that contains information such as library hours and different events.

"Eventually, the goal is to have one website that can be accessed directly from a smartphone by logging into the main library website, but it’s a work in progress," Silverstein said.

Students can search for different books in the library, see if they’re checked out or in-library, find the floor they’re located on or even re-new a book all without having to drive or walk to the library.

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Associate Vice President for Information Support and Rob Carey, Director of Server Operations, said the mobile website has even more great features and can easily access a textbook without having to drive or walk to the library.

"Students use their Hawkdom numbers on the website that currently has one website that can be accessed through the use of smart phones, and easy as possible for them," Silverstein said.

The other features this website wants to include is the help of textbooks, such as hearing loss, because they can easily access a textbook without having to drive or walk to the library.

"I think it will definitely be available to all students," Silverstein said.

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March 16, 2011

THEFT

A vehicle was parked at the exit 109 commuter lot. Authorities are unsure as to why Lerakis was walking on the roadway. Michael Lerakis, 75, of Tinton Falls, New Jersey for 15 years. Lerakis is survived by his loving wife of 45 years, Renae Paita. He was a professor in Public Relations, "There’s a great deal of opportunity to speak with fellow students, alumni, and field professionals in order to establish connections that may be beneficial for future career pursuits. The networking event will be an opportunity for students to establish a mentor relationship with people in the field who could advise them as they prepare for the job market," said Dell. Dell also said, “Increasingly, it’s not just what you know, it’s who you know. The professionals and alumni attending this event are ready and willing to talk with students, advise them, and perhaps steer them toward job opportunities that other might not be aware of." The third section, which will run from 4:30 pm to 5:30 pm, is the Internship Opportunities Event where select companies will discuss internship opportunities and will hold interviews for rising juniors and seniors. "We’ll have professionals from Career Services on hand for students who want to have their resume reviewed, practice interviews, and prepare for those job encounters before they happen," said Dell. "Also, the Internship Fair will present an opportunity for students to talk directly with representatives from a variety of communication-specific companies." The Communication Career Event was a planned group effort that began with Joe Simoes, a senior professor with Communication Department, said Professor Simoes. "The feedback and positive comments were very encouraging. We’ve found a lot of our graduate students want to give back to the current students to help them.”

Michael Lerakis worked at the University for 12 years and is said to have been well liked by students, staff, faculty and administrators. Michael Lerakis was the Cedar Avenue crossing in Lots 11 and 11A located near the Magill Commons Dining Hall. Previous to this location, Lerakis lived in Metuchen, New Jersey for 25 years prior to moving to Tinton Falls in 1998. Before coming to the United States, he performed manual labor as a deck hand on cargo ships. He was also the previous owner of The Encore Luncheonette in Metuchen. Michael Polite said. "Many students would stop and talk with him about the stock market and his experiences owning a restaurant.” He was an ideal employee, even when the conditions were outside close to a monsoon, he always had a smile on his face and a good word to give," McElrath said. "Since the incident we have received many calls from students and employees in shock about it all. He truly will be missed,” McElrath added.

Leukemia is survivied by his loving wife of 45 years, Renae Patakes, his daughter, Michele and his son-in-law, Allan Jerome Pfeiffer. Visitation for Michael was held from 4:00 pm to 7:00 pm on Friday, March 4 at the Bongzano Funeral Home in Tinton Falls. All other services for Michael were private. In lieu of flowers, donations in his memory may be made to The St. George Greek Orthodox Church Building Fund, 700 Grand Avenue, Asbury Park, NJ 07712.
Student Group on Mission to Bring Back Philosophy

Philosophy continued from pg. 1

The Outlook
University news

The formation of this new department just three years ago and a new group on campus called the Philosophy Revolution, the major’s future, although still uncertain, has certainly become brighter. Both the philosophy curriculum and its role in students and pressure for the university administration to get a Philosophy major back into the curriculum.

Currently the Department of Philosophy, Religion and Interdisciplinary Studies has been hosting a lecture series open for all students of the University. The lecture series is held as an educational lecture that will hopefully increase interest in Philosophy to students who may be interested in the field. Most recently Dr. Salam Shakib, Director of BAYT Ul-Iman Academy, NJ, spoke about the Philosophy of Islam and many current events in Islamic Nations.

Dr. Shahid is a scientist with Bell Labs and has extensive experience working with both national and international journeys of opportunity to study philosophy in Saudi Arabia as an educator and scholar. The next lecture will take place on Thursday, March 17 from 4:30 pm to 5:45 pm in William Hall room 104. Father Ireneusz Ekiert, Swanson nor Dr. Pasquale Simoniello knew more than one part of the campus chaplain and his multifaceted role as it became the mover of history,” said Simonelli.

Students, and other interested parties, will be able to raise awareness about the lack of opportunity to study philosophy at Monmouth College. There are currently five active members in the group; with much support from other students and teachers. Emily Curry, junior, organizes and publicizes for the group. “Most prestigious universities in the nation offer a philosophy major,” said Curry.

“I research the price of the book in the bookstore and online, and almost always buy the book online. Sometimes the total savings can be hundreds of dollars,” said Room. He also mentions that if the bookstore would buy textbooks in the bookstore as if the prices dropped, at which point Room would shop in the bookstore for the sake of convenience. Chegg, a used textbook company, is one such site that has attracted the business of University students, such as Cristina Marzalisa, a junior from Staten Island. Dooley said she used to buy her books from the bookstore, spending an average of $500 per semester, but now rents her books from Chegg, costing her an average of $200 per semester.

The failure to sell textbooks has had consequences for other parts of the bookstore, as there are fewer students with books to sell back, fewer students are purchasing University apparel, spending an average of $200 per semester.

After skimmings, two wounded soldiers, one Bosnian and one Serb, confront each other in a trench in the front of Sarajevo. One, who is made of steel and whorespoons insults and even finding some common ground; sometimes one has the gun, sometimes the other, sometimes both. Things get complicated when another idea comes to mind: the bomb, which comes to because a bouncing mine is beneath him. The two men cooperate to wave white flags, their lines call the UN (whose high command tries not to help), an Eng- bates, French under German pressure, and the three men in no man’s land may or may not find a way to get along.

The Provisor’s Film Series 2011

No Man’s Land (2001) Rated R

Academy Award for Best Foreign Language film for 2002.

Thursday, March 17, 2011; 7:30 pm
Pollak Theatre
Panelists: Dr. Marina Vujnovic and Dr. Bojana Beric

Free of charge and open to the Monmouth University community and the general public.

Life is Calling. How far will you go?

Peace Corps at Monmouth
Wednesday, March 16th
5:30 – 6:30 p.m.,
The Club Room 107

Interested in using your skills to help a developing country? Eager to learn, firsthand, about a different culture?

Learn about international service from a recruiter and returned Peace Corps volunteer; Peace Corps volunteers work in 76 nations in such diverse fields as education, health, HIV/AIDS education and prevention, information technology, business development, environmental conservation, and agriculture while exploring a new country.

52 Monmouth grad students served in the Peace Corps!

After skimmings, two wounded soldiers, one Bosnian and one Serb, confront each other in a trench in the front of Sarajevo. One, who is made of steel and who
Undergraduates at Winter 2011 Commencement with Full Time Positions

Full Time Position 35%

No Full Time Position 65%

In a survey conducted by Associate Vice President Academic and Institutional Assessment David Strohmets, the above data was collected after the 2011 Winter Commencement.

Career Event to Be Held for Liberal Arts Majors

CAREERS continued from pg. 1 question, “If I want to do ‘blank,’ what do I major in?” This led to the project he and Hill have been working on during the academic year.

“It’s not the major. It’s the skills you learn within the major.” Green said.

Carr Green, who was formerly an anthropology professor, also noted that although the introductory speaker [Martone] majored in marketing, he is still offering the skills a liberal arts student should carry.

“There are a lot of anthropologists who might work in museums, and that’s fine. But most anthropologists work in corporations. People don’t know this. They might work in Human Resources departments,” he said.

According to Hill, the March 23 event will be helpful to students planning to attend the job fairs that are taking place in the career fairs. “The event will be helpful to students who are looking to improve their career prospects,” Green said. “It’s not the major. It’s the skills you learn within the major.”

Hill said the employment struggles graduating students face can be ultimately attributed to the economy.

“Associated Vice President of Academic and Institutional Support Dave Strohmets conducted a cap and gown survey for the 432 University students who graduated in the 2011 Winter Commencement. 257 students responded to the survey, 167 of them graduating with a bachelor’s degree (64 percent) and 90 graduating with a master’s degree (53 percent). According to the survey, Thirty-five percent of the bachelor’s degree and 90 graduates reported having a full-time position at the time of commencement.”

