



THE OUTLOOK

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Graduating Seniors : May the Odds Be Ever in Your Favor

The Hunger Games Producer Jon Kilik Gives Keynote Speech at Third Winter Commencement

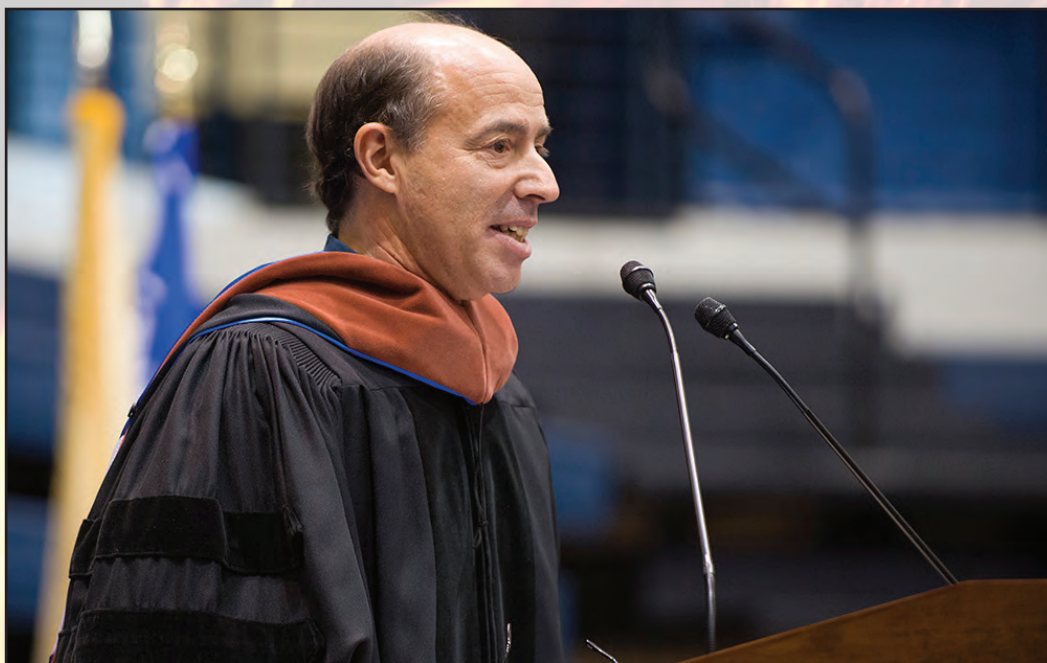


PHOTO COURTESY of Blaze Nowara

Jon Kilik, producer of *The Hunger Games* films, was awarded an honorary Doctorate in Fine Arts by the University at Winter Commencement.

KEVIN HOLTON
CO-ENTERTAINMENT EDITOR

The University recognized 417 students for both Bachelors and Masters degrees at Winter Commencement on January 18 in the Multipurpose Activity Center (MAC).

It also granted the Polak award to Sheriff Shaun Golden for his service to Monmouth County during Hurricane Sandy and awarded an honorary Doctorate in Fine Arts to Jon Kilik, who produced *The Hunger Games* as well as many other movies.

The day began with a luncheon for selected invitees, including: Sheriff Shaun Golden; Kilik; Brian Larco the president of the class of 2013; Oscar Sanchez, president of the Student Government Association (SGA) and Kelly Craig, vice president of the debate team. President Paul G. Gaffney II went on his way through the crowd of guests, personally greeting those in attendance.

After the luncheon, the selected members at the luncheon made their way to the MAC in order to prepare for

the commencement. The ceremony area quickly filled with hundreds of friends and family members who had come out to watch the class members receive their diplomas or to support those who were speaking at the event. It took just under half an hour to get everyone seated.

Once the soon-to-be graduates entered, the national anthem had been sung and the indication had been delivered, Gaffney welcomed everyone and thanked them for coming. In addition to the customary things given to the friends, family and other associates of the University, he smiled and thanked all of the members of "District 12" for having come to the ceremony. Following this, Robert B. Sculthorpe, Chairman of the Board of Trustees, gave his greetings, during which he noted ways he has seen students being exemplary citizens and urged them to continue doing this. "To reach out and help those in need is a leadership at its best," Sculthorpe said. "You have learned to disagree without being disagreeable. Do not be discouraged by the gloom and doom that seems to perme-

ate the world today."

Following Sculthorpe, Larco stood behind the podium to greet his fellow members of the class of 2013. He gave an opening thanks, followed by, "Some today might add, 'I'd like to thank Google, Wikipedia, and whoever the hell invented copy and paste.'" He went on to congratulate the class for their accomplishments and to encourage them to pursue a bright future.

After this, Golden received the Maurice Pollak Award for Distinguished Community Service, an award unique to the University that celebrates the accomplishment of somebody who demonstrates extreme dedication to the area around them and the people who live in it. He was more than excited to be recognized in this way.

"I really do appreciate it and I am so humbled," Golden said. He has been a public servant for 25 years, during which time he has also been a volunteer firefighter and EMT.

Commencement continued on pg. 3

University Presidential Nominees Announced

LAUREN GARCIA
ASSISTANT NEWS EDITOR

The Presidential Search Committee has announced that as of January 14, they have found the four potential candidates for the presidency of the University. Each of the candidates will be visiting the campus to speak to and answer questions from the staff and from students in late January into early February.

The finalists are: Dr. F. Javier Cevallos; Dr. Paul Richard Brown; Dr. Stanley "Stas" C. Preczewski and Dr. Donald H. Sebastian. They were selected by the 16-member committee that has been working to find the next president of the University for when current President Paul G. Gaffney II retires in June 2013. The search committee followed a set of guidelines that had been established and put up on the University website known as the "Leadership Statement."

The characteristics the committee was searching for in a future president included: dedication to the University's academic and financial success;

ethics, honesty and fairness with excellent interpersonal skills and a sense of humor; passion about eliciting private and public-sector fundraising; easy and effective in relating to the internal and external constituencies of a University, including trustees, faculty, administrators, staff, students, alumni, legislators and business and community leaders and genuine interest in students and their personal growth and development and much more.

According to an interview in a press release, Dr. Marcia Clever, trustee and co-chair of the search committee, said, "The search committee has been impressed with the exceptional pool of candidates seeking the position of the presidency. It has been difficult to choose the finalists because of the high caliber of individuals who applied for the position."

In the same interview, Alfred J. Schiavetti, Jr., trustee and co-chair of the search committee said, "We are confident that we

Presidential continued on pg. 4

The University Formally Welcomes Rechnitz Hall

ALYSSA GRAY
COMICS EDITOR

At the end of 2012, the University officially completed and welcomed all 20,340 square feet of the Joan & Robert Rechnitz Hall. It is now home to the Department of Art & Design as well as the Principal Art Gallery, a reception area, three state-of-the-art MAC labs, an animation and editing studio, several classrooms and faculty offices and a student lounge which overlooks the 600 building courtyard.

The building was officially inducted to the University Sunday, January 27 with the dedication ceremony for Joan and Robert Rechnitz. The commemoration, which allowed room for a brief speech from the founders of the building,

Joan and Robert Rechnitz, was followed by a gallery viewing of the "Faculty and Friends" exhibit. This was a show which featured the works of over 57 artists from across the nation including, but not limited to present and former faculty, alumni and several artists who had showcased their works at the University over the years.

The show even held pieces completed by Joan Rechnitz herself when she attended the University.

When asked about what she thought of the now finished project, Joan Rechnitz could not help but smile. "It is gorgeous, a little fancier than we thought it was going to be, but I think that it will encourage

Rechnitz Hall continued on pg. 2

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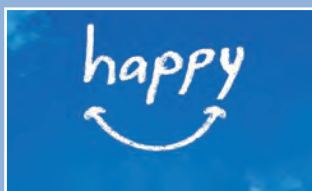
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News

A one-credit course can teach you how to get a job after college.

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Opinion

Find out some tips on ways to be happy.

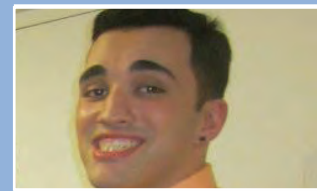
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Entertainment

Will this year's new midseason television shows be successes or failures?

page 13



Club & Greek

University mourns the loss of senior student Chris Mejia.

page 16

Ribbon Cutting for Rechnitz Hall

Rechnitz Hall continued from pg. 1

students to make their own masterpieces. The fun will happen,” said Joan.

Dr. Andrew Cohen, Chair of the Art and Design Department, shares Joan Rechnitz’s awe of the building that now houses his division. “This is an amazingly beautiful place to work and learn. Students I’ve spoken to are happy; even take pride, in the specialness of this environment. The building is new and there are still a lot of adjustments that need to be worked out, but that is not a problem whatsoever,” Cohen said.

Cohen went on to mention the benefits the building now offers beyond the aspects of improved

Hall gives us a more centralized presence as a department and as a focal space on campus. I believe when potential new students see the building they will conclude that art and design is valued at Monmouth and [they will] want to be part of the positive energy and learning taking place here,” Cohen said.

That positive energy appears to be working rather well as noted by President Paul G. Gaffney II. He has observed the delight from, as he puts it, “every student, every art student, and every art faculty member” who “loves this building,” which he jokingly admits is a great feat- to have the president, the students and the faculty all liking the same thing. Gaffney described how the

PHOTO COURTESY of Jim Reme

Rechnitz Hall was officially inducted to the University this past Sunday, January 27.

spatial arrangements. On top of the building offering a better place to preserve, create, and showcase works, as well as offering more students job opportunities in the art department, he explained how it could potentially draw in more prospective students.

“While some of our studios are still in the 600 area, Rechnitz

“good vibes” are stretching beyond the campus itself. He remarked about the large turnout of wonderful individuals from the community, who had donated to the university before at the “Faculty and Friends” show and how they were taken back by the University’s new addition.

Gaffney also takes a particular sense of pride in the fact that the

building itself was finished on time and, most importantly, on budget with the majority of the funding being based off of donations and the rest of the cost covered by the University- yet with no additional financial burdens placed on the students.

When it comes to the new art building not many students are complaining. Sophomore graphic design major Daniel Kwon agrees with the positive reactions

over the structure. “It’s really cool to see what it finally looks like done. I used to kind of dread going to my art classes because they were really cramped. Now I kind of get psyched to go inside and take my studio classes,” said Kwon.

Ashley Martinez, sophomore fine arts major, said, “The building looks amazing and the parking lot right next to the building is super convenient. Now I don’t

have to lug my portfolio all over the parking lot and campus just to get to class. It is a beautiful thing.”

Although Joan Rechnitz thinks it’s going to be great for the University and great for the art students and the professors, she does request that, in a manner true to her humor, that perhaps in the future they might have a gallery full of chairs so that people finally have a place to sit.

A Letter From the President

Welcome back. Here we go, springing into 2013.

For most of you, you return after conquering a strange semester. For a few hundred, you are starting with us or transferring to us. Welcome aboard.

I predict an energy-filled spring semester. We will open magnificent Rechnitz Hall, the new art building. We expect to see a few ground breakings on other new facilities by May if the permitting process moves along efficiently. Please join me in the Multipurpose Activity Center (MAC) for track meets and basketball games. Watch for the student-performed spring musical and other entertainment events across campus. Our Global Understanding Convention will involve thousands of you.

As the weather turns warmer, spring sports will be on the field, and many of you will try the beach for the first time in 2013.

Most importantly, you have “can do” momentum from the last semester when you overcame challenges and saw success. It was a rewarding lesson about our ability to get things done.

First thing, please connect with you professors. Then connect with and take care of each other.

Paul G. Gaffney II
President

A Letter From the Vice President

Welcome and Welcome Back!

I trust you enjoyed the holiday season and semester break and you are well on your way to adjusting to life at Monmouth University. The fall semester was anything but tranquil and I am happy to welcome you and the New Year 2013.

Spring semesters always have a way of flying by us, and this one will be no different. Plan accordingly and take advantage of all that is offered! Come watch our men’s and women’s basketball teams compete in the last season as members of the Northeast Conference. Attend Student Activities Board events throughout campus. And don’t forget to buy your ticket to see “All Time Low,” “Pierce the Veil” and “Mayday Parade” perform in the Multipurpose Activity Center on Saturday, April 27, 2013.

All of this and more is at your fingertips on your campus. Make it the best semester ever. If you need help in any way, reach out - speak up - and ask for help from the myriad of offices that are here to assist you.

Take care of yourself and take care of each other.

My best wishes for a successful Spring 2013 semester!

Mary Anne Nagy
Vice President for Student and Community Services

417 Hawks Fly the Coop for Winter Commencement

Esteemed Speakers Include Jon Kilik, Producer of “The Hunger Games”

Commencement cont. from pg. 1

In an interview, Golden also commented, “Monmouth University is great. It filled a tremendous need [during the hurricane]. It was a pleasure and honor to work with President Gaffney.” He went on to say that his efforts were really a part of his job. Golden spent the first four days after the hurricane away from his home, sleeping at the Emergency Operation Center in Freehold as he helped to coordinate recovery and relocation efforts.



PHOTO COURTESY of Blaze Nowara

Once Golden had received his award, the time had come to bestow upon Kilik an honorary Doctorate in Fine Arts. The New Jersey native, who currently resides in New York City, is a movie producer whose films have received 27 Oscar nominations. His film *Babel* won a Golden Globe for best picture in 2007 and his film *The Diving Bell and the Butterfly* won a Golden Globe for best foreign film in 2008.

Kilik began his speech by discussing what life was like when he was young. “I will always re-

member that it was here in New Jersey where I found encouragement, self-confidence and lifelong friends who I still turn to today. TV was free. Time with our dad was priceless. Summer was forever.”

Kilik began his educational career as “an average student with an interest in telling stories to film and photography” and added that “One teacher was able to wake me up and encourage me to follow my dream.” After graduating from the University of Vermont, he moved to New York City, though he did not have a job or place to stay.

In time, he was able to find a position as a production assistant thanks to an alumnus from his university. In this job, he stood on the corner of Bleecker and McDougall streets at 3 am, asking the denizens of Greenwich Village to ‘please cross to the other side of the street, we’re making a movie.’

Despite his initial struggles and harsh reviews for his first production, he said, “There is a Tibetan saying, ‘Even if you fail at something nine times, you have still given it effort nine times.’ I think it’s important to remember that and to have patience and optimism and determination.”

“With *The Hunger Games*, Suzanne Collins has created not science fiction but an allegory that reflects the world we live in. Obviously the U.S. is not Panem and high school is not the games, but the book taps into the powerlessness, frustration, and desire for freedom, change, justice, and meeting that many young people



PHOTO COURTESY of Blaze Nowara

At Winter Commencement, 417 students graduated following the ceremony on Friday, January 19.

today feel,” Kilik said.

“One of the main values of art is to stimulate our imaginations and inspire us to reconsider just who we are and what we believe. We will never find the world perfect as it is. There is no utopia. But we can go beyond our personal desires and make life for us and for others better than it is now. We need freethinkers, and we need to protect them so that their ideas are given a hearing on the world stage,” Kilik said.

In closing, Kilik said, “As big as the challenges are today, you are ready for them. You’re better educated, more globally aware and

more socially conscious than any generation before you. And now it’s your time to use your energy and skills. Stay in touch with each other and with this university. As your classmates grow in their fields, you will grow with them in yours. They are the ones to partner with. At the same time, don’t let the world consume you. Don’t lose sight of the beauty around you. Take time to smell the roses and get some roses. I have faith in you.”

With that, the students rose to accept their diplomas, spread their wings and take off to the next stages of their lives.

Your First Step in Becoming a Success

Openings Available in Career Search Class

JENNA INTERSIMONE
CO-NEWS EDITOR

Currently, openings for Career Search, a one-credit course offered by Career Services which teaches skills such as resume writing, interviewing skills, networking, and writing cover letters are still available and open to juniors and seniors of all majors.

LC 300-50, Career Search, is held on Wednesday evenings from 6:00 pm to 7:15 pm and is taught by Tracey Dubey, an adjunct professor at the University, who worked in the Human Resources department as the Manager of Recruiting and Staffing from 1998 to 2007. Besides being an adjunct professor at the University, she has also worked part-

time as Recruiting Coordinator for Northwestern Mutual in Wall Township since 2010. She has taught Career Search for several years.

Dubey said that besides teaching the imperative job searching skills to students, she also brings in outside speakers who can provide insight into the scary and looming world of job searching.

William Hill, Assistant Dean of Career Services, said that the class has been taught for over 15 years and grew out of a need that

was recognized by Career Services. Dubey said that throughout the years, students have said that the class should be required since it reinforces skills that they will need throughout their lives.

Hill said that his advice to students is to, as a bare minimum, start job searching at least one semester prior to their graduation because one cannot make up for lost time during the precious weeks of

job searching. He also advised to network as much as possible, starting off with LinkedIn.com.

He also said, “Make sure your resume is perfect and wear a suit to every interview, even for internship positions. Nothing is more effective for a potential employer than making a great, professional first impression.”


Currently, there are seven spots open for Career Search out of 20 total spots, so if your own graduation date is approaching quicker than you want it to, be sure to jump on the chance to learn the crucial skills of job searching and

networking.

If you would like more advice on job searching and career development, check out the Career Services page on the University website for links on interviewing tips, resume writing tips, and job searching letters. There is also a list of upcoming Career Fair dates and listings for full-time and part-time jobs available in the community. Career Services, located on the lower level of the Student Center, can also be contacted at careerservices@monmouth.edu or by phone at 732-571-3471.

For more information about LC 300-50, feel free to contact Tracey Dubey at tdubey@monmouth.edu or William Hill at whill@monmouth.edu.

