Students Hit $10,000 Shot, Called for ‘Violation’

ALYSSA GRAY
Acting Managing Editor

During halftime at a women’s basketball game on Sunday, Dec. 7, University student Robbie Panasuk, a junior English major, completed the $10,000 half-court challenge in less than 25 seconds, but was later denied the prize money by the Athletics Department due to having prior experience as a high school Varsity basketball player.

Panasuk unknowingly violated the participation contract that all contestants are required to sign prior to competing which stipulates the terms and conditions of the challenge. The contract states in section 9-D that the participant agrees to not being a “Current or former high school basketball player or coach who has played or coached at that level anywhere in the world with the past five (5) years.”

Panasuk said that he hadn’t known about the condition upon signing the form prior to competing in the 25-second out-shot. “I was not aware of the rule. I skinned the contract, but they did say it to read it,” Panasuk said. “I just assumed there was going to be a rule that said I wasn’t allowed to play any high school sports.”

According to regulations provided by the Monmouth University Athletics Department, the challenge gives a selected participant 25 seconds to make four shots in sequence: a lay-up, a shot from behind the free throw line, a shot from behind the three-point line, and a shot from behind the half court line. This feat has never been completed prior to Sunday’s game, when Panasuk finished the challenge with just two seconds to spare.

After the challenge was completed, Panasuk was informed by the Athletics Department that he was not eligible to claim the prize due to his high school basketball team. “I’m not sure of their (athletics representatives’) names, but they came down and told me I was ineligible.”

Eddy Occhipinti, Assistant Athletics Director for Marketing, spoke on behalf of Athletics concerning the ending contest result and Panasuk’s inability to claim the full $10,000. “The Athletics Department runs contests like this one throughout basketball season. The way it works is that a third party company gives us the requirements for participation that contestants are made aware of prior to the promotion. They must agree to the eligibility requirements and sign the contract prior to the promotion.”

If an individual does not meet these requirements, they cannot claim the advertised prize, he said.

Around 5:30 pm, shortly after the game concluded and the decision had been given to Panasuk, news began circulating on the anonymous social media app, Yik Yak. The social media site was quickly flooded with gossip surrounding the contest and many students voiced their frustration. One person joked, “I count my blessings to not pay that kid $10,000 because they need that money to keep the Peace Officer off the court.” That Yak received over 45 “ups.”

Shortly after the conversation jumped over to Yik Yak, a cell phone video filmed by Collin Stewart, a member of the men’s basketball team and a sophomore computer science major, made its way onto Facebook. Stewart posted, “Robbie Panasuk, you are a champion #10thousand.”

The video, which has received dozens of comments so far, is circulating on social media.

Allergy-Free Snack Bar Developed by Entrepreneur Class

FABIANA BUONTEMPO
News Editor

Four Leon Hess Business School students have developed Hawklet Chip Bar, an allergy-friendly snack bar. The product is set to be released on Thursday, Dec. 11 in Anacon Hall from 6 - 8:30 pm at their launch party.

Hawklet Chip Bar is an all-natural, gluten-free granola bar that is free of the top eight allergens: wheat, eggs, milk, peanuts, soy, tree nuts, fish and shellfish.

“Refuse to see my people exterminated before my eyes and sit back and do nothing. I refuse to be a statistic.”

Robbie Panasuk, Our school can’t be reduced to nothing. I refuse to let black men gathering, “This is a time for communication student who organized the protest, addressed the gathering. “This is a time for unity,” she continued.

Racial tension in America has been exacerbated by the paralysing nature of excessive force by police officers of all races. Brown, an 18-year-old Ferguson resident, was shot and killed by a police officer. People across the nation have called into question the use of excessive force by police.

Considering the deaths of Eric Garner, Mike Brown, and others in front of Wilson Hall on Friday, Dec. 5 at 4 pm.

Morgan Spann, a junior communications student who organized the protest, addressed the gathering. “This is a time for unity,” she continued.

Approximately 80 University students, faculty, and staff demonstrated for social justice and equality in response to the recent deaths of Eric Garner, Michael Brown, and others in front of Wilson Hall on Friday, Dec. 5 at 4 pm.

Morgan Spann, a junior communication student who organized the protest, addressed the gathering. “This is a time for unity,” she continued.

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Professor Jing Zhou Donates Art to University Library

JING ZHOU, a University alumnus, recently donated her collection of art to the University Library. These pieces are photos and texts collected during her time at the University. They are different images taken by Zhou from a part of the frescoes located in the Pompeii room of Wilson Hall. The collection of paintings is part of an exhibition called "Looking at the University: University magazines, and yearbooks were published in the University Library's Rare Book Collection. These sections list University history, such as Dr. Martin Lu's "Generations of Excellence" to honor individuals who have presented at the University's Erlanger Memorial Gardens. At the center of each panel are pictures of columns that can be found in the University's educational associations. The pictures fit the atmosphere of the University Library, according to Zhou.

When I first heard about Project "Generations of Excellence," I thought it was a perfect fit as an exhibit for the University Library. The exhibit not only displays the history of the University Library from 1933 to the present day, but also showcases the work and achievements of many distinguished persons. Jing Zhou's pieces I think are visually very appealing. They remind me of Wilson Hall's history and the history of the University," said Edward Christensen, Dean of the University Library. "The artwork is unique and allows people to observe from now and into the future. I like that the images on top change in every panel and represent the culture of the University," Soheil said. "After viewing the images you get a sense of a time line down below. The pieces show a very creative and unique approach to "Generations of Excellence," Sackell continued.

"I was inspired by her desire to learn more about the history of the University," Zhou said. "The more I learned about the University's history, the more I felt a lot of support from being part of this community," said Zhou.

"I was stunned to learn how fast we have grown in the past 80 years," said Edward Christensen. "We have undertaken during and after WWII, and how many talented and extraordinary people have visited or graduated from this campus. I sincerely hope that our students will be able to carry on this tradition," Zhou said.

Professor Jing Zhou Donates Art to University Library

MOO Professor Honored at NACADA, Receives Grant

ALUMNI NEWS

JING ZHOU, a University alumnus Jennifer Noonan, who has presented at the University of the distinguished persons paper that she scanned from the exhibitions placed atop a parchment of external funding," said Stapley. "I was turned down my first time by NACADA, but we also try and find ways to sponsor students. Jing Zhou's pieces I think are visually very appealing. They remind me of Wilson Hall's history and the history of the University," Christensen said, "Generations of Excellence" to honor individuals who have presented at the University's Erlanger Memorial Gardens. At the center of each panel are pictures of columns that can be found in the University's educational associations. The pictures fit the atmosphere of the University Library, according to Zhou.

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"I like doing research and having an active lab, but my main goal is obtaining opportunities for my students. Being rich and famous isn't my goal. I want to help my students further their careers," said Stapley.

Dr. Janice Stapley, an associate professor of psychology, was honored at the annual conference of the National Academic Advising Association (NACADA). "As an undergraduate at a small school, I had excellent advising with sit down encounters with my advisors. I got a lot of support from them," said Stapley. "I believe my work will positively affect the University as a whole. I'm hoping that my work as academic advisors that focus on what students want. I'm happy that my work on research and continue to work with students," she said.

"Dr. Stapley's passion for her work and her commitment to students have inspired me," said Dr. Janice Stapley, Associate Professor of Psychology.

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Dr. Janice Stapley, Associate Professor of Psychology

JALIMAH MCCULLAN STAFF WRITER

Jing Zhou, an associate professor of art and design has donated four pieces of art titled ‘Generations of Excellence’ to the University Library. These pieces follow the history of the University from its establishment in 1933 to the present day. Currently they are being exhibited in the reference area of the library for the public to observe from now and into the spring semester.