“The economy is the worst any more. People are having to deal with. We’re trying to help them – we’re here to help students as best we can. They’re having to deal with what our careers,” Green said, “and in a sense we should be doing this anyway, but it’s especially important now to try to help students as best we can. Everyone thinks Monmouth gives students an excellent education in a general sense, but you need more than that now.”

All students are invited to attend, but the event is geared more towards those who are part of the School for Humanities and Social Sciences. The departments within the school include: History and Anthropology, Art and Design, Psychology, Counseling, Communication, Psychology, Foreign Language Studies, Music and Theatre Arts, Criminal Justice, Political Science and Sociology, English, and Philosophy, Religion and Interdisciplinary Studies.

As a general statement, Green said, “I would say in the most broad sense this part of a real major attempt by the University in general to kind of deal with what we know are the issues our graduates are having to deal with. We’re trying to help them – we’re here to educate. But part of education is putting people in a position to be able to prosper and gain employment and live a prosperous life.”

Library Sets Up Mobile Connection

Library continued from pg. 1 offices are pop-up windows for different searches, which allows students to keep more than one search open at a time. The website also lets students bookmark different articles and books that they find, making it easy to go back into them for future use.

Besides looking up books and articles found at the library, electronic books and databases are also available, just like on the regular website. Students can even use WorldCat, an interlibrary loan system, that allows them to find the book they need, even if it’s in a different country, and have it sent to the library for their use.

According to Silverstein, all of these features are set up to make the lives of students easier and to make information more available, especially since everyone is always so busy and reliant on their smartphone for help. Ravindra Sharma, Dean of the Guggenheim Library, explained that the library is one of the few of its size to offer so many helpful features.

“The site contains 1.5 billion records from 150 countries and 10,000 libraries all on your phone,” Sharma explained. Both Silverstein and Sharma were very clear in stating that the purpose of this site is all for the students. The purpose of the site is to help students and help them find the right text in a particular subject. Rachel Gentry, the library director, has already used the site on her BlackBerry and found it extremely helpful. “I needed to do research for a topic in class and I simply logged onto the site on my phone in minutes I had all the information that I needed,” Gentry said.

Students Volunteer for “Read Across America”

PRESS RELEASE

On Wednesday, March 2, University students celebrated “Read Across America” and Dr. Seuss’s birthday by reading Dr. Seuss books to 230 children at schools and non-profit agencies. “Read Across America” is a national event designed to encourage families, teachers, and communities to make reading a fun, interactive activity, and to help children develop a lifelong love of reading.

Sponsored by the Center for Student Success, students prepared age-appropriate activities for the children under the direction of graduate students Mary Lehr and Sean Foran. Students visited Hope Academy Charter School, Linkages, Spring House, and the Boys and Girls Club.

Volunteers signed up from across the campus but in particular, from the School of Education and the International Reading Association. Dr. Mary Lee Bass, advisor of the IRA MU Council, was an active supporter of this year’s event. Book donations from faculty and students added to both the children’s and the organizations’ libraries.

Volunteer Nicole Freitas, an Education major and member of the International Reading Association, said, “I wasn’t quite sure what to expect when arriving at the volunteer sites, but once I arrived I knew exactly why I volunteered to participate. The children could not wait for volunteers to read to them and even the parents were able to enjoy a story or two. The parents were extremely thankful that we took the time to reach out to their children. Between the countless thank you’s and the biggest smiles, I knew our time was well spent.”

Karen O’Neill, an intern from the Graduate School of Education (College of Education and Student Affairs), organized the visit to the Boys and Girls Club where the gym was set up with stations for snacks, arts and crafts, and reading areas for different age groups. The club is designed to provide children with a safe place to go after school and to provide social, athletic, educational, and artistic activities. O’Neill said, “I am amazed by how these simple events bring such an enormous return to the children and the University students. When you walk into the gym with 80 children, and watch them dive into the art projects, or cozy up to the readers, you just feel a warm glow from the connection we all made with each other.”

Library Sets Up Mobile Connection

LIBRARY continues from pg. 1

Library students, part of the School for Humanities and Social Sciences. The departments within the school include: History and Anthropology, Art and Design, Psychology, Counseling, Communication, Psychology, Foreign Language Studies, Music and Theatre Arts, Criminal Justice, Political Science and Sociology, English, and Philosophy, Religion and Interdisciplinary Studies.

As a general statement, Green said, “I would say in the most broad sense this part of a real major attempt by the University in general to kind of deal with what we know are the issues our graduates are having to deal with. We’re trying to help them – we’re here to educate. But part of education is putting people in a position to be able to prosper and gain employment and earn a living and be happy.”

EARLY / PRIORITY REGISTRATION

Begins on 3/31/11 with new activations every half-hour between 8:00 am and 4:30 pm

Inforamtion and Instructions e-mailed

Students will be able to self-register using the WEBregistration component of WEBstudent. WEBregistration and will need to register in person at their academic department or at the Registrar’s Office.

Full details are listed in the information and instructions which were e-mailed to your MU e-mail account in February and March.

WEBregistration Screens for Registration:

- Course Schedule Information
- Section Offered by Term
- WEBregistration Approvals / Blocks
- Course Prerequisite Worksheet
- WEBregistration WORKSHEETS
- WEBregistration WCONSHEETS

Other WEBregistration screens that are helpful during Registration include:

- Academic Audit
- Student Schedule
- +FOMS

Students who do not obtain advisor approval will not be able to self-register using WEBregistration.

WEBregistration procedure:

WEBregistration component of WEBstudent.

WEBregistration WCONSHEETS

WEBregistration WORKSHEETS

WEBregistration Apprvals / Blocks

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- Student Schedule
- +FOMS

WEBregistration WCONSHEETS
Announcements

THE LIBERAL ARTS ADVANTAGE

...Outstanding CAREER POSSIBILITIES for Liberal Arts Students:
Join us on March 23rd to hear from successful professionals and learn how they used their Liberal Arts degree to win achievement in the business world. Discover how to market your own unique skills in this challenging job market.

Moderator:
Dr. Stanton Green, Dean of the School of Humanities and Social Sciences

Opening Remarks:
John Mattone, MU ’91, Marketing Vice President, Enterprise Rent-A-Car

Speakers:
Peter Samaras, MU ’82, Sociology Managing Director, Credit Sales, Cantor Fitzgerald
Thomas Parr, MU ’85, Art Creative Director, McCann Worldwide Group
Henry Mercer, MU ’87, History President and Chief Investment Strategist, Mercer Capital Advisors
Courtney Mullins, Susquehanna ’03, Public Relations Talent Acquisition Manager, Enterprise Rent-A-Car

Closing Remarks:
William Hill Assistant Dean, Career Services

Wednesday, March 23, 2011
4:30pm – 5:45pm • Club Rooms 107 / 108
Pizza and soda will be served.
Sponsored by the Office of Career Services and the School of Humanities and Social Sciences

MONMOUTH UNIVERSITY
WHERE LEADERS LOOK FORWARD
The Outlook

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THE OUTLOOK STAFF OPINION

What is better: sitting in a class, barely challenged, and receiving an “A” as a final grade or working hard and learning a substantial amount in class and being satisfied at the end of the semester with a “B” or “C”?

Many students would agree they have coasted on higher grades than they should have been awarded for, throughout their college careers. It seems as though the social trend now throughout universities is to eliminate the sense of competition, and to instead allow students to have a greater sense of self-confidence. Although, the effect of grade inflation is devaluating the undergraduate degree. Significant distinctions among grades are disappearing.

Students are beginning to wonder if their grades are really worth their accomplishments or if they are just pulled out of a hat. The problem with grade inflation is it has a domino effect of getting a job following graduation. Employers may be skeptical, or not impressed by the high marks applicants received in school.

Students are so used to being rewarded for the bare minimum that when lower grades are received, they become dissatisfied. We need to remember that a “C” is average. A “B” means you went above and beyond. A “A” means your work is exceptional. Many University professors want to see students succeed so perhaps this is the reason why they may give out more “A’s” than deserved. Grade inflation also introduces a decreased sense of motivation exerted by students. If students can simply just sit, daydream, and test for an hour and 15 minutes and still receive an “A” at the end of the semester, why bother to fight for a challenge?

While some of us do not feel a presence of grade inflation at the University, just about all departments have some form of variation of inflating grades whether it’s by the means of curve class test scores or adjusting numbers towards the end of the semester. Upper classmen and extra credit opportunities have been accounted for.

Unfortunately, many have taken advantage of “easy A” classes taught by professors who are just “too chill” to challenge their class. Some students end up sitting back and relaxing without learning a thing by the end of the semester. Can we, as students at an institute of higher education allow this to continue happening? There must be a greater accountability for the manner in which students’ work is transcribed into final grades.

