University Joins Medical Mission in Haiti

DANIELLE SCHIPANI
NEWS EDITOR

Over winter break, 14 people, including University students and faculty, traveled to Haiti with 25 nurses and nursing students from other universities to run medical clinics throughout the country, helping about 1,500 patients from Jan. 4-Jan. 10.

"We set up the clinics in the countryside and more urban areas (where the Haitian people were relocated after their earthquake which happened six years ago). We also visited a hospital and went to an orphanage," said Dr. Laura Jannone, Associate Professor of Nursing.

Over winter break 14 students and faculty travelled to Haiti to work at medical clinics throughout the country.

Janone went with her husband Dr. Joel Jannone a Primary Care Physician, their daughter Gina Jannone, a graduate student who helped run the pharmacy, pediatrician, Dr. Steve Miller, Carol Miller and their daughter Amanda Miller, a nurse, along with eight sophomore pre-licensure nursing students.

The students and faculty handed out hygiene kits filled with soap, washcloths, toothbrushes, toothpaste, dental floss, and hand sanitizer, to the patients they encountered. The students who attended used the skills they learned in their Individual Health Assessment course they took during the fall semester with Dr. Patricia Sciscione, specialist professor of nursing, at make-shift clinics.

One sophomore nursing student, Kimberly Thompson, explained how she always dreamed of going to Haiti to help people.

"I love traveling and have always wanted to go on a medical mission trip. I found out my freshman year some of my nursing professors have been going to Haiti to do mission work. I knew right away I had to go. I started to save my money and my dream of mission work soon became a reality."

Nursing student, Caroline Shaheen, on pg. 2.

No Snow Days for Dining Hall Staff

KERRY BREEN
COPY EDITOR

Upon closure of the University due to inclement weather, dining hall employees must still come to work to make sure residential students are fed.

On snow days, almost all buildings are closed. The Rebecca Stafford Student Center will often be closed, or it may have a delayed opening. Other locations, such as the café in the library and the convenience store, are also shut down.

All non-essential offices are closed; many classes are cancelled so that students can stay inside. However, all students still need to eat, and since many on-campus dormitories do not have kitchens, the dining hall must stay open, even during snow storms.

While most University employees are able to stay home during dangerous weather, those who work in the dining hall still have to go to work. So, while accommodations must be made to make sure that they are able to arrive safely.

"Sometimes, we have employees sleep over," said Steve Black, the resident dining director. "They can sleep over in the club rooms. Personally, and my general manager Chris Ryerson, often pick them up and drive them home, but we would rather them stay here if the storm is really bad, when it’s over a foot or more."

However, these employee sleepovers are done only in the case of emergency, such as during winter storm Jonas. The previous snow on Friday, Feb. 5, would not have qualified as such an emergency situation. According to Black, employees are compensated at an hourly rate. Typically, it is only employees who would be working night shifts that stay overnight.

"We always have it open for students," said Black. "Somebody would be here. Even if it was just me and the head chef, somebody would be here to feed students.

During inclement weather, the dining hall also offers fewer options, closing several stations to minimize the amount of employees that need to go out in the storm. The first stations to close are typically the carving station and the deli, as well as the omelet station. The stations that typically remain open are the grill, pizza, and pasta stations, as well as the salad bar. The other entrée stations, as well as the international and vegan stations, are opened if possible, depending on the severity of the storm.

"We just have partial stations open," said Black. "It’s hard for people to get around, it’s hard for our employees to get around. During the snowstorm, we had pizza, grill, entrée, the pasta station, and as well as the international and vegan. The salad bar is always open. I know everyone loves the omelet station and the deli, but it’s hard for us to get everyone in safely, so we have selective items open, it’s still enough to feed everyone."

While dining hall employee Diamond Perkins was not present for winter storm Jonas, she has been at the dining hall during other storms, and knows how they accommodate both workers and students.

"They let the kids go in for free," said Perkins. "They let them stay as long as they want to eat. They also make sure they have a place to stay when it’s a snow day."

Over winter break 14 students and faculty travelled to Haiti to work at medical clinics throughout the country.

Dining Hall cont. on pg. 2.

MU Celebrates World Hijab Day

JAMILAH MCMILLAN
ASSISTANT NEWS EDITOR

Each year, Feb. 1 marks World Hijab Day, a holiday that supports millions of Muslim women who chose to wear the hijab (headscarf) around the world.

For the fourth time at the University, the Muslim Student Association (MSA) and Lambda Theta Alpha (LTA) invited students to participate in the celebration on Tuesday Feb. 2 in the Rebecca Stafford Student Center (RSSC).

The hijab is an obligatory head covering that is a signature of Muslim women around the world. It is meant to be worn in public around men who are not relatives, and it does not need to be worn in front of other women or family members. Similar to last year’s World Hijab Day celebration, members of the MSA and LTA laid out a table of different colored hijabs; there were pinks, and greens, prints, and nudes. They also provided a mirror to give participants the opportunity to see their appearance after donning a hijab.

Alongside the hijabs were pamphlets that addressed misconceptions, and answered basic questions about Islam.

According to members of the MSA, when non-Muslim students and faculty volunteered to wear the hijab they exhibited interfaith-solidarity. “The simple act of wearing a hijab breaks down anti-Muslim sentiments, and stereotypes. It is the most visible way that a person can support Muslim women,” said Maya Ayubi, a junior chemistry and MSA student.

Reka Datta, a professor in the political science department, asserts that events like World Hijab Day affect the campus culture. “Often, a university campus has diverse students but they tend to stay within their groups. When there is more integration and inclusivity of diverse individuals and groups, a deeper culture of understanding and respecting different cultures and identities emerges. An event such as World Hijab Day offers opportunity for in- classity. Students from a variety of backgrounds participate together and gain a better understanding of what wearing a hijab signifies. Through understanding comes empathy and compassion. All of these contribute to a campus and the larger society the culture of respecting and including everyone as part of the community,” said Datta.

For the first time since its fruition, the celebration of Hijab Day cont. on pg. 3.

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As explained by the Pan American Health Organization, the Zika virus is an infection that occurs through the bite of an infected mosquito of the Aedes genus. This virus usually causes mild fever, exanthema (skin rash), conjunctivitis, and muscle and joint pain. Although the infection is typically mild, it can be severe for some pregnant women. The virus can infect the fetus through the placenta, potentially causing birth defects.

Several cases of microcephaly, a condition characterized by an abnormally small head circumference, have been associated with Zika infections in pregnant women. Microcephaly is often linked to incomplete brain development, leading to neurodevelopmental disabilities such as reduced intelligence and hearing, vision, and movement difficulties. The exact mechanism by which Zika virus causes microcephaly is not fully understood but likely involves the virus disrupting normal neural development.

The Zika virus is transmitted through the bite of infected Aedes mosquitoes. The main vectors of the virus are Aedes aegypti and Aedes albopictus. Pregnant women can be at risk of infection, and if infected, the virus can cross the placental barrier to infect the fetus. The severity of infection in the fetus can range from mild to severe, depending on the timing and extent of exposure to the virus during pregnancy.

Maternal infection with Zika virus during pregnancy can lead to serious complications for the mother as well. Zika infection in pregnant women may result in miscarriage, stillbirth, or neonatal death. In severe cases, it can cause Guillain-Barré syndrome, a rare but potentially fatal autoimmune disorder that affects the nervous system.

The risk of transmission from an infected mother to the fetus depends on the stage of pregnancy. Infection during the first trimester is of particular concern because the virus can affect critical brain development.

Diagnosis of Zika infection in pregnant women can be challenging due to the lack of specific symptoms. However, tests such as enzyme-linked immunosorbent assay (ELISA) and real-time reverse transcription polymerase chain reaction (RT-PCR) can detect Zika virus in blood samples. Antigen detection kits are also available for rapid screening.

Preventive measures include the use of mosquito repellents, wearing protective clothing, and using insect repellents containing DEET. Travelers to Zika-affected areas should also practice strict mosquito bite avoidance measures.

Health advisories recommend assessing the risk of Zika transmission and consider avoiding travel to areas with active transmission. Pregnant women should discuss their travel plans with their healthcare provider and be aware of the current status of Zika virus transmission in the countries they intend to visit.

Students and faculty provide medical assistance in Haiti.

Students and faculty took a day to experience Haiti. They were students and faculty from various universities and organizations, including the University of Pittsburgh, University of Miami, and University of North Carolina.