The exhibit consists of four 24x36 grid posters placed atop an inkjet print on Exhibition canvas Natural Satin. At the top of each piece are different images taken by Zhou from a part of the frescoes located in the Pompeii room of Wilson Hall. The collection of paintings is part of an exhibition called ‘Looking at the University: University magazines, and yearbooks were published in the University Library’s Rare Book Collection. These sections list University history, such as Dr. Martin Lu’s ‘Generations of Excellence’ to honor individuals who have presented at the University’s Erlanger Memorial Gardens. At the center of each panel are pictures of columns that can be found in the University’s educational associations. The pictures fit the atmosphere of the University Library, according to Zhou.

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Ph.D. at Rutgers University. Her inspiration for her work as an advisor comes from her experience with her own advisors. "As an undergraduate at a small school, I had excellent advising with sit down encounters with my advisors. I got a lot of support from them," said Stapley. "I believe my work will positively affect the University as a whole. I’m hoping that my work as academic advisors that focus on what students want. I’m happy that my work on research and continue to work with students," she said.

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Snack Bar continued from pg. 1

very seriously with producing and packaging because we want our customers to feel safe when eating our product,” continued Hope.

As part of the group’s re-search, Hawk Country took a road trip to Virginia to visit a food allergy bakery, California FAB, opened by Cupcake Wars Veteran, Dawk Eskins.

“We went in order to learn more about cooking with allergies in mind, preventing cross-contamination and to learn exactly how to make our product,” said Lamb.

While in Virginia, Hawk Country participated in a walk to raise awareness about food allergies. The end result of the trip was the group solidifying their recipe and giving out over 500 samples of Hawklet Chip Bar at the walk that day, which received no negative feedback.

“We garnered enough spon-sorships and donations to get the company off the ground and fund nutrition testing,” said Andrew Nastrashkin, a member of the sales team.

Hawk Country truly thanks Buzza for his mentorship and teaching style. “Buzza’s style of teaching is very memorable and impacting than reading off notes or PowerPoint slides,” said Hope.

When Buzza first started this course on-campus about ten years ago, he decided to restructure the curriculum. He wanted students to experience the business world on hands on way by creating small businesses. “On becoming an entrepreneur, it is more about reality than theory,” Buzza said.

“In this entrepreneurship class, I want students to get a real sense of creating a business and being able to feel and create it, as well as really feel the fire of being an entrepreneur,” said Buzza.

The class brainstorms about 25 business ideas at the start of the semester. It is a vote amongst the class on which product, service, or good the class wants to create. The ideas keep narrow down until one idea is decided on.

“It is a student-generated class, in the sense that the students are the ones who decide on the business they want to create,” said Buzza. “The idea is not force fed and by having it be the students’ own ideas, it allows each individual and their ideas to become passionate about it since it’s their own business.”

Buzza is recipient of the 2010 national honor for having created the “Most Innovative Entrepreneurship Course” by the U.S. Association for Small Business- es and Entrepreneurs.

“Professor Buzza is very in-teractive with his students and his door is always open for his students,” Hope said.

“Students do not get the real sense of entrepreneurship by just taking notes and having the professor lecture,” Buzza added.

“Buzza hits a home run with teaching entrepreneurship because he allows us to learn by experience and as Buzza says, ‘Through trials and tribulations you learn the best,’” said Hope.

“Professor Buzza is quite simply the best,” said Lamb. “He has taught me so much and offers so much insight to each class.”

“This product has the poten-tial to be huge and we are dili-gently working towards making this a success,” said Hope.

**Allergy-Friendly Snack Bar Set to be Released Thursday**

Hawk Country’s Hawklet Chip Bars, developed by students in the University’s entrepreneur class, is free of the top eight allergens: wheat, eggs, milk, peanuts, soy, tree nuts, fish and shellfish.

**“Project Pride” Warns Inmates of ‘Poor Life Decisions’**

Inmates spoke to about 200 University students, faculty, and staff on Wednesday, Dec. 3 to prison. It doesn’t matter where you are, you are going through something so horrible because there’s always going to be someone there to help you,” she continued.

Suzanne Schaad, Substance Awareness Coordinator, planned the event along with the Substance Abuse Office. Schaad hoped that the speakers forced students to think about their ac-tions and the consequences that they can face as a result. She said she hopes that students who at-tended the event can “understand that trauma can really increase risk factors for substance abuse.”

The event was cosponsored by Alpha Sigma Tau, Alpha Xi Delta, Counseling Student Asso-ciation, Delta Phi Epsilon, Alpha Kappa Alpha, Alpha Omicron Pi, Alpha Kappa Psi, Delta Tau Del-ta, Greek Senate, HERO Cam-paign for Designated Drivers, Lambda Theta Alpha, Office of Substance Awareness, Phi Kappa Psi, Phi Sigma Sigma, Sigma Pi, Sigma Tau Gamma, Tau Kappa Epsilon, Theta Xi, Zeta Tau Al-pha, Tau Delta Phi, and Students in Recovery.

This was the ninth year for Project Pride. “It’s our must see event, it’s a very popular event,” Schaad said. She encour-aged students in the audience to seek help if they are dealing with substance abuse at the Substance Abuse Awareness Office located at the Heath Center.

Last names of inmates have been withheld for privacy con-cern.
“Once you change your vocabulary, once you stop believing violence, prejudice and inequality are ‘normal,’ and once you raise your voices, then change will come.” MORGAN SPANN

Monmouth Students Head to Europe for the International Seminar

PRESS RELEASE
West Long Branch, NJ - Furthering the global education vision of the university, thirteen Monmouth University students will be traveling to prominent capitals of international law and politics over winter break in conjunction with Professor Bordelon's course in the spring (PS 371) in the spring. Some of the students began their engagement with a new course during the fall 2014 semester in the Department of Political Science and Sociology, Public International Law (PS 431), which provides a critical understanding of the entire law enforcement system of the United States, with much greater understanding of the structure and order throughout the country as people begin to question the moral and ethical character of every law enforcement official.

In connection to spanning, the protest held at the University was organized by only a tiny group of students. In order to advertise and increase campus involvement, a flyer was created and posted on social media sites including Instagram and Twitter using the hashtag #MMUolum and #flyer. "Let's stamp out ignorance here at Monmouth University. Come out and join with us to alert the Monmouth U community of all of the issues we're working on in our country. Let's make a mark and be heard. Bring your voice, your courage and your solidarity.

The junior also reached out to Heather Kelly, Assistant Director for Multicultural and Diversity Initiatives, who then sent out an email at approximately 9:48 am on Friday, Dec. 5 to the campus community once more. "I hope to see the protest on behalf of Spann."

This is not the first protest that The University has been organized for. Out looking for immediate action in revamping our nation’s justice system, according to Foster. The women of Alpha Kappa Alpha (A-K-A) Sorority Inc. also orga nized a protest in front of Wilson Hall after the Ferguson Grand Juror's decision not to indict Darren Wilson for the killing of Brown on Tuesday, Nov. 25. Monmouth University's Associate Dean of Student Life and Leadership Engagement, said, "I think it is always good to see on a college campus people coming together to share in their disparate points of view. Campus should be a place where free speech is embraced.