CRIME BLOTTER



PERSON UNDER THE LEGAL AGE WITH ALCOHOL / STUDENT MISCONDUCT

1/25/13 - 1:51 AM
CEDAR HALL

STUDENT MISCONDUCT

1/25/13 - 8:07 PM
IN FRONT OF MAPLEWOOD HALL

PERSON UNDER THE LEGAL AGE WITH ALCOHOL / STUDENT MISCONDUCT

1/25/13 - 8:59 PM
CEDAR HALL

HARRASSMENT

1/26/13 - BETWEEN 8-9:00 AM
PLANGERE

CRIMINAL MISCHIEF / STUDENT MISCONDUCT

1/27/13 - 2:34 AM
REDWOOD HALL

STUDENT MISCONDUCT

1/23/13 - 9:17 PM
PINEWOOD HALL

THEFT

1/24/13 - BETWEEN 3-4:15 PM
MAC FITNESS CENTER

WED.

THURS.

FRI.

SAT.

SUN.

MON.

TUES

1/23 - 1/29

Students Meet Dr. F. Javier Cevallos, the First Presidential Candidate

LAUREN GARCIA
ASSISTANT NEWS EDITOR

Dr. F. Javier Cevallos, one of the four candidates vying for the position as the University's next president, talked to students last Friday, January 25 at 5:00 pm.

Cevallos, who was born in Ecuador, has been the first Hispanic president of Kutztown University in Kutztown, Pennsylvania since 2002. Cevallos has expressed interest in becoming the University's next president because of his belief that it was time to move to a new place and allow new ideas to travel.

"After a certain time," Cevallos said when asked why he wished to become the next president, "it is time to move on and let someone else come in. It's important to the University." He admitted that this was what he was doing with his own university and alleged that this was also what President Paul G. Gaffney II was doing as well. "Monmouth is moving in the right direction and has many good programs. It is also a beautiful place and a beautiful campus."

For students interested in what plans Cevallos may have for the University, Cevallos confessed that he does not know enough about the school and has not had the time to learn about whatever issues may be present.

"The University seems to be in good shape," Cevallos said. "One of the challenges [my school] has had is the cost of education. I will have to work with the institution to learn about what challenges we face."

One student asked what Cevallos could do to help with school spirit. Cevallos agreed that school spirit

is an important aspect of a college experience and said that some of the things that help spirit are school sports and traditional events such as spring festivals, as it brings people to the campus. Homecoming, Cevallos recognized, is a big tradition among students and can also bring spirit, but students do have to be creative.

"A tradition [at Kutztown] is a festival where there is a chocolate mud slide," Cevallos said. "Talk about bringing in hundreds of students."

When asked what Cevallos believed to be the most important aspect of a college experience, Cevallos responded, "Being a member of society and then to be a working member of society. A democracy is a very important thing. If you are not engaged in the democracy, you are giving up a right that you have. You are given an opportunity to think. An institution gives you the opportunity to think and the role of an institution is to make you open minded."

Another student asked Cevallos about his most rewarding event. "The day I was married. The day of my son's birth. The day of my daughter's birth. Corny, yes, I know," Cevallos said with a smile. "But professionally, when I became President of Kutztown and the first Hispanic President in Pennsylvania." He has also received rewards for his involvement in many communities.

Cevallos was also asked what he could bring to the University. As a current president of a University, Cevallos explained, all he could bring for now was experience, however he admitted that it would be hard to say. "An institution has to be student centered. We're here to teach and we must pay attention to

the needs of our students. There is always room for improvement. We must make sure to emphasize your success."

The concept of new technology and whether it helps further education was brought up.

"Technology is a fabulous tool, but it is never going to replace a university," Cevallos said. "A university can help you develop leadership and organization skills. Online, you can complete course work or use Skype for languages by talking to people in different countries. There are lots of things technology can do. The content of a course is available and free in a library, but it's hard for people to be self-taught. You need guidance."

Throughout the discussion, Cevallos mentioned that he kept close contact with his students, claiming that many of them emailed him personally and that he responded to them whenever he could. This prompted a question from a student asking whether many students emailed Cevallos.

"Yes. Usually about small things like housing but sometimes about things more personal. For example, a student had a fire at his house and was living in his car and showering at the gym. He eventually did email me about his situation and we took care of it. I was upset though that it took him three days to let me know. We could have helped him right away."

Cevallos expressed his determination that the University has the potential to be one of the top universities. He also believes athletics to be a very important marketing tool, calling it the front porch of the University.

Cevallos presented a question to



IMAGE TAKEN from bctv.com

Dr. F. Javier Cevallos, is the current and first Hispanic president of Kutztown University in Kutztown, Pennsylvania.

the students asking what they liked about their school. Responses were called out about small class sizes, events and opportunities the University provides, career options, newsletters, internship information, the ability to keep students in the loop as to what is going on within their major, and the strong sense of community within the campus.

Before time was up, Cevallos was asked what his favorite part of being a president was. "Interaction with you and doing what is best for you," he said. "I mean it. I'm not just saying it because you're all here."

The next presidential visit will be on January 29 with Dr. Donald H. Sebastian in Club 107, 108, and 109 at 5:00 pm.

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Monmouth Area Vegetarian Society Spring 2013 Free Events

Connect with MAVS on Facebook:
facebook.com/MonmouthAreaVegSociety



Sunday Feb. 24th 1:00pm

Plant-based Sports & Fitness Nutrition presented by Marc Rosamilia, owner of Bio-Balance Fitness and former vegan bodybuilder, now fitness professional and coach.
There will be a vegan potluck at this event.
Website:
<http://bio-balancefitness.com>

Sunday March 10th 1:00pm
(please note Daylight Savings time)

A discussion with Jenny Brown, Co-Founder & Director of the Woodstock Farm Sanctuary and award-winning author of The Lucky Ones.
There will be a vegan potluck at this event.
Website:
<http://woodstocksanctuary.org>

Sunday April 28th 1:00pm

Animals: Our Moral Schizophrenia and Veganism as a Moral Baseline presented by Gary L. Francione, distinguished Professor of Law at Rutgers University, acclaimed author of numerous books, and founder of The Abolitionist Approach.
There will be a vegan potluck at this event.
Website:
<http://www.abolitionistapproach.com>

To RSVP or for more information:
Email Professor Mary Harris at:
mcharris@monmouth.edu



Presidential Search Narrows Down

Presidential continued from pg. 1

have selected the best people to compete in the final round and are excited to introduce them to the university community later this month."

According to an email from Grey J. Dimenna, Vice President and General Counsel, each of the candidates will be coming to the campus from January 24-25, January 28-29, January 31-February 1 and February 5-6. A schedule has been released for each visit.

"Each of the visits will allow for faculty, administrators, staff, stu-

potential president.

Dr. F. Javier Cevallos, who spoke with students last Friday, January 25, is the current president of Kutztown University in Pennsylvania. He received his Ph.D. at the University of Illinois at Urbana.

Dr. Donald H. Sebastian will be attending the University on January 29 at 5:00pm. Sebastian is a Senior Vice President from Research and Development at the New Jersey Institute of Technology in Newark, New Jersey. He received his Ph.D. in Chemical Engineering from the Ste-

"The Search Committee will also be setting up a system for the campus community to provide feedback on each of the candidates..."

GREY J. DIMENNA
Vice President and General Counsel

dents and trustees to meet and interact with each finalist," said Dimenna. "The Search Committee will also be setting up a system for the campus community to provide feedback on each of the candidates. The Search Committee will be collecting that data at the end of the four visits and providing that information to the Board of Trustees for their consideration in making their choice. Information on the feedback system will be released prior to the first visit."

Schiavetti urges students to attend the visits of each candidate in order to be a part of the selection process and to provide the University with feedback as to their reactions of each

vens Institute of Technology.

Dr. Paul Richard Brown will be at the University on February 1 at 5:00 pm. Brown is the Dean of the College of Business and Economics at Lehigh University in Bethlehem, Pennsylvania. He received his Ph.D. from The University of Texas at Austin.

Dr. Stanley "Stas" Preczewski, the Vice President for Academic & Student Affairs at Georgia Gwinnet College in Lawrenceville, Georgia, will be at the University on February 6 at 5:00 pm. Preczewski received his Ph.D. from the Department of Education Leadership & Policy Analysis at the University of Missouri in Columbia, Missouri.



2/1	Taken 2	2/15	Life of Pie
2/2	Twilight Saga: Breaking Dawn Part 2	2/22	Skyfall
2/8	Argo	2/23	Flight
2/9	Wreck It Ralph	3/2	Rise of the Guardians

FREE POPCORN 8 & 11PM
OAKWOOD LOUNGE MOVIES

1/31	Ice Skating Trip	7pm Meet at Catholic Center
2/3	Super Bowl Party	7pm Catholic Center
2/4	African-American Read-in	9am - 2pm Anacon
2/5	HERO of the Year Awards	4 - 5pm MAC
	Meet the Greeks	9:30pm MAC
2/6	Relay for Life Opener	1 - 5pm Anacon
2/7	Fat Thursday	7pm Catholic Center
2/12	Speed Networking	5pm Anacon
2/14	St. Valentine's Day Party	7pm Catholic Center
2/15	Latin Dance Lessons	4 - 5:30pm Anacon
2/16	Winter Ball	8pm Wilson Hall
2/20	Karaoke for A Cure	10pm Pollak Theatre
2/21	Careers in Marketing Panel	5pm Young Auditorium
	CC Gives Back	7pm Catholic Center
2/22	Rock n' Raise	1 - 4pm Plangere Center
2/23	Frozen Fun Run Fundraiser	10am RSSC
2/25	Safe Bartending Training	4 - 6pm MAC
2/27	Big Man on Campus	10pm Pollak Theatre
3/1	SGA Auction	6pm Wilson Hall

MONMOUTH HAWKS

1/31	Men's Basketball vs Central Conn. State	7pm MAC
2/1	Ice Hawks vs St. Joe's	8:30pm Wall Sports
2/2	Women's Basketball vs Bryant	3pm MAC
	Men's Basketball vs Bryant	7pm MAC
2/4	Women's Basketball vs Central Conn. State	7pm MAC
2/8	Ice Hawks vs Kutztown	8:30pm Wall Sports
2/14	Men's Basketball vs Long Island	7pm MAC
2/16	Women's Lacrosse vs Fairfield	12pm Kessler Field
	Women's Basketball vs St. Francis NY	3pm MAC
	Men's Basketball vs St. Francis NY	7pm MAC
2/18	Women's Basketball vs Long Island	7pm MAC
2/20	Indoor Track Moonlight	5 - 10pm MAC
2/28	Men's Basketball vs Mt. St. Mary's	7pm MAC

HOUSING INFORMATION

1/30	Info. Session	2:30pm Young Aud.
2/1	Info. Session	4pm Wilson Aud.
2/4	Pier Village/ Diplomat Info. Session	7pm Wilson
2/8	Pier Village/ Diplomat Info. Session	4pm Wilson
2/13	Pier Village/ Diplomat Info. Session	7pm Wilson

Housing Deposits are Due by February 22nd

SAB EVENTS & STUDENT ACTIVITIES WEEKEND PROGRAMMING

Jan 26 • Shuttle to Freehold Mall
Depart Birch Hall
@ 3:30, 5, 6:30, 8 & 9:30pm

Feb 1 • 8pm Anacon Comedy Night

Feb 2 • 6pm Dining Hall Sports Trivia

Feb 8 • 7pm RSSC Open Mic Night (Stuff & Fluff)

Feb 9 • 7pm RSSC Valentine's Day Bingo

Feb 12 • 7:15pm Wilson Auditorium
Movie- Hotel Rwanda

Feb 13 • 7pm Pollak Theatre Interactive Sex Ed. 101

Feb 19 • 4:30pm Pollak Theatre
Rwandan Genocide Survivor- Dr. Sebarenzi

Feb 22 • 7pm Anacon
Murder Mystery

Feb 23 • Shuttle to Freehold Mall
Depart Birch Circle
@ 3:30, 5, 6:30, 8 & 9:30pm

Feb 26 • 7pm Oakwood Lounge
Coffee House

March 1 • 8pm Pollak Theatre "Lincoln"

March 2 • 7pm RSSC
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*on 2/13 and 3/13 SAB will be meeting in their Club Office on the 3rd Floor of the RSSC

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Textbooks Expand Your Knowledge and Shrink Your Wallet

THE OUTLOOK STAFF OPINION

With the arrival of a new semester comes the promise of new experiences and different classes as we begin a new chapter in our college lives. However, one thing that will not be different is the high prices we students pay each semester for the cost of textbooks.

Book prices are not only an issue here at MU, but it is something many college students around the country face at the beginning of each semester.

According to an article in USA Today, students at four year colleges spend nearly \$600 on textbooks per semester. The sad thing about this is that most of the time these books sit in rooms and collect dust for 16 weeks, as sometimes books that are “required reading” are never even opened.

One of the issues we have with the bookstore on campus is that it seems they overprice on some books and then under cut you when you go to sell them back. We have even seen cases where used books at the bookstore are more expensive than if you were to buy that same book online in new condition.

There’s also the idea of certain books being available only in the bookstore and they cannot be found online. This forces students to use the University bookstore if they wish to purchase the book.

Additionally, as a staff we

find the idea of bundled books to be unnecessary and too cost consuming. Certain textbooks come with workbooks and the ISBN number for that workbook is not given separately. There are certain situations where this bundled workbook may not even be used in the class, making the purchase of the book a waste of money.

At the same time we realize that the publishers are most likely the ones who set the prices for books and it is not entirely the bookstores fault for some of the prices they charge for student

“Book prices are not only an issue here at MU, but they are something many college students around the country face at the beginning of each semester.”

textbooks. Sometimes it is hard to avoid having to buy expensive books because having the textbook is a necessity for doing well in that particular class.

If you are looking for some other options for buying books that could save you money, our editors here at *The Outlook* came up with a few possible alternatives.

The internet offers many different options for college students looking to buy books that are less expensive. You can rent books from websites like Chegg, where they send you the books at a lower price and allows you to send them back at the end of the semester with free shipping

as long as you hang onto the box the books originally came in.

To avoid losing money when you go to sell your books back, one editor has used to e-bay to sell their books and actually made more money than they would have had they gone to the bookstore during the buyback period.

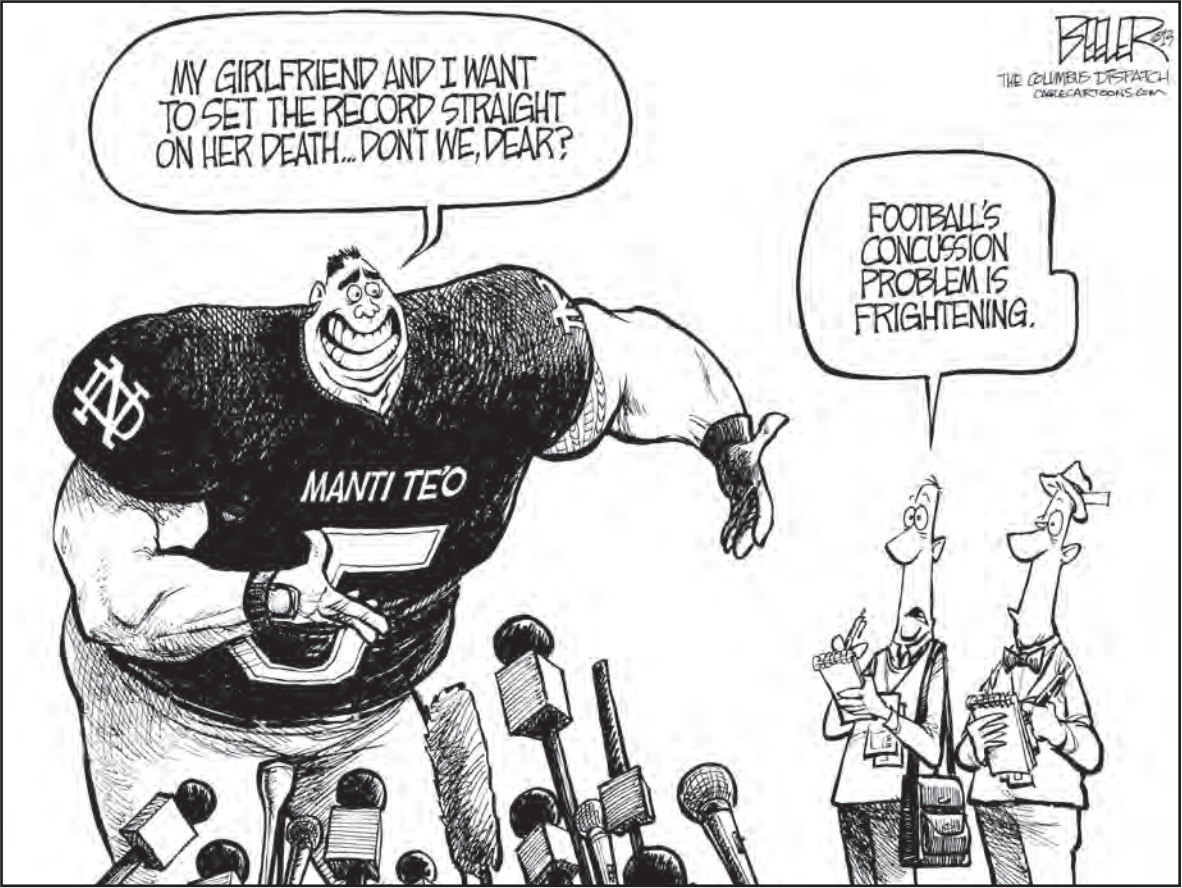
There is also a Facebook page where students can buy books off of one another, which is another option that could be beneficial to both parties.

In a recent *USA Today* article about alternative textbook options, it mentioned a startup company called Boundless, which is slowly growing in popularity. Boundless recreates textbook information by using free open source material, which students can access on their tablet or laptop. With

tablets and e-readers growing more popular, we could see digital books, like the ones offered by Boundless, becoming more of an option in the future.

Many editors would like to see the University put forth a program where student can buy digital books for their tablets or e-readers. The University can set up their own portal where student cans buy these books at a cheaper price and MU can still make money at the same time.

After having to spend high amounts of money on tuition and other school expenses, books should be the least of your worries and shouldn’t put your wallet in even more pain.



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Lie-Strong: Armstrong Scandal Sheds Light on Lying

NANA BONSU
OPINION EDITOR

In the midst of all that has transpired with Lance Armstrong and his scandal, I can't help but ask myself the age old question: why do people cheat?