The group worked in a hospital, providing medical care to patients in need. They provided general checkups, administered medications, and educated patients on hygiene and disease prevention.

JALIZE CANELA
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

Students and Faculty Provide Medical Assistance in Haiti

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Traditional College Admissions Process May See Changes Soon

RICHARD FELICETTI  
ASSOCIATE NEWS EDITOR

Harvard University plans on revolutionizing the college admissions process. For decades, colleges have stressed the importance of stellar grades, astronomical SAT scores, and abundant extracurricular activities. However, for many students across the nation, these requirements for a stacked resume simply are not present.

Recently, the Harvard Graduate School of Education presented its case for an admissions "revolution." Rather than placing heavy emphasis on great test scores and extracurricular activities, the Harvard report suggested that the admissions process should reward students who aid their families and strive to be good individuals.

Statistics on a resume do not tell the whole story of a student; often, those with picture-perfect grades and activities lack the interpersonal abilities to contribute to society. Therefore, the new process will take into consideration personal attributes and rely less on the ‘H-Index’ model.

The report implies that prospective students will be able to write an essay about their experiences helping their families. Not every student has the access to community service and extra-curricular activities; therefore, this new process would allow students to display their redeemable qualities in the form of a thorough essay.

"I believe that there is a certain degree of appropriateness to this decision," said Jake Marciniak, sophomore business student. Many times there are students who are strictly book smart and are extremely proficient in taking a test. However, much of what an individual will be doing in a job and in the real world after college will be a strong combination of intelligence and interpersonal skill."

Marciniak stressed the importance of personal characteristics in determining exactly who is a proper fit to be admitted to a university. Although grades are definitely important, the other attributes should be weighted just as heavily.

"The ‘person’ you are speaks about yourself and who you are capable of. I am not saying you take the most outstanding and charismatic student and neglect his potentially poor grades and achievements," said Marciniak.

"However, I feel that it is good for any student to have a strong balance of knowledge and ‘education’ as well as the ability to combine their talents and personality with those of the people around them." Although in its infancy, the report has been received positively, and the ultimate goal is for all of the nation’s colleges to adopt this policy.

Daniel Kenny, a Harvard University M.S. student and member of the MSA, believes the event was successful in reaching its goals. "It was nerve-wracking because of the renovations to the dining area, so we were located in the lobby, but it was still a great event. As a Muslim it showed me that Monmouth students are willing and open to new experiences and knowledge. They don’t let the media influence their choices and opportunities of learning new things," she said.

"I loved how many students were interested in learning how to wear one [a hijab]. I think it was a wonderful humbling experience helping students who were honestly interested in learning how to wear one," said Ayubi.

Tatiana Castro, a senior marine and environmental biology major and policy student, enthusiastically described her experience. "When I first put on the hijab I simply felt beautiful. I don’t know how else to describe it, I just felt so humbled to be able to learn about the Muslim religion and to be able to put a hijab on without possible judgment. I have always wanted to see what it felt like, and having people around you showing you how to put it on, and encouraging you to flaunt it was such a rewarding experience. I loved every minute of it," she said.

World Hijab Day Educates Students

Harvard looks to change the way the college acceptance process works in order to put an emphasis on character and life experience.

I first put on the hijab I simply felt beautiful. I don’t know how else to describe it, I just felt so humbled to be able to learn about the Muslim religion and to be able to put a hijab on without possible judgment. I have always wanted to see what it felt like, and having people around you showing you how to put it on, and encouraging you to flaunt it was such a rewarding experience. I loved every minute of it," she said.

With a group of attendees wore their hijabs together to celebrate World Hijab Day.

"I am proud of the MSA because events like these always bring curious people of diverse backgrounds together and allows them to learn about others. I hope MSA will always hold onto its principles of inclusiveness, co-existence, and peace that is embodied in its constitution," Matt Horch continued.

"I think the college does a good job reaching out to students from public high schools, especially in low-income communities. Elite universities like Harvard continue to seek students from elite private schools, such as Phillips Academy and Phillips Exeter Academy," said Kenny. "They perpetuate a cycle of elite-educated children from wealthy families attending elite universities. I think Harvard’s more general goal of preferring students who advance the ‘common good’ is small—but good-way to combat a history of elitist admissions. More schools should consider their applicants’ socioeconomic backgrounds when evaluating their academics and extracurriculars. Harvard’s a noble aim, and I hope they take their initiative a step further by eliminating preferences for ‘legacy’ students whose parents and other family members graduated from Harvard."

If more schools take into consideration an applicant’s socioeconomic background, then perhaps all students will have a fair chance at being admitted into a university as opposed to those that have family members in the institution’s legacy. Sometimes we focus too much on the so-called elite universities. Colleges across America could take more steps to help make poor and otherwise underprivileged students feel more welcome on campus in order to help those students succeed," said Kenny.

"For example, instituting mentorship programs is one way to help first-generation students adapt to campus life while making a friend in a strange place. Additionally, I think free community college would allow students who are unsure about college the freedom to try it. Unfortunately, such a system seems like a pipe dream in the current political environment."

Moreover, Erin Smith, an MU Admission Counselor, noted that although beneficial, there must be a loophole in which grades maintain their hefty prominence. "It is a great idea to rely more so on the person themselves than simply their statistics," said Smith. "However, I am sure that grades that are not stellar will result in less of a scholarship, so the background from which the person comes from will still have a role. There must be a good combination of both personal attributes and grades for the applicant to have the best shot at admission."

Photo taken by Jaimie Willms
Valentine’s Day is upon us, and along with boxes of chocolates and bouquets of roses, there seems to be an air of cynicism that surrounds the holiday. Traditionally, on February 14 the love you have for your significant other is exhibited through store-bought gifts and cliché Hallmark cards. For singles this holiday is a yearly reminder that you are still alone, but for those that are in relationships it is a time to flaunt how “in love” you are with one another. Many people debate that Valentine’s Day is not truly about love, but it is about a partner’s feelings of obligation to shower their partner with material gifts. Is this holiday legitimate or is it merely for the monetary gain of industries?

The debate for whether or not Valentine’s Day is has meaning or if it is simply created by the greeting card companies will be questioned long after this week’s Outlook issue is published. Although this holiday many touching upon the validity of this holiday many Outlook editors believe that it is a legitimate holiday, it has been highly influenced by industries. One editor shared her thoughts, “There’s no reason not to celebrate being with someone you love once a year. It’s like Mother’s Day or Father’s Day. It has turned into a huge consumer holiday, but the original concept is nice. Americans are expected to spend $8.9 billion this year on gifts for their loved ones this Valentine’s Day. I guess chivalry isn’t dead, after all. Most Outlook editors would like to believe that the gifts purchased for Valentine’s Day hold value, but most feel that they are given out of one’s feeling of obligation to their partner. The editors believe that this obligation is constructed by societal norms, consumer advertisements, and the fact that this holiday over time has become a nuisance. However, one Outlook editor had a different view. “I think that if anyone takes the time and money to get a gift that it has meaning behind it.”

There are positive and negative aspects surrounding the celebration of Valentine’s Day depending upon who you speak to. Spending money on meaningless gifts for the holiday was seen as a negative quality for this celebration of love. Also, singles feel that this day serves as reminder that you have yet to find your own love affair. “I take the day to love myself and other people as a single person,” said a single editor. Amongst the Outlook staff, an overarching positive aspect of Valentine’s Day was the receiving of chocolate and candy. Almost all of editors felt that February 14 is a day worth celebrating, but they recognize that it is highly commercialized.

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.

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Since 1959 Barbie has been known her as the doll who was tall, blonde, skin, and skinny, and essentially the definition of perfect. Barbie literally has it all. They have not one package of access-
sories I can think of that doesn’t ex- sist. There is everything from Malibu Barbie and Ken to Barbie with a robot. But is there anything she can’t do? This figure is someone that most young girls have wanted to be, but because she has always had the freedom to be whatever she wanted to be.

Barbie has obviously played a role in the way young girls view their bodies. No matter the age, girls are concerned with their weight, and having a Barbie doll with an unreal- istic body doesn’t help. Barbie’s image isn’t the only thing that would influence girls to think their bodies aren’t “normal.”

When you look back to Slum- ber Party Barbie, she came with a scale set to 100 pounds. She also came with a book about how to lose weight and the only thing written in it was “DON’T EAT.” It’s very true that a Barbie doll acts as a role model for young girls. This was sending the wrong message to girls, telling them to not eat or to eat for a “per- fect” weight. There have even been lawsuits filed against Mattel, the company that makes Barbie, because of the way the image are presenting girls to be a standard.