"In the wake of the shooting, we can't just wear a pin or ask people to hear a message of dignity and humanity. She commented, "I think it is all important to understand that which human rights were created upon, we will find the truth and the way to achieve justice. We've become far too disconnected from one another. If we truly saw, respected, and understood each individual person's humanity and individual's inherent dignity, the worth we would have more compassion toward one another in all interactions..." McCloskey believes that we need more compassion to prevent such “horrific atrocitiess” as well as to create the kind of world that we would really like.

Danielle McKeown, a junior political science major and president of Student and attendante at the protest, said, “I think the country needs more people, more student leaders, to be accepting of humans. Because at the end of the day, humans live in a social world."

Colucci, however, added that the coverage of recent “police brutality” and “militarization” has saturated media outlets. "This coverage has been saturated or otherwise.

The news networks and social media outlets played two crucial roles in this whole series of events,” he said. “Firstly, they disseminated information globally in a short period of time. Secondly, they strained already high-strung emotions continuously harping on the issue, spreading discontent through the country by allowing that happens every day, we should not or, to garner support for whatever side they believed in.”

The University is committed to social justice will continue at the National March Against Police Violence in March, according to Foster. The University will join in solidarity with those involved in the mon a thing of the past, or just a reality in some special communities.

The other one is coming from the shooting will begin if the American public can emerge from that trauma with a newfound commitment to save money, de-militarize the police, and ultimately ask ourselves the question, "How can we move on from these things?" McCloskey said, "I also know that racial oppression is not simply a thing of the past, it is a part of the human condition. We also know from history that it is absolutely in our power to change it, and I want to be part of that change.

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Monmouth Students Head to Europe for the International Seminar

PRESS RELEASE
West Long Branch, NJ - Furthering the global education vision of the university, thirteen Monmouth University students will be traveling to prominent capitals of international law and politics over winter break in conjunction with Professor Bordelon's course in the spring (PS 371) in the spring. Some of the students began their engagement with a new course during the fall 2014 semester in the Department of Political Science and Sociology, Public International Law (PS 431), which provides a critical understanding of the entire law enforcement system of the United States, with much greater understanding of the structure and order throughout the country as people begin to question the moral and ethical character of every law enforcement official.

The students for the local law-political science course during the fall 2014 semester in the Department of Political Science and Sociology, Public International Law (PS 371) in the spring will probably demonstrate the best correlation to what is going on in this country and how to tie it to the trip. Plus it is always beneficial to have knowledge beforehand of how everything works, especially when it comes to a trip of this caliber.” The learning objective of the experience is to present the theoretical founda-tions of international law (PS 431 – Fall 2014) and transition students from experiencing the institutions (winter break study tour) of it to realizing its functional relationships to social justice through local legal aid organizations (PS 371 – Spring 2015).

The study tour over winter break will include visits in London, Brussels, and Bruges. In London, Monmouth students will visit the British Library and attend a lecture on the historical context of the English legal system as well as have opportunities to take in a host of governmental and societal sites through a local inns of court tour. From there, the students will visit the Hague and see the epicenter of the world’s stage for public international law, the Peace Palace. An experience at the Hu-manity House and presentation by the Red Cross will prepare the students for the local law-based projects planned for the International Seminar.

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The University's Residence Hall Association (RHA), Student Activities Board (SAB), and Greek Life recently teamed up for a co-sponsored Holiday Craft Party last Friday, Dec. 5, in the Student Center (RSC).

Holiday spirits were high last Christmas season, as RHA, SAB, and AXiD hosted a craft event for students to make gifts for their fellow students, their families and even a children's hospital. The event took place from 7 to 10 p.m. in the RSSC on the main and second floors of Mullany Hall.

On the first floor, students were able to "stuff and fluff" their own stuffed animals, fill mason jars with glitter and paints, cut out letters for different holiday recipes such as cookies, and make street art. Students who made their way upstairs to the second floor participated in the making of crafts such as glass-etching and street signs. All of the materials for the crafts were provided to the students free of charge as long as supplies lasted.

"The 'stuff and fluff' was definitely my favorite part," said Victoria Porte, a junior psychology major and sister of Alpha Xi Delta. "You get to go home with animal, dig it, and then you got to do another and donate it to The Children's Hospital. "Angela Sarno, a junior English education major and sister of Alpha Xi Delta, explained that everyone who participated in the craft night had the option to donate the things they made to The Children's Hospital. "There were also two donation boxes that you could donate things going to be given to the children there for the holidays," Sarno said.

The event was co-sponsored by three organizations on campus, SAB, RHA, and AXiD. "Alpha Xi Delta prides itself on being involved with other organizations on campus and in the Monmouth Community to help them achieve their goals," said Traci Marren, the advisor for AXiD.

"Working with RHA and SAB was such a privilege," Porter said. The organizations have been planning the event for weeks. Members of all three groups have been working on this event for two months. The event was a huge success, as over 200 people attended. "The night went very well," Sarno said. "So many people attended." Chris Carter, a junior business major and SAB's Travel and Tours Chair, believed that co-sponsoring the event was beneficial. "I loved co-sponsoring with Alpha Xi Delta. It was nice to do an event with Greek Life because it brings a new audience," Carter said. "We had a huge turnout and we pretty much sold out the event in everything because it was so popular." A large amount of money was made during the event were donated to the Children's Specialized Hospital in Toms River. According to the hospital's website, hospita serves children affected by brain injury, spinal cord dysfunction and injury, prematurity, muscular dystrophy, cerebral palsy, delays, and life-changing illnesses. The hospital has 12 sites in the state of New Jersey, and "will treat over 20,000 children with special needs this year," states children-specialized.org.

"There is no better way to end your night than by giving event back," Porter said in regards to the donations to the hospital. "It is always a wonderful way to spend the holidays with the students and the community getting together and doing fun and creative activities."

ALYSSA TRITSCHLER
STAFF WRITER

Competing for the Crown: Delta Tau Delta’s “Delta Queen”

Sorority women across campus are competing for the crown of Delta Queen, a competition recently created by Delta Tau Delta (DTD), in hopes of finding a sweetheart for their fraternity. Organizations participating include: Alpha Omicron Pi (AOPi), Phi Sigma Sigma (PhSigS), and Zeta Tau Alpha (ZTA).

"We wanted to make an event that would raise a lot of money but would also be fun for everyone involved," Sarrantonio said.

The Delta Queen receives a crown and sash, $100 spa gift card, a donation to their philanthropy, Delta chapter t-shirts, and a contest shirt. The Delta Queen also becomes the sweetheart of the fraternity.

"Delta Tau Delta raised over $300 just in the last week, and the fraternity expects to raise more in the coming weeks up until the actual pageant event in February," said Stuart Rosenberg, an associate professor of management and DTD’s advisor. The competition has three rounds, beginning Dec. 1 and ending Feb. 17, 2015. The first round, which takes place between Dec. 1 and Dec. 19, involves each sorority raising money towards their Delta Queen campaign. On Feb. 17, the chapter will announce the winner of the Delta Queen Penny War! Each participating sorority will have their own donation box in the Student Center (RSC), and points will be awarded on a first, second, and third place basis. On Feb. 11, a dine-and-donate event will be held at a local restaurant. Contestants will be given flyers to hand out. The sororities with the highest attendance will be awarded points on a first, second, and third place basis.

On Feb. 12, DTD will host a dine-and-donate event where more proceeds will be donated to the cause. A Delta Queen will be present to help judge the3 wipe, “minute to win it” games, a dance-off, and the announcement of the Delta Queen. Delta Queen is set to take place Feb. 21, 2015.

"There is no better way to end your night than by giving event back," Porter said in regards to the donations to the hospital. "It is always a wonderful way to spend the holidays with the students and the community getting together and doing fun and creative activities."