Armstrong was a highly respected and deeply admired American athlete with much success. He battled and won a fight with cancer only to come out stronger, winning seven consecutive Tour de France titles and a Bronze medal at the 2000 Olympics.

However, it recently came to light that Armstrong had been doping for more than a decade, which he admitted in a sit down interview with Oprah Winfrey. In that interview he said he does not believe that he would have won seven consecutive Tour de France titles without doping.

In 2012, he was banned from cycling for life by the United States Anti-Doping Agency, stripped of his seven Tour de France titles, as well as his Olympic Bronze medal, and asked to stepped down as the chairman of Livestrong.

America tends to be a forgiving nation, built upon the idea that everyone deserves a second chance, but Armstrong's arrogance is what angers the American public almost more than the cheating.

Throughout Armstrong's career, he was suspected of cheating on a consistent basis, and he was tested more frequently than any other cyclist in what was sometimes referred to as a "witch hunt." However, Armstrong's tests never prevailed positive, further encouraging Armstrong in what he probably considered a "fool proof" cheating scheme. In the face of persistent allegations, in his interviews

during the past decade, Armstrong was adamant about his innocence, going so far as to pose the question to the media asking whether a man who had just survived a serious battle with cancer would put himself in jeopardy in order to use banned substances.

Through his career, Armstrong became an American hero. Young athletes looked up to him because of his ability and cancer patients looked up to him because of his perseverance. People trusted him and believed in him, never doubting for a second his innocence. Thus, when the news of Armstrong's cheating broke, there was more than shock on the faces, in the minds, and in the hearts of the American people; there was disappointment. They could not fathom how a man who so vehemently proclaimed his innocence could actually be cheating all along and fooling the public.

As if his cheating wasn't enough to turn stomachs, Armstrong's treatment of those who knew the truth and threatened to reveal him for the man he really was is what left the public disgusted.

In his interview with Oprah, Armstrong admitted to being a bully. His reputation, empire, and secret had to be protected at all costs, and he was willing to trample upon anyone who threatened to put his perceived good name in jeopardy. Armstrong allegedly threatened people, either personally or through those who worked for him.

Betsy Andreu, wife of Armstrong's former teammate Frankie Andreu, claims that she heard Armstrong admit to doctors that he had used performance enhancing drugs, and when she threatened to expose his secret, she faced intense bullying. Andreu

recently spoke of the heinous names Armstrong called her, as well as the late night phone calls she received, threatening the safety of her family. She claims that these phone calls were made on behalf of Armstrong in an effort to deter her from speaking the truth. Armstrong himself admitted in his interview with Oprah that he had called Andreu very demeaning names.

Lying is one thing, but it is very hard for many to forgive Armstrong for his horrid treatment of those who wanted to speak the truth. His behavior would be understandable if he was combating negative rumors and vicious lies, but those around him were planning to expose the truth- a truth which needed to be revealed after years of lying and covering up.

Despite Armstrong's blatant cheating and lying, it is the good that he has done for those with cancer that makes people feel conflicted in regards to how to feel about him.

In addition to Armstrong's career, his creation of Livestrong, a charity which has raised hundreds of millions of dollars for cancer research, was a huge success. Livestrong is also known for the emotional support it provides to those with cancer.

Because of the immeasurable good Armstrong's charity does for those with cancer, it is difficult for people to determine how to feel about Armstrong. Should his cheating outweigh the positive contribution he has made to cancer research and the lives of those with cancer, or should society condemn him and consider the money raised by Livestrong to be "dirty money" because it was raised using the name of a disgraced athlete who cheated his way to the top? While many have given up on Armstrong,

there are some who believe that it is more important to look into Armstrong the man, not the athlete.

ESPN's Stuart Scott, who is once again undergoing chemotherapy for cancer, spoke to Mike Greenberg and Mike Golic from ESPN's Mike and Mike in the Morning to discuss the support Livestrong and Armstrong personally provided him. He said that Armstrong was there for him when he was first diagnosed, and he could not express in words what it meant to him and his family to have the strong support Livestrong provides. Scott looks past Armstrong's transgressions because he says that everyone makes mistakes because we are all human beings. He went so far as to say that people would be able to find skeletons in everyone's closets if they looked hard enough.

While I agree that we all make mistakes and deserve forgiveness, I do not agree with Scott that we should simply look past Armstrong's actions because he has done a lot for charity.

Armstrong did not fight fair. He cheated hundreds of other athletes out of the opportunity to have a legitimate chance at winning. He fooled the American public and made many of us feel guilty for accusing a man who had survived cancer of using performance enhancing drugs.

Maybe I, as well as others, could have forgiven Armstrong if he had been more forthcoming about his cheating, but the chances of Armstrong coming clean would have been very unlikely if he had not been caught. There is also a good chance Armstrong would have never admitted to his bullying tactics if his victims had not spoken up.

With this said, I do believe that everyone deserves a second chance, but

some behavior is unforgivable and inexcusable. Sometimes, simply saying "I'm sorry" is not enough.

Thus, I ask again, should we forgive Armstrong in light of all of the good he has done? On the one hand, he is a man who has overcome personal tragedy in order to achieve success and establish a platform from which to do good for others. On the other hand, he is a man who cheated his way to success and admitted to bullying those who threatened to reveal his cheating. In the end, it depends on one's point of view and how they see the world. While there are many who will never look at Armstrong the same way again, there are also many who share Scott's point of view.

Armstrong was once considered to be among the best American athletes and certainly one of the best cyclists in history, but he is now regarded with the disdain and scorn reserved for criminals. So I pose the question again: why do people cheat?

Armstrong is now a disgraced athlete stripped of everything he once held near and dear, and he was forced to sever all ties with Livestrong in what was described as "the most humbling moment of the experience." Armstrong's interview didn't give viewers any insight into why he did what he did, but he has left many even more skeptical as to whether Armstrong is truly sorry. When asked if he had remorse, Armstrong paused with defiance in his eyes and said, "everyone that gets caught is burned out they got caught." Armstrong is sorry he got caught more than he is sorry for his behavior.

In the end, we may never know why cheaters cheat, but I can't help want to ask them, was it really worth it?

Hosting a Super Bowl Party

VICTORIA JORDAN
STAFF WRITER

Football and food. Is there anything more perfect than that combination? I can think of many things, but most of America begs to differ. I'm not much of an NFL fan, partially because my team is downright awful every season. I rarely watch any games, hardly know any players, and could only tell you a handful of teams in the league. However, I know that the beginning of every February brings a lot of hype for football, media, and of course, food.

Super Bowl Sunday could almost be considered a national holiday. It has evolved into such an extravagant and important annual event not only for football and sports fanatics but also for social butterflies, pizza shops, home-cooks, and the average person like myself. Everyone looks forward to at least one part of the day whether it is the game itself, the commercials, the tailgate food, or a loud and crammed living room. If you are the host of a party, then get your kitchen, big screen, and voice ready for all four of these game day necessities.

Let's tackle the menu first. Unless you prefer delivery, make sure your fridge is stocked up before the weekend. Plenty of last-minute grocery store trips have taught me to avoid the supermarket at all costs, beginning the Friday before the game. Chips and salsa are a must, but Pinterest, an online site that allows you to visually share your most desired wants, needs, and interests, has such a wide variety of unimaginably delicious and unique recipes for the classic television snack. Chicken wings are another go-to oven-made favorite, so spice up the recipe with a flavored barbecue sauce or toss them on a charcoal grill instead.

Looking for something healthier? I plan to make my own fajitas by



IMAGE TAKEN from couponerslivingfree.com

Hosting a Super Bowl party involves thorough planning, but no party would be complete without the basics, including popular food.

baking strips of chicken or steak, frying up fresh vegetables and tossing it all on a multigrain tortilla. I have a sweet tooth, and it is guaranteed that you and your guests will crave some sweets. So put the icing on the cake to your day, literally. Football cupcakes, chocolate covered strawberries, or peanut butter cookies are sure to make your party a real treat!

Time to hit the big screen. Surround sound is a favorite in my house, especially if the remote control lies within the power of my dad's hands. If you have it, use it. As much as my mother and I are not fans of the extremely loud booming in the speakers, we appreciate the fact that it is the only noise being made in the house. Space in your living room is of obvious importance too, so put up some folding chairs if necessary. Keep some room for walking too. As much fun as it would be to climb over each other, being a distraction from the television would be a crime.

Maybe you aren't the biggest football fan. I get it. Neither am I, but I still want to have fun wherever I watch the game. So when the action is on and all eyes are on the TV, try to keep your chit chat about anything

other than that aggressive tackle or insane seventy-yard throw for a touchdown to a minimum.

To get into the football spirit, wear a jersey. Even if your team didn't make the big game (you get used to it), show your true spirit for the sport and dress for the occasion. It makes for a great scrapbook picture, too.

The most anticipated moments of the Super Bowl are the commercials, which are my favorite times to run back into my living room and pretend I have been watching the game the entire time. Laughing at the commercials is like watching a victory dance after a touchdown. Something unique and hysterical is bound to happen.

If you are hosting or attending a Super Bowl party or are hanging low at home with your family or friends, there are countless ways to make it fun. With the four essentials for game day mentioned above, you and your guests will have much to look forward to and enjoy. Want some unique and never-thought-of ideas for appetizers, entrees, party tips, and more? Visit Pinterest.com to prepare you for your best game day performance.

How to Be Happy

MORGAN HOLLINGSWORTH
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

With the New Year upon us, it is time to remember our New Year's resolutions. Lose weight, stop smoking, save more, spend less, Dean's List, stop watching full seasons of television shows at a time on Hulu, all very valiant resolutions. This year, I have a different New Year's Resolution. Call it the resolution to end all resolutions. This year, I vow to be happier.

Don't get me wrong. I'm not unhappy. I just don't appreciate things the way I should. I have a great life, but I simply don't appreciate it enough, and I let the little things get to me and bring me down.

Recently read "The Happiness Project" by Gretchen Rubin. She went on a year long journey to be a happier person. Rubin found herself not appreciating her wonderful life enough, so she documented the whole year and ended up happier and more appreciative. I decided to follow her footsteps and be happier in 2013, and I picked out my top six lessons I learned that can help you on your journey to a happier 2013.

Act the way you want to feel. The simple act of smiling can greatly increase your mood. So what if you spilled your coffee in the parking lot on your way into work. If you act angry about it, it's going to poison your mood for the entire day. Everything will soon make you angry because you're already acting angry. Instead, slap on a smile and act happy. You'll see an improvement in your mood.

Enjoy the fun of failure. With each failure on a new journey we learn something about ourselves, about how we handle things and how we want things to be in the end. If we begin to enjoy the fun that failure can bring us, we stop fearing failure, ensuring success and growth in our future.

Keep a gratitude notebook. One

of the reasons that I'm unhappy is because I don't appreciate the great things in my life. This year I've committed to writing down something that I am thankful for that day. It helps bring some perspective and reminds me how good I have it.

Take time to be silly. Remember when you were a kid and once you got the giggles you were no longer sad that it was raining on your first day of little league? It's like when we grew up we decided that we couldn't be silly any more, and with that decision, away goes the healing that silliness has. Next time you're a little down, remember to be silly!

Follow the one minute rule. How often do you feel unhappy because you seem to have a mile long to-do list? How many of those are things you can do right now? Follow the one minute rule. If there is anything you can do that you can finish right now in under a minute, do it. Those dishes in the sink? Wash them. Clean laundry? Put it away. It seems small, but all of those little things add up quickly and add stress to your day.

Forget about results. As humans, it seems we're constantly striving for something. We're always working toward a goal. Have you ever noticed that once you actually reach your goal, it's almost never the "oh my gosh I finally did it" feeling of accomplishment you expected. It's more of a sigh of relief. We enjoy the ride more than the destination.

While being happier this year cannot be done with only six simple tips, these are a good start to a happier New Year. You'll need to put in the work and commit to being a happier, healthier you this year. In her book, Gretchen Rubin says, "Sometimes I succeed, sometimes I fail, but everyday is a clean slate and a fresh opportunity." Use 2013 as a fresh opportunity, and let this be your happiest year yet.

Students Debate on What Can Be Done About Gun Control and What Has Led to an Increase in Gun Violence?

Not All Gun Owners are Violent; One Answer is in Mental Health.

BILL SCARANO
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

The horrific events which transpired on December 14, 2012 tragically ended the lives of 26 students and faculty members of the Sandy Hook Elementary School in Newtown, Connecticut. These heroes were indiscriminately shot by a lone gunman, armed with several semi-automatic handguns and rifles, while they innocently went about their daily business. Words fail to convey how deeply America as a whole was affected by this senseless violence, or how heinous this act was.

This piece is a simple exercise in political discourse. It does not have as, its intent, to diminish the significance of the Newtown Shooting in any way, nor does it seek to defend its perpetrator.

Nearly two months subsequent of the Newtown shooting, President Obama has enacted 23 executive orders which begin to address specific enforcement and implementation practices within the Executive Branch with regard to regulating the issue of gun permits, to implementing more stringent background checks on gun owners, and to beginning a national dialogue to increase public awareness of mental health issues and neurological differences.

In addition to these orders, the President has also asked the Congress to consider legislation, which would ban military-style weapons similar to the weapon used in the Newtown shooting, as well as enacting laws limiting magazine capacities to ten rounds. These orders and proposals raise questions as to the validity of the President's executive actions as well as the application of the Second Amendment in the 21st Century.

The Second Amendment states that "...the right of the people to keep and bear Arms, shall not be infringed." In spite of their brilliance, it is doubtful that the founders could have stated this provision any more clearly; Americans have a constitutional right to own weapons. However, does the context of the "arms" of 1791, the year in which the Second Amendment was ratified, still apply to the "arms" of today? In 1791, it would have been impossible for even the founders to have considered any weaponry more powerful than the black powder muskets of their era. Although very dangerous in the hands of a skilled marksman, the weapons of 1791 were still only capable of firing a single round before needing to be reloaded; a far cry from the rifle used in the Newtown

shooting, which was capable of firing 45 rounds per minute, and, according to *CBS News*, each of the Newtown victims had been shot more than once. These weapons, however, are legal under the application of the rather ambiguous term "arms" in the Constitution despite the impossibility of the founders to have considered the prospect of a single weapon having the capability to cause so many casualties.

The President's executive orders included directives to departments such as the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms (ATF) to provide gun dealers with guidelines as to how to perform more stringent background checks on gun permit applicants. Despite major criticisms of these directives, strictly speaking, the President, as the nation's chief executive, is completely within his powers to regulate the operations of executive-branch departments such as the ATF.

However, questions must be raised with regard to the specific nature of background checks as well as the criteria established to determine whether a given applicant would be approved or denied. Although the President stated that his directives would function within existing laws, it is important to stress that any changes to

permit-issuance standards would need to be enacted by either individual state legislatures.

Congressional action as to the restriction of military-style weapons is not unprecedented, as demonstrated by the Assault-Weapons Ban in place from 1994 to 2004. This law, however, had many loopholes and ambiguities which allowed many banned weapons to be modified, sometimes in only small manners, which would then return them to legal status. Due to the vagueness of the constitutional definition of arms, any future actions taken to restrict either certain types of weapons or firearms altogether, will be the subject of vehement debate and may even inspire calls for a constitution amendment.

Finally, the state of mental health awareness and the availability of resources for the mentally ill in America are extremely poor. Although it may never be confirmed, there is much speculation that the Newtown shooter suffered from mental illness or may have exhibited neurological symptoms consistent with Autism. With regard to the right to bear arms, this right is afforded to all citizens of the United States, as are the rights to life, liberty, and to pursue happiness, which are acknowledged as the inalien-

able rights of man. Extreme care must be taken when deciding whether those with mental illness or neurological differences are fit to exercise their right to bear arms.

Senior fine arts major Leanna Soden interjects, "Simply because a person has a mental handicap or illness does not necessarily mean that he or she is unfit to own firearms." Although the welfare of the majority must take precedence, it is important to remember that those who suffer from mental illness or neurological differences had no choice in this matter and their rights warrant the same protection as those of all others.

As the horrific events in Newtown reminded everyone, America is far from perfect. Whichever steps are eventually taken to improve public safety, it is important, above all else, to respect the rights and dignity of all people and to respect and to properly implement the governing and legislative processes defined in the Constitution. The ultimate genius of America is that, as times change and issues come and go, American society consistently rises to the occasion and, through every challenge cast before it, emerges stronger, more united, and still, free.

Supporting the President's Plan for Gun Control will Help Limit Gun Violence.

DAN ROMAN
STAFF WRITER

On December 24, 2012, 26 people-including 20 innocent children-were murdered at Sandy Hook Elementary school in Connecticut. After this horrific event occurred, we as a society must take action to ensure it never happens again. President Obama recently laid out a plan to stop these very things from happening. His proposal should be taken very seriously. These simple ideas could go a long way to saving lives in this country. Congress should pass President Obama's proposals to ban assault weapons, require universal background checks when buying guns, and ban high capacity magazines.

The assault rifle used in the Sandy Hook shootings was capable of firing 45 rounds of ammunition per minute. This military-style weapon can be purchased legally in the U.S. As a debater, I try to think about each side of the issue; however, I cannot fathom why someone would need a weapon that could cause so much destruction. Hunters argue that they need them, but they could easily kill any animal with a handgun or a shotgun. They do not need an assault rifle. Anyone who says they need an assault rifle to hunt must have terrible aim if they need to shoot 45 rounds a minute to kill an animal. We had an assault weapons ban from 1994 until 2004. A Department of Justice study on the ban found a 6.7 percent decrease in total gun murders following the ban. This should not be a debatable issue.

Dr. Michael Phillips-Anderson of the communication department believes that this will not be able to get passed, "The assault weapons ban is different, Congress will not vote on it." He also believes that there are ways around the ban even if it will be

passed, "Gun manufacturers will be able to get around the law and still make guns. They will change the handle or the barrel so that technically it is not an assault weapon. A law banning assault weapons will need to make sure companies don't find loopholes in it."