We’ve all written truly horrible papers, but still received “A’s” on them only because we (barely) fulfilled the requirements and “showed effort.” Some of us would much rather work harder and receive a grade that is actually deserved. Lower grades challenge us to do better next time and if we’re all getting “A’s” all the time, what does this say about our education? As for solutions to the inflation issue, professors that give out an abundance of “A’s” should be required to prove the students’ work by submitting graded papers, exams, and tests to department chairs and deans to look over. Also, professors should make it a point to maintain standards higher and follow through with assignments.

As for students, we shouldn’t accept anything but the utmost quality education we can get our hands on. If this means sitting in a more difficult class, instead of searching RateMyProfessor.com for the easiest possible professor, then we should do so to challenge ourselves and gain as much as we can in the few short years we’re attending the University. If you’re working hard and deserve those “A’s,” keep doing so. If you’re slacking and just idly gliding by, stop and exert more effort in order to make your work. This is college. It’s supposed to be at least a little hard, right?

Don’t panic if you’re a student that has diligently earned desired high marks. Other characteristics are considered when applying for a job, such as confidence, dedication, and communication skills. Grades on transcripts will not affect you unless you apply for graduate school. Grades in transcripts will not affect you unless you apply for scholarships. Grades in transcripts will not affect you unless you apply for post graduate work.

As for students, we shouldn’t be too panicked either. If you receive an “A” in a class that’s the easiest possible professor, then we should do so to challenge ourselves and gain as much as we can in the few short years we’re attending the University. If you’re working hard and deserve those “A’s,” keep doing so. If you’re slacking and just idly gliding by, stop and exert more effort in order to make your work. This is college. It’s supposed to be at least a little hard, right?

Students should not be considered numbers, but human beings. Grades in transcripts will not affect you unless you apply for graduate school. Grades in transcripts will not affect you unless you apply for scholarships. Grades in transcripts will not affect you unless you apply for post graduate work.

The Outlook provides the Monmouth University community with information concerning issues in and around the University while serving as a forum for expression of the ideas of its readers.

Contributions must be submitted (email outlook@monmouth.edu) by 12:00 p.m. Sundays to The Outlook office, 2nd floor, room 260, Plangere Center.

All copy must include the author’s full name and contact information. The Outlook welcomes articles and graphic material from students, faculty and administrators, and reserves the right to edit or reject any material which they determine is not suitable for publication or its readers. Copy and advertising appearing in The Outlook do not necessarily reflect the views of Monmouth University or The Outlook.

THE NEWEST AND HOTTEST SWEETEST MERCHANDISE!

Your students are in college and they are watching the List Price of all of these items!

THE HIGHEST ELMO CAN LIVE ON! IN DONATIONS AND MERCHANDISE INCOME!

THE HIGHEST ELMO CAN LIVE ON! IN DONATIONS AND MERCHANDISE INCOME!

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Opinion / Editorial

The Outlook

Opinion

Outrages Writers Question Amputee Athlete

EUGENIA BROADUS

CONTRIBUTING WRITER

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our world has been on notice of
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and track are simply the begin-
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The outlook

amount of attention that sports
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experience ever since Ivy League
important part of the college ex-
 concluding that our campuses
are being considered innumerous
states that would allow guns on
campus. As we are living in a time
when school shootings are a serious
especially out of place on a college
of letters that are no longer being
denoted as being note-
worthy simply for the brawn
helps to quench. When there is
precious to them is an unquench-
emissions. When we burn fossil
water, while others are facing dev-
gineering, regulation, and compe-
setting for resources, some regions
seem relatively flush with fresh
water our state of air quality is suf-
ting for as long as we have
and potential threat, it seems
serious to put students in danger.
A day does not go by that we do
not fear the potential for a gun
use to hurt people, but it would
give enough flexibility so that peo-
lar who populate the college
potential to put students in danger
a day does not go by that we do

BRIAN BLACKON

CONTRIBUTING WRITER

Athletes have been a
part of the college experi-
ence ever since Ivy League
ts such as Yale and Har-
vard began offering sports to
their students. Athletics help
students maintain a balance
between academics and sports within
a college setting.

Baseball, basketball, football, and track are simply the
begin-
gings of many career opportuni-
ities. Many students who
participate in sport and
and the great sportsmanship
and the academic dimensions of
their sport that they immerse
themselves in for countless hours of
practice every week, but equally
precious to them is an unen-
thirst for knowledge which

I am pleased with the
response to the article in the Feb 9 is-
Sarah Opatovksy

Letter to the Editor

I would like to say a few words in
response to the article in the Feb 9 is-
I am disappointed that this article
was allowed to be published. New-
papers should publish articles
that do not attack others; if they are of
opinion, than the journalist should
do some unbiased research before
writing. In writing this article, the
author is therefore making peace im-
possible all by herself.

Regards,
Sarah Opatovksy

March 16, 2011

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have, so it is time to make the change.
Debate Hawks Help Asbury Park Debate Team Bring Home the Gold from Baltimore

PRESS RELEASE

The Debate Hawks coached debaters from Asbury Park High School to victory last weekend in Baltimore. The Asbury Park Team won the Triple Crown at the Baltimore Tournament by taking first place trophies for Top School, Top Debate Tournament and Top Individual Speaker.

Hands down, New Jersey holds the most expertise in the country. In 2009, the Tax Foundation conducted a study of properties in all 50 states.

The typical Jersey home was priced at $364,000. In stark contrast, the median home value in West Virginia came in just under six figures at $95,900.

Typically, home prices are high on the East and West Coasts (equivalent to those of New Jersey) and decrease as you head toward the Midwest. Yet, New Jersey stands out in that its property taxes eat up a larger portion of home value than any other state in the country. For instance, the median house in California costs $467,000, but taxes only consume 0.61 percent of the home’s value and 3.46 percent of income. Contrast that with New Jersey where 1.74 percent of the home value is devoted, along with 7.02 percent of income.

To combat the unconstitutionality in Jersey’s property taxes, Governor Chris Christie signed into law a bill that prevents municipalities from raising taxes beyond 2 percent. With state aid down by $5.6 million, many local towns are scrambling to find the services provided by municipalities.

However, there is a way out of the fiscal straightjacket. Written into the two percent tax-cap bill is a stipulation that allows municipalities to circumvent the cap.

If a town holds a public referendum and a majority of the townspeople approve the referendum, the local government can raise taxes in excess of two percent. At a wave district, the Asbury Park Debate Team received the top team award for winning the second place speaking award, Raheem Scott-Griffith taking the second place speaking trophy, and Miguel Nunez taking the third. First place individual speaker Christopher Shields had this to say, “This past weekend in Baltimore we made a statement to what our school community can do and what we are made of. Talent and capability have never been a question in our school district. My fellow students and I will go as far as we want to go if we work hard and we just proved that with this successful weekend!”

Also joining the Asbury Team in Baltimore was Melanie Samuel, a High School Guidance Counselor at Asbury and the assistant coach of Asbury’s Debate Team, and Dr. Joe Patten, the Chair of the Department of Political Science and Sociology at Monmouth University, and coach of the Monmouth University Debate Hawks and the Asbury Park Debate Team.

Ms. Christine DeMarsico and Ms. Kim Brightman, both English teachers at Asbury Park High School, also played a valuable mentoring role at the tournament.

Dr. Rekha Datta, the Director of the Institute for Global Understanding at Monmouth University, and Kevis Individual Speaker.

The Asbury Park Team was named the 2010 Program of the Year in the northeast region of the United States. The Asbury Team was co-coached by Monmouth University’s Debate Team, and Dr. Joe Patten, the Chair of the Department of Political Science and Sociology at Monmouth University, and coach of the Monmouth University Debate Hawks, the Institute for Global Understanding, and the US Naval Academy. The Asbury students after winning the tournament were scrunched to find the services they would be losing.

Debate Hawks Help Asbury Park Debate Team Bring Home the Gold from Baltimore

The Asbury Park High School Debate Team, mentored by the University Debate Hawks won nine team and individual awards in Baltimore last weekend.

What Do Property Taxes Fund?

ROADS 12%

FIRE DISTRICTS 11%

STATE 17%

PORTS 3%

LIBRARY 4%

LOCAL SCHOOLS 40%

According to statistics from NJ.com, property taxes in New Jersey are the highest in the country, with 40 percent going towards public schools.

In Baltimore, the Asbury Team competed against schools from the Baltimore/Washington D.C. region and won the tournament by taking first place trophies, and Miguel Nunez taking the second place speaking trophy, and Miguel Nunez taking the third. First place individual speaker Christopher Shields had this to say, “This past weekend in Baltimore we made a statement to what our school community can do and what we are made of. Talent and capability have never been a question in our school district. My fellow students and I will go as far as we want to go if we work hard and we just proved that with this successful weekend!”