THE RUNNING CLUB is now looking for all members to participate in glass-making. "We would love for everyone to participate and be a part of the MonmouthDelts). With the help of their chapter, contestants can respond with the task completed. Points will be awarded to whichever organization ever first completes to total the task.

The third and final round of Delta Queen is set to take place on Feb. 17, 2015. The event will be held at Pollak Theatre at 10 p.m. Competitions at the event are expected to include lip sync, personality walk, "minute to win it" games, a Twitter contest, and the announcements of who fundraised the most.

Jenna Ferraro, a senior criminology and sister of ASB, commented, "We wanted to participate in Delta Queen to get more involved with our community as it’s one of our core values. We also wanted to show support for another organization in the Greek community."

As of Tuesday, Dec. 9, the current standings are AXiD in first place, AST in second, DPhiE in third, ZTA in fourth, and AOPi in fifth. Lean as she was, she was there for the holidays," Sarno said. "So many people attended." Chris Carter, a junior business major and SAB's Travel and Tours Chair, believed that co-sponsoring the event was beneficial. "I loved co-sponsoring with Alpha Xi Delta. It was nice to do an event with Greek Life because it brings a new audience," Carter said. "We had a huge turnout and we pretty much sold out the event in everything because it was so popular." A large amount of money was made during the event were donated to the Children's Specialized Hospital in Toms River. According to the hospital's website, hospita serves children affected by brain injury, spinal cord dysfunction and injury, prematurity, muscular dystrophy, cerebral palsy, delays, and life-changing illnesses. The hospital has 12 sites in the state of New Jersey, and "will treat over 20,000 children with special needs this year," states children-specialized.org.

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The Holiday ‘Outlook’

As the holiday season is rapidly approaching, Monmouth students are doing their best to find Christmas cheer despite the finals that loom ahead. The Outlook agreed that while the University makes a solid attempt at spreading holiday joy, it is largely limited to certain areas on campus. The campus’ centerpiece, Wilson Hall, is the focal point for decorations. The editors agreed that MU staff and faculty put the most time and effort into the Wilson displays, noting the variety of Christmas trees and lights throughout the building.

One editor said, “Only in Wilson Hall or in Plan gere when Santa is taking pictures does the campus feel truly festive.” The ‘Christmas Sticks’ that line the entrance by the Dining Hall also add a dash of holiday festiveness.

The ‘Christmas Sticks’ that line the entrance by the Dining Hall also add a dash of holiday festiveness. Another editor also appreciated the holiday-themed drinks at Java City.

However, when it comes to other holidays, most of the editors think that the Christmas season is the only time that the school outwardly celebrates. Three members acknowledged the University getting into some holiday spirit, though it is not as recognizable as the Christmas mas celebration. “The only other holiday MU recognizes is Halloween because they do the Haunted Wilson thing,” one member of The Outlook editorial staff said. “Regardless of the University’s endorsement (or lack thereof) during the holiday season, staff for The Outlook do their best to maintain their holiday spirit.

The general consensus involves listening to Christmas music, as well as decorating at home to bring out those festive feelings. One staff member said, “Watching ABC Family 25 Days of Christmas is also a staple for keeping my holiday spirits up!” There are some suggestions, however, for how the University could encourage more holiday cheer. “Monmouth should play holiday movies in Pollak Theater or have more events, similar to dressing up Wilson Hall for ‘Halloween,’” one editor noted. At the very least, the editorial staff agreed that there should be even more decorations along the pathways across campus. The Outlook also questioned how the shortening of the academic calendar in fall 2015 would impact the holidays on campus. With a 14 week schedule, the assumption is that students will spend more time at home for the holidays. “When the schedule changes next year it will definitely impact getting into the holiday spirit. Last year it was so difficult to have the feeling of Christmas finals were so late, and we didn’t have much time to spend at home with our families around the holiday season,” a said editor.

For the editorial staff, celebrating the holidays whether at home or at school is a great way to stay happy while preparing for finals. One editor offered the following advice: “Be sure to practice the ‘Code of the Elves’!”

MIRACLE ON 34TH STREET

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 206, Plangere Center.

All copy must include the author’s full name and contact information. The Outlook 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.

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Office of Student Life
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If your graduation date is incorrect, please contact the Financial Aid Office at (732) 571-3463 or via e-mail at dorsey@monmouth.edu, or you may visit us in person in Wilson Hall, Room 108.

IMPORTANT!
IF YOU’VE HAD TEXTBOOKS STOLEN THIS SEMESTER…
Please fill out this Ad and return it to the University Store by December 12, 2014.

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Our Computerized Buy-Back allows us to identify all stolen titles immediately. If your books are stolen, report the information to the Bookstore ASAP.

ID IS REQUIRED TO SELL BACK ALL BOOKS!!
Everyone deserves a chance to enjoy themselves once in awhile; an opportunity to pamper yourself, try something new, re-invent yourself, make a resolution, or set a goal.  

What better time to do than right before a new year begins? As 2014 winds down and the calendar turns its page and 2015 descends upon us, now is the time to go out with a bang. 

It is no secret that for college students, the end of the year is also the end of the semester. Understandably, the stress of finals, grades, winter break back at home with the family and even possibly graduation sometimes looms over your heads and weighs heavily on your mind. 

Jonathan Murray, 2014 alumna, recalls this end-of-the-semester stress, "Having multiple exams the same day, then having no exams until the very last day ... always bothered me." Problems like this are a common plight that many college students can identify with particularly during finals week and in the last couple weeks of the semester. 

On top of all of that, there are still plenty of things college students can do to make the most of the end of the year, despite the anxiety you may be forced to face. Here are four things you can do to squeeze all of the fun and enjoyment you possibly can out of the last month of the year. 

1. Try a new restaurant with friends. 

Never underestimate the power of some very yummy food. A nice way to escape the stress for a while is to grab a few friends, drive to a local restaurant to indulge in a bit of food, and a drink to wind down and get caught up with friends. Students should never forget the power of sleeping well. 

2. Buy a new outfit. 

The new year is the time to re-invent yourself and clothes can change their mood and their thoughts. "Putting on different clothes creates different thoughts and can change your attitude." 'Putting on different clothes can make individuals feel better, more energetic, I can focus more, and I even feel 100 times better all around when I eat healthy. I have more energy, I can focus more, and I even sleep better," said Ashley Vaccaro, a senior English major.

3. Get a good, long night of sleep. 

DE-Stress Fest on December 17 in the Student Union Ballroom is the perfect time to really think about how changing your clothes can change your mood and their thoughts.

4. Grab a friend and try a new hobby together. 

This is as good a time as any to dive in to a new hobby or experience. No time like the end of the semester. Hit the gym together, hit the trails, or take a dance class. 


Nature hikes and outdoor adventures are often free and exciting to participate in.

The New Year is a great time to plan something new. Chrome Comito, a senior art major, said, "I'm not sure what I'm going to do, but the time to really think about something is what most parents appreciate. They are a perfect time to help you out a bit. Use those Christmas and Hanukah deals to give his wardrobe a little help. To release the inner kid in your man get him the HEX3App Tag Laser Blaster for iPhone and Android. It's just like those nerf guns he used to love but with a high tech spin. He can play alone or with a friend. It is entertaining and for a guy who has never been inside a car through the iPhone and allows them to "laser" anything that catches his eye. This is also a great gift and something he's sure to love. 

Siblings can be either the easiest or hardest gifts to get. Nicole Comito, a senior art major said, "I'm not sure what I'm going to get my sister for Christmas yet, but I plan on going to the mall and looking in all of her favorite stores to find little things she will love. 

