



THE OUTLOOK

MONMOUTH UNIVERSITY'S
STUDENT-RUN NEWSPAPER SINCE 1933

HTTP://OUTLOOK.MONMOUTH.EDU

February 6, 2013

VOL. 84 No. 12

Cyber Bullying Versus Freedom of Speech

CHRISTOPHER ORLANDO
POLITICS EDITOR

Where is the line between freedom of speech and prevention of online bullying for college students? This is one of the toughest lines to toe as universities want to create a safe environment for students but encourage students to express views on often controversial subjects.

Montclair University graduate student Joseph Aziz made a comment regarding another student's appearance on YouTube and then was told by the university to have no further contact with the other student. He then posted about the incident on Facebook and the school suspended him. He challenged the suspension and last week the university reinstated Aziz. This brings the question: Do universities have the right to regulate student behavior on social net-

working sites?

Dr. Michele Grillo, assistant professor in criminal justice, thinks that the University went too far in this matter.

Grillos said, "It is contrary to the encouragement of free thought and academic growth of individuals. Students speak out all the time about their likes and dislikes of college professors and administration on a daily basis in various ways. We do not restrict this speech."

Junior political science major Adrian Palaia believes the student was out of line with his remarks. "This Montclair student was interfering with the legitimate educational and disciplinary objectives of other students with an air of malice, therefore is completely under the subjugation of the school's punishment and not protected by freedom of speech," said Palaia.

Senior business student Brienne Giordano believes it is sad that this issue isn't being taken more seriously.

Giordano said, "I think it's a disgrace that people are attempting to defend outright bullying under the U.S. Constitution, and I think it's a bigger disgrace that people are buying into that fee-

ble excuse. America places more importance on being politically correct rather than being morally correct.

Giordano continued, "God forbid we punish someone for saying something blatantly hurtful and demeaning because if we punish them it might hurt THEIR feelings or be demeaning to them. Giordano also states that just because you can say it doesn't mean you should say it."

"You think people would finally grasp that after such notorious incidents as the horribly unfortunate cases involving Megan Meier and Tyler Clementi, but apparently even that is not enough. People also fail to realize, specifically with things that

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Women Hope to Fight Alongside Men in Armed Services



IMAGE TAKEN from tbo.com

Women may be able to serve in front line combat as early as 2014.

BRITTANY HARDAKER
STAFF WRITER

Defense Secretary Leon Panetta announced last Thursday that the U.S. military is lifting their official ban on women in combat, opening up thousands of combat positions to female soldiers.

The lift will allow women, who currently make up about 15 percent of the overall force, to engage in combat on the front lines and is also expected to open an estimated 230,000 jobs, the Pentagon's website explains.

The decision overturns a 1994 Department of Defense policy that previously barred women from direct ground combat and from being assigned to units below the brigade level in all branches.

After receiving a letter from

Gen. Martin E. Dempsey, the chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff last month, Panetta quickly moved into action in his last few weeks in office by giving military services until January 2016 to seek special exceptions if they believe any positions must remain closed to women.

Dempsey's letter explained that he and the Joint Chiefs of Staff are united in their belief that "The time has come to rescind the direct combat exclusion rule for women and to eliminate all unnecessary gender-based barriers to service."

Dr. Christopher DeRosa of the History and Anthropology Department also believes that the Pentagon's recent announcement will

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How Many MU Students Are Getting Hired After Graduation?

CASSANDRA FIGUEROA
STAFF WRITER

"Welcome to McDonalds, can I take your order?" This is a phrase we all fear after spending the past four years doing all of the right things in college with hopes that a job will appear after graduation.

It was reported by the American Department of Labor on February 1 that there are 12.3 million unemployed people in the United States. The unemployment rate is 7.9 percent and has been near that level since September 2012.

The media has overwhelmingly continued to report on

the unemployment rate among college graduates. A *New York Times* editorial from June 2012 said that in the past year, unemployment among college graduates under age 25 has averaged 8.5 percent. This is an improvement from 9.5 percent in 2011, but still much higher than 5.4 percent in the year before the Great Recession struck at the end of 2007.