When playing with their dolls, children create their own fantasy world. Yes, for many, Barbie is the main character. I think it is about time Barbie dolls started looking like the kids who play with them. If they don’t look like this ideal figure, they could become unsure of their own bodies.

Just recently the Barbie doll has had a major transformation. After over 50 years of her signature look, new looks have been introduced. The Mattel Company decided that they were going to allow Barbie’s look to be more versatile. There are over 33 new looks for Barbie in all, and monitoring it as it evolves.

I think the changes made to Bar- bee dolls is going to have a great impact on young girls and the way they view themselves. I know when I was growing up and playing with dolls, I wanted to live that kind of life. I wanted to be skinny, and do everything, just like Barbie. After all, Barbie’s new catch phrase is, “Imagine the Pos- sibilities.”

MU Bookstore: Y U Expensive?

ALISON SILVERMAN
STAFF WRITER

It’s time for a new semester and you and everyone else now need. You’ve pushed it off for as long as you can, but you can’t avoid it any longer.

Semester after semester, stu- dents are required to buy their own textbooks. Books are costly, and some students can’t afford to buy them. Many return their books to the bookstore, where prices are often lower than students would rather wait and order

Students are encouraged to purchase books from the bookstore, where prices are so high that students would rather wait and order their books to be shipped almost a week after classes begin.

Why is it that the University requires us to not only pay for our textbooks, but also buy our own textbooks? I don’t think that it is all that fair for students to have to pay for textbooks, especially when they could receive a discount when we buy them from the University book- store. Furthermore, some classes require that the students pay for supplies or rentals. When the semester ends and we finally go to sell our books back to the bookstore, even if we only take it for half the price. For example, last year I bought a $200 textbook and the Univer- sity bookstore only gave me $50 for it, while some of my books weren’t even accepted.

Moreover, students might think that the bookstore will not budge on prices (it was that way for me). I don’t think I would be writing this article. So, here are some great places to get textbooks if you don’t want to deal with the skyrocketing prices of the book-

1.) Chegg: Chegg is perhaps one of the most popular book rental sites. According to the website, Chegg says that students

will save up to “80 percent on rentals and 20 percent on used textbooks.” Not only does Chegg provide an an- swer to all your textbook needs, but it also provides students with an internship search engine and ways to help study for all your exams – kill three birds with one stone and save money? Who doesn’t want that?

2.) Amazon: known for being one of the biggest online stores. Amazon is a great way to find all the textbooks you need. On top of that, Amazon offers any student with an .edu email ad- dress Amazon Prime, which comes with two day shipping – no more being unprepared for

the first week of class due to late shipping on books!

3.) Valore Books: While it may not be as popular as Chegg or Amazon, Valore Books offers free shipping for all textbooks and enables the user to track their order. You an

also give you an extra week to return your book if they’re late.

4.) Skypo: Looking for new books for less? While most stu-

dents opt for the cheaper, used-
op tion, if you’re looking for

cheap new textbooks, Skypo

is the best option.

5.) Bookbyte: Bookbyte has free shipping both ways, enables you to pick how long you want to rent your books for, and guar-

antes every book is in 87 percent. They

also give you an extra return to return your book if they’re late.

6.) e-books: If you have pos-

sioned your homework reading until the night before it was due and you feel your only resort is to buy from the campus book-

store, think again. Many sites, such as Barnes and Nobles, are offering e-books as an alterna-

tive to the book right away and al-

though you won’t receive a hardback book, most college campuses are accepting laptops or tablets in the classroom. e-

books are also great to lighten

one’s load on the trek to and

from class. More often than not, these are the cheapest forms of textbooks.

Don’t forget, the bookstore is always a quick way to get books, but if you’re looking not to break the bank, these options are great!

The Mattel Company introduced their new Barbie dolls on TIME Magazine’s cover on Jan. 28.

The Outlook February 10, 2016

MU Bookstore: Y U Expensive?

ALISON SILVERMAN
STAFF WRITER

February 10, 2016

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Debate: Should the University Rename Wilson Hall?

Wilson Hall's potential name change
causes controversy and debate among University students, staff, faculty, and alumni.

**AFFIRMATIVE**

Although Wilson was Governor of New Jersey at the time, he was born in Virginia, and later became the first President from a secessionist state in almost fifty years and the first since the end of the Reconstruction Era.

With the memory of the Civil War still prominent in American society, racial inequality was an unfortunate commonality of Wilson's administrations. Despite the passing of the Pendergast Act in 1883, which stipulated that government jobs are to be awarded on the basis of merit and made it illegal to fire or demote an employee for political reasons, President Wilson mandated that all applicants for federal jobs be photographed before they were hired.

Under his supervision, many African American civil servants who were in positions of managerial supremacy to their white colleagues were demoted to, according to Wilson, “reduce the social friction building up in American society.”

Notwithstanding their discriminatory nature, the policies, he said, were “as far as possible from being a movement against the Negroes,” and he “sincerely believe[s] it to be in their interest.”

While president of Princeton University, Wilson “envisioned an intellectual utopia, a community of the mind,” according to Wilson biographer A. Scott Berg. But Princeton was then the “only major college in the North” that did not admit students of color.

When a black student from Virginia wrote directly to Wilson himself, he replied that “it is altogether inadvisable for a colored man to enter Princeton.”

Berg also reveals that Wilson even opposed President Teddy Roosevelt’s appointment of a black Collector of the Port of Charleston, South Carolina, as “an unwise piece of bravado” because a black man with authority over white merchants was “too much to stand,” and he “sincerely believe[s] it to be in their interest.”

This begs another obvious question. Who should replace Wilson as namesake of the Shadow Lawn Mansion?

If the only contribution that Wilson has to the University is in a few speeches that he gave one summer, perhaps the building should be renamed for Rev. Martin Luther King Jr., who once addressed a crowd of students on our campus in 1966.

Or maybe the mansion should be renamed for Julian Abele, the first African-American professional architect, who helped design it in the neoclassical French tradition along with Horace Trumbauer.

To learn more about the Wilsonian legacy, a panel discussion featuring distinct faculty members entitled Woodrow Wilson: Legacy, Memory, and Achievement, will be held on Wednesday, February 17, from 1:15 p.m. – 2:35 p.m. in the aptly named Woodrow Wilson Auditorium.

The program will provide “a window into the past and the future,” as the University explores "whether or not Wilson’s name is still appropriate” to feature on its signature building.

The University’s Wilson Hall is a big part of the history of this campus, which makes many students want to come here. Woodrow Wilson was the only governor of N.J. to ever become President of the U.S. His summer home, or “Summer White House”, is the big beautiful building that we call Wilson Hall. Whether you like or dislike the former governor and president, Wilson Hall is a major part of American history right here on the campus.

Woodrow Wilson had a very progressive agenda that included supporting women’s right to vote, helping labor unions, and created the Federal Reserve, making loans more accessible to Americans, and finally he won the Nobel Peace Prize in 1918 for his peace efforts to end World War I.

He sounds like a liberals dream, but one caveat is that he is believed to be a racist with a spotty civil rights record by his critics. Although it is a bit unfair to single out Wilson as the lone bigot in America in the early 1900’s, he was sympathetic towards segregation but he also believed it was for the good of African Americans at the time.

He also offered W.E.B. DuBois, an African American rights leader at the time who campaigned for Wilson, an army commission to deal with race relations. That by itself does not change many of his racist views but this was at a time where the Ku Klux Klan was at its height.

He was actually fairly moderate compared to the rest of the Democratic Party at the time—which was the party of the segregated south and much different than the party that is seen today—and the rest of the country which was at one of its lowest points in race relations in modern history.

Because of that, the liberal progressive takeover of academia is showing in full force with their politically correct strategy, “it doesn’t go along with our agenda and we don’t like it, so let’s change the name and pretend it never happened.”

I am not writing this article in defense of bigotry nor am I writing on behalf of Woodrow Wilson. As a conservative, I do not believe in so many of Wilson’s policies because they went along with the progressive ideas of government expansion into the lives of the American people.

I write this article because I do not agree with the idea of erasing history as a way of confronting bigotry. It is simply a historical fact that Woodrow Wilson used the mansion as his summer home. It is also a fact that George Washington owned slaves. Should we take his face off of the dollar bill and tell the next generation that he wasn’t the general who won the Revolutionary War and first President of the United States? That would be the same logic that our University administration would be following if they were to rename Wilson Hall.