If you know your siblings, seek out their favorite store and ask them what they know they would buy if they were there. Another great option for a sibling is the gift that can benefit both. Take them out to give them their favorite place or try somewhere new together. Not only do you get to eat some great food, but it gives a long semester away from them, nothing is better than quality time over some good food. 

Without a doubt the hardest gifts to gift are for your parents. They have given you everything, they are paying for your education and it seems like anything you could get them you already have. Perhaps, do not think so much into it.

William Reynolds, IT Professor, said, "The best gifts I have gotten from my kids are the home made ones. I already have everything, nothing beats original gifts I can brag to all my friends about." 

Something from the heart is what most parents appreciate. Chances are, your mother cooks for you every night you are home. It is time to do the same for her. Without a doubt the hardest gifts to gift are for your parents. They have given you everything, they are paying for your education and it seems like anything you could get them you already have. Perhaps, do not think so much into it.

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The environments of Hoenn (the series’ best in my opinion) look excellent. The more youthful look present in Pokémon X and Y has been applied to the characters of Pokémon Ruby and Sapphire. Battles look the same as they did in Pokémon X and Y (which, considering it’s only been a year, I believe to be reasonable). Additionally, Pokémon ORAS, there’s new mechanic added to flying: free-flight. With a mega Latios or Latias (do not trade them!) and the new soar ability, players are given the ability to fly freely around the Hoenn map. Not only does this open up new areas, but there are also sky-battles and Mirage spots (which can contain Legendary Pokémon from previous titles). I personally thought that this was a great innovation to a Pokémon game, especially one in which meaningful additions weren’t expected.

The next major advance is the upgraded PokéNav Plus. While this is described as a remake of the PokéNav from the original Ruby and Sapphire, really, it’s the bottom screen applications from Pokémon X and Y with a few new apps added on.

There’s three new additions, specifically. The least important is BuzzNav, which basically is a TV-like app that displays news about yourself and other players that you meet. Next is the AntiNav, which is the best map I have seen in a Pokémon game to date. Along with an overview of cities and routes, it provides the locations of things like berries, secret bases, trainers that want rematches, and even Pokémon.

Finally, of course, there’s the new sneaking function to start an encounter. I have only two considerable complaints on this title. My first is that the Battle Frontier is nowhere to be found. In Pokémon Emerald it was a previously uncharted area of the world of the ‘Twelve Days of Christmas,’ where you will pass by light displays of each element from the classic holiday song, including five Gold Rings, four Calling Birds, three French Hens, two Turtle Doves, and, of course, a Partridge in a Pear Tree. Be on the lookout for surprise guests, including the Energizer Bunny and Frosty the Snowman. You may even see Rudolph the Red Nosed Reindeer at some point!

Once Year-End entertainment shows are over, the light displays, be sure to park the car and take a walk through the PNC’s all new Holiday Village, which has fun for all ages. It includes a heated area within the park where friends and families can take pictures with Santa and everyone can enjoy some festive holiday treats as well. Santa will be at PNC now through Dec. 23.

Treat yourself to a cup of hot chocolate, apple cider, eggnog, or hot coffee. You can also purchase holiday cookies, pretzels, or candy. There is even a section where you can decorate your own holiday cookies.

There are a few photo opportunities that families and friends can take advantage of as well. These include portraits of the village with special backdrops, such as a winter wonderland scene, specifically set up for family photos. The fun doesn’t stop there. There is also the AmeriHealth NJ skating rink, which is located in the North Plaza. Skate with your friends and family while listening to holiday music. There are open skate times (likely for design reasons). Some have chosen to be critical of Pokémon ORAS, saying that it’s Pokémon X and Y all over again, or that the setting of Pokémon Ruby and Sapphire is showing its age. After playing through the full game, I feel that this is a valid concern. As someone who’s played every core Pokémon title and remake, I feel that this is the best one to date; it’s worth-while of the original Pokémon Ruby and Sapphire. More importantly though, it’s fun and, dare I say, addicting; don’t tell me the ESRB. To score Pokémon Omega Ruby and Alpha Sapphire 1 out of 10 points, the game is clearly not appropriate (just shy of Pokémon Master, yet as electrifying as a gym full of Voltorb).
“Peter Pan Live!“ Falls Short

MAGGIE ZELINKA
SPORTS EDITOR

As a follow up to NBC’s The Sound of Music Live! which was broadcasted on Dec. 5 of last year, the network released a much anticipated Peter Pan Live! production on Thursday night.

Playing the title role was 26-year-old Allison Williams, an actress who more recently is known for playing Marnie Michaels in HBO’s Girls. Thanks to an old English law which forbid those who were less than 14 years of age to work past 9 pm, Pan was often played by a female. Staying true to the play’s roots, director Rob Ashford, along with producer Donna Sanch Smeal, decided to cast the Yale graduate for the lead. Williams now joins the likes of Cathy Rigby, Mary Martin, and Sandy Duncan, all of whom played Peter Pan.

Much like her predecessors, Williams provided quite the singing voice and performed with a very believable British accent.

Despite this performance, the play’s production was surrounded by nasty comments on social media sites. The tweets of disappointment began about 15 minutes into the production, when Peter and Wendy go to find the house maid who is in a funk, and Sandy Duncan, all of whom played Peter Pan.

During the 2014 Primetime Emmy Awards, “Shameless” was nominated for outstanding drama series, outstanding lead actress in a drama series (Emmy Rossum), to run the house, permanently breaking a leg for booze and other writer came from deep pov the social class stigma will be challenged. The fifth season, which airs Jan. 11, 2015, will feature a trendy coffee shop that comes to town. Along with it, what Showtime refers to as “a move towards gentrifying” the neighborhood. Or, as Rossum put it, “an invasion of hipsters.” The family will face a new dynamic of culture and neverland stopped completely opposite from the broke Gallagher crew, have figured out how to buy cheap business. They are building up the ghetto where the family resides and taking over. But we know this family is tough and won’t give up without a fight to keep their neighborhood as is.”

This reminder of social class reality will again be a breath of fresh air. Despite other shows like Scandal, Revenge and Nashville. There is no scandal-outrage drama, sugar-coated by flashy clothes and fancy cars. Rather, Shameless invites the storm—shocking aspects of poverty into our living rooms. What makes it stand out from today’s TV is that it has even mastered touching on raw subjects like addiction. Shameless makes us feel the wounds of addiction even more so than in shows without poverty. Take Nashville: it shallowly associates alcoholism with the pressures of being a country music star. Shameless, on the other hand, centers the Gallagher constantly have to fight to avoid eviction or foster care. With the new season’s episodes with the Gallaghers. But we know this family is tough and won’t give up without a fight.

What is supposed to be Captain Hook? He had already won a Tony for the role in the play’s original production, when Gerald du Plessis played Peter Pan. This tradition dates back to J.M. Barrie’s 1904 original production, when Gerald du Plessis played Peter Pan. Televi-

Showtime’s Shameless has perhaps the most tiresome title on television. The simple adjective says it all about the lives of the Gallagher fam-

one...
It is easy to make a list, but not so much to check it off. I challenge you this year to truly think about your resolutions for the awaited 2015 and decide how realistic they really are and if they're manageable, regardless of how hard you will need to work for them.

Re: New Year’s Resolutions

It is too cold outside…

The list could go on and on. So, going back to my whole purpose, I am not trying to drain positivity or make you feel insecure about your bodies.

Do us a favor, Victoria’s Secret, stick to doing what you do best and let’s give $26 panties because that’s what you do best.