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Lautenberg Calls for Federal Disaster Declaration for N.J. Communities Hit Hardest

SANDRA MEOGA
POLITICS EDITOR

The state of New Jersey has been hit with several severe rain storms since last Sunday, producing flooding and concerns among homeowners and officials.

During a visit to a flooded neighborhood in Wayne Township with Passaic County Sheriff Richard Berdnik Friday, Senator Frank R. Lautenberg requested President Obama to work with the state of New Jersey to make a federal disaster declaration.

The declaration would provide financial support from the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) to New Jersey communities hit hardest by the storm, mainly towns in Passaic, Bergen, and Morris counties.

New Jersey Governor Chris Christie has already declared a state of emergency.

"Funding is expected to continue, which will increase damages and raise clean-up and recovery costs," Lautenberg wrote in a letter to President Obama. "This will be a burden for our communities and our citizens, and we need the state and local governments to be facing tight budgets. These communities and our citizens deserve all the support that can be provided."

As Christie's impact continues to be felt, many New Jersey communities are still recovering from a winter storm which brought multiple heavy snow storms and flooding, leading to a federal disaster declaration for fifteen counties.

"I was recently in Wayne earlier in the week, to survey some of the flood damage, which included roads and residents," New Jersey Transit's Wayne station has been deemed unusable until further notice after nearly five inches fell in parts of Morris and Passaic counties.

"Funding is expected to continue, which will increase damages and raise clean-up and recovery costs," Lautenberg wrote in the letter. "This will be a significant burden for families and local governments that are facing tight budgets. These communities and our citizens deserve all the support that can be provided."

The water is slowly receding and many residents still remain living in shelters funded by the state. Some schools in Paterson, Passaic county remain closed.

The heavy rain over the past week left many towns through-out New Jersey flooded. In Little Falls, a town in Passaic County, evacuation mandates were put into place.

"More than 500 homes in Little Falls were flooded by the Passaic River, according to ABC News New York affiliate."

Continued flooding in numerous towns, including Wayne and Paterson, prompted evacuations. Four bridges across the Passaic River were impassable due to the threatening flood waters. In other parts of Morris and Passaic counties, voluntary evacuation advisories were put into effect according to Capt. Frank Davis, a spokesman for the State Police.

Paterson officials urged residents living near the river to evacuate their home over the weekend. Mayor of Paterson, Jeff Jones, sternly told residents at a press conference, "Please do not wait this out."

Roads were closed in much of Passaic County including Rt. 20 which runs along the river in Paterson, and Wagawar Road in Hawthorne. Flooding also occurred along the Pompton River, Pequannock River, and the Delaware River.

In Pequannock, about 1,300 homes have been affected by flooding. Despite clear skies in the forecast, state-wide officials said flooding will remain a concern for at least the next few days. It's not clear when all affected residents will be able to return to their homes.

Flood warnings still remain in effect for North Jersey, according to Greg Heavenor, a meteorologist at the National Weather Service.

At the end of this week, all rivers are expected to crest and major roads will re-open.

Second Annual 5K Run/Walk on April 8 to Benefit Kortney Rose Foundation

PRESS RELEASE

The second annual 5K Walk/Run, sponsored by the Global Understanding Convention and the Political Science Club, will be held on Friday, April 8, from 2:30 pm to 4:30 pm. All are welcome to join the event, which will include refreshments, music, and awards.

Finishing off a week of discourse and celebration during the 10th Annual Global Understanding Convention, this year’s race will benefit the Kortney Rose Foundation (www.thekortneyrosefoundation.org).

The first 100 registrants will be guaranteed a free t-shirt. Same-day registration will be accepted at 2:30 pm in front of Wilson Hall. For more information, or to obtain a registration form, please contact Heather Mistretta in the Office of Student Life.

"We look forward to a successful race and we want to thank all who support our cause," said Dr. Robert Graebe, M.D., Chairman and Program Director of the Political Science Club.

Though the race is open to everyone, the organizers are hoping that all community members will contribute to the cause.

William Street in Little Falls, Passaic County was devasted by the flooding exerted by the Passaic River.

For more information, or to obtain a registration form, please contact Heather Mistretta in Wilson Hall, Room 221A, hmistretta@monmouth.edu, 732-263-5922; or Kristen Gillette, kgillett@monmouth.edu. Completed forms can be faxed to 732-263-5164. Suggested donation is $10.

The Kortney Rose Foundation is a 501(c)3 organization that is dedicated to raising funds to support research and education related to the treatment and cure of pediatric brain tumors.

Enhancing the quality of life of children with brain tumors requires access to excellent special care, clinical trials, follow-up care, and rehabilitative services. Improving the outlook for these children requires research into the causes of better treatments of brain tumors.

The goal is to find a balance between the best available treatments with the best quality of life.
What are College Students Really Learning?

Marianne Verna

College. It’s a milestone that we all aim to reach ever since we are young. We are taught that getting into college and doing well will be the key to our success. Many people say that it is the best four years of your life. Now how would you feel about after all of your hard work and money that goes into completing your degree, someone said that college is one of “America’s worst investments?”

It’s a scary thought, but according to a recent study done by Richard Arum, a New York University sociologist and author of “Academically Adrift: Limited Learning on College Campuses,” college students are not learning much in their first two years of college. This study took place at 29 different universities across the country and followed about 3,000 students from the fall of 2005 to the spring of 2009. Arum’s studies showed that several thousand undergraduates during their four years at their universities were not learning basic concepts such as complex reasoning and written communication skills that are associated with being a main focus among college curriculums.

According to a study recently conducted, college students spend more time socializing than studying. The study did contain some startling but not so surprising facts about how college students are spending their time when they are outside of the classroom. The study shows 45 percent of students made no significant improvement in their critical thinking, reasoning, or writing skills during their first two years of college. After graduation 16 percent “showed no significant gains in these so-called “higher order” thinking skills.”

Arum’s studies showed that according to McClatchy.com, Mitchell Stevens, associate professor of Education and Sociology, at NYU is a colleague of Arum’s and he says that students and professors are not working to their potential and refers to this as “a fairly chronic phenomenon.” Stevens claims that professors are lowering their standards to keep students happy so that is less things that the professors need to worry about. Although Stevens made these comments he made sure to be clear that he is not putting down the value of college education. Not every college student is worried about the amount of naps they are getting or which party they are going to be at this weekend. What the study doesn’t show is how many of the students they studied are working full-time jobs and going to school. For many students across the country who are paying their own tuition for college it may be hard for them to be completely focused some days when they have to worry about how they are paying for their education.

With the state of our economy financial matters are paying a toll to everyone and can create a distraction to even the most motivated of students. Christine Walker, a senior at DePauw University in Indiana who is student body president, said “the study doesn’t reflect my own experience.” Some students may agree that not every class they take is going to spark their brain cells. That’s one of the greatest advantages about taking part in higher education, you have the opportunity to take classes that you are interested in and allow yourself to be passionate about something you enjoy. Some may agree with this study that was done, but the other 4,352 colleges and universities in the country might have a different opinion.
Graduate School Information Sessions

- Anthropology (begins Fall 2011)
- Business Administration (MBA) - Accelerated MBA option
- Computer Science
- Corporate & Public Communication
- Criminal Justice
- Education (MAT, MEL, MSEd) - Accelerated MAT option
- English
- Financial Mathematics
- History
- Mental Health Counseling
- Nursing
- Doctor of Nursing Practice (begins Summer 2011)
- Psychological Counseling
- Public Policy
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- Software Engineering

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A SNEAK PEEK OF “THE CONSPIRATOR”
MOVIE TOURS THEATRES MARCH 16

ALEX FILLIMON
STAFF WRITER

R.E.M. Drops New Album, But Has No Plans of Going on Tour

The alternative rock band, R.E.M., released their new album “Collapse Into Now” in Europe on March 7 and in the United States on March 8. Ever since the album was first announced for release, fans have been counting down the days until the album was available for download. The 80’s alternative rock band includes Peter Buck, Michael Stipe, and Mike Mills. These musicians are continuing to make their mark in music. Other musicians, such as Pattie Smith, Pearl Jam’s Eddie Vedder, Peaches, Lenny Kravitz, and Patti Smith, are also featured on the album. If purchased on iTunes, there are bonus tracks that are included, which are “Discoverer,” “Oh My God,” and “Accelerate.”

In order to promote the new album, the band released 12 long-form music videos from directors including James Franco, Jim Herbert, and the lead singer Stipe. The bassist, Mills, compared their last album, “Accelerate,” by saying, “the band wanted this new one to be more expansive. We wanted to put more variety into it and not limit ourselves to any one type of song. There are some really slow, beautiful songs; there are some nice, mid-tempo ones; and then there are three or four rockers.”