Although some of our nation’s history might be unpleasant for some, erasing it does not put us in a better position. There is much better ways that this campus can show acceptance and tolerance towards people of different colors than by taking away the history of the building that drew many of our diverse student body to come here in the first place.

The uncomfortable truth for some is that Wilson Hall was the summer home of Woodrow Wilson. Renaming the mansion can’t change that. It is uncomfortable that he, along with many other Americans, had negative views towards people of color. Renaming the mansion will not change that either.

So instead of renaming the mansion, which will not change anything, why can’t we as a university focus on the positive strides that Monmouth University has not made towards inclusion. Just last year there was a black lives matter rally right in front of Wilson Hall. The name of the mansion did not seem to have a negative effect on that.

Our University celebrates “World Hijab Day,” promoting tolerance of our friends from the Middle East despite the ongoing threat of Islamic terrorism by ISIS. The name of Wilson Hall did not seem to stop the students from showing tolerance there. In fact, Martin Luther King Jr. once addressed Monmouth University students about civil rights in 1966. He addressed them right in front of Wilson Hall.

Even better, as a University we could look towards making a more inclusive future instead of looking towards the past. Instead of renaming the mansion to make us “feel good”, how about the school administration that are so passionate about equal rights just lower tuition for students. That way, students of all colors can afford to attend this beautiful university and we would have more of a diverse student body than we do now. However, the fat cat administrators and bureaucrats that lend unnecessary and wasteful programs that our tuition dollars go to, will have to take pay cuts and lose their fancy titles.

Instead of taking the easy way out, Monmouth can just continue its racial progress and look to a more diverse future. At the same time, we can keep our history too and not promote intolerance by absolving the feelings that we feel uncomfortable with. It makes little sense to fight intolerance with intolerance. I have never heard of someone getting postive recognition for erasing history. Monmouth students should embrace history—the good and the bad—and make even bigger strides for a better future.

**NEGATIVE**

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1 small plain pizza + 1 can of soda for just $8.99

*Cannot be combined with other offers. Toppings are to be charged extra. In store & delivery offer. Must present coupon to driver for confirmation.*

VALID THROUGH THE WHOLE SEMESTER!
The Student Alumni Association’s 2nd Annual PHIL THE PIG Campaign
Fill your pig and build your class bank account!

Why should you feed your pig??

ALL money raised will go directly into your class’ bank account so you are able to purchase a spectacular Senior gift and leave your legacy on campus!

ALL students who feed their class pig will be entered for a chance to win prizes including a variety of gift cards to favorite local establishments as well as a grand prize of a TABLET! The class who has the highest participation rate will get a special prize as well!

*Piggy banks will be located in the Student Center on 2/29, 3/7, and 3/21 and the Dining Hall on 3/3, 3/10, and 3/24 from 12-3 PM.*

Remember… don’t let your pig starve!

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**The Verge Logo Contest!**

**PRIZES:**
- Gift Cards to Rook & Broad Street Dough Co.
- Verge Merchandise with your Design!

**Here are the rules:**
- Use Black / White / Red
- Include “The Verge” and “Monmouth University Student Online Magazine”
- Do Not Use Official MU Logos

Email your design to Amanda Kontor at so893014@monmouth.edu

The deadline is Sunday, February 28 at 11:59 P.M.

Remember… don’t let your pig starve!
The holiday that singles dread most is upon us. For those that lack a significant other on Valentine’s Day it may feel as if they will be forlorn. However, your mom usually pulls through by sending you your favorite candy, or even ordering a teddy bear. Even spending time with your friends help you cope with the copious amounts of couples that are out and about on February 14. Just because you don’t have a bae does not mean that you can’t enjoy the holiday.

Communication professor, Shannon Hokanson gave her advice for single people on Valentine’s Day, “Don’t put too much energy into the holiday. It’s a little overblown. Take care of yourself.”

When single people are asked about their Valentine’s Day plans, they say not to give much thought to their relationship status. Casey Labarré, a health studies student discussed her plans for Valentine’s Day this year, “I’m just going to hang with my friends, and have a good time.” Who needs a boy, you say?

Nick Bellomo, a student studying business, remarked “There are so many things to love in life; there’s nothing wrong with loving yourself.”

Both students may seem as if they do not mind being single, but it is apparent that singles tend to spend their Valentine’s Day differently than single guys do. Typically, women seem to be more heartbroken by the day, while guys treat it as if it is just another day. Both genders have different ways of celebrating Valentine’s Days and within this article I have described how both typically choose to spend February 14.

Single girls call up all of their single girl friends to hang out because they don’t want to be alone on Valentine’s Day, that would be tragic. They typically make plans to treat themselves by splurging on some new makeup and getting a mani and pedi. While they read People Magazine and have their nails painted pink they talk about their friends that could not make it because they have boyfriends. They comment that their friends in a relationship are really missing out, and criticize their relationship because they are jealous that they do not have a significant other of their own to spend Valentine’s Day with.

Typically, women get dressed up to grab dinner together at a nice restaurant or go to a movie to watch a Nicholas Sparks’ novel. Once the movie ends, they grab coffee and Instagram and become disgusted and jealous of the photos of happy couples. Later, the girls go to bed and can only hope that next Valentine’s Day maybe they will have a special someone to share it with.

For single guys, Valentine’s Day is not for them. They might watch the NBA (ball is life), play XBOX, or order Domino’s Pizza. Besides that, they enjoy chilling out and not having to deal with the stress of buying a gift and pleasing their girlfriend on Valentine’s Day. Both genders have drastically different ways of spending Valentine’s Day. It is a really overrated holiday, and you do not have to sulk because you are single. Later, the single person who you are single, in a relationship, or looking to mingle, you can find ways to enjoy this Valentine’s Day.

**Sweet Treats for Your Sweet This Valentine’s Day**

**CHELSEI TROMBETTA STAFF WRITER**

With Valentine’s Day coming up this weekend, you probably will not be able to walk into a store without seeing a huge display of candy, boxes of chocolate, and roses. However, there are many more treats that you can make for the one you care about whether it’s for a party or your significant other.

They say that the best way to a woman’s heart is through her stomach, and what better way to do that than making them a delicious and easy to make Valentine’s Day treats that are perfect for showing them that you care.

Matt Marino, an adjunct professor, shared his favorite red velvet cupcake with cream cheese frosting recipe from celebrity chef Paula Deen. Marino said, “It tastes delicious and is easy to make. It also makes enough for a number of people to have some.”

**Cupcake Ingredients:**
1. 2 sticks butter softened
2. 1 teaspoon vanilla extract
3. 2 cups sugar
4. 3 cups all-purpose flour
5. 2 teaspoons baking soda
6. 1 teaspoon salt
7. 1 cup buttermilk
8. 1 cup vegetable oil
9. 2 large eggs
10. 2 teaspoons baking powder
11. 1 teaspoon vanilla extract
12. 1 cup sour cream

**Directions:**
1. Preheat the oven to 350 degrees F. Line 2 (12 cup) muffin pans with cupcake papers.
2. In a medium mixing bowl, sift together the flour, sugar, baking soda, and baking powder.
3. In a large bowl, gently beat together the butter, buttermilk, eggs, food coloring, vinegar, and vanilla with an electric mixer. Add the sifted dry ingredients to the wet and mix until smooth and thoroughly combined.
4. Divide the batter evenly amongst the cupcake tins about 2/3 filled.
5. Bake in the oven for about 20 to 22 minutes, turning the pans once, half way through. Place a toothpick in one of the cupcakes to ensure that the butter is fully cooked. Remove them from the oven and allow them to cool completely before frosting.

**Frosting Ingredients:**
1 pound cream cheese softened
3. In a large mixing bowl, beat the cream cheese, butter, and vanilla together until smooth. Add the sugar and on low speed, beat until incorporated. Increase the speed to high and mix until very light and fluffy. Garnish with chopped pecans and a fresh raspberry or strawberry.
4. Melted chocolate chips and vanilla extract

**Directions:**
1. In a large mixing bowl, beat the cream cheese, butter, and vanilla together until smooth. Add the sugar and on low speed, beat until incorporated. Increase the speed to high and mix until very light and fluffy. Garnish with chopped pecans and a fresh raspberry or strawberry.
2. Melt the chocolate chips in the microwave on low for 2 minutes, stirring every minute. Add the milk and mix until smooth.
3. In a large mixing bowl, beat the cream cheese, butter, and vanilla together until smooth. Add the sugar and on low speed, beat until incorporated. Increase the speed to high and mix until very light and fluffy. Garnish with chopped pecans and a fresh raspberry or strawberry.
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Students Weigh in on the Contenders for Best Picture

There are some things we all know to be true: the sky is blue, a pizza party is the best kind of party, Beyoncé is awesomely hot, and you can't make everyone happy.