Ugly Christmas Sweaters

NATALI GRECO

As everyone’s favorite time of the year comes to a close, we get to experience the joy of looking forward to New Year’s. A fresh start, a reset option to life as we know it, an opportunity to see what we might have missed and have a fresh start in the new year. We get a fresh year.

It is easy to make a list, but not so much to think about your resolutions. It is easy to make a list of goals you want to achieve, but is it really the right time to do so? If you sat down and wrote out your resolutions today, would you even be likely to try and make those resolutions come true for the remainder of the year?

This year, take the time to write out your resolutions, but in the setting of New Year’s, reflect on what you’ve accomplished so far and what you are most looking forward to as the new year approaches. Our home, most of us have moved on from the past year’s resolutions if you asked me the term very loosely, is essentially the same. We have 2 million dollars to buy a bra and put it on, but on New Year’s, the most ridiculous action you can do is to wear one. It’s not okay to promote extreme dieting habits to fit into a bra that will never be worn again and to make the statement that you are too skinny. You can’t control how others feel about their bodies.

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Victoria’s Secret Fashion Show Sends the Wrong Message

It is not okay to promote extreme dieting habits to fit into a bra that will never be worn again and to make the statement that you are too skinny. You can’t control how others feel about their bodies.

No worries, you have 2 weeks towards such a resolution during the first week of the year but slowly let the desire to keep such resolution fade away. "Oh I have an exam to study for…"

"Too much homework..."

"Summer is not until 6 months from now..."

"I don’t have enough money to acquire what I need for…"

"It’s too cold outside..."

"I am too fat..."

"It’s not okay to promote extreme dieting habits..."

"I don’t have enough money to acquire what I need for..."

"It’s too cold outside..."

So, going back to my whole purpose, I am not trying to drain positivity or make you feel insecure about your bodies.

Do us a favor, Victoria’s Secret, stick to doing what you do best and give $26 panties because that’s what you do best.

Victoria’s Secret Fashion Show is purportedly an event that kicks off the holiday season. Both men and women are watching as the supermodels strut their stuff in their 2 million dollar bra and lingerie, but at what cost?

In an interview with Fox News, some of Victoria’s Secret’s most recent models explained about the dieting techniques they use to stay for the fashion show. Their answers ranged from purging, laxatives, and diet control and one model was even said that she doesn’t do anything special to prepare for the event.

Ultimately, there is no natural beauty for these women. They work so hard to fit into ridiculous outfits they will only use once in their life. Even worse; they are willing to do this to themselves multiple times.

Why starve yourself and go on a diet just for one night of fash- ion? More questionable is the example that is set for the young women and girls that watch this show. These models, and the people of Victoria’s Secret, are setting an example. It is okay to do whatever it takes to fit into a size two even if it means essentially cut- ting yourself off.

The ugly Christmas sweater is a phenomenon that has progressed over the years. The garments are also usually clean to lose weight and fit in. "None of my sweaters are ugly, they are just very beautiful," is the line presented. These sweaters are not only ugly and ridiculous for a night and fit in with the fuzzy holiday spirit and for many it is a way to celebrate the holidays while wear ing their own ugly sweater you can find or make yourself.

For those of you who do not have time to craft your own ugly sweater, consigning kit and get to work. It’s all about beads, tinsel, lights and much more.

It is easy to make a list, but not so much to check it off. I challenge you this year to truly think about your resolutions for the awaited 2015 and decide how realistic they really are and if they’re manageable, regardless of how hard you will need to work for them.

The ugly Christmas sweater is becoming an allembracing term on the holiday season. Many people are buying and borrowing tacky sweaters to wear to ugly Christmas sweater themed parties. Telltale signs of these unpleasant sweaters are cartoon snowmen with fuzzy pom poms for decoration, Christmas trees decorated with red and green felt applique, Santa with a fuzzy beard, and of course Rudolph with his bright red nose. The garments are also usually rich, too large or too small, and uncomfortable to wear. If they are so ugly and uncomfortable, why should we be so willing to wear them?

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The Monmouth University Community Garden is pleased to announce that this year’s donated harvest results have surpassed all previous donations. The Community Garden, located at the corner of Beechwood and Brookwillow Avenues, is a membership garden where individuals and families “rent” a plot for the growing season (April – October) for $30 to grow their own vegetables and flowers. These local gardeners – and several organizations – Providing Hope and Shore House – then take responsibility to help upkeep our community plots, from which the vegetable harvests are donated to a number of community agencies. This year, harvest donations were provided to:

- Food Bank of Monmouth and Ocean Counties
- Long Branch Senior Center
- Ronald McDonald House, Long Branch
- Soup D’Shore at St. Luke’s Methodist Church
- St. Brigid’s Food Pantry
- St. Vincent De Paul Food Pantry
- Good Samaritan Food Bank, Freehold
- The Center, Asbury Park
- Lutheran Reformation Church Food Pantry
- St. Brigid’s Food Pantry

We provide you with an illustration of how the 3,576.50 lbs of donated organic produce breaks down and what its cash value represents to the community. Prices used are the average price per vegetable from local markets (total cash value of the donated harvests was $6,706.52).

- Tomatoes – 821 pounds harvested ($1,633.79)
- Peppers – 783 pounds harvested ($1,558.17)
- Eggplant – 725 pounds harvested ($1,422.75)
- Beans – 358 pounds harvested ($533.42)
- Cucumbers – 227 pounds harvested ($224.73)
- Onions – 51 pounds harvested ($101.49)
- Squash – 188 pounds harvested ($280.12)
- Swiss Chard – 75 pounds harvested ($126.75)
- Strawberries – 7 pounds harvested represents $34.93

The Community Garden thanks all our gardeners, our volunteers, our Freshman Seminar students from the “Playing in the Dirt” class, and the sorority sisters of Zeta Tau Alpha for all their work during this very successful 2013-2014 growing season.

For more information on the Monmouth University Community Garden, or to become a member of the garden, please go to our website: www.monmouth.edu/communitygarden
ATTENTION SENIORS WHO WILL GRADUATE
IN JANUARY 2015 OR MAY 2015
Time Is Running Out
To Nominate Your Outstanding High School Teacher
For The 2015
Monmouth University-Roberts Charitable Foundation
Outstanding Teaching Award

2014 winners with Lifetime Trustee William Roberts from left: Dave Martin, Hanover Park High School; William Roberts, Monmouth University Life Trustee; Doug Trumble, Toms River High School East; and Steve Kane, Ph.D., Bridgewater-Raritan Regional High School

Outstanding Teachers will:
• Be honored by their former students and receive $1,500 each
• Be honored at dinner in their honor hosted by President Brown
• Be awarded a plaque with a copy for their high schools

Student Nominators will have to opportunity to:
• Honor their outstanding high school teacher
• Be honored at dinner for their outstanding teacher
• Receive an award for the winning nomination

Nominations Are Due By December 12, 2014
If You Have Not Already Received A Nomination Form,
Please Pick One Up In The School Of Education Dean’s Office (MH 116)
Senior Good-Bye

I know a lot of you have always been there to rile me back up when I am feeling unsure. If you do not think I have ever looked so much like those turtles on the inside and out, and I don’t think I have ever looked so much like those turtles that just instantly come to mind. Now I know that you have one of the most entertaining sections by far and Fridays rocked so much. I will never forget that for the rest of my life.

My sisters, Dayna, Kyli and Molly. You know I had to thank you guys constantly because you have had that much of an impact on my life. Everyone always says how beautiful you all are when they show pictures of us together, and they are right. But you guys are beautiful on the inside and out, and I hope that you never forget that.