The U.S. also needs universal background checks on all gun purchasers. We should not allow guns to get into the hands of criminals or those who are mentally ill. The shooter at Virginia Tech in 2007 was legally allowed to buy weapons despite the fact that years earlier he had been deemed as harm to himself and others. According to NPR, as many as 30 states do not submit health records for people who are trying to purchase guns. This may mean that those wishing to purchase guns will need to wait up to 10 days until they can receive them. This is a small price to pay as long as we are able to make sure that that gun is not ending up in the hands of someone it shouldn't.

We should also have a ban on high-capacity gun magazines. The shooter that almost killed then Congresswoman Gabrielle Giffords used a high capacity magazine on his handgun to shoot 31 bullets in 15 minutes. The only reason this shooter was apprehended was because he needed to stop and reload. Had he only been able to shoot 6 bullets he would have needed to reload more quickly thus allowing people to apprehend him sooner. In Virginia police found that in 2004 only 10 percent of gun crimes had involved a high capacity magazine. This, of course, was when high capacity magazines were banned along with assault weapons. Since the ban was lifted, about 22 percent of gun related incidents involved high capacity magazines.

The strongest argument against

President Obama's proposals is that these laws will lead to the outlaw of all guns. People also think that the Second Amendment enables them to acquire assault weapons and high capacity magazines. The First Amendment guarantees our freedom of speech, yet courts have determined that you cannot say things that will harm others. Yes, the Amendment gives you rights, however those rights must be partially curtailed if they are to save lives and stop harm from oc-

curing. Courts always have, and always will, accept exceptions to the Constitution. No judge is an absolute literalist in interpreting the Constitution.

These proposals should be bipartisan in support. A Gallup poll from January 19 found that 91 percent of Americans favor universal background checks, 60 percent favor an assault weapon ban, and 54 percent favor limiting magazine sizes. Senior Monia Abou Ghali, a political science major, agrees. She believes

that these proposals "Will not only help in preventing mass crimes such as the school shooting, but will act as a hindrance to those who wish to misuse them." These laws will work as well; in Australia, who passed similar assault weapons bans, and gun buybacks. Australia has not had a single mass shooting since these laws were passed. Congress should pass President Obama's gun control proposals. If even one life is saved, it will be worth it.



Directed by
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Christie Making a Big Splash for New Jersey

Christie Riding Wave of Popularity from Post-Sandy Leadership

JESSICA ROBERTS
STAFF WRITER

Governor Chris Christie is officially up for reelection, for which many believe him to be the front runner. Christie’s popularity has only been expanding post-Sandy, and many believe that it will only continue to grow through the campaign season.

The Sandy relief effort shown by the Governor is said likely to win him his second term, and recently his popularity is growing larger with New Jersey residents through his criticism of not only President Obama but his own party as well.

Christie has been speaking out against a few things that have made the GOP rethink their pride in his “blunt” personality.

The Governor sharply criticized the Speaker of the House, John Boehner, for Congress delaying voting on the Sandy relief package.

The relief package that Christie is calling for will give a \$60 billion federal aid package to New Jersey to help with storm relief. Christie first condemned the Speaker of the House on January 2 in a press conference stating that the relief package should have been voted on in the fiscal cliff deal voted on January 1.

Governor Christie was quoted saying, “We respond to innocent victims of natural disasters, not as Republicans or Democrats, but as

Americans, or at least we did until last night. Last night politics was placed before hosts to serve our citizens. For me, it was disappointing and disgusting to watch.”

This was not the first time that Christie has brought up the impact of the political influence being an unimportant issue to him when it comes to his decisions for his state.

The criticism of the delay was something that, while many in his own party were upset about, the people of New Jersey liked what he had to say. According to the CNN article, 79 percent of New Jersey residents agreed with Christie’s criticism.

Daniel Gunderman, a junior studying communication, however finds the criticism to be attempts to further his upcoming election. “He seems to have been outspoken on Hurricane Sandy Relief funds, maybe to get a boost in morales amongst voters in the gubernatorial election, but from a House standpoint, it was a good idea to shoot down an immediate fund of countless billions to New Jersey.”

Gunderman continues, “Boehner, already in a considerable amount of heat over the fiscal cliff crisis, is anxious to save money, and to funnel out billions without proper analysis of the damage is kind of naive. It was smart to assess it and make a bill with proper increments shipped to New Jersey. And the House shouldn’t give in on a hunch or a Governor’s whim that quickly, so

Christie can criticize all he wants, but ‘due process’ must take place. And to automatically give New Jersey an amount of money which exceeds their state budget is off-putting.”

While Gunderman overwhelmingly does not agree with Christie’s criticism, “I still think Christie has shown an unparalleled passion for his state and is in a comfortable position for the upcoming election.”

Citizens of New Jersey would agree that Christie’s passion for his state is proven to be unraveled. This was not the first time that he has pushed aside party politics in order to stand up for his state. During the hurricane Christie’s efforts to work with the President helped make sure New Jersey was fully taken care of during the storm.

Christie received a large amount of criticism from his



IMAGE TAKEN from gannett.com
New Jersey Governor Chris Christie is making national news for his work following Hurricane Sandy among other accomplishments.

party for his praise of the leadership that the President had shown during his state’s time of need.

Nicholas Waltman, a senior studying political science, thinks that Christie is “Almost guaranteed to be governor again because of Sandy and President in 2016.”

Dr. Patrick Murray of the Poll-

ing Institute, said in his article “Chris Christie=New Jersey.” He explains Christie’s popularity is nothing to be surprised by. In his article he wrote, “Before Sandy, Gov. Christie embodied the spirit and personality of New Jersey (whether or not we were willing to admit it). After Sandy, he became New Jersey personified.”

Students Take a Trip to Argentina Over Winter Break

ADRIAN PALAIA
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

Twelve students, including myself, had an experience of a lifetime traveling to and living in the federal capital of Argentina, Buenos Aires.

All participating students took a class taught by Dr. Kenneth Mitchell about Argentine politics and culture. Many students were enticed to take the course and go on the trip not just because of the destination, but because of Dr. Mitchell himself.

As senior Lexi Todd explained, “After taking a Latin American Politics course with Dr. Mitchell I soon became fascinated with the politics and government of these countries as well. This class became the most significant factor in my decision to go. When I found out that Dr. Mitchell was taking a group of students to Argentina I was sold. My deep respect for his knowledge and enthusiasm when studying Latin America soon became contagious.”

Students gained an in-depth view on the country from the class, beginning with the Spanish colonization of the area to the political antics of current president, Cristina Fernandez de Krichner. Learning so much about a country gave the students a whole new perspective, one that would have been impossible to grasp if not for the class. After studying the mechanisms of Argentine culture and then seeing those mechanisms in action, it was like poetry in motion.

Mitchell said he decided to bring students with him because, he wanted to “Show young people how global economics plays out in a different cultural setting, and they will desire to understand inflation (currently 30 percent in Argentina), unemployment, interest rates, and global investment trends. Show young people a

fragile, weakly institutionalized democracy, and they will desire to study and value democracy. Show young people a society that eats more red meat daily than any other, yet, on average boasts life expectancy the same as the USA, and students will want to study different societies and their customs.”

Argentina itself is quite unlike any other South American country. Argentines consider themselves European, and Buenos Aires is evidence of that, with its wide boulevards and old world cobble stone streets. The people act like Europeans, giving the proverbial kiss on both cheeks as a greeting, and departing somewhere with a casual “ciao.”

Mark Cosentino said, “Most striking about Buenos Aires was the visible European influence, from the architecture to the pizzas baking alongside the empanadas.”

Buenos Aires is the heart of Argentina, both politically and culturally. The massive city and the suburbs around it hold 33 percent of Argentina’s total population, despite the country being only slightly less the size of India. The group stayed right in the center of the city in the neighborhood of Palermo Soho; an area laced with shops and cafes where one could sit and read for hours, or clubs where you can spend the night dancing on the town.

While the whole experience in Argentina was unforgettable, there were moments that stood out from all the others.

The first moment took place at the Plaza de Honduras while we were welcoming in 2013. At the stroke of midnight, the city of Buenos Aires came alive with jubilation. Fireworks rose up from every direction and the night sky lit up in a collage of spectacular colors. We hugged strangers in the street and cheered with



PHOTO COURTESY of Adrian Palaia
Twelve students traveled to Argentina over winter break to experience the culture and political situation of this Latin American country.

Argentines as we congratulated them and ourselves for making it to the new year.

As junior Cara Turcich reflected on the experience, she said, “New Years in Buenos Aires was unreal. There were fireworks being lit off at every street corner. I loved that it was summer and I got to celebrate with the locals because everyone runs outside and celebrates together.”

The next memorable moment of the trip was with the Asociación Madres de Plaza de Mayo. This was an organization formed during the Dirty War, a time of state sponsored terrorism between 1973-1982 when the Argentine government tortured thousands of civilians, including guerrilla militants, trade unionists, left-wing sympathizers, and students. Thirty thousand people went missing during this time,

now referred to by Argentines as “Los Desaparecidos.” The mothers of the Los Desaparecidos gathered and marched in front of Presidential Palace every Thursday since 1977.

We met one of the “madres,” an 87-year old woman whose daughter was taken by the government. She told us the story of her daughter, her organization, and their struggle of find out the truth to what happened to their children.

Senior Anthony D’Elia said, “I thought the Madre’s story was heartbreaking, it truly puts into perspective how lucky Americans are to have a stable political system. Ultimately, it was also very empowering, though, to see how those women stood up to a violent dictatorship.” Since the Dirty War, Argentina has come a long way and a new democratic

government was established, but still the Madres march to remind people.

Argentina is a beautiful country of great triumphs and tragedies merged to form a strong national character. Buenos Aires is both chic and sobering, a city of that knows how to enjoy itself and to charm on the world stage, but also a city which is haunted by its past and it’s sometimes violate political unsteadiness. Going there and partaking in such a culture was incredibly exhilarating. The fact that we had such thorough knowledge of its background was enriching and added major significance to all of the experiences. Those who attended will undoubtedly remember the trip forever. Any future students lucky enough to go will be going through an experience which will stay with them forever.

A New Year, A New You

MAGGIE ZELINKA
LIFESTYLES EDITOR

‘A New Year, a New You’ is what we tell ourselves every January 1. Some women make their New Year’s resolution to lose weight while some men make their New Year’s resolution to gain muscle. The fact of the matter is: neither are quite as simple as they sound. In our current society, we can get what we want at the click of a button. The one exception of this fast paced lifestyle would be losing weight and gaining muscle. Instead of becoming discouraged that neither is happening to your body after the first two weeks of the New Year, just remind yourself that your body has to become used to the constant exercise.

Women: if you do gain weight in the first two weeks of exercising, this is not unhealthy. In fact, this weight is due to your muscles becoming stronger. **Men:** it is rather obvious that you will not be able to bench press your weight in a mere two weeks of exercise. Just keep in mind that your muscle mass is increasing even though you cannot yet see results. Mindset is a major cause of a good or bad workout. If you are on a machine and keep thinking to yourself, “only five more minutes of this,” you will not have as good of a workout as someone who is not focusing on the time. Mindset before a workout is just as crucial as the mindset during the workout. Do not think of exercising as an obligation but instead as a break from classwork. If you are intimidated by the large amount of people at the gym, just remember how many of them have the same New Year’s resolution as you; they are not all experts. An important part of losing weight as well as gaining muscle is to eat healthy. Speaking from a personal experience, sophomore Kelly Hughes believes that is the only way to really lose weight. “Working out is definitely part of losing weight but in reality you have to make lifestyle changes and not just diet, but change your eating habits for good,” Hughes said. Kyle O’Grady concurs with Hughes by adding, “Seventy percent of weight loss is working out. I think working out is an important part of losing weight because it helps tone and build muscle.” O’Grady continued, “Having a healthy diet is a much more important step. You can work out for four hours a day but if you eat three cheeseburgers, it means nothing.”

Pharmacist at Stevens Drug Inc



IMAGE TAKEN FROM thehealthblog.com

Gold’s Gym at Pier Village offers a free trial period of seven days.

on Monmouth Road, Kris Fisher, believes it is of the utmost importance to eat healthy not only to lose weight but also maintain weight. “Refined sugars, highly processed foods, fast foods in general should be avoided,” Fisher said. For some, this can be rather difficult without the luxury of having a personal nutritionist, but there is an array of opportunities which anyone can use which can be like a personal nutritionist. The ever popular WeightWatchers has been endorsed by celebrities such as Charles Barkley and Jennifer Hudson. With this system you are given a certain amount of points per day. Each food item has a different amount of points and each person, depending on their body type as well as age, has a different amount of points they can eat a day. Restaurants such as Applebee’s and TGI Friday’s have included WeightWatcher foods on their menus. Many people prefer this option because it grants them more freedom with their food choices. Another well-known nutritionist aid is the Jenny Craig system. Spokesmen for this option include Kirstie Alley and Seinfeld’s Jason Alexander. Unlike WeightWatchers, Jenny Craig only allows you to eat their food and does not operate on a point system. MyFitnessPal captured the nation’s attention earlier this January. This app allows you to not only count your calories, but also lets you add in your workouts, glasses of water, and lets you see your progress over days, weeks, and months with their various charts. While it is hard to keep in the mindset to lose weight, if you can

keep thinking of how great the results will be, you definitely will be motivated to go to the gym on a daily basis. If you are one of the few independents who have not made a resolution involving a gym workout, it would be advisable to follow Professor Mary Harris’s lead. “I do not make New Year’s resolutions; instead I have a heart-shaped box that I fill with my goals and dreams. This was something I did as a teenager and just revisited this concept this year. I now write my goals and dreams in the present tense,” Harris said. It is wise to write out your resolutions, goals, or dreams so that you see the word every day and are forced to remember your task. Along with this unique technique, Professor Harris added, “I also selected a word for the year; my word this year was ‘compass.’ I actually wrote all about the heart-shaped box and the reasoning behind the word ‘compass’ on my blog.” On her blog, Harris explains her definition of the word compass. “May I always remember where I come from. May I always find myself on beautiful adventures. May my travels forever change my life for the better. May I remain grounded and down to earth always. May I forever understand that home is found in a person’s heart,” she writes. Choosing a word to symbolize your goal for a year is a great way to stay orientated with the ambitious part of your character. Whether your resolution involves a gym, a heart shaped box, or something as simple as getting your homework done on time, it is important to always keep in mind you have already completed one month of fulfilling your goal, so why stop now?

The Coffee Battle

The Ongoing Dunkin’ vs Starbucks Feud

FABIANA BUENTEMPO
STAFF WRITER

Though some may disagree, coffee is a beloved drink that helps people everywhere wake up in the morning. Coffee shops have been popping up across the nation as they are a great place to lounge, gossip, and even get work done. While there are many locally owned coffee shops, such as The Ink Well located on Second Ave in Long Branch, there are also many chains across America. The two most loved coffee sellers across the nation are Starbucks and Dunkin’ Donuts. The on-going battle between these two chains may live on forever as many have their choice of preference. When freshman Jessica Caffey was asked which coffee chain she preferred she replied, “I am definitely a Dunkin’ girl. My favorite is their Mint Hot Chocolate. It’s so rich and it is guaranteed to stay hot on my commute to school.” Dating back to when Dunkin’ Donuts originated in 1950 in Quincy, Massachusetts, its name gained its popularity primarily as a donut shop. Dunkin’ soon realized coffee could bring profit, but they began with just a basic cup of joe compared to the drink variety the chain has now. The second you enter a Dunkin’ Donuts, you are faced with choices ranging from flavored coffees to lattes to hot chocolate. Another perk of going to a Dunkin’ Donuts is having the option of getting ice cream by Baskin Robbins. It was in 1990 that Dunkin’ bought Baskin Robbins and three years later the two shops merged. Dunkin’ Donuts evolved their marketing program to create America Runs on Dunkin’ in recent years. However, a tough competitor to Dunkin’ is Starbucks, the 1971 Seattle, Washington coffeehouse chain that, unlike Dunkin’ Donuts, gained its customers by solely selling coffee. Starbucks is a prime example of a coffeehouse where streams of people trickle in on a daily basis to get their beloved beverage and lounge on one of the cozy couches set up inside. Twenty years after it originated, Starbucks stores rapidly began to pop up across the United States, a pace that continued well into the 2000s. Communication Professor Dr. Marina Vujnovic boldly spoke her mind as she stated that “Starbucks tastes better than Dunkin’ Donuts. Dunkin’ tastes artificial

to me. I’m European so I’m used to strong coffee.” The coffee quality of Starbucks is delicious to some, but strong and bitter to others, in fact some even described their coffee as having a “burnt” taste to it. Have no fear because Starbucks has an extensive menu ranging from espresso beverages to the Frappuccino to bakery treats and sandwiches, thus one is bound to find something they enjoy. Even health conscious costumers can appreciate a treat from Starbucks; in June 2009 the company announced they would no longer have high-fructose corn syrup or artificial ingredients in their salads or baked goods. When looking at a Starbucks menu, it is difficult to ignore the sophisticated naming of sizes of drinks. Using Italian sizes, instead of ordering a small 12 oz. latte, proper Starbucks vocabulary includes a “tall” latte. As becoming as it sounds, many customers oppose this foreign menu. Freshman Carly Lubsen does not appreciate this tactic Starbucks marketers have thought of. “Not only is Starbucks expensive, the way they display their products on the menu is confusing and aggravating,” Lubsen said. Starbucks has recently connected to social media as they recently linked their name with the iPhone. There is now a free application solely for Starbucks which allows you to put money on a Starbucks card and collect points. These points build up when you purchase items to eventually be redeemed for a free drink of any size. Not to be outdone, Dunkin’ Donuts has followed Starbucks lead and has created a similar application for iPhone users. The pricing of Starbucks and Dunkin’ Donuts is another factor that divides the majority of both of their customers. As some may feel they are getting a better quality item for the money they pay at Starbucks, others feel that it is not worth the price and would much rather enjoy a cheaper item at Dunkin’ Donuts. The price is a major factor when differentating the two companies. For a medium Dunkin’ Donuts iced coffee, the price is \$2.09, while at Starbucks, the same sized drink is priced at \$2.79. If you are stuck on a gift idea with Valentine’s Day rapidly approaching, a great gift would be a Dunkin’ Donuts or Starbucks gift card- just be sure to choose wisely, coffeehouse fans can be dangerous.