But does what the average person think or, more specifically, your fellow Monmouth students? The Revenant, Mad Max: Fury Road, The Big Short, Straight Outta Compton, and Room are all in the running for the biggest prize of the night: Best Picture. Are these the right choices? Did other films get ignored for no good reason? Was it all black and white before?

But what does the average person think or, more specifically, your fellow Monmouth students? The Revenant, Mad Max: Fury Road, The Big Short, Straight Outta Compton, and Room are all in the running for the biggest prize of the night: Best Picture. Are these the right choices? Did other films get ignored for no good reason? Was it all black and white before?

"Like Viola Davis said at the Emmy's, there isn't much opportunity for black people in Emmy's, there isn't much opportunity for black people in straight parts," said sophomore Jessica French. "Straight Outta Compton had an almost all black cast and should have been nominated for more, not only because of its success at the box office, but also because the acting was amazing."

Many have argued on how ridiculous not only Straight Outta Compton's shutout at the Oscars was, but also the absence of nominations for films that prominently featured people of color this past year overall. The lack of diversity has called many to wonder how the Academy could completely ignore some fantastic films and performances. While Straight Outta Compton was led by a mostly black cast, including O'Shea Jackson Jr., Corey Hawkins, and Jason Mitchell, and was directed by African American director F. Gary Gray, the film's only nominations went to the four white writers for Best Original Screenplay. Some have pointed out that not only Straight Outta Compton, but also films like Creed and Beasts of No Nation, which featured interesting, diverse performances onscreen and great work done behind the camera, also deserved recognition.

"I saw Mad Max, The Revenant, and The Martian," said senior Leanna Pryor. "I also saw Creed, which was amazing!" Of course, it is not difficult to find people who were upset to see some of their favorites get shut out or ignored in certain categories.

"I would have liked to see Straight Outta Compton nominated for Best Director, and Best Screenplay should have definitely been nominated."

In one way, the Academy could have done more to please audiences: they have the chance to nominate up to ten films for Best Picture, but voting only resulted in eight nominees. Many films were able to get nominated in certain categories, but lost out on the big prize. "Carroll should have been nominated for Best Picture, and I'm upset to see Ex Machina passed over for it as well," said sophomore Julian Garcia. "I also would have loved to see anything for Crimson Peak." Even well-established acts were snubbed this year: Ridley Scott for Best Director for The Martian, Will Smith for Con Sussion, Quentin Tarantino for Best Director and Best Screenplay for The Hateful Eight, and "I loved The Hateful Eight," said sophomore Stephanie Young. "It was one of my favorite films from last year. Despite some complaints, many films were rightfully nominated. Certain smaller films were able to achieve a lot of love as well.

"I liked how well Room was adapted from the original book," said sophomore Casey Schellinger, "I worked really well, and I loved the movie." When it comes to acting, the chances for a nomination are even smaller: even with only five slots available in each of the four acting categories. Not only were the omission of any people of color a problem for many, but so were snubs for well-known actors who turned in impressive performances this past year.

"I actually wanted Steve Carell to be nominated for Best Supporting Actor over Christian Bale," said sophomore Jillian Young. "For Best Picture will be a tossup this year, many of the acting categories seem pretty locked up. Brie Larson for Room and Leonardo Di Caprio for The Revenant appear to be the easy front-runners in the lead actor category so far.

"Honestly, I think [Di Caprio] should win for everything," continued French. "He's been outstanding this whor thy.

Of course, you cannot make everyone happy, but the Academy does have the ability to make some appropriate changes. Widening the Academy to allow for more diverse voters and taking in more independent films that bring mainstream audiences and critics together would be beneficial changes to a system that, while becoming more and more antiquated each year, has had a huge cultural impact. We can only hope that next year, the Oscar nominations leave us a little bit happier.

Entertainment

The lead T-Bird, the man who stole the night was Jordan Fisher, the 21-year-old who starred as Dodson. Fisher, a guest star in the show, performed a cover of "How Deep Is Your Love" that was a hit. While some may argue that it wasn't an original, though, "This is definetly Not a Song to Move and Shake to, can it be compared to the original. Grease Live was pretty locked down," said sophomore Stephanie Young.

"I was going for, or should I say, who was not the leads themselves but the charming and cunning Betty Rizzo, played by Vanessa Hudgens of High School Musical fame. Hudgens, who is best known for her role as Gabriella Montez in the Disney Channel movies, does a total 180 here as Grease's antagonist. Premiseous and sultry are only two of the many words to describe her character and Hudgens did hold that role justice—especially under the pressure.

The news broke the morning of Grease Live that Hudgens's father was diagnosed with cancer. All eyes were on Hudgens as America watched if she would crack under the pressure. Pressure, however, is not a word in either Hudgens' or Rizzo's vocabulary, and the 27-year-old performed the role without any hint of sadness. She shined in her heart-wrenching number, "There Are Worse Things I Could Do," and made the crowd laugh in the earlier number, "Look at Me, I'm Sansa Lee." Hudgens swept every- one away.

Other members of Rizzo's crew included Friedly, Marty, and Jan, played by Carly Rae Jepsen, Keke Palmer, and newbie Kether Donohue, respectively. All of the Pink Ladies were ac-

brought, and they were cast by FOX with the intention of giving the original charac-

ters a modern spin. Palmer as Marty was just the progressive twist Grease Live was going for, and with her sass and quick wit, Marty was a force to be reck-

oned with. Jepsen, however, should stick to auto tune. The 29-year old sang a song just before the clas-

sic "Beauty School Dropout" which was performed by Boys II Men as an addition to the live production. However, Jepsen was flat and pitchy in the song and it did not really fit, especial-

ly being immediately before one of the best songs in the movie. Though her characterization as Frenchy was just as amusing as she is, she should stick to the computerized mess that is "Call Me Maybe." While the Pink Ladies were perfectly pink, the T-Birds were mostly bland. Aside from Tveit, one of the lead act categories so far.

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"Grease Live" premiered to 12.2 million viewers on Sunday, Jan. 31. The musical on FOX easily beat out lower totals for NBC's productions of "Peter Pan" and "The Wiz, falling only to "The Sound of Music.

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Sia Releases “This Is Acting”

JACOB TURCHI  CONTRIBUTING WRITER

With the Oscars coming up very soon, I couldn’t help but notice one of my favorite movies of the year went completely under the radar—and not only to the Academy, but also to the entire public. Grabbing only a mere three Oscar nominations, Quentin Tarantino’s new film, The Hateful Eight, contained everything one can hope for in a Tarantino film: malicious characters, excessive blood and gore, an intense climax, and dialogue so funny and natural sounding that any actor can have a ball with it. This new “who-done-it” murder mystery takes place in a snowed in haberdashery in Wyoming during post Civil War America, where eight unlikely visitors are forced to spend a whole night with each other. Questions about race, capital punishment, war, and loyalty to one’s family brings these characters to violent ends, and the story culminates in a third act that kept me on the edge of my seat and guessing the whole way.

Some people were skeptical of Tarantino’s film, considering it a Western in 40 years. Tarantino also dug up legendary Western composer Ennio Morricone to score the film, the first time he has done so for a Western in 40 years.

But this film has a completely different vibe and pace to it, and a much bigger emphasis on the characters and story arc. In fact, the whole movie feels as though you are watching a stage play, which is exactly how Tarantino wanted the movie to feel to the audience. Tarantino discovered that this was meant to become a stage play after a live reading at Los Angeles County Museum of Art (ACMA), and plans to adapt the movie for the stage after he ends his film career.

It also should be noted how great the soundtrack is. This movie has a     done-it” murder mystery takes place in a snowed in haberdashery in Wyoming during post Civil War America, where eight unlikely visitors are forced to spend a whole night with each other. Questions about race, capital punishment, war, and loyalty to one’s family brings these characters to violent ends, and the story culminates in a third act that kept me on the edge of my seat and guessing the whole way.