Though the unemployment rate in America remains high, statistics show that the University graduates are beating the odds. William Hill, Assistant Dean of Career Services, said that of those who sought employment, nearly half, or

46 percent, of the class of 2012 had a job within a month or less. Within four months, 80 percent of those seeking employment had found a job. Only eight percent reported taking six months or more to find a job.

"I think if you're persistent in looking for a job and you market yourself the right way, the employment rate shouldn't affect you," said Bryan Larco, senior. Larco has a job offer prepared upon graduation in May 2013 at Plymouth Rock, an insurance company.

The 2012 statistics improved in comparison to the previous year. Hill said that about 43 percent of the graduates were work-

ing full-time, 40 percent were attending or planning to attend graduate school, five percent had other plans (such as traveling or pursuing other interests), and 13 percent were actively seeking a job at the time of the survey.

Many students find themselves worried about searching for jobs, although the University provides students with resources to make the job search less painful. Michael Douglas, alumnus, landed himself a job immediately after graduation. "Career Services definitely helped me out a lot," said Douglas. "They read over my resume and made calls to companies I

wouldn't think of pursuing."

Douglas began his job search on his own and was unsuccessful. "I think the fact that I tried to do a lot on my own hurt me in a way," said Douglas. "Career Services had all the resources available to me, but I kind of went out on my own at times."

The University provides numerous events, classes and opportunities to assist students through their career search process. The Career Services department hosts career days, workshops and seminars on career skills, one-on-one career

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News

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Club & Greek

SAB is planning a student trip to the city of Philadelphia.

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Need a Good Workout?

University Welcomes New Daily Fitness Program

ANGELA CIROALO
ASSOCIATE NEWS EDITOR

The new fitness program at the University began last week to kick students into shape this spring semester. Classes are offered every weekday. There is currently no set schedule. Each week, students will be updated via email and can be followed @monmouthrec on Twitter. “Make sure you have the right form,” said Justine Racaza, University fitness instructor at the Core 4 Sure class. “In order to get the most out of the exercise you must position your body correctly.” The class is designed to benefit busy college students that need a quick workout before returning to schoolwork. The class is run by University students that are dealing with the same schedules, workload and stresses as us all. Throughout the classes, the instructors choose exercises that are accessible for all students. “I like to give everyone time to do each exercise rather than give them a set number to do,” said Racaza. “This way, they dictate their speed and the number of reps they want to or can do.” There are currently six different classes to choose from which are

Boot Camp, Zumba, Balance and Burn, Core 4 Sure, Butt Blast, Biggest Loser, and Yoga. A majority of the classes are held in the Boylan South gym and a few are offered in the Multi-purpose Activity Center. Locations may vary in the future. The variety of classes allows students the opportunity to focus on the specific areas they wish to strengthen and tone. “I run a lot of boot camps so I like to do circuits that have four stations: upper body, lower body, cardio, and abs,” said Racaza. “Everyone splits up and spends one minute at each station until they get through all four.” The Biggest Loser class has a different approach than the other classes. “It should be called ‘Healthiest Loser,’” said John Cascone, the Di-

rector of Intramurals and Recreation. “We are trying to welcome students that don’t necessarily feel comfortable just coming to the gym to work any other topic relatable to health and fitness. “It is a different approach to try and welcome more students into a healthier lifestyle,” said Cascone. Zumba uses dance moves to make working out enjoyable. “I enjoy doing Zumba because it’s such a fun and easy way to work out without complication,” said Rocio Serey, freshman psychology major. “As a dancer, I love being able to dance and work out at the same time, and the music in Zumba really pumps me up.” The Core 4 Sure class incorporates cardio and ab exercises to create a powerful workout. “One of the most efficient ways to hit your abs is intervals of cardio followed immediately by ab workouts,” explained Racaza. “The cardio movements are chosen because

they engage your abs and increase your heart rate to help you get better results.” “I liked the high intensity of the class,” said Colleen Thomas, junior psychology major. “It was a workout I would not have done on my own so it was good that the class pushed me.” If your weakness is your legs or butt, the Butt Blast class can help. “Legs and butt work together!” said Racaza. “To make your butt look nice, you have to incorporate legs.” The idea for the fitness program came about early last year, when Cascone approached Racaza to ask her if she could become certified to teach classes. “It took the right student to get it started,” said Cascone. Cascone was able to receive funding through the Recreation Department to move forward with the program. Along the way, fitness instructor Britney Laureo took an interest and, based on her previous knowledge and certifications, she was welcomed as an instructor. “We are looking for some more students to get certified and diversify our staff even more,” said Cascone. “I think everyone is doing awesome so far!” said Racaza. “All you have to do is get to the classes and push yourself!”