IMAGE TAKEN FROM adweek.com

Starbucks and Dunkin’ Donuts can be found on all seven continents.

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Beating the Odds with Jon Kilik

KEVIN HOLTON
CO-ENTERTAINMENT EDITOR

Shortly before the winter commencement on January 18, 2013, I had the pleasure of meeting and speaking with Jon Kilik, the producer of *The Hunger Games* as well as 40 other major motion pictures, including *The Limits of Control*, *Babel*, *The Diving Bell and the Butterfly*, and *Miracle at St. Anna*.

Kilik is known for producing films that focus on giving voice to groups or people that otherwise have none. As such, his work tends to have passionate social or political themes. He had come to campus to deliver the Winter Commencement address as well as to receive an honorary Doctorate in Fine Arts.

When asked what inspired him to produce *The Hunger Games*, Kilik said that one of his friends, the director Gary Ross, had children who read the books. Ross recommended Kilik read them, and Kilik found them to be very enjoyable. Ross was looking to direct another film, and since he'd worked with Kilik on *Pleasantville*, they decided to team up once again.

When asked what inspired his political and social motives, Kilik said, "These were the kinds of stories that moved me emotionally, inspired me. [...] There were things I didn't know about and wanted to learn about. [Film] can take you to another time, another place." He also noted that he wanted to give something back to the world around him through his passion.

While *The Hunger Games* was a serious movie, Kilik said that filming it was anything but. "We have a lot of fun, everyone knows each other. There is an immediate comfort, a relaxed atmosphere [on set]," he said. "It is the very opposite of what is happening on camera. There is a lot of kidding, games, gags, practical jokes."

"But as soon as we say action the cast is so professional and prepared," he added.

Kilik also confirmed that shooting for *Catching Fire*, the second book of *The Hunger Games* trilogy, is well underway. "We are almost finished shooting," he said, noting, "There are a couple of new characters who we were very excited to cast."

The cast includes major figures from the first film, such as Jennifer Lawrence, Josh Hutcherson, and Woody Harrelson as well as new faces like Oscar nominee Philip Seymour Hoffman as Plutarch Heavensbee. Some other new actors to this movie franchise include Sam Claflin as Finnick Odair and Jeffrey Wright as Beetee, among others.

Fans of the franchise may be interested in knowing that *Mockingjay*, the final book in the trilogy, is being split into two films, with part one slated for release in 2014 and part two in 2015.

Kilik has received two Golden Globe awards for previous films, which were *Babel* and *The Diving Bell and the Butterfly*. These awards are given to recognize excellence in movie and television, and receiving one is an extremely prestigious honor. "That was so exciting, [2006]

was the year of *The Departed*. We didn't expect to win... I had never won a big prize like that before," Kilik said, smiling.

In choosing what films to produce, Kilik says he is always on the lookout for something that catches his attention. "I'd like to try to keep reaching forward for another moment that inspires me. It's gotta be pretty interesting," he commented. "Whatever I'm working on now is what I care most about."

Kilik also had a few words for any aspiring producers out there. "Be patient, but be persistent. Keep going at it every day, but no it doesn't happen in a day," he said.

He would later note in his commencement address that when he was getting his start, he slept on a friend's couch (after helping his friend get a couch) in New York City and worked as a production assistant, where part of his job entailed standing on a street corner at three in the morning to direct pedestrians away from the set.

He also pointed out that his first film, *Beat*, was met with reviews so harsh that describing it as "preposterous" was one of the nicest things that some critics had to say. Despite this, he went on to become one of the most prominent and successful film producers of our time.

The rationale for awarding Kilik an honorary doctorate in fine arts is clear.

Not only has he made strides in the film industry, he is the perfect example of the reward one reaps for being dedicated to making their dreams into reality.



IMAGE TAKEN from Moviemire.com

Jon Kilik, producer of *The Hunger Games*, was awarded a Doctorate in Fine Arts by the University.

The Best of Both Worlds

NICK SEGRETO
STAFF WRITER

When a popular piece of media gets remade, there's a fine line that all design teams must be wary of. The makers of the reimagining have to create something that captures the spirit and entertaining qualities of the original, but still make it different enough that it doesn't seem like an exact replica.

A lot of people didn't think *Ninja Theory* would succeed in their reboot of *Devil May Cry*, but many were surprised when the new game hit shelves and blew them away—myself included.

The remade version of the original hack-and-slash game features a new Dante, the son

of Sparda, a demon knight who saved humanity from his own kind. The son of the demonic general and twin to his katana-wielding twin brother, Vergil, Dante is now also the son of the angel, Eva. This is a huge difference, considering that the original Dante's mother was human.

With his parents gone, Dante must team up with his brother to free the human race from the clutches of Mundus, the demon king.

For those of you who haven't seen the trailers for this game, *DmC* takes place in the fictional location of Limbo City, the home of Mundus. The original *Devil May Cry* games typically took place in gothic castles or cities that had been corrupted by the 'demon-world'.

Likewise, Dante himself has gotten quite a makeover. He is no longer the stylish, suave gentleman with a wisecracking mouth; Dante is now a violent punk with the mouth of a trucker. This was the main source of fan outcry; they couldn't accept that this new character was the original, charismatic swordsman they once knew. Some people were most angry about his black hair, though it does return to its shocking white during his infamous devil triggers.

This is, in fact, NOT the same character. I, for one, very much enjoy the new game, including the setting and art style this game was going for. It's very gritty, with a 70's punk horror theme. However, there's just enough elements of the original to appease

Devil May Cry veterans like myself.

For example, Dante, while using profanity in many of his quotes, still loves to taunt and belittle his opponents before he cuts them down. He also has the compassion of his original counterpart, going out of his way to help people he cares for.

Another example of maintaining the original spirit is the music. This wouldn't be a *Devil May Cry* game if it didn't have a rocking heavy metal soundtrack with a good grunge tone to it. The developers got two actual bands to compose some music for this game; Combichrist and Noisia. I had never heard their songs before, but being a fan of this kind of music, I now listen to them.

Now on to the main part: the game play. I'm not going to lie—I drool when I think about playing this game but find myself unable to. It's addicting. Wailing on enemies with the various weapons the game gives you feels so satisfying. You're now able to change weapons in the middle of combos just by holding down one of the shoulder buttons, giving you incredible variety and freedom to make the combat system do basically whatever you want.

The game is a hack-and-slash, just like the other *Devil May Cry* games. Essentially, you have a bunch of enemies that need to be annihilated, and the more stylishly you do it, the better. As you get better at combat, you learn to pull off more tricks and skills, but the game also gets harder, pushing you to get better as well.

There are a couple of changes from this game and the others. For one thing, the aim button is gone. This game has an auto aim system which targets your enemies and directs your attacks towards them. It doesn't hinder

the game at all, but veterans of previous games will definitely have to get used to it, and fast if they want to win.

Another unfortunate omission is the styles from *Devil May Cry 3* and *4*. Whereas in those games you could switch from being a gunslinger to a sword master or dark slayer, here you're just Dante the Demon Killer. Yes, it does have a nice ring to it, but I like to be a trickster as well.

Another minor issue I have with this game is the occasional loading screen. It doesn't happen very frequently, but when it does, it feels like I'm stuck in limbo with Dante, waiting for the chance to escape the horror of the lag.

Perhaps the most unfortunate letdown is the length of the game. It's pretty dang short. With only 20 missions, your first play through will clock in at about 10 hours. The replay value, like the other games, is to test your skills and play the game on a higher difficulty. If you do not like challenging yourself, though, you might find yourself disappointed.

Like a good classic game, *DmC* does have plenty of secrets and hidden items in the game that can only be found on subsequent plays, encouraging playing through at least one more time. Thankfully there are nothing but fun missions, an interesting story and hilarious dialogue that isn't getting old anytime soon.

I would strongly recommend getting this game if you like beat 'em ups and hack-and-slash games. Old school *Devil May Cry* fans should give this game a go—you might find that you actually like it. I give *DMC* a rating of nine out of 10. It is most certainly worth playing.



IMAGE TAKEN from deviantart.com

DMC, a reboot of the *Devil May Cry* series, was released to mixed reviews on January 15.

The Music of 1940's comes to Pollak

NICOLE MASSABROOK
CO-ENTERTAINMENT EDITOR

Pollak Theater had a full house on Sunday when audiences came for a 1940s music revue, *In the Mood*. The revue has come to the University every year for the last three or four years, making it an annual event. The sold out show even had to add extra chairs as general admission seats to meet the demand for tickets.

The show took the audience back to the year 1940 and asked audience members to turn off all their electronics because, "They were not invented when this show takes place, and they are annoying. We'd also like you to take this time to unwrap anything in cellophane, which was invented during this time period, but is also annoying."

The show had The String of Pearls Orchestra, a 13 piece band, playing with six singers and dancers. Each orchestra member got their own solo throughout the night and even contributed their voices to a couple songs. Each of the six singers and dancers got to show off their talents with both song and dance solos.

Unfortunately, the singers were sometimes hard to hear over the big band orchestra. However, their high notes were loud and clear all the way

in the back of Pollak Theater.

The costumes were also impressive. Performers dressed in traditional 1940s apparel for the first half, and when they came back from intermission in 1944, they switched to the uniforms of military members. The women dressed like USO performers while the men dressed as army and navy members. One woman dressed as a nurse and recreated the famous Time Square kiss with one of the men dressed as a sailor.

The performers mentioned that President Roosevelt had said that entertainers could contribute to the war effort as well. While acting as a soldier, one performer explained, "For many of us, music is what keeps the hope alive."

There was even some audience participation. Performers encouraged the audience to sing along to "Hey! Ba Ba Re Bop," though some audience members could be heard singing throughout most of the songs. *In The Mood* also honored the veterans in the audience. The lights were turned up and the performers asked veterans to stand up according to which branch they served in. Active members and veterans of the Marine Corps, Navy, Air Force and Army made up a good portion of the audience. At least 50 or so members of the audience were vet-

erans and received applause for their efforts.

Teresa Gleason, junior, enjoyed the audience participation. "It really got the crowd involved and all the audience loved it, and that was the best part, seeing all the people really enjoy the performance," Gleason said.

The show had some flaws. The dances were great, but the six performers had a hard time staying in sync with each other sometimes. One or two of them would usually be a step behind. Also, the sound board was set up in the middle of Pollak Theatre which was distracting and blocked a small portion of the stage from those sitting further back. That doesn't mean the audience didn't enjoy the show though. Some didn't find anything at all to complain about.

Bill Raheb of Lakewood said "[The performance was] delightful. This is the first time I've seen this show. It was great! The performers were terrific, the band was terrific! I couldn't spot a flaw in the whole thing."

Raheb was pleased to recognize many songs. "Almost every song they started off, I knew the front words to," Raheb said. He bought tickets after his daughter mentioned there was a show at the University with big band music from the thirties and forties, something Raheb is a fan of.

Ruth Bassini of Fair Haven is also a fan of the music. Bassini said, "I was a teenager when the war started so I grew up with all the music in the forties and all that, brings a lot of memories."

This was Bassini's second time seeing the show. "I'm here because this is music of my generation. I've been here before, but it's such a good show. It's wonderful," Bassini said.

The music doesn't just appeal to older audiences, although they made

up much of the ticketholders at Pollak Theater. Gleason, a music industry major, mentioned that she loved 1940s music. As I listened to the show, I realized that I knew the lyrics to plenty of the songs such as "The Very Thought of You" and "It's Only a Paper Moon."

In the Mood repeatedly says, "This was the time when music moved the nation's spirit!" It didn't exactly move my spirit, but it was a very enjoyable show.



In the Mood saluted both active members and veterans of the U.S. military.

A Dark Fairytale Disappoints

JUSTIN FRANCO
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

Do you ever wonder what happens to fairy tale characters after the endings of their stories? "And they all lived happily ever after, the end" is a sweet little wrap-up for small children, but as I have grown older, I have become dissatisfied with this unrealistic sentence. I find myself wondering if Cinderella divorced her Prince Charming after finding him cheating with another, fairer princess, taking half of his money and shacking up with another prince half her age. The perfect world of fairy tales and children's stories never appealed to me because they do not reflect what the world really is: imperfect and, sometimes, not so happy.

So when I saw a preview for *Hansel and Gretel: Witch Hunters*, a dark and violent extension on the classic Grimm children's story, I felt compelled by curiosity to see it. Finally, a real-world (well, besides the witches) sequel to a classic fairy tale! There are no breadcrumbs leading the two little German children home to their perfect families and a happy-ever-after in this film.

Hansel (Jeremy Renner) and Gretel (Gemma Arterton) are abandoned in the woods by their parents, only to wander into the candy-crafted home of a hungry witch hell-bent on devouring the two children. After stuffing Hansel full of enough candy to give him diabetes (literally, his "sugar sickness" is a recurring character flaw throughout the film), the witch is stabbed and burned to death by an angry Gretel. The two children never see their family again, and spend their lives hunting down and killing every witch they can find, due to their mysterious immunity to black magic.

I was excited to see the movie for a number of reasons. First, I love profanity, violence and disturbing plot twists in films. What that says about my psyche, I don't know, but I cannot turn down watching a nice bloodbath on the silver screen. As for disturbing plot, two innocent little kids who get lost in the woods spend the rest of their lives on a cold-blooded kill-

ing spree, using futuristic weapons like tasers and automatic pistols to brutally murder practitioners of the occult? I'm sold.

So I went to *Hansel and Gretel: Witch Hunters* expecting an epic action film filled with Tarantino-esque gore. It turned out to be an 88-minute flick with a few f-bombs, some explosions, a moderate amount of blood, and one random, unnecessary exposed breast. I was in between disappointed and far from satisfied, but I cannot say that the film was bad.

What I enjoyed was the compelling introduction showing Hansel and Gretel as children, a copious amount of fighting and gunfights for the first half of the film, and the gorgeous Arterton as Gretel clad in skin-tight clothing, portraying her character with equal parts of sexy and badass. Renner was good as Hansel, but not compelling enough for me to really be invested in his character. The same can be said of many characters, some of whom, like the idiotic Sheriff Beringer (Peter Stormare), were unnecessary to the film entirely.

However, the film was entirely too short, and the story and characters lacked depth. I just could not bring myself to care about what happened. Also, the plot was entirely too predictable. I will not give anything away because the film really is worth seeing, but I was able to figure out multiple major plot points by myself within the first ten minutes of the film, leaving me unsurprised when they were anticlimactically revealed by the film's main antagonist, Muriel (Famke Janssen).

All in all, I enjoyed *Hansel and Gretel: Witch Hunters*. It did not live up to my expectations, but I think that is because my expectations were set far too high. Still, it could have been much better if there had just been more. More violence, plot and depth would have helped the film immensely. However, the film is worth seeing for its redeeming qualities. It is definitely a guy film — any dude who likes hot women, moderate violence, and the occasional chuckle-inspiring situational one-liner will enjoy this film.

Snow Means New Shows

Midseason Television Brings Hits and Flops

NICOLE MASSABROOK
CO-ENTERTAINMENT EDITOR

Midseason television is, for lack of better term, a crapshoot. Sometimes viewers get fantastic, long running cult favorites ("Buffy the Vampire Slayer") and other times viewers scratch their heads wondering how certain shows get the green light (these shall remain forgotten). This season is no different.

Plenty of actors will be getting six degrees closer to Kevin Bacon on "The Following" (FOX, Mondays at 9 pm). This is probably the most buzzed about show this winter, but is it actually good? The pilot was actually really fantastic. Bacon stars as a former FBI agent who is called back to duty after a serial killer he originally caught has broken out of jail. The killer is concise and organized, planning every kill to relate to Edgar Allen Poe's works. He isn't working alone anymore though. He has developed a cult-like following on the internet. The thriller pushes boundaries for blood on network television. Be prepared to cringe. The acting is fantastic as is the writing. Kevin Williamson proved his knack for writing mystery with "The Vampire Diaries" and he brings that talent to "The Following." It's fast paced and creepy. It's definitely worth watching.

"The Carrie Diaries" (The CW, Mondays at 9 pm) also has a lot of buzz but is not really worth the hype. The teen drama is a spinoff of the HBO hit "Sex and the City." Viewers get to know Carrie (AnnaSophia Robb) in 1980s Connecticut as she deals with her mother's death and gets an internship in New York City at a law firm. The book series by Candace Bushnell are bestsellers, but the show falls flat. It's missing the wit and snark of the original series, which is surprising since Josh Schwartz and Stephanie Savage ("The O.C." and "Gossip Girl") are executive producing. Also, there is a slight issue where the original series stated that Carrie's father abandoned her and her mother when she was four, and the prequel series portrays him as a supportive single parent. The acting is better than usual for

a CW show, but unless they figure out how to pick up the pace of both the plot and the dialogue, this spinoff will sink fast.

"The Americans" (FX, premieres January 30 at 10 pm) also takes audiences back to the 1980s, but it's much more serious. The drama revolves around two Soviet Union KGB agents during the Cold War. The agents (Keri Russell and Matthew Rhys) are based on real life sleeper agents that posed as Americans while infiltrating the United States' government. The agents pose as a married couple and even have children together. The show demonstrates how their relationship works and the stress that comes with being an undercover agent. Getting American audiences to feel sympathy for characters who want to infiltrate our government is an odd approach, but it's refreshingly unexpected. With a good combination of relationship drama and action-packed fight sequences, "The Americans" is likely to be a hit.

Also political, but much more lighthearted, is "1600 Penn" (NBC, Thursdays at 9:30 pm). The half hour sitcom revolves around Skip Gilchrist (Josh Gad), the fictional president's son, and his crazy antics in the White House. Skip is the guy who can't do anything right but has a heart of gold. He's predictable and annoying, and it's really disappointing that Gad's talents are wasted on a stock character that isn't even funny. However, the other members of the first family are actually interesting to watch. Jenna Elfman is really fantastic as the president's second spouse, a woman who wants to connect to her stepchildren and be known as more than

a trophy wife. It's a decent show, but it sometimes tries too hard for laughs.