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It also should be noted how great the soundtrack is. This movie has a classic road show, as if it were a score for a classic road show, as if it were the first time he has ever seen it on a classic road show, as if it were a score for a classic road show, as if it were a score for a classic road show.
What are your feelings about Valentine’s Day?

Compiled by: Kiera Lanni

Nikole
Junior
“Is it over yet?”

Valerie
Senior
“I’m excited to spend my first Valentine’s Day with my partner.”

Kelly Craig
Student Employment Coordinator
“I think it’s a great day to spend with my dog.”

TOP LEFT: STUDENT COLIN PATTERSON RECENTLY TOOK A TRIP TO THE TOP OF THE EMPIRE STATE BUILDING. (PHOTO COURTESY OF COLIN PATTERSON)

CENTER RIGHT: SIGMA PI SENIORS (FROM LEFT TO RIGHT) RYAN KENNEDY, ANDREW MUCCI, CHANDLER NICHOLS AND EVAN COWEN. (PHOTO COURTESY OF CHANDLER NICHOLS)

CENTER LEFT: CESAR MONTERROSO WAS TASKED WITH GOING TO SOUTH CAROLINA FOR AIR FORCE DUTY DURING WINTER BREAK. HERE HE IS NEXT TO A NAVY AIRCRAFT. (PHOTO COURTESY OF CESAR MONTERROSO)

BOTTOM RIGHT
ZACHARY KARVELAS WITH HIS ADVENTURE EDUCATION CLASS IN COSTA RICA OVER WINTER BREAK. (PHOTO COURTESY OF ZACHARY KARVELAS)
Learn a new way... to bring peace to our communities
Take a Conflict Resolution workshop!

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- Treat yourself to this workshop for personal growth and earn a certificate useful on job applications and resumes.
- Learn how to lead workshops in your community with the Alternatives to Violence Project (AVP). See http://www.avp.org for details.

When: February 26-28, 2016 (You will attend all three days)
Friday: 6:00 p.m. – 9:00 p.m.
Saturday: 8:30 a.m. – 5:30 p.m.
Sunday: 8:30 a.m. – 5:30 p.m.

Where: Neptune City Community Center
117 3rd Avenue, Neptune City, NJ 07753

Who: The workshop will be run by trained volunteers who lead workshops at New Jersey prisons, community centers, and nonprofit groups.

How much: $50 suggested voluntary donation to cover materials, lunch and snacks. No one will be turned away for inability to pay. Registration deadline is Feb. 9.

Space is limited. To reserve your spot, fill out the form below and mail it with your check to AVP-NJ, P.O. Box 10, Neptune, NJ 07754. You can also register and pay online at https://www.eventbrite.com/e/avp-conflict-resolution-workshop-tickets-13915186763 Questions? Call: Eleanor Novak, 732-988-0968.

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**Features**

**February 10, 2016**

**The Outlook**

'The creator of "All in the Past," the guitarist said. Just working on some new stuff," he added. I was actually just working on some stuff," the guitarist said.

**JAMES ROMANO**

**STAFF WRITER**

February 10, 2016

One rainy afternoon, I scurried to my car, leaping over puddles. I hopped in and stuck my keys into the ignition. I plugged the auxiliary cable into my iPhone and pressed the power button on my dashboard. As I began driving towards West Long Branch, an array of radio stations accompanied by soothing, smooth vocals permeated the air through my speakers.

I began to hum along to the song "2 Months 2 Early," from an acoustic extended play (EP) known as "All in the Past," as the sound of rain droplets pattered against my windshield.

After about five minutes of splashing through saturated streets, I stopped my car in front of a brown paneled house. I ran up to the residence as quickly as possible so the writing materials inside my backpack would not get wet. Knock...Knock...Knock.

"Door's open," an occupant said. I stepped inside and found a man plucking the strings of a cedar-colored guitar with a glistening finish reclined in an armchair while two other men, who appeared to be his housemates, sat on a couch.

As I approached them, the man with the acoustic stood up and outstretched his arm. We shook hands. "It feels good to be back, dude. I was actually just working on some stuff," the guitarist said.

This gent is Ross Ottman, the creator of "All in the Past" and a marketing and management student at the University of Miami in Florida, so our Valentine’s Day will be celebrated with over 1,000 miles between us since August, so Valentine’s Day will just be another day. Taking the steps to spread the love and keep the relationship strong is what we do once a month since he has become a habit for him.

Ross Ottman took a short break from creating and performing music to focus more on his studies at the University, but has recently decided to begin writing again.

**Ross Ottman**

**CONTRIBUTING WRITER**


With intentions to graduate in May 2016, Ottman is currently in the transitioning phase from undergraduate to graduate student at the University. "I felt it was a good time to get back into [music]," he explained. "It just felt right." Luckily, Ottman and the rest of his band mates in The Rundown have been so excited about the music that they have been producing, five songs written by Ottman himself and played by a 200 person plus extended play release show live at Asbury Lanes and Game Changer World in Freehold, the band decided to take a break.

"It was pretty awesome," stated Andy Cavallaro, the bassist and background vocalist for The Rundown. "Ross is a very smart and funny guy who has the same musical influences as me so it made it easy to work with him." Ottman said that regardless of who is in the band in the future, the music will keep coming for as long as the music is being produced.

**EMILY SANTANA**

**CONTRIBUTING WRITER**

While being in a long-distance relationship is never easy, having to spend Valentine’s Day without your significant other is probably one of the hardest things about them.

With Valentine’s Day around the corner, couples are getting ready to celebrate with their loved ones, but for those in long-distance relationships, celebrations aren’t done in person, but instead over FaceTime or Skype.

My boyfriend and I will be celebrating our three year anniversary on Feb. 25 and this will be our fourth Valentine’s Day together, but our first celebrating apart.

My boyfriend is currently studying to receive his Ph.D. in Organic Chemistry at the University of Florida, the Ocean’s 8:20 will be celebrated with over 1,000 miles between us. Our nightly FaceTime calls have become the norm for us since August, so Valentine’s Day will just be another day. Knowing my boyfriend the way I do, he will probably send me two-dozen red roses on Valentine’s Day. As this has become a habit for him to do once a month since he has moved to Miami. Not to sound ungrateful, but I would much rather have him as a gift instead of the flowers. But I understand that with his schedule of taking classes, conducting research, and teaching, he will not be able to make the trip home for the weekend.

While being in a long-distance relationship is certainly something I never pictured for myself, I am grateful for the three years I was able to spend with him while he was an undergraduate student here at the University. Making a long-distance relationship work is never an easy thing with us both currently leading two different lives; we have to constantly work to make this relationship last. Being apart on one of the most romantic holidays is not ideal, but it is something that we will work through together because we feel that our relationship is worth it. We also will not be able to celebrate our anniversary together in the last week of February, but we always look on the positive side of things, like the fact that I will be spending spring break down in Miami with him. That one week we will be making up for our lost Valentine’s Day and anniversary celebrations together.

This whole process has been a learning experience for us, especially because we were once used to living on the same campus and taking classes in the same buildings.

When we started school again in past September we had to adapt to the fact that we no longer attended the same university. It was not easy at first but we are doing great. We have brainstormed future collabora- tions with musicians that he has met through his musical accomplishments and concert goings. "My plan of as now with the band and for myself is to re- connect, start in play shows, continue to make more connec- tions, and write more music so that we can continue to grow and branch out," he stated. Ottman is no stranger to the world of music as he was introduced to the lifestyle at a young age. "I always made music available to Ross, and included him in on concerts, music listening, going to my gigs, et cetera, but never told him what to like, or when to pick up an instrument, or to stop writing songs," explained Lee Ott- man, the musician’s father. "I feel like I laid the foundation, but he took the steps in when he was ready."

Now that he already made the initial steps, Ottman is back and ready to go. He said that it was nice to refo- cus, but he is looking forward to start being more acoustic shows again. The amount of people I have been able to meet through play- ing shows alone has been a phe- nomenal and it has given me some of the best friends that I have right now," Ottman said. "I am excited to share my new material with the world."

Keep an eye out for Ottman’s name on campus set lists, as this will be the awaited return of a talented University musician.

**IMAGE TAKEN FROM RUTHERFORD PRODUCTIONS**

**“Love Will Keep Us Together”: Dealing with a Long Distance Relationship on Valentine’s Day**

By Emily Santana

While being in a long-distance relationship is never easy, having to spend Valentine’s Day without your significant other is probably one of the hardest things about them.