PHOTO COURTESY of Angela Ciroalo
Bianca Boniello, junior business marketing major, was one attendant at the Core 4 Sure class last Wednesday night.

“Monmouth Compliments” Launches on Facebook

JACKLYN KOUEFATI
MANAGING EDITOR

A new Facebook page, “Monmouth Compliments,” has been created to help anyone who is a part of the University community express praises secretly without being judged. The creator of the Facebook page, who is a sophomore but asked to remain anonymous, said, “The page is meant for people to send in their compliments, a friendly message or an inside joke even; but anonymously, so that way people are free to say what they feel without feeling like they will be judged, which tends to stop a lot of people from speaking their minds on things.” An example of a post that can be found on the page is: “I hope every single one of you reaches your goals this semester, it’s gonna be a great one! Live it up like never before - a student like you.” The creator explained that this was something he/she had never done before. The idea for “Monmouth Compliments” came from the creator seeing a similar page made by The College of New Jersey (TCNJ). The creator said, “I saw how happy the page was making people [at TCNJ] and I love making people smile. I wanted to

do something different than what had already been done here at Monmouth. So, I thought taking the idea and making it MU would be a way for me to make the campus a better place.” “Monmouth Compliments” is not only meant for students but anyone and everyone who is a part of the University, according to the creator. When asked if the Facebook page was meant to help against cyber bul-

lying, the creator explained that he/she sees “Monmouth Compliments” as a way to combat it. He/she continued by saying that social media can be used in a positive or negative way, but the negative way is heard about more often. “This is my attempt to change that,” the creator said. Lucy Russo, junior and vice president of major/special events at the Student Activities Board (SAB), feels the Facebook page is an excellent page to have with all the cyber bullying that happens nowadays.

for, Kapalka said, “I think this is a nice thing to do and certainly seeing his/her name there must make the recipient feel really good.” Even though Kapalka believes “Monmouth Compliments” was a nice page to have been made, he also feels the page may be a bit too predictable and wonders if people will get tired of it easily. He said, “However, in general, yes, it is nice to create a page focused on positive

communication, although I am curious how the nature of the posts will be monitored/enforced and whether people will lose interest.” The creator explains that he/she monitors the messages and makes sure they are appropriate before posting them on the Facebook page. He/she continues by saying the page has also never received a negative comment. The Facebook page has not gotten any negative feedback either, according to the creator. “People who have used the page have absolutely loved it,” the creator said. Godburn has never used “Monmouth Compliments” before. However, she said, “I think it’s nice since there’s so much negativity flying around all the time that there’s a place for people to compliment others, whether they know them or not.” “I like the idea of Hawks spreading positivity within our community,” Russo said. “My favorite [posts] are the ones that thank people for helping someone and saying you may not have known but it did not go unnoticed. I think it’s important to receive that positive feedback which will inspire people to continue kind acts.” “Monmouth Compliments” was created on Dec. 12, 2012. It has 316 Facebook “likes” so far but the creator envisions it to eventually reach 1,500 plus. When asked if the creator would make another page like this in the future, he/she replied, “I may do something similar to this if another idea pops into my head, but for right now I want to work on making this a big part of Monmouth tradition in the social media world.” “Monmouth Compliments” can be accessed with the link: <https://www.facebook.com/Monmouth-Compliments>.

“I think it’s nice since there’s so much negativity flying around all the time that there’s a place for people to compliment others, whether they know them or not.”

BRITTANY GODBURN
Junior

CRIME BLOTTER

THEFT
1/30/13 - 7:30 PM
MAC

THEFT
1/31/13 - 7:00 PM
BIKE HUT

CONSUMPTION OF ALCOHOL BY PULA/STUDENT MISCONDUCT
2/1/13 - 5:27 AM
REDWOOD

WED.

THURS.

FRI.

SAT.

SUN.

MON.