Don't expect to laugh at "Do No Harm" (NBC, premieres January 31 at 10 pm). The drama is a new take on the classic Jekyll and Hyde story. Jason Cole (Steven Pasquale) is a neurosurgeon who is only himself for 12 hours a day. At 8:25 every night, he becomes Ian Price, a dark, dangerous man, but wakes up at 8:25 every morning as Jason again. Jason has to piece together what Ian did the night before to destroy Jason's life. He spends Jason's money, has affairs with various women and has some violent tendencies. The premise is kind of weak. It's actually very similar to last year's short lived "Awake." The show looks flashy with various pretty city shots and sets that look like expensive mansions. It doesn't seem all that interesting, however. Jekyll and Hyde has been done many times before and nothing about this incarnation seems all that appealing.

Overall, it's a decent year for midseason television, but nothing overly exciting. It's enough to pass the time until next fall's *Avenger's* spin off and the "Boy Meets World" sequel series.

To catch up on any of the shows that already premiered, check out Hulu or the network's website.



IMAGES COURTESY OF vsaofficial.blogspot.com and cwtv.com

Midseason television is overall disappointing, but has a couple of standouts.

Owning Your Experiential Education Experiences

CASEY WOLFE
FEATURES EDITOR

Students are often told that high school prepares them for college and college prepares us for the real world. However, the real world is seldom kept in a class room with text books and homework assignments. To better prepare students for the reality of full time careers in their field of study, many students opt for internships.

According to Marilyn Ward, Career Services Experiential Education Specialist, all undergraduates must fulfill an experiential education requirement which allows them to gain more hands-on experience than the classroom allows. Depending on their major, students can fulfill this requirement with experiential education courses, service learning placements, co-ops, research projects, studying abroad, and internships.

The Offices of Cooperative Education and Service Learning, a part of Career Services, are here to assist students in finding and applying for internships. "Career Services provides assistance with the search for Ex Ed opportunities through targeted emails, the Ex Ed Database of Opportunities, a part-time job newsletter, and weekly workshops on Experiential Education," said Ward. "Students can also make appointments with Career Services staff to prepare a resume or to discuss Ex Ed opportunities."

The University gives credit for students interning. Department advisors must approve a student's placement before granting them credit, according to Ward. Usually, a certain number of

credits must be earned before a student can earn credit for their experiential education. She encourages them to gain as much experience as possible through the University. "In general, the more experience a student has the better, so it's ideal if a student can fit in more than one internship or other Ex Ed placement," said Ward.

Ward also said that internships and experiential education are critical for a good resume. She continued that these are the qualities that many employers will look at post-graduation. Often, students may even go back to the businesses that they interned for later on. "In terms of finding full-time employment, students who are successful in their Ex Ed placements may be offered positions after graduation," said Ward. "Nonprofits, schools, and accounting firms are just a few of the areas where students may move from Ex Ed to a full-time position."

A University alum who majored in psychology, Monika Travino, did a lot of interning during her time at the University. "I think internships are extremely important because it gives students the idea of what it is like to be a professional in the field," said Travino. "I managed to work with different populations [children, adolescents and adults], and it even helped me to find what I really like to work the most: people who have suffered traumatic events and/or have experienced domestic violence."

Travino found a full time job through her internship and is still working with them today. "It was a great experience, but I can tell you each person makes the experience as helpful as they can as long as they have a good supervisor,"

said Travino.

Not all interns find jobs through their experiential education, however. "Occasionally a student will say that the work was not demanding enough but a lot depends on the energy and enthusiasm that the student brings to the placement," said Ward. "After completing an Ex Ed placement, a student may feel that a certain job that he or she had planned on is not the best fit. That type of knowledge is important and will enable the student to examine other career choices."

Erin Cunningham, senior communication major, was disappointed with her first internship. "I had my first internship over the summer with a company that

I really did enjoy working for, but I did nothing public relations related," said Cunningham. "It was honestly fun, but not worth the time and money I put out for the \$750-per-credit credit summer course."

However, Cunningham's experience with internships has been redeemed. "I am now interning with Lotus823 this semester," she said. "I started two and a half weeks ago and from day one I was a part of the team and working, doing things I have never done or even seen in class. It's completely different once you're sitting down and actually working with an agency." Cunningham is grateful that she got the opportunity to intern with Lotus823 be-

fore she graduates in May.

It is encouraged that students participate in experiential education opportunities that they are interested in and that they enjoy being a part of. "A company is more likely to give more challenging work to a student who is excited to be there and to learn from the experience," said Ward. She believes that it's better for the intern and the company to enjoy the work that they are doing.

For students who are seeking internships or unsure about the experiences they already have, The Offices of Cooperative Education and Service Learning are located in the Center for Student Success in the Rebecca Stafford Student Center.



IMAGE TAKEN from youvisit.com

Undergraduates can consult with their department advisors and Career Services, located in the Center for Student Success, about their experiential education requirements.

Music: Cheaper Than Therapy

ERIN MCMULLEN
STAFF WRITER

Life has an awful tendency of hurling high-speed curveballs at just about everyone in this world and there are a few things that have the ability to guide a person through some of the seemingly unforgiving

times that we inevitably have to face as human beings.

As we continue to age, we find that times become increasingly difficult. There is only so much that can be done to help us cope with the struggles of heartbreak, the loss of a loved one, or simply a day that didn't go as planned, but perhaps one of the most

effective and popular ways to handle life's unsatisfying situations is music.

"If you're in the midst of a difficult life situation, music can help you go inside, find the hurt, and deal with it," Laura Dubois, noted pianist and music professor explains. "Music can alleviate stress, which is something we all go through. If you feel angry,

frustrated or hurt, you can use music to express that, and therefore get it out of your system."

Keeping negative feelings bottled up inside is not beneficial for anyone, yet it can be difficult to find the proper way to express one's self in tough situations. For many people, music serves as a creative outlet that gives them the opportunity to properly express themselves in an easier and less complicated way.

In fact, freshman musician Natalie Zeller confessed that one of the main reasons that she writes, plays, and listens to music, "is to escape from the daily struggles of every day life. When I need a distraction from the world, I love nothing more than sitting down and getting out my frustrations through creativity."

Zeller also emphasized that yet another reason why so many people turn to music as a way to help them handle unexpected events is because it "is one of those incredible things that can make a difficult situation seem not so bad, because when another artist writes about a hardship that maybe you're going through, you don't feel as alone."

Ross Ottman, first year student and musician, also believes that music has the power to transport its listeners to a previous time in their lives. "It provides them with an escape from reality. It can bring someone back to a time when they were really happy or really sad, and in that

way it can also change their mood at that moment based on what they are listening to," Ottman explained.

Similar to Ottman's thoughts, psychology professor Janice Stapley said, "Some people use music to ruminate or focus on their current mood, such as dwelling on many sad breakup songs when they are having relationship trouble. Others use music to modify their moods, such as putting on something upbeat if they are feeling depressed."

Listening to music has the potential to become a very emotional experience, and many old memories can be stimulated upon hearing a single line in a song. For some, mix tapes and burned CDs hold the same amount of precious

value that scrapbooks do for others. Within each song could be a handful of old memories and treasured moments that were lost as time eventually progressed.

The realities and hardships of today can be hard to handle, but luckily, music is always there to depend on during the times in which life gets rough. Whether it's by writing, listening, or playing, music can be one of the most therapeutic things that this world has to offer.

In the words of David Tripold, Chair of the University music department, when listening to music, "Our hearts are touched, and we are transported even if just for a while. A memory of some important event is jogged, our emotions are stirred, and yes, we escape the merry-go-round just for a little while."

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The College of New Jersey



Hitting the Housing Lottery Jackpot

WESLEY BROOKS
STAFF WRITER

The spring semester is here, and that means preparation for the upcoming housing selection lottery are already at the forefront of residential students at the University.

Upon returning to school last Monday, residents returned to find a blue book in their dorms and suites explaining the details. While deposits and contracts will be submitted soon, the actual selection does not take place until the middle of April. Those looking for on-campus housing will be given a random number in their term group (sophomores/ all transfers, juniors or seniors) and can make selections based on the number they receive which determines availability and range from 1-999 per term group.

The hope is that a low number will be given allowing for the highest possibility of options designated to that group.

Danielle Walsh, a sophomore and resident of Maplewood apartments, was excited and relieved as her friend got a low number. She explained, “I was so excited when my friend, Michelle, got a low number last year. We got to pull our whole suite, plus my sister, into Maplewood Apartments this year, one of the nicest buildings to live in on campus.”

Kelly Hughes, also a sopho-

more, was not as lucky, as she and the rest of the suite got very high numbers and had to pick Spruce Hall as a result. “We love our suite,” she notes, “but we would have preferred to be in Maplewood Apartments because it can get very tight in Spruce with eight of us. I am dreading the process this year and some of us may move off campus.”

Of course, possible scenarios must be thought about well before the drawing.

Jillian Vogel, a freshman, has no particular preference about next year since on-campus options (with the exception of those who fill out an application for Pier village and get pulled out) are available only to rising sophomores. “I am keeping my fingers crossed for a good draw, though I have no preference,” she explained enthusiastically.

Very few people get pulled out of the selection process. Skip Carey, Director of Disability Services explained, “Only single rooms in Elmwood and Pine-wood hall are excluded from the lottery for on-campus housing. These are only available to specific students who need them based on documentation of a medical condition. If a student does not need one, then he or she has the same options as everyone else, including off campus apartments, during the process and changes may be made after if needed and the paperwork is



IMAGE TAKEN from passaiccharter.org

Resident students get high hopes for low numbers to determine in what order they get to select where they will be living in upcoming months.

submitted on time.”

Resident assistants are the other group who get pulled out. Rebecca Leitt, who is a new RA to Elmwood this term, explained,

“I never went through it. I was hired right away, but studied abroad last semester so this is my first term here.”

There is a lot for one to think

about during the selection process. Deposits can be submitted during February 7-22 and numbers are emailed at the end of March for April selections.

Rumor Has It

Real and Fabricated Rumors Traveling Around the University are Dismissed

ALEXIS DECARVALHO
STAFF WRITER

Regardless of how rumors begin, spread, and end, they often serve the common purpose of providing people with amusement. While some rumors are made for sheer entertainment, others can be harmful or malicious, and rumors around the University is no exception.

Vice President of Student Services, Mary Anne Nagy, tackles the University’s most conspicuous rumors, as told by students.

Just about every student knows the 15 minute rule – if your professor is 15 or more minutes late, you have the right to leave class, unpunished. The rule also applies to doctors, who are awarded 20 minutes.

Senior Leah Russo has left with classmates after a professor failed to show up after ten minutes. The next class the professor said that it’s his class time and he can do whatever he wants with it and that a professor should be on time just as he or she expects the students to be, explained Russo.

Sophomore Allie Servidio said, “Personally, it has never happened to me, but whenever a professor is a couple of minutes late, everyone in the class always jokes about leaving as soon as 15 minutes are up.”

As for University procedures, “There is no process, protocol, or policy that is established that would outline this,” said Nagy. Rather than leaving when growing impatient for your instructor, she suggests going to the head of the department, often located within the same building reporting that the class is there without faculty supervision.

Golf carts, the University’s most privileged form of transportation, are also known as the ticket to a student’s free tuition. It is often said that if a student is

struck by a golf cart, the individual is awarded with no scholastic expenses for the term.

“If that was the case, I would have gotten hit a long time ago,” says Russo. Acknowledged by a majority of students as trivial gossip, the golf cart rumor is more of a source of laughter than concern. Junior Amanda Lawrence said, “I never heard that, but what an awesome idea! I feel like way too many students would be throwing themselves in front of golf carts if that were the case.”

“Completely fictional,” said Nagy in response to the golf cart tale. Nagy provides both drivers and pedestrians with solutions to avoid any chance of the event happening all together. “Drivers must remember that they are driving on pedestrian roadways,” said Nagy. She adds, “Students and faculty must remain cognoscent of the roadway. If pedestrians remain on the side of the road while vehicles approach, all problems can be avoided.”

Want another way to get free tuition? Allegedly, Shadow the mascot attends the University free of charge in exchange for an entire year of duty.

Although not one of the University’s most popular rumors, I myself am guilty of believing it. “I’d most likely volunteer and make a fool out of myself to cut my debt from student loans later and become the mascot,” said Lawrence.

Nagy confirms Shadow the mascot does not get free tuition. “The student may be a student

employee, but working as the mascot is not a scholarship position,” said Nagy. The job of Shadow is not compensated the same way as students who receive funds for being a scholarship athlete on the football, basketball, or any other University team.

It is not only rumored that free tuition is given to students, but also that straight A’s are prearranged for any student whose roommate passes away. Allegedly, 4.0’s are automatically given to these students for enduring the emotional hardship.

“I’ve heard this one too and

it’s actually really disturbing,” said Servidio. “Obviously if your friend dies, your professors should be extremely lenient with you and give you time to breathe, but I don’t think an automatic 4.0 is very realistic.”

In response, Russo says, “Hopefully, if your roommate dies, you are concerned with greater things than getting a 4.0.”

Nagy said this rumor has been around since she was in college, and in no way does a student receive any form of automatic grades. However, “The school does work with the student in as many ways possible to compensate them however they can to make sure they had the emotional support they needed to get through the horrible tragedy,”

said Nagy. Facilities such as psychological services are available to all students and the school is also willing to work with members of the faculty to ensure any academic support needed such as having extra time on tests, receiving incomplete marks for courses, or having the ability to withdraw late from a class without penalty is provided to the student.

Although food services on campus may not be gourmet, there is another looming reason not to eat the University’s food – small amounts of laxatives are placed inside the processed food so that it is easier to pass.

Servidio says, “I have heard this a million times! My family friend who is an alumni once gave me a whole scientific explanation on it, but somehow I still don’t really believe it.”

Nagy laughs,

“Unless someone is putting them in as a practical joke,” she said, “the answer is no.” Nagy, who eats in the dining hall with enough frequency knows that’s not the case. Is it something that is done or condoned by food services? The answer is no.

The idea of paranormal activity is nothing new to the University’s campus, from Pollack Theater and the Guggenheim Library to Wilson Hall, ghost stories alike have had a longstanding relationship with students and faculty.

Supposedly, Pollack Theater was once a horse stable where a young boy was instantly killed after getting kicked in the head by one of the horses. His spirit remains in the theater and haunts

the top floor. The Library, home of Mrs. Guggenheim whose husband was killed in the sinking of the Titanic, walks about after hours waiting for him to come home. Wilson Hall, once occupied by American President Woodrow Wilson, is said to be haunted by a helper who was raped and left for dead in the basement by a fellow employee. Other rumors suggest she hung herself.

Servidio said, “I believe the library is haunted because I’ve heard stories about the Guggenheims.” As for other buildings, she would not have trouble believing the stories because some parts of the University can seem so creepy. “Word of mouth is common at our school because it is so small,” she said. “So I would understand why people would believe the stories because they are always being told. Also, during Halloween, there’s an activity where students can learn about all the ghost stories on campus, which makes it seem more believable.”

Nagy, who has heard the rumors from colleagues herself, has no definitive answer in regard to the alleged paranormal activity. “I know people who have heard things, said things,” said Nagy. “Things like people seeing ghosts walking around, smelling food that has been cooked. There’s always a possibility, but I have never experienced it.”

True or false, rumors exist. Nevertheless, these stories withstand time and are passed from student to student here at the University. Although the stories may not be true, they have the ability to provide members of the community with both humor and fright. Regardless of their veracity, rumors on campus will continue to circulate for years to come.

“Word of mouth is common at our school because it is so small, so I would understand why people would believe the stories, because they are always being told.”

ALLIE SERVIDIO
Sophomore

Heart of a Lion

University Mourns Loss of Chris Mejia

NICK HODGINS
SENIOR EDITOR

This past December, the University suffered the loss of an extraordinary student, friend, brother and overall inspirational human being. Chris Mejia was 23 years old, in his fifth year at the University and was pursuing a double major in business marketing and management, as well as an IT minor.



PHOTO COURTESY of Jason Horowitz

Chris Mejia (right) was granted his degree from Monmouth, making him the first in his family to graduate from a University.

“Chris always brought the big-ness out of you, made you feel like you were bigger than you are and that anything is possible if you just set your mind to it,” Jason Horowitz said, a brother of Chris’ in Sigma Pi, as well as a close friend since his freshman year back in 2010.

Horowitz was also Chris’ little brother in the fraternity, but he explained their relationship went

deeper than a title within their fraternity. “The bond Chris and I had formed so quickly was unbelievable, we just instantly became lifelong friends, we shared similar goals and aspirations,” he said. “Everyday we would plot on our futures. Chris was not only my best friend, that’d be an understatement, he was my future business partner, he was my future best man at my wedding, he just influenced me in so many ways and left a huge impact on my life. I’m blessed to have known him, he was an amazing person.”

Chris was very into marketing, business management and a huge nutrition buff; as Horowitz put it, “He was always trying to get a lot of things going.”

One of Chris’ largest contributions to the University was a healthy energy drink he began working on with his entrepreneurship class under Professor John Buzza of the business school. What started off as an in-class project quickly grew throughout the business department and received involvement from other parts of the University as well.

“Chris was the impetus behind us deciding on the product that we did decide on, which was a healthy energy drink,” explained Buzza. “Let’s put it this way, if it weren’t for Chris, we would never have gotten half as far with this product. Chris was a leader of the class, he developed the formula and helped develop the website. He motivated all the other departments as far as sales, where to go, what we think our target market is and what’s our secondary market.”

Chris was all about health and nutrition and he knew the industry very well, as well as knowing quite a bit about the makeup and the ingredients that would go into a healthy energy drink, Buzza ex-

plained.

Chris, along with other students, felt that there was a void in the industry, with plenty of available energy drinks out there, yet none that focused on health. Buzza said, “Chris gave us the direction that we are going in right now, without his leadership and without

Chris had just gotten a job as a nutritionist a week before the accident, which was his dream job.