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Now that he already made the initial steps, Ottman is back and ready to go. He said that it was nice to re-focus, but he is looking forward to start being more acoustic shows again. The amount of people I have been able to meet through playing shows alone has been phenomenal and it has given me some of the best friends that I have right now," Ottman said. "I am excited to share my new material with the world."

Keep an eye out for Ottman’s name on campus set lists, as this will be the awaited return of a talented University musician.

**IMAGE TAKEN FROM RUTHERFORD PRODUCTIONS**

**Contribute your story to the Outlook’s LoveIsNotAbuse.com website**

**EXTRA**

**Long Distance relationships are hard all year round, but tend to be even tougher to deal with around Valentine’s Day when every other couple is able to spend time together.**

**IMAGE TAKEN FROM LOVEISNOTABUSE.COM**

**Student Musician Returns From Brief Hiatus**

**The Outlook**

**February 10, 2016**

**FEATURES**
New Semester, New Motivation?
The Spring Semester Serves as a Fresh Start for Many Students

Although the spring semester brings a new set of classes and assignments, the warmer weather gives students a reason to get their work done so that they are able to enjoy the beach.

For your grades fell below your expectations in the beginning of the year, spring gives you a second chance.

It’s always great to keep an open mind. The only tough decision of Galentine’s Day is to be celebrated and cherished.

Valentine’s Day, is about romance, but February 13, Galentine’s Day, is about celebrating lady friends.

Despite these attitudes, students’ grades seem to improve in the second half of the year. Claude Taylor, Athletics Professor in Residence for the Communication Department and First Year Advisor, has seen students hand their growth of grades in the spring semester.

Returning to school from winter break is less disruptive for academic habits than sum- mer can be, as students are more ‘dialed-in’ for spring than the start of school in September.

Taylor explained.

For some, the spring brings the promise of a fresh start. You can hit the books while wrapped in a sweater or lounging on the floor, but remember, you can’t always find a reason to craft.

I’ll always have the support and receive as long as you stay positive and work with your professors. So whether you’re dating, married, or single, you can always find a reason to craft. Projects for your dorm room, apartment, or house can easily be found online and completed on your bedroom floor, or the 21 and over crowd can meet at a paint and sip destination like Pinot’s Palette in Red Bank to indulge in some wine and artist- tic endeavors.

If all else fails or none of the above options seem appealing to you, your Galentine’s Day can always be celebrated with a traditional girls’ night in, makeovers and nail polish included.

Truthfully, there is no wrong way to celebrate this special day. It all depends on what you and your girlfriends are into.

In the end, though, it doesn’t matter that is supposed to be celebrated and cherished.

Valentine’s Day, because it’s a day that promotes the celebra- tion of love and kindness, and if there is anything we need more of, it’s those two things.

So even if you’re Valentine’s Day plans currently consist of Chinese food, Netflix, and feelings of bitterness and re- sentment for all of your happy couples, there is beauty in this world that we need more of, it’s those two things.

So even if you’re Valentine’s Day plans currently consist of Chinese food, Netflix, and feelings of bitterness and resentment for all of your happy couples, there is beauty in this world that we need more of, it’s those two things.

Galentine’s Day is about celebrating lady friends.

Galentine’s Day is the perfect opportunity to remind all of your girlfriends how much you love them, all while enjoying some quality time together.

ERIN MCMAHON FEATURES EDITOR

The question of whether or not women will soon become the world’s most single woman is always valid, but find that my nonexistent relationship status tends to become more of a pressing issue around the same time every year: Valentine’s Day.

But alas, there is a light that shines in the darkness for all of us single ladies during the month of February, and it’s Galentine’s Day.

This holiday, which seems to have originally been created by Amy Poehler’s character Leslie Knope in Parks and Recreation, is to be celebrated on Feb. 13 every year.

“February 14, Valentine’s Day, is about romance, but February 13, Galentine’s Day, is about celebrating lady friends,” Poehler, as Knope, explained in an episode of the hit NBC show. “It’s wonderful to have a national holiday,” she continued.

What’s great about Galen- tine’s Day is that, for the women in relationships, at least, it is that it doesn’t interfere with Valentine’s Day, which means that those who are in a relationship will be able to celebrate with their other halves on V-Day, even after sports games, or other events that night with their best girlfriends.

And what makes it even bet- ter is that unlike Valentine’s Day, there is no need to make elaborate plans or buy expen- sive presents; Galentine’s Day is simply about showing love for the women that mean the most to you.

“Galentine’s Day is a remind- er of how important female friendships are and a great way to celebrate them,” explained Hayley Toff, a junior fine arts student and avid Parks and Recreation fan.

“It serves as a reminder that women should encourage and protect each other rather than discriminate, so whether you’re a 21 and over crowd can meet at a paint and sip destination like Pinot’s Palette in Red Bank to indulge in some wine and artist- tic endeavors.

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My Funny Galentine

INGREDIENTS

2 cups milk

1 cup flour

1/2 cup baking powder

1/2 cup sugar

2 large eggs

1/2 cup vegetable oil

1/2 cup buttermilk

1/2 cup water

1/2 teaspoon salt

1 teaspoon vanilla extract

FROSTING

1/2 cup butter

2 cups powdered sugar

1/2 cup milk

1/2 teaspoon vanilla extract

1/2 teaspoon almond extract

Lightly greased 9" x 13" baking pan

Preheat oven to 350 degrees. In a large mixing bowl, combine flour, baking powder, sugar, and salt; stir well. Stir in remaining dry ingredients except vanilla. Add eggs, oil, buttermilk, and water; beat well. Pour into a baking pan.

Bake at 350 degrees for 25 minutes or until a toothpick inserted near center comes out clean. Cool in pan on a wire rack.

For frosting, combine the butter, powdered sugar, milk, and extracts; beat until smooth and creamy. Frost cake while still warm. Store any leftovers covered in the refrigerator.
The Panhellenic Council hosted its Panhellenic Orientation on Tues. Feb. 2 and Wednesday, Feb. 3. The event was open to all students at Monmouth University to sign up for Spring Formal Recruitment.

Panhellenic stands for "potential new member" and each PNMs was required to attend one of the two orientation sessions. At each session, the women were asked to view a PowerPoint presentation given by Ashley McMahon, Panhellenic Council Vice President, and an open forum for recruitment counselors. The counselors were available to answer questions for the new recruits who are allowed to participate in the recruitment process.

After introducing the women to what their schedules will contain in the next week, they were divided into small groups and paired up with two or three recruitment counselors. The counselors were available to answer questions throughout the process. Their groups would get any important recruitment details, such as schedules, conflicts, and questions regarding the weekend. Afterwards, the women were on their way with all they needed to know about recruitment and what information if they wanted to know more from their counselors.

"It was a real win to go to get the women beforehand and get the information out to them and the questions cleared up. I felt like it was really good to get all of the girls comfortable and prepared for recruiting. It made me excited for recruitment and to help all of the girls find their homes and become a part of our awesome Greek community," said Mollie Dunigan, a senior recruitment counselor. "I am so glad everything worked out in the end," said Danielle McMahon, a senior membership representative. "It made me nervous when it was rumored to panic set in for students of Greek life at Monmouth truly want to join the Greek life and those interested in joining after receiving an email from the University can-celled classes for the Friday afternoon. Thankfully, the roads cleared up and formal recruit-ment remained as scheduled."

Recruitment is a three day event where all PNMs interested in joining are invited to bid day Celebra-tion in Wilson Hall at 10 p.m. on Mon., Feb. 8. This is the time where each potential new member receives their bid and chooses to accept or deny a bid. If they choose to accept it, they are able to run up the stairs of Wilson Hall to the sorority they received the bid from, and celebrate their new found home. If a PNMs attends all three days of recruitment and chooses to deny their bid, they must wait until the next year to be eligible for recruitment by any other organization.

McMahon, a Health Studies Senior, says, "Orientation is such a crucial part of the recruitment process. It gives the girls the opportu-nity to get themselves completely comfortable before actually going through the process. Meeting their counselor gives them a safe place to go to for any questions or problems that may come about."

After the presentation, PNMs were able to mingle and become better acquainted with their recruit-ment counselors. This helps to ease the recruitment process and prepares for a smooth, stress-free weekend.
The women’s basketball team beat the Canisius Golden Griffins 79-75 Sunday afternoon at the Multipurpose Activity Center, recording their first win of the season after trailing at halftime.