He has spoken about the album’s theme, saying: “It’s more of a personal record than a political one. Current events do come out of our minds when we write, but the themes here are more universal.”

The album was released in 2008, containing music that was much faster and more aggressive in all the best ways, but still capable of being comforting. “Collapse” mostly does just what that implies — takes tricks and scrunches them into a crackling current-guitar-band sound. It’s a record that sounds like it was made by a band, instead of an icon. In all the Best, Mike Stipe, the lead singer, sings, “Let’s show the kids how to do it fine, and they do.”

Josh Modell of Spin wrote, “Here they discover the glow of middle age, warmly acknowledging the past, hello again, Peter Buck’s mandolin, while realizing that the present can feel just as comforting. "Collapse" mostly sounds like a familiar friend, reliable in all the best ways, but still capable of making surprising surprises. This album is host to more such complexity than anything since 1998’s ‘Up,’ but ‘Collapse Into Now’ still sounds like the work of a band caught between old habits and new adventures.”

“Collapse Into Now” is R.E.M.’s 15th album. Out of all of the other 14 albums, this one has received the most praise from fans and critics, including myself. Due to the versatility and uniqueness of the songs, this album will be tough to top.

The Outlook
March 16, 2011

AMANDA REMLING
GRADUATE ASSISTANT

“A story that no one knows always interests me,” says Robert Redford, director of “The Conspirator.” Redford is right. Hold onto your seats because you’re about to be transported back to a time of war. Abraham Lincoln has just been shot, the streets are filled with chaos, and the men who planned the assassination are on the run.

We all know how President Lincoln was assassinated, but unless you are a civil war historian, very few people are aware of the injustice that happened afterwards. Robert Redford’s direction enlightens us on the true story of what happened to the seven men and one woman that were arrested for conspiracy and with conspiring to kill President Lincoln, Vice President Andrew Johnson, and Secretary of State William H. Seward.

It’s up to Frederick Aiken (James McAvoy), a Union soldier, who was hero to turned lawyer to defend Mary Surratt (Robin Wright), the long-lost sister of conspiring to kill the President. Mary Surratt, a former Confederate, and her husband John Wilkes Booth and others (including Mary’s son John Surratt) were arrested and tried for conspiring to kill President Lincoln in the press conference that “Johnson was perhaps the weakest President we had in history.”

Another comical scene rose from a more serious situation, where the conspirators were brought into the courtroom for trial for the first time. While most of the crew in the courtroom “booed” the conspirators, one component decided to better show his distaste by hissing. Needless to say, I have also adapted this hysterical noise to show my dislike for others.

While the audience may wish that some scenes could be less choppy and more explored, it is understandable that Redford had a lot to fit into a short time span. When making the time period look believable in costumes and scenery, the crew did a beauti- ful job. “Every time Evan [Rachel Wood] sat down, the dress would fall apart a little more,” said costume designer, Louise Frogley. They even gained unexpected help from around 50 Civil War re-enactors. These actors showed up every morning dressed in authentic unif- forms with accurate props right down to their water canteens.

“The Conspirator” sheds light on one of the toughest times our country has faced, and the hunt for revenge that resulted from it. If you’re look- ing for intense action scenes, a heart breaking love story, or the usual Justin Long comedy then this movie is not for you. How- ever, if you are interested in learning more about the history of this country (while checking out a very foxy McAvoy) then you be sure to see “The Conspirator” when it opens in theaters April 15.

Editors Note: Amanda was granted access to an advanced screening of “The Conspirator,” as well as a press conference with Robert Redford (the director), as an attendee of the Associated Collegiate Press National College Convention held in Hollywood, Calif. March 3-6.
**Matthew Fisher**

Entertainment

Sometimes a movie grabs viewers and places them into the story. It could come from a fake documentary angle like “Cloverfield” or be so intense that one feels unable to escape the danger and disconnect with characters. However, in the anime alien invasion flick, “Battle: Los Angeles,” the fear of the unknown is interactively, like a video game.

Director Jonathan Liebesman takes a script that creates a strong video games presence, making this special effects movie feel like a live-action “Call of Duty” or “Halo” movie while scenes act like levels.

When a platoon of marines enters L.A., they walk slowly waiting for the enemy. Suddenly, as aliens blast the soldiers, the action moves around at 360 degrees as fast as guns blast out targets like one could do with a game controller. In fact, one could watch this movie with or without sound and still understand the story, much like playing on a mute.

Yet, Liebesman also treats this movie as entertainment, the camera moving as if recording this for history. Character introduction, action sequences, and even some of the human characters have a presence of reality featured in pictures or the news as well as films like “The Hurt Locker” (minus external injuries). While this allows the viewer to feel more involved, it does affect the rhythm of the story since the aliens are mainly seen in groups and actions, with the exception of an interesting autopsy on one of these creatures.

Liebesman generates this alien threat with spacecrafts and machines, but by pushing the aliens away, it diminishes the fear they represent.

“Battle: Los Angeles” focuses on Marine Staff Sergeant Michael Nantz (Aaron Eckhart), who is about to retire but is still haunted about a botched mission. While training soldiers, Nantz and every other soldier are told to report back to their base in Los Angeles a month later as fall-out from Los Angeles as meteors are fall- ing (as well as other major worldwide coast cit- ies).

In one scene, enemies exit the water and blast people to dust, these marines prepare to enter battle. Under the leadership of Second Lieutenant Wil- liam Martinez (Ramon Rodri- guez), Corporals Jason Locket (Cory Hardrict), Nick Stavrou (Gino Anthony Pesi), and Lance Corporal Steven Motollah (James Hi- royuki Iida), Richard Guerrero (Neil Grayston), and Taylor Handley, Private First Class Shaun Lenihan (Noel Fish- er), the squad comes to L.A. for a mission of survival (Adetokumbok M’Cormack) are told that they have three hours to fight the aliens and civilian before a bomb is dropped on the city.

Once in combat, they realize this threat is beyond anything they have prepared for. As some soldiers get picked off, others continue to fight as they slowly disintegrate in the invasion. Despite opposition, Nantz demonstrates his strength to rectifying the past by fighting to save L.A. While this is a large cast that presents a strong company, the more memorable ac- tors are familiar figures. Eckhart works better than Nantz more than the typical ready-to-retire-before-be- ing-called-back-into-action hero. He does fine acting and appears like a soldier, whether shouting orders and silently mounting field commands. In fact, with Eckhart’s rugged character and square jaw, he looks like a real-life G.I. Joe. While nothing special, Eckhart does show he can easily enter whatever genre he is placed in.

Meanwhile, Michelle Rodriguez enters a friend. Unlike “Castlevania: Harmony of Despair,” “Hard Corps: Uprising” presents it this way. This in turn makes the movie focus more on action and fights between humans and aliens instead of being equal with characters. Certain fights scenes about the changing difficulty of the battle but are all over the place and lose viewers. One of the few clear scenes had Nantz defenders of the alien drone by exploding gas tanks. Here the action was well structured and planned to present some good conflict into the chaos of this battle. Like a civilian, Michelle (Bridgeport Mon- nahan), said to Nantz, “Thank you for that,” it was something that helped to enjoy the film.

The other star of the film was the special and visual effects which turned this comic-book sci-fi story into a real movie. It’s mostly done so in this manner. However, the holographic-like video game elements of this battle with the flying drones that looked like mechanical bundt cakes as they broke apart seems to be ripped from the city. Beyond this, the set design nicely featured the appearance of a war-torn city with rubble lying on the ground and dilapidating building.

This PG-13 alien invasion tale might appeal to fans of science fiction, or even war movies for that matter. There are certain moments worth investing in, but appreciating video games somewhat helps enjoy the movie.

As Air Force Tech Sergeant Elena Santos adds some energy with her introduction. Her stamina and presence makes Santos a helpful ally, both on the field and for technical support, while also showing this soldier can be as tough as any of the man among hails of bullets against these aliens.

Bertolino’s script attempts to present a small scale “Independence Day.” Instead of showing all the global attacks from New York to Tokyo, “Battle: Los Angeles” concentrates on the “City of Angels.” It takes what could have been a large scale battles with minor characters. This allows viewers to see everything happening to these two guys fighting off an army of aliens, which explains the familiar Grotesque Konami code. If you like the punishing difficulty that was never part of a story into the main plot, “Harmony of Despair” although not as Currency, as it is all on hover boards, and level five is a stealth level. Victory is aptly, and it makes the game a very unique experience.

Hard Corps: Uprising” has two game modes that crosses your path. It’s vintage style with an own-hires. In hard mode, “Hard Corps: Uprising” has to of- fer. Arcade mode is the standard one, with limited, limited lives, and a borderline insane dif- ficulty.