Cameron Nichols, Chris’ roommate last year, referred to him as inspirational, witty, very positive and an all-around great guy. “Having Chris in your life,” Nichols began, “You got something spe-

“He impacted everyone’s life he was friends with; he was a colossal person with a personality to match.”

A.J. PAPPAS
Junior

his insight, we would probably be going in maybe another direction.”

Buzza, along with all the students involved, decided that all the profits generated from this product would go towards Chris’ mom and his family.

“I respected Chris as a person,” Buzza said. “I think given his effort, given what he contributed, everything we achieve with this product will be his legacy.”

The students of the business school, led by Buzza, put their efforts and due diligence into this project that Chris laid the foundation for.

“We have nowhere to go with this other than to donate the profits to his family, because without him we wouldn’t have this product... I’m thrilled to be able to head this thing and give his sister’s and his mom what is due to them, and it’s all through Chris, it’s a great legacy.”

Chris was one to always put his family first. Horowitz said, “Everything Chris did, he did for his family. He wanted to make a lot of money for his family, it was all for his family.”

cial. Every time you’re with him you got something new, there was never a dull moment.”

Chris loved to watch *American Horror Story*, *Breaking Bad*, *Family Guy* and *American Dad*. A fan of house music and the New York Giants, he shared many interests you’d find in your average Monmouth student, but Chris was far from your average student.

If you were to have ever looked at Chris’ left arm you would have seen a tattoo of a lion. Around that lion’s neck was a mane in the shape of the heart. “He truly did have the heart of a lion,” said Nichols.

A.J. Pappas is a junior at the University and was also a close friend of Chris’. He said, “Chris was just a genuine human being, he always wanted the best for you and was just so self-driven and had so much motivation for life in general; he was a role model. He impacted everyone’s lives he was friends with; he was a colossal person with a personality to match.”

The University granted Chris his degree making him the first of his family to graduate from a University.

CLUB AND GREEK ANNOUNCEMENTS

Theta Xi

The brothers of Theta Xi would like to welcome back all students and staff from winter break!

Reminder: Spring Recruitment will officially begin on Tuesday, Feb 5 with Meet the Greeks on the MAC track.

We wish everyone a very exciting and successful new semester!

Hawk TV

Hello Everyone!

We hope you all had great winter breaks and are excited to be back at Monmouth for the spring semester.

On Friday, Feb 22 Hawk TV and WMCX will be hosting Rock and Raise, a battle of the bands event to raise money for Relay for Life! The day is always a blast, and is a fantastic way to help in the fight against cancer. Tickets will be on sale soon!

For now: good luck in all your classes, have a great spring semester, and don’t forget to keep your televisions tuned to channel 12 for movies and Hawk TV original programming.

LASO

The Latin American Student Organization will be holding weekly meetings again this semester, along with poetry workshops and Latin dance lessons!

Keep an eye out for emails and other advertising for these events and meeting times or feel free to contact Tess La Fera, president, at s0779102@monmouth.edu for information.

Social Work Society

The Social Work Society is holding monthly meetings this semester in anticipation of our rescheduled Teach-In and other events. Please keep an eye out for meeting times or contact Tess La Fera, president, at s0779102@monmouth.edu for information.

Outdoors Club

Welcome Back! The Outdoors Club will be having our first meeting Wednesday, Jan 30 in Bey Hall Room 132. We will be discussing our plans so far for

the spring semester. Feel free to also bring some of your ideas for future overnight or day trips. We are looking forward to seeing you there.

Sociology Club

The Sociology Club will be hosting their second annual Stratified Streets Tour on Saturday, April 13.

This Visual Tour of Inequality will include a guided tour of the Tenement Museum in New York City’s Lower East Side. Here, students will see the Lower East Side through the eyes of the immigrants who have lived there for 150 years.

After lunch, we will tour the African Burial Ground National Monument where both free and enslaved Africans were buried in Lower Manhattan.

A bus will be leaving for New York City at 7:00 am on Saturday April 13, and will be returning to campus at about 7:00 pm on that day.

Please contact Amanda Divita, President of the Sociology Club at s0736434@monmouth.edu or come to a meeting if you are interested in attending this event.

PRSSA

Do you love Writing, Event Planning,
and Social Media?
Join PRSSA and Shadow PR Firm!



PRESS RELEASE

WEST LONG BRANCH, NJ – The Public Relations Student Society of America (PRSSA) and Shadow PR Firm will have its first meeting of the semester on Wednesday, January 30 at 3:00 p.m. in Plangere room 234.

PRSSA provides members opportunities to flourish in the field of public relations. Perfect your skills in event planning, marketing & promotions, media relations, social media development, and more. Our non-profit student-run firm, Shadow PR, works with local clients to improve their image in the community and professional business world.

Interested in joining? All students are invited to our first meeting! If you would like to learn more, visit our office in Plangere room 235A or email Victoria Jordan at s0746458@monmouth.edu

Lights Out!

SAB Hosts “Monmouth After Dark” in Boylan Gymnasium

ALEXA CAPLINGER
STAFF WRITER

On Friday, January 25, the Student Activities Board hosted “Monmouth After Dark.” Despite freezing temperatures and snow, students braved the trip to Boylan Gym for the first SAB event of 2013.

Lucy Russo, VP of Major Events in SAB and a junior majoring in psychology explained, “We are doing an event where it is free and open to everyone. We have black-light laser tag, glow-in-the-dark tattoos, and an oxygen bar where you get oxygen in different scents and it is supposed to cleanse and help health.” When asked how long the process was to prepare the gym for the event, Russo stated, “It took about an hour to set everything up.”

One of the first students at the event was Rebekah Mar-Tang, a graduate student in social work. She said, “It’s an interesting event. I’ve been here since I was a freshman and I was never aware of things like this or I would have done it earlier. A lot of people I know usually go home so at least there’s something on the weekends that people can do that don’t want to go home and want to stay in the area.”

Upon being asked what she liked about the event, Mar-Tang replied, “I don’t know what an oxygen bar is. It’s intriguing me a little bit. I do like the [neon] tattoos though since I am not brave enough to get a real tattoo. Getting one that I could see in a black light is cool.”

Leonard Rusciani, a senior majoring in software engineering, enjoyed the night. “There’s not as many people as I thought there would be, but it snowed so that affected [the attendance]. It’s really fun. I’ve never played laser tag before so my friends

brought me out here to try it. I was on the blue team and we won. I’m going to try the oxygen bar next.”

Another student enjoying the event was Christina Gonzalez, a sophomore majoring in social work. She discussed the event saying, “I just got here but it looks like a lot of fun. I think the oxygen bar is cool. It’s something different. They’ve had laser tag before. Plus it’s something for people our age.”

Amanda Salerno, a freshman studying psychology, said, “I’m actually in SAB so the events are fun.” When asked about the weather affecting the event, Salerno stated, “More people probably would have been here.”

Some students simply came for the door prize drawing of two tickets to the sold out All Time Low concert on April 27. The concert also features Pierce the Veil, Mayday Parade, and You Me at Six. SAB member Casey Inguagiato, a sophomore majoring in business said, “There’s a good turnout for the raffle tickets. A lot of people like the bands.”

Zakari Jaworski, a sophomore history major, is one of the students who came for the chance to go to the concert. He stated, “The raffle tickets are nice; hopefully I win one.”

Inguagiato said, “The turnout is good. There are a lot more people than I thought because the weather is so horrible outside.” When asked what would be the most popular station of the night, she replied, “Definitely the oxygen bar. We saw people walking in and they just wanted to go there.”

“It’s pretty innovative,” Jaworski said. “I’ve never been to an oxygen bar before so that was cool. I tried [the flavors] mint, jasmine, pineapple, and lavender.”

Kelly Rose Printon, concert chair for SAB and a junior studying social work, enjoyed participating while working. “The laser tag in general is really fun. I haven’t done laser tag since someone’s birthday party when I was about eight. I had a lot of fun doing it.”

Russo was surprised with the amount of people at the event. “It’s a pretty impressive turn out,” she smiled. “Usually our events typically have a little more people. Despite the weather, it’s still a great turn out.”

Joseph Pagnotta, SAB VP of finance and a junior majoring in chemistry said, “The turnout is really great especially for the first weekend back from break and with it snowing. We didn’t expect this many people to come. I think this is one of the best kickoffs for a semester that we’ve had besides Grooveboston. We did as much as we could and it got a lot of students to come out.”

“I thought that [the weather] was going to affect the event,” said Mar-Tang. “It’s not a blizzard but I thought it would be completely empty. It seems like there is a pretty good turnout despite the weather.”

Printon was very happy. “I think that the turn out, considering the weather, is actually really good. I’m pleasantly surprised. It’s hard when it is cold out to pump up something that is indoors.”

Students who want to become involved and help plan events like these can join SAB. Printon said, “There are about twelve people on our executive board. We meet twice a month on Wednesday. There are meetings with all of our general members, which is around 60 people. After the meeting, the executive board discusses the week. The meetings for general members are at



PHOTO COURTESY of Student Activities Board

SAB’s Monmouth After Dark featured a variety of attractions such as laser tag, neon tattoos and an oxygen bar.

2:30 pm on the third floor in the SAB room office. This club is for everyone. It brings events to the campus and everybody has something to offer.”

The next SAB event is an Ice-Skating Trip on January 31. Follow-

ing, the SAB will co-sponsor “Snow Day” with Alpha Sigma Tau. The event has been moved to Saturday, February 2 due to low temperatures. Students can visit the Residence Quad for a photo snow globe, super sledding slide, and hot chocolate.



The Monmouth University Store Basketball Sale is back!

The first business day after each Men’s or Women’s HOME game, all clothing will be **10% OFF**.

PLUS, for each point we win by, an additional **1% OFF** is added to the sale, up to a maximum of **30% OFF**.

If both the men and women play the same day, the sale will be the largest winning margin. Come on out and support your **HAWKS!**

In stock merchandise only, no additional discounts.



What is your New Year's resolution?

COMPILED BY: ALEXIS ORLACCHIO



Courtney
junior

"To eat healthier because I eat a lot of junk food and I need to stop."



Caitlin
junior

"Don't sweat the small stuff."



Lea
senior

"To actually use my gym membership that I pay 20 dollars a month for."



Ashley
freshman

"To get an internship with a wedding planner, which I did."



Ryan
senior

"To stop buying cigarettes."



Jimmy
senior

"My New Year's resolution is to graduate."



Connor
senior

"To try harder in my classes."



Annelise
junior

"To eat healthier and to go to the gym more often. And I have so far."



Stephen
junior

"To cut down on gaming and make more time for other things."



Robyn
Study Abroad Assistant Director

"I'm old enough to realize you don't make New Year's resolutions. I never stick to it and I get mad at myself."

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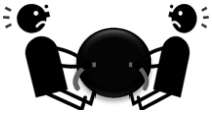


Spring 2013 Programs

Hosted by

Counseling and Psychological Services

Coping with Conflict



Wed, Jan 30
7:00pm – 8:00pm
Mullaney Lounge

Tips to address roommate issues, friend drama, and general “ish.”

Eye of Beholder

Tues, Feb 19

2:30pm – 3:45pm
Club Room 109

Beauty is diverse and, at times, terrifying.

Brief glimpse into beauty via a classic Twilight Zone episode. Discussion & snacks.

SANDPLAY

Wed, March 6

6:30pm -8:30pm

Afflito Conference Room
(3rd floor, Stu Center)

A ‘SHORE’ experience to ‘SEA’ a therapeutic approach used to guide personal journeys

Spring Awakenings

Tues, March 26
2:30pm – 3:45pm
Afflito Conference Room
(3rd floor, Stu Center)

Healing comes in many forms. Learn about Native American practices and beliefs.

Healthy Rhythms Drum Circle

Thurs, April 4

2:30pm – 3:45pm
Anacon A, Stu Center

Learn about the therapeutic powers of music while making some of your own.

Address Your Stress

Wed, April 24

7:00pm – 8:00pm
Mullaney Lounge

Relax and enjoy interactive techniques to decrease stress.

Denim Day

Thurs, April 25

Stop by between
11:00am – 3:00pm
Student Center Patio

Donate used jeans & learn about preventing sexual assaults

Walk a Mile

Wed, May 1

3:00pm – 4:00pm
Wilson Hall Steps

Guys, don a pair of heels and literally walk a mile in her shoes.

Ladies, support the guys. Together, help end interpersonal violence.

De-Stress Fest

Thurs, May 9

Stop by between
1:00pm & 4:00pm
Anacon Hall
(2nd floor, Stu Center)

End of the semester blast with food, prizes, and . . .

PUPPIES

For special accommodations or questions, please contact us at 732.571.7517 prior to the program

Monmouth University

Track & Field and Cross Country

Home Dates for 2012-13

Indoor Track:

* - Sat. Jan. 5

Monmouth Blue-White Invitational in the MAC
10 AM to 4 PM

* - Wed., Feb. 20

Moonlight in the MAC
5 PM – 10 PM

Outdoor Track:

* - Sat., March 30 – 18th

Annual Monmouth Track & Field Season Opener
West Long Branch, NJ
9:45 AM to 5 PM

(Hammer Throw and Open Mile will be held on Fri., March 29)

* - Sat.-Sun., May 4-5

NCAA Div. I Northeast Conference (NEC)
Track & Field Championships hosted by
Monmouth University – West Long Branch, NJ

* - An additional home indoor or outdoor track meet may be scheduled at a later date.

* - Come see the Monmouth Hawks in Action – 31-time Northeast Conference Team Champions

For more information call
Head Coach Joe Compagni at 732-571-3676

Visit us at www.gomuhawks.com; on Facebook at [MonmouthTrack](#); or on Twitter at [MonmouthUTFXC](#)

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11:00 am – 2:00 pm

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 - Puerto Rican Chicken Soup
 - Butternut Squash
 - Minestrone
 - Chicken Soup
 - Southern Chili
- And much, much more...

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The Center for Student Success and West Side Christian Academy
invite you to attend

The 24th Annual National African American Read-In



Celebrating Literacy & Black History Month

Monday, February 4th

9:00am-2:00pm

Monmouth University, Anacon Hall

Student volunteers are needed throughout the day.
Please contact Marilyn Ward at mward@monmouth.edu to find out
how you can get involved.



CAREER CHOICES ROUNDTABLE

Hosted by the School of Science Peer Mentor Program

Tuesday, February 5th, 2013 (5:00-9:00 PM)

Club 107-109, Club Lounge & Faculty Dining Room, Magill Commons

The Career Choices Roundtable is a chance for students from freshmen to seniors to broaden their horizons and learn about different careers and job choices in the real world!

Speakers from many different science, math, and health professions will present their experiences in careers such as:

- ❖ Chemical Engineer for the US Army
- ❖ Marketing Manager of surgical products for SONY Electronics
- ❖ Database Programmer for Discovery Data

Do you know what career you want to pursue? Come join us for the 3rd annual Career Round Table to learn about different choices and how to position yourself for the career you want!

Horoscopes

To get the advantage, check the week rating:
10 is the easiest, 0 the most challenging.

♈ Aries • (Mar. 21 - April 19) -This week is a 9
A fresh year brings about some new changes, so try to fix those family bonds that might have been torn in the past. It may take courage and support on your end, but once you think it all through and commit to the task you will find that the success of the mission is your true reward.

♉ Taurus • (April 20 - May 20) -This week is an 8
Clear up any confusion that you may have at the moment before moving onto anything further. Keep control of your emotions and resources and, if necessary, get an expert to assist you. Not only will this help you get a sense of your limits but it shall also help you gain some status.

♊ Gemini • (May 21 - June 21) -This week is a 9
Take it easy and let your passions drive you to action this week. By letting your passions lead your movement you will find others that share your enthusiasm, but know that by working with others compromise will be needed to ensure proactivity.

♋ Cancer • (June 22 - July 22) -This week is an 8
Postpone projects and organize your space with systems that will help streamline your work output. Collect the appropriate supplies and prepare with a solid foundation. If conditions are too unstable to launch then you might have nothing but chaos on your hands.

♌ Leo • (July 23- Aug. 22) -This week is an 8
The possibility of loss is high, so keep your bets low or, better yet, avoid any costly gambling. Review rules and instructions for an extra step of precaution and avoid doing anything out of anxiety; hasty decisions are not going to be your friends for the time being.

♍ Virgo • (Aug 23 - Sept. 22) -This week is an 8
A profitable assignment opens up for you, despite temporary confusion. Wait until the dust from the uncertainty clears to make your move, and stay flexible and open-minded. And remember it may be necessary to make a mess for beautiful results.

♎ Libra • (Sept. 23 - Oct. 23) -This week is a 9
The time has come to invest in your career. It is an exciting time but take care, there are several pitfalls along the path. Remain elegant when these are encountered and sweep negative emotions out with the dust.

♏ Scorpio • (Oct. 23 - Nov. 21) -This week is a 7
It's not a good time to mess around carelessly or get you into risky business. There's money coming in, but it could that could go right back out with the wrong decisions. For this week it may be wise to just stick to tested routines and play it low key.

♐ Sagittarius • (Nov. 22 - Dec. 21) -This week is an 8
You're feeling unsettled lately and your emotions are close to breaking the surface, but maintain your composure. Explore a new philosophy or view in order to achieve a better understanding and mindset.

♑ Capricorn • (Dec. 22 - Jan. 19) -This week is an 8
Do homework early to increase your overall efficiency. Gracefully overlook inept remarks and persuade without any coercion. Because of your skill new responsibilities will soon occupy your time, leaving room for even more growth.

♒ Aquarius • (Jan. 20 - Feb. 18) -This week is a 9
Don't start up and invest in a beginning group activity just yet; you may decide that it isn't worth it, despite the continuous impulses. Important people are impressed by your diligence and confidence, and this leaves you as a fresh thought in their minds and shining bright.

♓ Pisces • (Feb. 19 - Mar. 20) -This week is a 7
Let your emotions fuel your actions and efforts. Remember there is always another option that you haven't explored yet; like borrowing that money, or asking for help. But keep in mind that even though you can ask for assistance you still shouldn't take on more than you can handle, or else you might end up with more favors owed.