To my family... Mom and Dad. I know a lot of people say that their parents are the biggest, and though I know you would argue that you are the biggest, and I don’t know how you are able to do it all, but you manage it flawlessly. You have shown me that it takes to pursue all my goals and passion, and I am so glad to call you one of my best friends.

To my Monmouth Family... My Java city ladies. It was great bringing you my chapstick. I never forget those firm hugs, and pop culture reference points though, you both, I will never forget that for the rest of my life. My Java city ladies. If it weren’t for you lovely ladies my mornings would never be as composed and as a journalism student, and as a person, you both. Keep the laughs going and keep up the amazing work you both do. You are the best kind of people I've just been walking thru.

To my family... Mom and Dad. You both can make my day a million times better in just two seconds. I know you guys probably won’t have a memory of this because you have cannolis, doesn’t mean they are good for you. In the pure namesake of the college experience, you are the biggest, and I don’t think I have ever looked so much like those turtles that just instantly come to mind. Now I know that you have one of the most entertaining sections by far.

To the 2013-14 staff, thank you all for your support and for preparing me to make my last semester one of the best. To Jackie, Kell Brock, and Nicole in particular, you guys are absolutely amazing and I am happy to have had the opportunity to work with you all.

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Singing the Christmas Blues: Why the Holidays are Filled with a Little Less Spirit

When I Grow Up I Want To Be…” The Key to Getting Your Very Own ‘Dream’ Job

OLIVIA CARUSO

STAFF WRITER

DREAM (noun.): A cherished aspiration, ambition, or ideal. We used to question our parents about them after a night of sleep, but what did that dream mean? Now, as educated, inspired, young adults, our dreams are concrete. As we count the days towards graduation, a distinct dream at the forefront of our minds is getting a job, if we’re really motivated, getting our dream job.

But what constitutes our dream job? The same belief seems to have developed: it’s the ability to escape from, and for others it’s an opportunity to bring in the cash. But we sometimes come to find that dreams may not always come true, especially when we’re faced with reality.

Once our credits are complete and the tassels are turned, we can either apply for graduate school or apply for a job. But the professional world is a competitive place forcing us to extend our feelings in multiple directions. Days, weeks, and months may go by without ever hearing from companies whom we’ve applied to get reeled in or fight against the current and swim the opposite way in hopes of a better offer.

After you’ve spent the past 16 years or more in school, receiving your first job offer can be electrifying. Maybe for some, it’s a little less about family and friends, and more about happiness from material possessions. In the presence of family and celebration for me. Merry continued, “Even though the TV specials and radio songs are overlaid, I still enjoy them...in moderation. So much never gets worn or used, I can only hope that one day, people start to come around again and realize their priorities when it comes to the holiday season. The holidays really aren’t about who has the most presents, in the end, ‘stuff’ doesn’t matter that much anyway.

Merry continued, “Even though the TV specials and radio songs are overlaid, I still enjoy them...in moderation. So much never gets worn or used, I can only hope that one day, people start to come around again and realize their priorities when it comes to the holiday season. The holidays really aren’t about who has the most presents, in the end, ‘stuff’ doesn’t matter that much anyway.

Everyone’s credits are complete and the tassels are turned, we can either apply for graduate school or apply for a job. But the professional world is a competitive place forcing us to extend our feelings in multiple directions. Days, weeks, and months may go by without ever hearing from companies whom we’ve applied to get reeled in or fight against the current and swim the opposite way in hopes of a better offer.

After you’ve spent the past 16 years or more in school, receiving your first job offer can be electrifying. Maybe for some, it’s a little less about family and friends, and more about happiness from material possessions.

As I’ve gotten older, I’ve realized the holidays really are special thanks to family and friends. It isn’t so much about getting “stuff” anymore, Christmas lists get shorter every year because you either have everything you need, or the things you want can’t be bought in a store.

At this point in my life, fuzzy socks are the most anticipated present on my Christmas wish list, and I’m happy about that. Of course, I’m not asking for toys and games, but I feel like that is all that is blaring on my TV screen. Get the hottest new game this year? Get the coolest new toy for that! Is that really what Christmas is about? What store can outdo another, and how much money people spend?

I think the commercialization of the holidays starts with Black Friday. Thanks to paying attention, people are sitting around a TV that is five dollars cheaper than it was the day before. Seems a little wrong, right?

Leila Ali, a senior, said, “For me, Christmas is the season of love and happiness found in the presence of friends and family. Focusing on tangible gifts is more than people need to find out about this. It’s not about family and friends, and more about happiness from material possessions.

As amazing as the holiday season can be electrifying. If you’ve studied business, and you know the difference between ISAP, aperture, and shutter speed. Or maybe you’ve studied marketing and you’re confident in your strategic marketing plan. Whichever skill you’ve honed to show the world what you’re made of. Equipped with the necessary skills is where the dream begins. So many people think of Christmas as a time to buy presents, in the presence of family and friends, and more about happiness from material possessions.

Why the Holidays are Filled with a Little Less Spirit

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How Students Pull Through the Final Semester Stretch

ROBERT ZADOTTI  STAFF WRITER

The seasons change in a perfect cycle of inevitability, like the setting and rising of the sun and moon. During college, every semester brings new experiences, struggles, and growth. When the end of the fall semester approaches, it causes us to look back and see how to go about these few short weeks before winter break. Some students crack down studying for finals, and others do nothing at all. As it always has, and will, the real stories come from the students of Monmouth themselves.

Shannon Hood, a sophomore art major, said, “I’m just preparing myself mentally to face all of these finals that I have to take, really. Making sure that everything is in order and turned in on time.”

As the semester comes to a close, all students have to prepare for these exams, and find a balance between friends and work more than ever before. It takes a certain determination to push in those last few days to study, when a month-long vacation is just around the corner.

It’s not like sacrifices of enjoyment haven’t been made before. But entirely focusing on the end of a semester is minimal and limited, the entirety of these four months have shaped students through each and every day. What’s been the influence this has had on students?

Hood continued, “The biggest thing I’ve learned this semester is probably time management, responsibility, and having a good balance of work and play.”

Hood’s plan for the semester’s end is mirrored in her experiences and what she’s learned. Education at the University level is about balancing pleasure and work, exactly like we will have to almost every day of our adult lives. It’s a testament to this new way of living and education, to entrust students with this newfound level of responsibility and independence, unlike high school. Because that’s what college is truly preparing us for, not finals or studying abroad, but the real world.

“My goal is to study as much as possible, but as for what I’ve learned, the most important thing is how subjects overlap in much the same way that world events and life experiences overlap all the time,” said Liz Roderick, a freshman psychology major.

This rings true, as the multilayered college experience is doing many things at once while we only take classes. By taking classes on a scheduled basis, we have to meet these deadlines and schedule ourselves in order to meet them. Everything is structured like an actual occupation, preparing students with skills and practices that they’ll use in their everyday lives.

“Everything is connected,” Roderick continued, “and I think that’s beautiful.”

For freshman and other students, finals represent the last hurdle of the semester, and can reveal if the student truly learned and worked throughout the class. But through students’ actions at the end of the semester, one can see the growth and maturation that took place over the course of these few short months. Everyone, students and professors alike, grows just a little bit over the course of the semester.

Just like in life, we are different people at the end of every term in our lives than we were at the start of it.

Noel Belinski, a lecturer of English, had some advice for students tackling the end of the semester and final exams. “I would suggest that students prepare for the end of the semester by reviewing their class notes and marginal notes in their texts and by asking questions regarding any unclear understanding of the material. Students can work together to review for examinations, or create note cards by which to study alone.”