However, there is relief for those that need a softer push. Upris- ing mode allows you to customize your character by increasing their health, life count, and even weapon accuracy without sacrificing its currency, as currency, so if level six is beating you too much, go back and play level one again to get the points for that extra life bar. You’d be sur- prised at the difference it can make. As all Contra games are, this is really sci-fi terribly difficult. That’s why this game is best played with a friend. Unlike “Castlevania: Harmony of Despair,” “Hard Corps: Uprising” allows both online and offline co-op. That means only one of you has to pay for the XBOX and the game, and the other can just freeload!

Leveling in between levels is somewhat long, usually a bit longer than it takes to read the text which reveals more of the story. The trad- itional is that everything in the level is already fully loaded, so there isn’t a need to wait for the boss to appear, or for the next part of the level to load. The level ends as a friend. Un- like some of Konami’s other titles that have been mentioned, there is a very good online system which allows you want to pick which kind of game you want to play, rather than just a mission that turned this into a typical story, it might lag, and that can actually cause a delay in controller recep- tion. However, it presents a story that it takes a second for the game to catch up. You don’t want that when there’s a barrage of mis- cells coming your way.

In “Hard Corps: Uprising” and minor lag issues, “Hard Corps: Up- rising” definitely helps home with the online component. As the game will love the insane difficulty, but the former new gamer with a quick save games might not be pulled in. Thankfully, “Uprising” mode is there for those that can’t handle the challenge of arcade mode. “Hard Corps: Uprising” gets a very respectable nine out of ten.

**“Hard Corps: Uprising” Takes place in the year 2013, when the world is ruled by an empire known as the Commonwealth.

**Hard Corps: Uprising** Scores a 9 out of 10

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**“This BATTLE” Has Several Victories and a Few Weak Spots**

By NICK SEGRETO

**“Outlook Film Critic”**

March 16, 2011

The Seoul Times

Konnami is infamous among video gamers for making glitch-creating pieces, “Contra,” among many other classic titles. A simple game about two guys fighting off an army of aliens by themselves, with nothing but three lives and a few power ups. It had easy enough controls, but a certain moment worth investing in, but appreciating video games somewhat helps enjoy the movie.

For that extra life bar. You’d be sup- rised at the difference it can make. As all Contra games are, this is really sci-fi terribly difficult. That’s why this game is best played with a friend. Unlike “Castlevania: Harmony of Despair,” “Hard Corps: Uprising” allows both online and offline co-op. That means only one of you has to pay for the XBOX and the game, and the other can just freeload!

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University Roots & Shoots Chapter Holds Collection Drive

"Wildlife may not seem important, but they are. Everything in the ecosystem is connected," said Kyle Seiverd, President of Monmouth County's Roots & Shoots chapter, about the club's collection drive for supplies to benefit local wildlife rehabilitation.

Roots & Shoots was founded on the three pillars: helping the community, animals, and environment. This semester, the group chose to focus on helping animals.

"Wildlife is an important aspect that a lot of people put on the back burner, or almost forget about," said Seiverd, explaining why they chose wildlife over other animals. "Most of the collections done for shelters are for dogs or cats.

Most people are not aware of the role that wildlife plays in the environment. Regardless of whether or not you see the effects, everything goes full circle," Seiverd continued.

"You might not think of a fox as being beneficial, but they keep the rabbit population in check. Owls do the same for the rodent population. "Their mouths are opening and closing all the time," said Seiverd, continuing, "Their reasoning is to perform some active or under-inclusive...the only proper way to test the reliability of the keyword search is to perform some appropriate sampling."

"It's all about the animals." The NJ based non-profit, Animal Rehabilitation Alliance of NJ, has set up a hotline to help the public deal with wild animal encounters. If you find an orphaned or injured animal, call 1-877-4-SAV-WIL (1-877-472-8945).

Donations for the drive can be delivered to room E-271 (Edison Science Building- Biology Department Office) until the end of March. For questions, contact Kyle at 610-850-5161.

Watch out rabbit! Foxes help keep the rabbit population in check.

PHOTO COURTESY of wildlifenorthamerica.com

The Outlook
Thrifty Student Traveling: Los Angeles

ELLEN WARREN
WHT CAMPUS

This all started because I was too lazy to hang up my clothes. A couple of weeks ago, I was changing my clothes after work and tossed my pants on a bedroom chair. Suddenly, I dropped them on the floor.

The next morning, the pants were still there. I was right the first time—containing pure laziness. I just picked up the pants, put them on, and continued as if nothing had happened.

For two weeks I wore the same dark gray pants. There was not so much as a raised eyebrow from the people who saw me everyday. PANTS, Days 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, and 10. No reaction. Nothing.

What I learned is a lesson for us all. We don’t need a closet packed with stuff. A few wardrobe workhorses will go a long way building a stylish look. And basics don’t have to be expensive. I bought this particular pair of unlined wool by MAXMARA, for $60 at a consignment store. And I’ve seen $10 suits for men and women at Goodwill that could be the backbone of a versatile and varied personal fashion statement. Think of dark pants or a simple black dress or skirt as your back-drop. Scarves, jewelry, a simple shirt, a jacket, a sweater, a belt, some interesting shoes, or even completely change your look as you did mine during my two-week experiment.

In the past few years there have been a variety of well-publicized wardrobe simplification movements like Six Items or Less, style.courtsless.com, where participants pick a dozen basic items and wear only those for a month (with lots of exclusions like underwear, shoes, heavy coats, accessories, workout wear). Or, the Great American Apparel Diet, thegreatamericanapparrel-diet.com, whose participants vow to buy nothing for a year (exceptions here, too, like shoes, under-ware, accessories). And then there is ‘Project Runway’s’ Tim Gunn, here are the 10 essentials every woman needs in her wardrobe:

- BASIC BLACK DRESS
- TRENCH COAT
- CLASSIC DRESS PANTS
- CLASSIC WHITE SHIRT
- VERSATILE SKIRT
- BLAZER OR JACKET
- DAY DRESS
- CASHMERE SWEATER OR ANY OCCASION TOP
- JEANS
- A COMFORTABLE SWEATSUIT ALTERNATIVE

For two weeks I wore the same dark gray pants. There was not so much as a raised eyebrow from the people who saw me everyday. PANTS, Days 3 was the same as PANTS, Days 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, and 10. No reaction. Nothing.

right back on and headed for work. PANTS, Day 2: Nobody seemed to notice that I was wearing the same thing everyday—my spurious and my cu- bicule mates.

That’s when I decided on my little experiment. I’d wear the same pants every day. I figured it was only a matter of time until someone suggested it was time for a change. It never happened.

For two weeks I wore the same dark gray pants. There was not so much as a raised eyebrow from the people who saw me everyday. PANTS, Days 3 was the same as PANTS, Days 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, and 10. No reaction. Nothing.
The Outdoors Club will be hosting a zip-lining trip to the longest and highest zip-lining spot in North America located on Hunter Mountain in New York. Zip-lining is an adventure sport, based on Hunter Mountain, that allows people to experience zip-lining tours located throughout their resort. According to the club’s website, the resort features over four miles of zip-line, some reaching over 1,500 feet in length, and 300 feet in the air. Those attending the trip will be taking part in the longest and highest zip-lining spot in North America, which is considered intermediate compared to what the mountain has to offer.

Greg Cenicola, trip coordinator, said, “The trip is an overnight event that involves each participant to experience the Mid-Mountain Tour at Zipline Adventures at Hunter Mountain. Afterwards the group will be staying overnight at Brookwood Campgrounds. On Sunday morning the members are able to relax or go hiking to a lakeside before staying overnight at Brookwood Campgrounds. On Monday morning the members are able to relax or go hiking to a lakeside before being picked up by a local school bus.” Cenicola had previously spoken to Professor Reynolds, about future trip ideas. “I mentioned my experience zip-lining in the Juneau Alaskan rainforest and the longest and highest zip-lining spot in North America located on Hunter Mountain,” Cenicola said. “I suggested zip-lining for the spring semester and Professor Reynolds immediately put me in charge. I made a few calls to the mountain to discuss group deals and found an affordable campground nearby. Cenicola is hoping to become a supervisor for the Outdoors Club next semester and was thrilled to be able to put such a great trip together. Depending on the amount of funding received from the Student Government Association, the trip can range anywhere from $25 to $60 a student. The club is asking for a $20 deposit in order to sign up for the trip and will then request more money based on the funding received.”

According to Reynolds, the trip includes customized t-shirts, five meals, camp site, transportation, admission to the zip-line facility, hiking, campfire and perhaps cabins, if the budget allows. Cenicola said, “The trips are a great way to meet new people and have an adventure. Last semester I never thought I’d be kayaking through rapids and building ziplines. I never mind organizing a trip and being in charge.” The Outdoors Club has hosted events in the past such as white water rafting, kayaking, camping, and hiking. The club regularly takes part in camp clean-ups, where they spend part of the day cleaning up the parks in addition to enjoying the nice weather, hiking, and biking. They also have a paintball trip in Pennsylvania coming up this Saturday, March 19. The Club is always looking for more members and more ideas. They are extremely open to suggestions, and Professor Reynolds, as the club’s advisor, said, “I will do everything he can to make a trip happen just short of paying for it himself.” Reynolds said, “You should always be adding to your bucket list.”