TUES. 1/30 - 2/5

Dean of the College of Business and Economics at Lehigh University Visits Campus

Dr. Paul Richard Brown is One of the Four Potential Presidential Candidates

LAUREN GARCIA
ASSISTANT NEWS EDITOR

Dr. Paul Richard Brown, Dean of the College of Business and Economics at Lehigh University in Bethlehem, Pennsylvania presented himself in Wilson Auditorium as a potential presidential candidate on Feb. 1 at 5 pm.

Eager to relax the nervous tension in the room, Brown asked the students to introduce themselves by providing their major and year in college. In addressing each student, Brown found ways to make the conversation more personal by relating tidbits of his own life with what students told of themselves.

He reassured students that it was all right to be undecided of what they wanted to major in. He explained that he found himself ‘major-less’ for too long in college. “I got in trouble with the

Dean of Students,” Brown said. Brown graduated from Franklin and Marshall College, which he recalled several times during the visit. He also received his Ph.D. from the University of Texas at Austin.

The first question that Brown was asked was what he would have to offer to the University. “I went to the next level of depth to try to understand Monmouth,” Brown said. “It’s no different from taking your first job. That’s where I’m at. The primary job of a president is fundraising; that’s basically what you’re doing. Fundraising should be done in a public setting and there are specific decisions that must be made, you have to know what’s possible, and you would have to show your love for Monmouth.”

When asked about his intentions of staying visible to students, Brown admitted that at his current position at Lehigh University, he does not interact much with students. However, as a president, he believes that it becomes an obligation. “A president is like a father figure. Your area, presence and [yourself] can be visible through things that you enjoy, such as sports. I’m an opera buff, so I’d be at Pollak Theater to see them in HD,” Brown said. “As a president, you have to make many decisions and you have to appoint people such as deans and provosts, you have to make appoint-

ments, and arrange fundraisers for donors. When I worked at New York University, I was very visible to students. I miss that.”

Brown then asked students how visible they believed President Paul G. Gaffney II to be. Students claimed that he is often in the Rebecca Stafford Student Center for lunch, he attends sports events and he keeps close contact with the Student Government Association (SGA).

Some members of SGA questioned Brown on how he intended to keep up a relationship with SGA. “I would try to meet with the group on a regular basis,” Brown said. He also said that he would try to help and to attend social events that SGA plans, as these events bring people such as deans and other leaders on campus.

“Mary Anne Nagy and I talked about fundraisers,” Brown said. “We also discussed that an issue among institutions is turnover. Leadership among students helps with continuity. Many of you here now do very well, but then you graduate.” Brown wants to make sure that all students have strong leadership skills throughout every year.

A question Brown found particularly probing was when he was asked why he had chosen the University. “I had discussed and debated this with my wife,” Brown said. “And we decided that I could stay where I was at, which is fantastic, but one thing is the size of Lehigh. I’m running a college but I am also involved with the senior levels. I had experience and wanted to try to sit at the top of the table. Business school deans are coming and going and I don’t want to go to business school again. I thought of the provost post, but the president is

“We have a commitment to Monmouth by being here. Our leaders are our students and what they’re thinking is important and we should engage with them.”

DR. PAUL RICHARD BROWN
Dean of the College of Business and Economics at Lehigh University

more interesting to me.”

Brown observed that there are many parallels between the University and Lehigh. “Lehigh is further along than Monmouth. I want to take my experience from Lehigh and bring it to Monmouth,” Brown said.

Another student asked what Brown thought of taking ideas from students for changes. Brown insisted that a president should get to know the student body today, or as soon as possible, by setting up target conversations. “A huge advantage is that we are all in this together,” Brown said. “We have a commitment to Monmouth by being here. Our leaders are our students and what they’re thinking is important and we should engage with them.”

Brown believes that the top priority at the University is that several of the facilities should be renovated, specifically Edison Hall. He also claims that the University has not had enough international and global exposure.

“Life has to be seen with people not like yourself,” Brown said. “It provides a global mindset and helps students to be more worldly and mindful.”

In reference to another presidential candidate, a student brought up the fact that he had said he personally checks his own email and inquired as to how

Brown felt about that. “I only have one email and I am an email junkie,” Brown said. “It’s my central access point. So test me.”