“It is important to draft final papers well in advance of the due date, so as to have enough time to proofread carefully and to revise or enhance them. Writing Services in the Student Center is a great place to get support for composition concerns,” she added.

Belinski continued, “Additionally, it is important to get plenty of sleep, and to eat well. The last thing students need is to get run down at the end of the term.”

All good things must come to an end, as the saying goes, and that extends to semesters of college as well. For freshman, this was an experience like no other, their first foray into the world of university education. For upperclassmen, it was another installment into their college experience, bringing them a step closer to their eventual goals. And for seniors it was their last fall semester, the final time they’d see the leaves bear their autumn colors and see the campus through the first freezing rain of the season. The “college experience” isn’t limited by how many or how few semesters a student has been in, but by the quality of their time spent. And that, like so many other things, is what brings college students together as one.
MU Denies Prize to Winner of $10,000 Half-Time Shot

Contest continued from p. 1

ceived over 1,400 views as of Tuesday, Dec. 9, flooded with comments including: “ESPY status.” “He won 10,000?????” and “Darn, you rock, that was pretty awesome!”

Through the use of social media and word of mouth, individuals who had not attended the game were quickly made aware of the controversy surrounding Panasuk and University Athletics.

The response from the University community has since seemed to be overwhelmingly negative, and many students, like Rebecca Zidik, a senior communication major, were outraged. “I’m so upset they are not paying him,” Zidik said. “How many times have you ever heard that someone won that challenge? I think he should be praised; if the school picked him to do the challenge, then he should win the money. It’s bad PR for the school, to be honest.”

Despite the fact that Panasuk will not be able to receive the full prize amount, Athletics plans to give him a prize to commemorate the first time contest completion. “While it’s unfortunate that Sunday’s winner (Panasuk) doesn’t qualify under the eligibility requirements, we are going to give him a very valuable prize pack for an outstanding performance at halftime of the women’s basketball game. We encourage everyone to attend our games and all students, who are eligible, to sign up for any contests that we run in the future,” Occhipinti said.

Since Sunday’s game, Athletics has been in contact with Panasuk regarding the consolation prize pack. “From what I heard, Monmouth is trying their best to give me some type of prize which I appreciate very much. It may not be $10,000 but it’s cool for them to even consider doing so,” Panasuk said.

As for the entire topic, Panasuk said, “It’s definitely a let-down, but if the contract said I couldn’t play sports then that’s my fault for not seeing it.”

Career High For Robinson Leads Hawks Past Gaels

JOE RUGGIERO STAFF WRITER

Dec. 7, 2014 marked the first ever win in MU Men’s Basketball history against the pesky Gaels of Iona. Credit for the big win goes to the play of sophomore guard Justin Robinson. With a career-high of 25 points, Robinson helped his team come away with the 92-89 win to secure their fourth victory of the season.

The back and fourth contest saw a number of lead changes. The Hawks kept their hot shooting season alive by scoring 33-63. This completes the third contest this year of over 50 percent for the Hawks. Four players had double-digits in their scoring, one being Justin Robinson with 25. The others were junior guard Deon Jones at 18, senior guard and captain Max DiLeo with 12, and senior guard and captain Andrew Nicholas with 11.

The game began with Robinson sinking a basket to put his team up 2-0. A few seconds later, senior forward Brice Kofane swayed the confidence of the Hawks early on by scoring a three.

The teams were evenly matched throughout the first half as they were tied four different times. The Hawks were able to pull away with three minutes until halftime when Robinson made a three pointer, the assist was awarded to sophomore guard Collin Stewart. With a second remaining in the first half, DiLeo secured the Hawks two points bringing the score to 48-40 in MU’s favor. The Hawks lost the lead in the second half, however, they were never trailing by more than three points.

“It’s definitely a let-down, but if the contract said I couldn’t play sports then that’s my fault for not seeing it.” - Rebecca Zidik, Senior

“The team may be young, but I know if I’m out there, I have to do whatever it takes to make sure we secure the win.” - Robinson said.

For his recent efforts against Iona and Marist, Robinson was named Metro Atlantic Athletic Conference Player of the Week. The Hawks defeated Marist on Thursday, Dec. 4 with a final score of 57-50. The Marist win, which accounted for the first MAAC victory of the season, was also MU’s first conference opening win since the 2005-06 season.

At Marist, Robinson scored 12 points, had three assists, and two steals. While hosting the Gaels, Robinson, set a new career-high of 25 points, shot 8-of-11, 3-of-5 from three-point range, had four assists and contributed two steals.

MU had more points in the paint (42-26) and more points off turnovers (20-10) than Iona. The Hawks also shot 7-for-16 from deep, but that was trumped by the incredible three point performance by the lethal shooter of the Gaels. As a team, the Gaels made 15 of 28 long-range baskets. The Hawks return to action on Wednesday, Dec. 10 to take on the non-conference Fordham Rams at the Bronx. Fordham currently posts a 2-4 record and are 2-2 with home court advantage. Tip-off is set for 7 pm.
Thanksgiving: You Say Turkey, I Say Surf

RYAN GALLAGHER
SPORTS WRITER

Thanksgiving break. Food, family, and waves that will leave you smiling.

Not many people think of surfing when they are home stuffing their faces with turkey, mashed potatoes, and mom’s latest dessert. As it occurred, the week of Thanksgiving was full of early-winter tubes.

Tuesday before Turkey Day was shaping up to be very promising. The forecast was calling for cold water, wind, and choppy surf. Those who went out found it to be a short and intense experience, although the bearing was lessened by an unseasonal 60-degree day.

Anyone who went out on Monday was experiencing full-on winter time surf, but the conditions were not enough to deter their passion. For most, it was a shift, maddening surf. A disheartening Monday created high expectations for Tuesday’s surf.

I woke awaiting the arrival of the sun, hearing the light tap-tap of the clock on my bedside table. The sun and I have a love-hate relationship. I love his wake-me-up song, but hate the heat it brings. Sunlight filtering through my window, I found myself up and ready to experience the thrill of the waves. A quick breakfast, a cup of coffee, and a change into our winter gear as fast as we could. Sean was in a 3/2 wetsuit and detachable hood, while I chose for our trip our community. Whether they are people from MU who get to study along the shore, locals who know, and if we do not like what we see, the ride back to campus is always a nerve-racking one, complete with the hood. He managed to stay out of the water puking on the beach, although not everyone is content.

However, yet another last second make from Iona tied the game at 74 with 12 seconds remaining. It appeared the game would head into its third overtime, but MU’s Walsh was fouled on her last second drive to the basket and had two chances to end the game from the free throw stripe. Despite missing the first attempt, Walker stayed cool under pressure and drilled the second to give the Hawks the 75-74 win.

After playing two straight conference games, MU now goes back to non-conference play for four straight contests. The Hawks first hit the road on Wednesday, December 10 to take on Xavier. Tip-off is scheduled for 1:30 am.

Keep an eye out for a familiar face in the water. Talk, listen, and share ideas, we are all生产ers and every movement and thought is heightened to a new level of importance. Life in a barrel: slow, motionless bliss until the light is gone or you are at the end of the line, blinded by spray, but content.

For MU students, it is not much of a struggle getting to the beach. When there is swells, we usually know, and if we do not like what we see, the ride back to campus is always a nerve-racking one, complete with the hood. He managed to stay out of the water puking on the beach, although not everyone is content.

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In a high intensity game, the Hawks were able to defeat the Iona Gaels for the first time in program history. The final score was 92-89.

Full Story on page 18