Senior guards Sarah Olson and Jamiyah Bethune led the way for the Hawks, with Olson scoring 24 points and Bethune recording her first double-double in her career at MU with 19 points and 11 rebounds.

“She had 24 points in MU’s win over Canisius. Senior guard Sarah Olson had 24 points in MU’s win over Canisius.

“This is more like the Sarah we saw against Manhattan. She learned from her mistakes against Manhattan at Draddy Gym. She has a short memory and I love that about her. And that’s the experience of a senior. She learns from the games in the past, whether they’re good or bad, and just keeps it moving. She has a huge win for us, they shoot the ball so well,” Palmateer said. “They’ve been in so many good games. They lost a lot of tough ones, a couple in overtime. I feel very fortunate and very happy that our team was able to execute down the stretch to pull this one out.”

Looking forward, the Hawks will begin a four game road stretch, which includes only one team over .500 (Fairfield).

“I think it’s a huge [win] for us,” Palmateer said. “We have a big week and a half coming up, going head-to-head with a lot of teams battling for position with.”

The Hawks return to action Thursday, Feb. 11 at 8 p.m. against Manhattan at Draddy Gym. MU will be playing for the season sweep against the Jaspers.

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Men’s Basketball Keeps Rolling with Two Conference Wins

JOHN SOUCE  STAFF WRITER

The men’s basketball team got a taste of what’s to come in the MAAC Tournament as they defeated Marist College Feb. 29-30 at Times Union Center in Albany, NY as one of their two opponents the following week.

The arena has hosted the MAAC Tournament twice since its inception and will host it again in 2016 from Mar. 3-7. Seven thousand and sixteen fans were in attendance to see senior guard Justin Robinson score a career-high 36 points, becoming the second Monmouth player to achieve 30 points in the MAAC Tournament an undefeated 9-0 at home. Their 11-2 season against Siena.

When Siena gets rolling like this, it’s a whole different game. “They just have patience with me, and I had to find some patience with myself. It’s starting to pay off,” Robinson said.

The two victories increased the Hawks record to 19-3 on the season and 7-0 at home. Their 18-2 record in the MAAC keeps them a game ahead of the Iona Gaels (13-8-4-0) for the conference lead. The two teams have one regular season matchup remaining when they play Feb. 19 at 10 p.m. in a game at The MAC that will be nationally televised on ESPNU.

Prior to that game, MU has two road contests and a rematch with a Manhattan Jaspers (9-4-6-2) team that gave the Hawks one of their two conference losses. The Hawks will head to Poughkeepsie, NY to take on the Mount St. Mary’s Red Roosters (10-4-6-3) for a 7 p.m. tip-off at the Alumni Gym. The rematch against Manhattan will be Monday, Feb. 15 at 8 p.m. at The MAC. The game can also be seen on ESPNU.

SIDELINES

MEN’S TENNIS
Four Monmouth University men’s tennis players were at both singles and doubles as the Hawks swept the University of Connecticut. Saturday at Army West Point.

Assistant Coach Vince Filipek, Vidit Vaghal Guiffreda each won twice as new head coach Kyle Bailey is on his second straight win with the Hawks. They will face Drexel Wednesday, Feb 14 in Shrewsbury, NJ.

BASEBALL
The Monmouth University baseball team has been selected to finish fourth by the league’s coaches, the conference announced Wednesday. MU received 77 votes from the conference’s 11 head coaches. Monmouth was selected fourth, behind Canisius, who received 114 votes and six first-place votes, Quinnipiac (103, 3 first place) and Siena (98, 1 first place) and Fordham (93) 8 first place) It did receive one first-place ranking, coming in at fifth overall. Monmouth’s pitching staff was small margin behind the Red Foxes with 88, and Rider earned 60 points in seventh. Fairfield, Iona, Niagara and Saint Peter’s rounded out the preseason list.

UPCOMING GAMES

Wednesday, February 10
MSWIM at The MAC
Buffalo, NY TBA
Erie Community College

WSWIM at MAAC Champ.
Buffalo, NY TBA
Erie Community College

MLAX at Towson
Towson, MD 4:00pm
Johnny Unitsad Stadium

Thursday, February 11
WBB vs. Manhattan*
New Rochelle, NY, 5:30pm
Daddy Gym

Friday, February 12
BOWL at SFA Classic
Houston, TX All Day
Palace Lanes

BIBB at Rider*
Lawrence Twp., NJ 9:00pm
Alumni Gym

Saturday, February 13
MT at Monmouth WC Inv.
West Long Branch, NJ 9:00am
The MAC

WT at Monmouth WC Inv.
West Long Branch, NJ 11:00am
The MAC

MLAX vs. George Washington
Washington, DC 7:00pm
Klessers Field

MT at Villanova Invitational
Staten Island, NY 5:00pm
The MAC

Sunday, February 14
WBB votes FAU
Fairfield, CT 2:00pm
George R. Bisacca Court

MLAX at Jacksonville
Jacksonville, FL, 6:00pm
D.B. Miller Field

*Conference Games

Men’s Soccer Alum Derek Luke Signed by FC Cincinnati

ERICK KLENDERSKY  STAFF WRITER

Former MU men’s soccer captain left behind Derek Luke signed his first professional contract with FC Cincinnati of the United Soccer League just over a week ago in Ohio. Realizing that I signed my first contract was a big moment for me. It was life filled with excitement and a little bit of nervousness,” said Luke, a 22-year-old native of Wall Township

A transfer from Oklahoma, Hornbeck got off to a slow start in his first year with the Hawks. However, he is feeling more confident as the season goes along. Hornbeck, also scored in double figures for the Hawks on the left side.

Junior guard Justin Robinson scored a career-high 36 points against Siena.

“That’s how our team is built,” Hornbeck said. “You add that with his three-point shooting, coming in at fifth with the most field goals made in the MAAC that will be nationally televised on ESPN3.

Luke will look to continue his on-the-field success as he transitions into the professional ranks. After attending combining with various Major League Soccer clubs, Luke made his way to a FC Cincinnati combine in Ohio where he found the right fit.

Luke spent his youth career with the Player Development Academy before joining the Hawks in West Long Branch. The young aspiring pro enjoyed his ground running his freshman year on the Great Lawn playing in all 18 games, starting 16 of them. The Hawks scored the season with three goals and one assist, none more notable than his right footed effort which found the top corner against Central Connecticut in the semi-finals of the Northeast Conference Tournament. The goal helped him earn a NEC All-Tournament Team nod in 2012.

In his redshirt senior season, Luke’s value to the MU soccer program was as he gathered six assists, earning him a Second Team All-Metro Atlantic Athletic Conference Selection. Although he was a threat offensively, Luke was just as pivotal defensively. The veteran defender successfully guided the Hawks back line to the lowest goals against average in the nation (.648) and a MAAC Tournament Championship.

“This past fall was Luke’s red-shirt senior season and his last with the Hawks before moving onto Winter Commencement. As captain, Luke managed a goal and seven assists over the course of the year, one upping his previous season tally. Not only did he improve his production on the field, but he was also given the nod to the All-MAAC First Team for the first time in his career.

“From the time Derek showed up his freshman year, he was always willing to put in the time to work on his offensive and defensive style of play,” said MU associate head coach Mike Shoemaker.

Luke’s professional hit the ground running as he transitions into the professional ranks. After attending combining with various Major League Soccer clubs, Luke made his way to a FC Cincinnati combine in Ohio where he found the right fit.

Luke’s first year with the Hawks was a wash. After injuring his knee in the second game of the season against the Rider Broncs (10-14-6-3) for a 7 p.m. tip-off that Saturday at Lawrence Twp. The rematch against Manhattan will be Monday, Feb. 15 at 8 p.m. at The MAC. The game can also be seen on ESPNU.

“Tilghman is what I like to do,” Tilghman said. “We came up with a great win tonight.”

“Being back — starting all 20 games for the Hawks on the left side. In his redshirt senior season, Luke’s value to the MU soccer program was as he gathered six assists, earning him a Second Team All-Metro Atlantic Athletic Conference Selection. Although he was a threat offensively, Luke was just as pivotal defensively. The veteran defender successfully guided the Hawks back line to the lowest goals against average in the nation (.648) and a MAAC Tournament Championship. Luke will look to continue his on field success as he transitions into the professional ranks. After attend-
Derek Luke, University graduate and former captain of the men’s soccer team, was signed to play for FC Cincinnati in the United Soccer League.

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