HOROSCOPES ARE STRICTLY FOR ENTERTAINMENT PURPOSES

"Misguided Understandings" by Alyssa Gray



a So-You-Say comix #11

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"The Commando Chronicles" by Alyssa Gray



a That Loud comix #4

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Hawks Fly to the MAAC Starting 2013-2014

ED MORLOCK
SPORTS EDITOR

The University will leave the Northeast Conference (NEC) and become a member of the Metro Atlantic Athletic Conference (MAAC) on July 1, 2013. The MAAC Council of Presidents invited MU to join the league after a meeting on Friday, December 14, 2013.

"Monmouth is flattered by the invitation to join the MAAC," President Paul Gaffney said. "I thank the Council of Presidents for having confidence in us. While we have enjoyed our relationships with the Northeast Conference member institutions and our successes on the field, Monmouth is pleased with the opportunity to aim for new goals."

The MAAC, founded in 1980, has the strongest television coverage of any mid-major conference in the country after partnering with ESPN to develop a league-wide na-

games on ESPN or ESPN2. Eight regular season basketball games air on ESPN. The Men's Basketball Championship Final airs on ESPN2 and the Women's Basketball Championship Final airs on ESPN.

"In evaluating potential new member schools, the MAAC membership has sought to maintain a brand that stresses excellence in academics and athletics, and Monmouth University fully meets that criteria," Richard J. Ensor, Commissioner of the MAAC, said. "The MAAC will be a great home for the Monmouth athletic program and the conference looks forward to its participation with the start of the 2013-14 academic year."

The other schools in the MAAC are Canisius College, Fairfield University, Iona College, Manhattan College, Marist College, Niagara University, Quinnipiac University (also joining in 2013), Rider University, Saint Peter's University and Siena College.

"The MAAC will be a great home for the Monmouth athletic program and the conference looks forward to its participation with the start of the 2013-14 academic year."

RICHARD J. ENSOR
MAAC COMMISSIONER

tional broadcast package for the next four and a half seasons. The MAAC broadcasts over 40 events annually, with a majority airing on ESPN3 as well as two regular season basketball

One of the MAAC's goals is to seek out "institutions that feature basketball as a sport of emphasis, but support the MAAC's core sports requirements including soccer, la-



PHOTO COURTESY of MU Photography

Director of Athletics Dr. Marilyn McNeil speaks to a full room at the Multipurpose Activity Center after announcing that Monmouth sports will be moving to the Metro Atlantic Athletic Conference in July.

crosse and others." Another goal is to seek out "institutions that have upgraded basketball facilities, have invested in hiring and supporting coaching staffs that strive for success on the court and in the classroom."

The Hawks are exactly what the MAAC wants to see from these two perspectives. The \$57 million Multipurpose Activity Center (MAC) that seats 4,100 was an upgrade of the basketball facility when it was opened less than four years ago.

Men's basketball head coach King Rice proves that the university is invested in hiring strong coaching staffs. Rice, the former point guard at North Carolina, is exactly the type

of person that the MAAC wants to see on the sideline.

The Hawks look to maintain a relationship with the NEC. "There is little doubt that Monmouth and our NEC friends will find ways to continue valuable competitions," Gaffney said.

MU hoped to become an associate member of the NEC for football, field hockey and bowling, sports that are not a part of the MAAC.

"We are hopeful that we can apply and that is what we will do," Monmouth Director of Athletics Dr. Marilyn McNeil said. "[We will] apply for associate membership in all three sports. We've been a charter member of the NEC in both football

and field hockey and have had a great deal of success."

"We've been honored with the highest academic metric for football in the Northeast Conference for the past two years," McNeil added. "We really feel very confident that we would be a good and longstanding member of Northeast Conference football, field hockey and bowling. We will make the application for associate membership."

The NEC denied MU's associate membership for football and bowling.

The university will complete the 2012-13 academic year in the NEC and begin MAAC competition in 2013-14.

Red Bulls Give Clark's Career Wings

RYAN CLUTTER
STAFF WRITER

It has been a roller coaster ride for MU alum Ryan Clark. After a stellar career for the Hawks that included four All-NEC nominations, three Regional All-American selections and three NCAA Tournament appearances, Clark was drafted with the first overall pick of the Major League Soccer (MLS) Supplemental Draft by the New York Red Bulls.

"I'm very excited to get drafted by my home town team, the New York Red Bulls," Clark said. "They were my absolute first choice of teams I wanted to go to."

He was initially named an alternate to participate in the MLS Combine, just missing out on the 54 invitees. However, soon before Christmas Clark received a phone call from a representative of the MLS and was formally invited to the combine in Ft. Lauderdale, Florida. He immediately made an impact and began turning some heads while his draft stock skyrocketed.

"Once I found out I got invited, I worked out twice a day, probably around four hours a day, trying to get my fitness back because I knew it was a great opportunity for me and I wanted to make sure I took full advantage of it," Clark said.

There were three matches at the combine, where Clark was on the pitch with some of the nation's top prospects. Graduating from a small school, many of the scouts, coaches, and general managers hadn't seen Clark play in person. This was his chance to show everyone the type of player he was.

Coming off the bench in the first match, he nearly scored the game winner by curling a left-footed ball off the crossbar and

over the net. He would go on to play the full 90 minutes in the next two matches.

Clark learned to play quicker and realized there wasn't much time to relax when on the field. The games were played at such a fast pace, Clark said he had to step up his game but didn't feel any pressure that would normally come from being in that situation.

"A lot of people get nervous coming here in front of all these people but I feel like that's only going to make you play worse so I basically just blanked out and tried to stay focused," recalled Clark.

His name appeared on multiple mock drafts as the MLS SuperDraft was quickly approaching. He was featured in an article on MLSsoccer.com and was receiving nothing but positive vibes from the teams and

screen, receiving the first overall selection. And it came as a surprise.

"They actually did not call me before the draft. I had no idea they were going to pick me at number one, so when my name popped up, I basically started going crazy," said Clark. "I was watching it with my dad and I lost my mind. It was snowing at the time and I sprinted outside barefoot through my front lawn."

Clark then got on a plane on his way to pre-season training in Bradenton, Florida, where he is working with the team and getting in shape for the upcoming season. He was approached by Tim Cahill, a candidate for team captain, and has been welcomed with open arms by everyone he's met. Fans of the Red Bulls are already reaching out via Twitter and Facebook to welcome Clark to their team. For Clark, he still

he is at today.

There is a chip on his shoulder after initially getting overlooked for the combine and then getting passed up in the SuperDraft. That all adds fuel to the fire and while he's excited about the opportunity he's presented with, Clark is looking forward to proving he deserves to be on the Red Bulls.

Though Clark is set to start a new chapter in his life, he is very delighted by his time as a Hawk. During his years at MU, he emerged into a leader on and off the field and has nothing but praise for his coaches. He credits head coach Robert McCourt and assistants Hugh MacDonald and Evan Unger for developing him into the player he has become.

"I just want to thank all the players I've played with, the coaching staff; I wouldn't have gotten to where I am today without them," Clark said. "These last four years we've made some noise and won games. If we don't win games, I don't get noticed so I have them to thank for that."

"I want to thank my family and friends back home that have been messaging me, calling me every



PHOTO COURTESY of TJ Scholl

MU alumnus Ryan Clark impressed many at the MLS Combine and was selected with the first overall pick in the Supplemental Draft by the New York Red Bulls.

day. All the support has been amazing and I want to thank everyone."

Right now, Clark's immediate goal is to win a spot on the roster. His ultimate goal is to win a starting job.

"Nothing is set in stone. I still have to prove my worth and earn a contract here. I have to go all out every single day and prove that I belong on this team. I'm not officially on the team yet."

RYAN CLARK
MU Alumnus

people around him. Despite the impressions he made at the combine, his name wasn't called in the MLS SuperDraft on Thursday, January 17. He had to wait until Tuesday, January 22, when the third and fourth rounds, now called the Supplemental Draft, were going to take place.

There wasn't much of a wait for Clark to see his name on the

has to earn a contract and roster spot.

"Nothing is set in stone," said Clark. "I still have to prove my worth and earn a contract here. I have to go all out every single day and prove that I belong on this team. I'm not officially on the team yet."

Hard work and dedication have enabled Clark to reach the level

Women’s Basketball Wins Five of Seven, Third in NEC

RYAN CLUTTER
STAFF WRITER

While there was break from classes, there was no break from basketball. The women’s basketball team played eleven games in the past month, going 6-5 over that span. They stand at 8-11 overall and 5-3 in conference play.

On Monday night, the Hawks played host to in-state rival Fairleigh Dickinson where they came out with a 61-53 victory. Sara English recorded her first career double-double, with 10 rebounds and 12 points. Gabby Singer led all scorers with 15 points.

“We definitely had a size advantage,” said the six-foot four-inch English. “I know I have to be more aggressive, especially on the offensive boards. They didn’t box out sometimes and it was just easy to get in position.”

“I thought our team really improved with our energy level and being able to play defense as a team,” said head coach Jenny Palmateer. “I think we’re a work in progress and

we have to continue to play as a team, get stronger as a team, minimize mistakes; keep working towards improvement each and every day.”

Going all the way back to December 22 against Delaware, leading scorer Alysha Womack was sidelined with injury. She missed four games, but has since returned to the lineup.

In the time Womack missed, the Hawks turned to Chevannah Paalvast to be the scorer. She averaged 14.3 points in the games without Womack. In an 81-64 win over Wagner, Paalvast scored a career-high 24 points and matched a career-high with eight rebounds.

“When (Womack) went out with the injury, (Paalvast) was able to kind of step in and fill the scoring role for us,” said Palmateer. “She’s done a great job with that and I think she’s kind of carried that. She continues to grow and improve and has proven that she can be a scorer for us.”

On December 30, the Hawks traveled to Duke to take on the No. 4 ranked Blue Devils. It was the final game of non-conference play. MU

struggled out of the gate, and only made one field goal in the first half. Turning the ball over 29 times, MU was defeated 73-32. Paalvast had a team high 15 points in the loss.

After going 3-8 in non-conference play, the Hawks were set to start Northeast Conference games on January 5. They opened up at Mount St. Mary’s with a loss, 70-51, before winning their next two games.

“I think it helped playing the tough teams that we played out of conference in the beginning of the year, said Singer. “Going against some of the best presses that you can see; we have a lot of experience and I think we’re doing pretty well with (the press).”

The Blue and White beat Robert Morris 58-47 on January 12 in a true team win. Major contributions were made up and down the roster. Carly Thibault and English scored 14 points apiece to lead the scoring attack. Singer grabbed a career high 10 rebounds and Paalvast added eight boards.

Womack saw her minutes gradually increase over the next few games.

She scored 14 points in 19 minutes off the bench against St. Francis (Pa.), then played 25 minutes against LIU Brooklyn, scoring a team high 18 points on 7-15 from the floor. In 34 minutes against St. Francis (N.Y.) Womack tallied 21 points while back in the starting lineup.

Playing LIU Brooklyn, the Hawks overcame a 15-point deficit to complete a shocking comeback. Paalvast drove the lane and converted a lay-up with 3.6 seconds left to propel the Hawks to a 63-62 victory.

After a loss on Saturday, January 26 against Sacred Heart, MU was able to regroup in a big defensive showing against Fairleigh Dickinson. Singer called the Sacred Heart loss a reality check.

“We kind of came together, had a little team meeting after the game in the locker room,” said Singer. “Coming up with ideas on how we can increase our energy and intensity. This is a team led by a bunch of seniors. It’s our last go at it. We have one chance and we have to play for each other.”

The win over Fairleigh Dickinson



PHOTO COURTESY of MU Photography
Chevannah Paalvast scored a career-high 24 points against Wagner during winter break.

will go a long way for the confidence of this team. MU is currently tied with three other teams for third in the conference.

The Hawks next play against Bryant in the MAC on Saturday, February 2 at 3 pm.

NEC Denies Associate Membership for Football

ED MORLOCK
SPORTS EDITOR

The Northeast Conference (NEC) Council of Presidents voted and did not allow the University to be an associate member for football and bowling.

“I’m not sure I was surprised [by the decision],” University Athletic Director Marilyn McNeil said. “I was disappointed. I thought that we had done all of the right things in terms of being a good member of Northeast Conference football and bowling. So I was disappointed. I thought we were given a little

bit of a short trift on that one.”

“I think it did surprise me a little bit,” football head coach Kevin Callahan said. “I think Monmouth had been a long-standing and good member of the NEC since its inception.”

McNeil has her opinion as to why the NEC did not let MU become an associate member for football.

“I believe the conference felt that, or believed that, if they allowed a university to leave the conference as a full member and come back in football that that would perhaps spur other institu-

tions to do the same,” McNeil said.

With the NEC now in its past, the MU football program has to look towards it future.

“We haven’t been sitting around twiddling our thumbs,” McNeil said. “We knew this was a possibility and we’ve been reaching out to other conferences, hoping that somebody would have an interest. We’re getting some good feedback.”

Callahan looks at leaving the NEC as a positive. “I think it could create a lot of other opportunities for the football program and the

University moving forward,” Callahan said. “We’re going to do our best to explore all of those opportunities.”

“I think any time you go into a new venture there is excitement that surrounds it. We don’t know quite where we are going yet, but I think it will be a positive thing for the football program and a positive step for the University,” Callahan added.

The Hawks hope to find a new conference with an automatic bid to the NCAA Division I playoffs.

“That’s a recruiting issue and a University player issue,” McNeil

said. “I want to be able to say to the football team, ‘You’re fighting for a bid into the championship.’ And I know they want to fight for that. We all want post-season experiences. So that [automatic play-off bid] is critical.”

There is no timetable for when the University expects to know which conference they are joining.

“I think there will be some cause for celebration sooner than later,” McNeil said. “As I said, I think the landscape is so dynamic right now that anything could change in the next 12 months and we would all be surprised, as usual.”

Men’s Basketball Rolls FDU, Ninth in NEC

ED MORLOCK
SPORTS EDITOR

The men’s basketball team defeated Fairleigh Dickinson 73-54 Thursday night due to excellent play from their starting guards. Dion Nesmith, Christian White and Jesse Steele combined for 51 points and 11 assists.

“When you have Dion and Jesse and now you add Christian to the mix, that’s a lot of guys that can put points on the board in a lot of different ways,” head coach King Rice said. “So I like that rotation.”

Coming into the game, both teams were tied for eighth in the Northeast Conference (NEC) with 2-4 records against conference opponents.

“Every game is important,” White said. “It’s conference play. Every home game, every away game, everything means something. To win this one was important.”

The Hawks (8-13, 3-5) led 38-34 at halftime and took over from there.

MU went on a 17-5 run in the opening 7:04 of the second half. Steele led the run with seven points, followed by White who scored six on two three-pointers.

White, a freshman, set career highs for both points and assists against the Knights, scoring 18 and dishing out four assists. He also set career highs in field goals made and three-point-

seemed to be falling all night.

“My teammates got me the ball in great spots,” White said. “I didn’t have too many contested ones. That’s all them [teammates], finding me and setting good screens and stuff like that.”

“Christian makes them like this all the time,” Rice said. “It’s not like all of the sudden he got hot tonight. He made about seven or eight of them yesterday in practice, the same exact type of shots.”

Nesmith paced the Blue and White with 21 points in the game. He was six of nine shooting, two of three from the outside. He took advantage of his free throws as well, making seven of his eight shots from the charity stripe.

Steele scored 12 points in his squad’s third conference win of the season. He shot five of seven from the field and two of three from three-point land. Uncharacteristically, he missed all four of his free throw attempts.

The Hawks dominated FDU in second chance points, outscoring their in-state rival 26-6. MU out-rebounded the Knights 37-26, with freshman Tyrone O’Garro leading the way with nine boards.

“Most of the time when you get a second chance to score, you score,” Rice said. “When Tyrone gets a little



PHOTO COURTESY of MU Photography
Freshman guard Christian White scored a career-high 18 points Thursday night against Fairleigh Dickinson. He shot six of 11 from the field, including four of six from three-point range.

him, so he gets bumped off his cuts sometimes to get rebounds. But we’re going to be a great rebounding team before this is all said and done, and Tyrone will probably be the guy leading the way.”

Melquan Bolding led FDU with 18 points. He was seven of 11 from the floor and four of five from beyond the arc. Kinu Rochford and Yves Jules joined him in double figures with 10 points each.

The Blue and White struggled while students were away for break. They lost to Villanova by 27 points and Fordham by 11 to close out 2012 and their out-of-conference portion

of the schedule.

NEC play opened with two losses on the road against Wagner (60-56) and Mount St. Mary’s (71-59).

The team broke its seven-game losing streak and picked up its first NEC win and 2013 win at home against Saint Francis 65-60. Two days later, they lost to Robert Morris at the MAC 70-55.

The Hawks split a weekend trip to Brooklyn, going 1-1 against St. Francis Brooklyn (71-67 win) and LIU Brooklyn (75-65 loss).

Saturday, MU traveled to Sacred Heart to try and win their second straight NEC game. They lost to the

Pioneers 82-68. Sacred Heart won the final 12 minutes of the game 36-12 to take command and get the win.

Shane Gibson scored 33 points for the Pioneers. He was seven of 17 from the field, four of 10 from three-point range and 15 of 17 from the free throw line. Louis Montes added 25 points and five rebounds.

The Hawks have two home NEC games this week. Thursday they host Central Connecticut and Bryant on Saturday. MU is ninth in the conference, one game behind Central Connecticut who sits sixth at 4-4. Bryant is tied for first place in the NEC with a 6-2 record.

“Every home game, every away game, everything means something. To win this one was important.”

CHRISTIAN WHITE
Freshman Guard

ers made. He was six of 11 from the floor and four of six from beyond the arc. His high-arching three-point shot

bit stronger, because he jumps up over everybody and can go get them, but right now it’s a little physical for



Hawks Shuffled Into A New Deck



At the end of this semester, the University will leave the Northeast Conference and join the Metro Atlantic Athletic Conference.

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