The club meets at 3:45 pm every other Wednesday on the second floor of Bey Hall. Anyone interested in signing up can send an email to Cenicola at sc071388@monmouth.edu.
Students to Showcase Variety of Talents

Sigma Pi Plans to Host Their Annual Monmouth’s Got Talent

JORDAN FUREY  STAFF WRITER

Sigma Pi will be hosting Monmouth’s Got Talent in April in a date to be announced in order to raise money for alcohol awareness in support of their gener- thropy, the SAM Spady Foun- tion, in the Pollak Theatre. The auction will be held for five dollars before the event and seven dollars at the door. First, sec-

ond, and third place winners will receive prizes donated by local businesses. Monmouth’s Got Talent is a student talent show which any student can participate in. If you can sing, dance, play an instru- ment, or put together a comedy act, you can perform at this event and hopefully win some prizes. Monmouth’s Got Talent is being put together by Jimmy Vandervalk, junior, and presi- dent of Sigma Pi.

“We are really looking for- ward to Monmouth’s Got Tal- ent. Right now we are getting ready by finding sponsors for the prizes and setting the date. Each year has had a great turn out so we expect everything to go well this year. It’s going to be a great night don’t miss it,” said Vandervalk. Monmouth’s Got Talent is an annual event that Sigma Pi puts together. In past events, there has been a range from 10 to 15 acts. Students of all ages partici- pate and judges consist of fellow University students. Traci Luisi, junior, said, “I went to Monmouth’s Got Tal- ent last year and it was a lot of fun. I went to support my good friend who was singing as her talent. The audience was really supportive and sung along. I had so much fun watching and my friend had a lot of fun singing, and it’s all for a great cause. I can’t wait to see the acts for this year’s Monmouth’s Got Talent.”

The SAM Spady Foundation is a non-profit organization that was founded in memory of Samantha Spady, a 19-year-old who died of alcohol poisoning in 2004 at Colorado State University. SAM stands for Student Alcohol Management and is aimed towards helping students and also educating students on al- cohol awareness to help prevent alcohol poisoning.

The proceeds raised at Mon- mouth’s Got Talent will help fund research and development for the Sam Spady Foundation and also help the foundation fund student alcohol management programs. The mission of the Sam Spady Foundation is to “educate par- ents and students on the dangers of alcohol, specifically high risk consumption, and the signs and sym- ptoms of alcohol poisoning,” according to their website. If you would like to learn more about the Sam Spady Foundation or would like to donate, you can go to www.samspadyfoundation.org.

Circle K

The Italian Club will be hosting their annual event “Festa Ita- lia” on March 31 from 11:30 am to 1:00 pm in the Wilson Auditor- ium. Hope to see you all there!

Circle K will be meeting in the Student Center room 202 Thurs- days at 7:30 pm. We hope to see everyone there in order to make the world a better place!

Hillel

Do you like pizza? If so, come join Hillel every Wednesday for pizza, sponsored by the Chabad, in the Student Center at 3:30 pm. Come and join us for some free pizza!
What improvements would you like to see in University dining?

COMPILED BY: MELISSA ROSKOWSKI

Felicia
sophomore

“The student center should offer more healthy options and longer operating hours.”

Lastny
senior

“Meals in the student center need to be cheaper.”

Philip
sophomore

“The quality of food could be improved in the dining hall.”

TJ
junior

“Later hours in the dining hall, the current ones don’t fit with a student’s lifestyle.”

Frank
senior

“We should be able to use ‘meal swipes’ in the student center as well as the dining hall.”

Rakesh
graduate

“More chicken, it is a staple in international cuisine and there is a lack of it in the dining hall.”

John
junior

“Consistency, the food tastes different depending on what day you go.”

Rebekeh
junior

“More variety in the dining hall.”

Tina
junior

“Quicker service in the student center for when you are in between class.”

Kara
junior

“Healthy options besides salad and maybe include organic produce.”

You Got Questions? We Got Answers... Get Them, Tuesday, March 22nd

Communication Career Event

March 7th - April 13th

Relay For Life
American Cancer Society

drive4books
Give your old books a chance to be new again!
- ALL ACCEPTED IN REUSABLE CONDITION -
- BOOKS (academic, fiction, non-fiction...)
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- DVD’s
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- VIDEO GAMES
- AUDIO BOOKS
- NO VHS TAPES AT THIS TIME

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SERVICES AVAILABLE

NETWORKING
Connect with professionals and MU Communication Alum who are leaders in the field.

RESUME BUILDING
Get your resume reviewed by business professionals.

INSIDE SCOOP FROM THE PROS
Learn what it takes to get to where you want with you got. Learn how to be creative in the job market, and position yourself for a job that you didn’t initially imagine.

MU Network Connection from 3:00 pm - 4:30 pm
Get some face time with other students, alums and field professionals. Take this opportunity to establish relationships and make mutually beneficial connections.

Whatever position you’re in, current student, recent graduate or alumnus, you will benefit from this practical, free one day event.

Join us for the Communication Career Event on:
Tuesday, March 22nd, from 1:00 pm - 4:30 pm
Pros Panel Discussions at 1:00 pm and 2:15 pm on what you can do with a Communication degree, and how to prepare for a career. Learn how to be creative in the job market, and position yourself for a job that you didn’t initially imagine.

MU Network Connection from 3:00 pm - 4:30 pm Get some face time with other students, alums and field professionals. Take this opportunity to establish relationships and make mutually beneficial connections.

Alums and business professionals can meet with our rising seniors, and make contacts with some of our best and brightest. If you’re interested in participating in a panel, the networking event, or both, please email at cdell@monmouth.edu.

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MBA Students: We need your help now!
Tell us about your Monmouth experience!
Deadline is Friday, March 18.

http://survey.review.com/ss

The Princeton Review’s “Best Business Schools” profiles will be based on survey responses from students like yourself!

Just enter your Monmouth e-mail address to log in.

The Princeton Review takes your privacy seriously. Personal information will not be shared with any third party unless you give permission. The full privacy policy can be accessed from the student survey login page.

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STACEY LANNERT
“Speaking Out”
Wednesday, March 23rd
3:00 pm Pollak Theatre

Stacey Lannert was recently released from prison where she served 18 years for killing the man who raped her for 10 years. That man was her father. Stacey never lost her ability to love life and learn from it even though she was sentenced to life without parole. In 2009, the governor granted her clemency and she walked out of the prison gates. Through the power of love and forgiveness, she created a meaningful life for herself from behind bars. Filled with compassion, hope, humility, and even wit, Stacey’s thought-provoking messages serve many purposes.

Stacey has appeared on programs such as The Oprah Winfrey Show, 20/20, and Larry King Live.

Strong, Hopeful and Charismatic Stacey Lannert does not just speak about overcoming childhood sexual abuse… she connects with her audience and allows them to feel her pain.
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March 16, 2011
Announcements
The creative team for "Flashpoint" will be two comic superstars: writer Geoff Johns (also the writer of "The Flash") and artist Andy Kubert.

In an interview with DC Comics’ blog, "The Source," Kubert explained the process of bringing this story to life. He said, "We started working on character designs last spring and it took a good few months to get those going. There were a lot of characters to redesign and we had to coordinate them with DC Direct and all the people involved with that. Sounds simple with redesigning, but it’s not. There’s a lot of thought, sketches, ideas and themes tossed back in forth with everyone involved. You don’t just push a button and out comes a redesign."

Characters that Johns and Kubert are rototiling include Batman and Wonder Woman as well as secondary heroes like Deadman, Aquaman, and Abin Sur, a Green Lantern. Even the celebrity商iving—-but actual reality saving—hero, Booster Gold, will have ‘Booster Gold’ #44 act as a jumping on point for his adventure through “Flashpoint.”

Besides the five “Flashpoint” issues and four tie-in issues with “The Flash,” a total of 15 mini-series will expand upon this new world. Paying homage to the Superman title, “Whatever Happened to the Man of Tomorrow?” categories for these sidestories range from “Whatever Happened to Gotham City?” (i.e. "Flashpoint: Batman Knight of Vengeance") to "Whatever Happened to Science & Magic?" (i.e. "Flashpoint: Secret Seven").

In Comic Shop News, Johns (via "The Source") described how “Flashpoint” as a whole will be a rude awakening for the Scarlet Speedster. "Flash will learn what the universe would be like if the world’s greatest superheroes never became the world’s greatest superheroes. When, how, and why everything changes and what that means to the future of the DC Universe will be answered in the series," Johns said.