A graduate student who had been involved with the search committee asked Brown of how he defined student achievement. “The definition of student achievement is within six months of graduation,” Brown said. “Students should be able to do what they have to do whether it’s graduate school or employment six months after they have graduated.”

To close the interview, a student asked what Brown’s stance on Greek life was. “Forty percent of students at Lehigh are involved in Greek Life,” Brown said. “I am completely involved. The houses are campus owned and it’s an incredibly important and critical part of campus. It’s a way to give to local communities and another way to get students engaged.”

Earlier in the evening, Brown praised the University and established his goal if he were to become the next president.

“You should be incredibly proud of your institution,” Brown said. “Great things are going for it and we can take it to the next level. You have fantastic facilities and an enticing location. Monmouth has all in place but it can be better.”



PHOTO COURTESY of Lehigh.edu

Dr. Paul Richard Brown, one of the four presidential candidates, visited the University.

Dr. Donald H. Sebastian Speaks to Students About Being the Next Potential President

ISABELLA PAOLO
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

Dr. Donald H. Sebastian, Senior Vice President for Research and Development at The New Jersey Institute of Technology (NJIT) attended The University as a presidential candidate on January 29.

“I have never met a group of people that all have great things to say about their school,” stated Sebastian about the University students.

Roksana Rahman, freshman biology major, asked Sebastian what originally attracted him to the University. Sebastian explained that he would love to be a part of a university that is already at a high academic role that has excellent facilities and an even better student body.

The students found that Sebastian has a lot of great ideas to bring to the University such as groups for graduates and a peer group. Sebastian explained that the groups for graduates program would help graduating students find jobs. Another program he’d be interested in bringing to the University is a peer group for students. The group is to assist students that are more than capable of achieving good grades but lack dedication in school work and tend to socially isolate them-

selves.

Sebastian expressed his interest in attending University campus activities. “I would love to attend on campus activities,” Sebastian said. He explained that not only will attending activities be great for himself, but also for his family.

He plans to do as much as he can with the time he has. Sebastian believes that student activities are a “fundamental element of what you [the students] are here for.” Sebastian thinks it’s amazing how the doors are open for all student activities for everyone to feel welcome.

One student questioned him on Greek housing on campus, which Sebastian believes is a good idea. “I can’t make promises that I can deliver, but it could be a possibility if space permitted.”

Sebastian compared the Greek life at NJIT to Monmouth’s Greek life. NJIT has a special area dedicated to Greek housing, which makes it less of a disturbance to adults living in the area.

The overall impression of Sebastian was very laid-back and goal oriented. Since joining NJIT in 1995 he had to jump over many obstacles and build up the school’s reputation, which he plans to achieve at the University if awarded the position. He was enthusiastic about funding for

academics and extra-curricular development activities that could bring new technologies into the classroom.

As the Senior Vice President for Research and Development at NJIT, Sebastian is responsible for the academic affairs across all six colleges as well the academic research enterprise, developing partnerships with industry and managing governmental affairs, intellectual property development, business incubation, commercialization and contract projects across the technology spectrum. Sebastian was inducted in the New Jersey High-Tech Hall of Fame in 2006.

Sebastian received his Bachelor’s degree in Engineering at Stevens Institute of Technology and graduated as the valedictorian of his 1974 class. In 1975, Sebastian received his Master’s in Engineering and in 1977, he received his Ph.D. in Chemical Engineering.

Sebastian is currently in the academic lead developing The Newark Institute for Regenerative Medicine, which was recently awarded a state grant of 50 million dollars. Sebastian is working to build and equip a 100,000 square foot facility connecting clinical practice using adult stem cell therapies basic research with industrial partners.



PHOTO COURTESY of Flickr.com

Dr. Donald H. Sebastian is the current senior Vice President for Research and Development at NJIT.