In addition to familiar faces getting spun around, Johns continued to say how readers will also have a chance to be introduced to some new faces like Blackout. He said, "You won’t just see the DC Universe shaken up, you’ll see characters you’ve never met who’ve come into existence because of the historical damage done to the past."

However, it isn’t only the heroes that are being transformed but the villains as well. Enemies of the Flash like Captain Cold will have their own mini-series plus other well known enemies like the deadly Deathstroke.

Recently, it was announced that a Reverse Flash mini-series will be released called "Flashpoint: Reverse Flash II" and be written by former "Flash" artist Scott Kolins and illustrated by Joel Gomez. At this time, there is nothing known about what this title will be about.

What is interesting is that, according to a solicitation for “Flash” #13 which leads toward “Flashpoint,” the Reverse Flash is said to be the Flash of the future yet any clear information about his purpose or connection to "Flashpoint: Reverse Flash" is unknown at this time.

Barry Allen fought the good fight, died, and came back from the dead. While the premise of "Flashpoint" is to redesign and we had to have that. Sounds simple with redesigning, but it’s not. There’s a lot of thought, sketches, ideas and themes tossed back in forth with everyone involved. You don’t just push a button and out comes a redesign."

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Characters that Johns and Kubert are rototiling include Batman and Wonder Woman as well as secondary heroes like Deadman, Aquaman, and Abin Sur, a Green Lantern. Even the celebrity saving—-but actual reality saving—hero, Booster Gold, will have ‘Booster Gold’ #44 act as a jumping on point for his adventure through “Flashpoint.”

Besides the five “Flashpoint” issues and four tie-in issues with “The Flash,” a total of 15 mini-series will expand upon this new world. Paying homage to the Superman title, “Whatever Happened to the Man of Tomorrow?” categories for these sidestories range from “Whatever Happened to Gotham City?” (i.e. "Flashpoint: Batman Knight of Vengeance") to "Whatever Happened to Science & Magic?" (i.e. "Flashpoint: Secret Seven").

In Comic Shop News, Johns (via "The Source") described how “Flashpoint” as a whole will be a rude awakening for the Scarlet Speedster. "Flash will learn what the universe would be like if the world’s greatest superheroes never became the world’s greatest superheroes. When, how, and why everything changes and what that means to the future of the DC Universe will be answered in the series," Johns said.

In addition to familiar faces getting spun around, Johns continued to say how readers will also have a chance to be introduced to some new faces like Blackout. He said, "You won’t just see the DC Universe shaken up, you’ll see characters you’ve never met who’ve come into existence because of the historical damage done to the past."

However, it isn’t only the heroes that are being transformed but the villains as well. Enemies of the Flash like Captain Cold will have their own mini-series plus other well known enemies like the deadly Deathstroke.

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Men's Basketball Begins to Move Out of the Calloway Era

BRETT BONNER MANAGING EDITOR

As the search for a new head bas-
ketball coach continues, the fact that Dave Calloway is no longer the head coach is now beginning to settle in with the team, as well as the rest of the University.

“Well it definitely affects my life. I really couldn't tell you, I don't know if it's a good thing or a bad thing,” said sophomore guard Ed Whitehead. “I feel like he had a good coach. I felt like he should have gotten another chance, because you can't keep blaming the things on one guy when other people aren't getting it done. It's like in the choir room, we played two seasons in a row with half the team.

"I think Calloway could not be reached for comment for this article."

Fortunately for Calloway, the University felt it was time for a change after four consecutive losing seasons and 14 cases of player suspensions, transfers, and other variances. Calloway was not able to hang on to a few star caliber players like Travis Taylor and Travis Youngblood. Travis Youngblood, who was the team's leading scorer last season and the season before that. Youngblood was one of the most promising players to enter the program. He decided to transfer to Rider University to play. Youngblood blames Calloway's style of play for the reason that people transferred not personal vendettas against the coach.

Youngblood chose to transfer because of the "fact that he [Calloway] admittedly stated that the system wasn't changing for any or other players. He was a traditionalist, and I don't blame him. It was a style that he had success in as a player and as a coach. Who am I to change a system like, 'Eh?' It was frustrating at times playing a style of basketball that I really didn't want to play," said Youngblood.

Youngblood also added that leaving was not the right time to transfer and that Calloway may have made some mistakes with re-
cruiting he brought in.

"He is an ingratiating man and coach. He was just unfortunate in recruiting decisions. The style in which he wanted his players to play isn't the style that most players de-
sired to play," said Youngblood.

Travis Taylor could not be reached for comment for this ar-
ticle.

Charles Krzitz is a former team manager of the Men's Basketball team and he felt that losing players was really hurt Coach Call-

"I can't speak on behalf of Jamar Youngblood but when Travis trans-
ferred I feel it really hurt coach. He treated him great so when he trans-
ferred it was like he was stabbed in the back. Coach treated him great but in return was left high and dry," said Krzitz.

Krzitz also touched on the fact that sometimes the players and Calloway didn't see eye to eye, but "it is part of the game. Everybody wants to win at the end of the day and throughout the long season peoples stress levels wear thin."

Despite all of the losing that has occurred over the past five sea-
sons, Calloway was still well liked not only around the university, but around the NEC as well.

Noreen Morris, NEC Commis-
sioner since January 2010, had nothing but nice things to say about Calloway. "Dave is a quality indi-
vidual, who is so ingratiated in the fabric of Monmouth Men's Bas-
rketball. He has done a lot to move Monmouth athletics forward and he was also a great ambassador and representative of the NEC," said Morris.

The future of the program is still hanging in the balance.

A new coach has not been named yet and the future of the current players is still to be determined as both Ed Waite and Marcus Ware declined to comment on their fu-
ture.

Waret felt that the "resignation" might be a bad thing for the team. "I feel like in under him, he rec-
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munity," said Ware.
In the last regular season game of the year, the Hawks headed to Hamden, Connecticut to take on Quinnipiac University. There they got one in a six point victory for Monmouth, and then clinched them the second seed in the NEC tournament. With the win, the Hawks finished their regular season at 21-3 and 15-5 within the NEC. The two wins were the most for the Hawks in twenty five years, and is the third time that the Hawks have won a win total in MU program’s history.

In this back and forth battle, Alysha Womack was one of four Hawks to reach double digits, and she led this group, scoring 13 points while Erin Rooney and Abby Martin each added 13 points. The trio combined for nearly 50 points of scoring and Martin and Rooney combined for 17 rebounds.

The other Hawk to reach double figures was Alexis Canady, who scored 10 points and also grabbed six rebounds. A 5-0 Womack scoring run with nearly twenty minutes remaining helped seal the deal for the Hawks, and Rooney had a clutch block and then was sent to the free throw line on the same possession, making one of her key foul shots.

Clutch play from Monmouth early on helped push the Hawks to the lead, but the four Hawks who scored double figures helped propel MU. By the time the opener, they had already grabbed an 11 point lead. Monmouth’s 51 percent shooting in the second half helped seal the deal, and following a significant QU comeback, half time, they led by 15 points.

The Hawks entered the locker room with a 45-21 lead, and with 11 minutes, 35 seconds remaining in the game, the Hawks had the lead at only seven points. A quick scoring run in the second half brought the game closer for Monmouth, and Alysha Womack’s three-pointer nearly diminished the RMU lead.

Canady’s three pointer also brought the game to within single digits, and with 14 minutes remaining, the Hawks grabbed the lead. Following the big three pointers, the Hawks went on a 4-1 scoring run, making the game seemingly out of reach for MU.

At that point, she would play between 17 points. A scoring drought didn’t help Monmouth much, and they continued to fall in the second half, and eventually fell by the aforementioned 15 point margin.

On Sunday, March 13, in the NEC final, four in the league one and two seeds, the Hawks against Saint Francis.

The Hawks struggled throughout the game and ultimately met a disappointing defeat, 72-57. Saint Francis is on an early three point lead, and soon doubled that lead to six points just minutes later, and the Red Flash shot 60 percent early on. NEC Player of the Year Samantha Leach increased the Red Flash lead to nine points following her jumper and the time the half ended, they led the Hawks by twelve points, 36-24.

MU shot 41 percent early on, and were kept in the game by Martin’s three pointers. Womack brought the lead to only four points. But following Womack’s three, the Red Flash went on a 14-1 scoring run, making the game seemingly out of reach for MU. At that point, she would play between 17 points. A scoring drought didn’t help Monmouth much, and they continued to fall in the second half, and eventually fell by the aforementioned 15 point margin.

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So Close...

Yet So Far Away

Women’s basketball comes up short in the NEC Championship game, losing to Saint Francis 72-57.

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