The Library Unveils New Website

NICOLE CALASCIBETTA
STAFF WRITER

The University library’s website received a technological makeover during winter break. Dean of the Library, Dr. Ravindra Sharma, stated that the website was in need of a change that would benefit students and faculty. Sharma insisted that his habit is to keep up with technology, so when he saw other universities were updating their library websites, he knew it was time to do the same. According to Matthew Doyle, the Interim Systems Librarian as well as the Reference and Instruction Librarian, the last update to the site was back in 2006. Doyle and Sharma both agreed

that the new site should provide easier access to library reference materials. “We are trying to service the overall user experience and usability in the site,” Doyle said. The updated version includes highlighted library news, a newer mobile version and a live chat for reference questions. Chat reference will be available on Monday 11:00 am to 1:00 pm and 2:00 to 5:00 pm. Tuesday will be 10:00 am to 1:00 pm. Wednesday will be 3:00 to 9:00 pm and Thursday will be 9:00 am to 1:00 pm. Students and faculty will now be able to direct their questions to a librarian right from their computer. The library mobile version launched a year and a half ago

when Doyle was initially hired at the University. It was a “dumbed, downed mobile version,” Doyle said. The mobile usability now has been enhanced to fit different mobile device screens and provide easier navigation. “Now you have a fully functional mobile site,” he said. Students and faculty can use their smart phones to access the library from any location. Mobile applications for library research are also located on the library’s website. By going to guides.monmouth.edu/mobile students and faculty can choose from guides such as EBSCO Databases and Easy Bib for assistance. Sharma said he is pleased with the new version and credits Doyle for the new website. “When we hired Matt a year and a half ago, we knew he was well-trained in technology,” Sharma said. Sharma said that one of his favorite features is the highlighted library news. “In the older version, you didn’t have all the details which you have now,” he said. The news on the homepage provides students and faculty updates such as awards, special book collections and upcoming University events. However, some students are still unaware of the updated changes. “I had no idea there was even a mobile version,” said senior Caitlin D’Elia. Associate Librarian Eleonora Dubicki said that she tries to inform students of the updated website and answer any questions about the new layout.



PHOTO COURTESY of Nicole Calascibetta

The updated website includes highlighted library news, a newer mobile version and a live chat for reference questions.

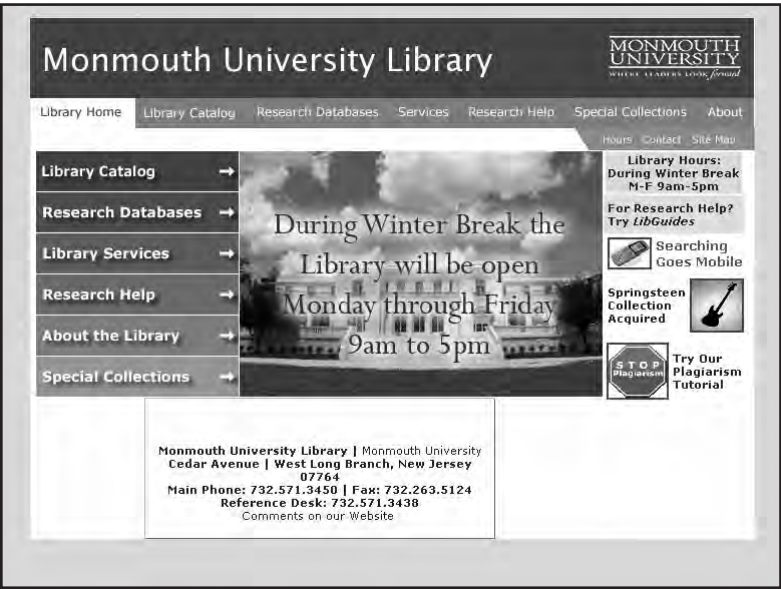


PHOTO COURTESY of Nicole Calascibetta

The University’s library old website (pictured above) was last updated in 2006.

University Inherits California Home

CASSANDRA FIGUEROA
STAFF WRITER

The University’s endowment increased by one million dollars after a home in California that was given to the school by two major players in the soap opera “General Hospital” was sold. The house, located in Rancho Mirage, CA was owned by Gloria and Norma Monty, sisters. Gloria was the executive producer for “General Hospital,” while Norma headed the show’s writing team. The money that was added to the endowment was invested, according to Vice President Grey Dimenna. “A portion of those investment earnings are used to support numerous University programs, including scholarships for students,” he said. “The use of each endowment fund is determined by the original source of the funds,” William Craig, Vice President for Finance, said. “Endowments that were donated are expended based on the specifications of the donor. In this case, the proceeds of the investment per the donors’ wishes will go to offset costs for the Communication building and equipment,” he added. Donna Dolphin, communication professor, said the University courted Gloria and Norma as philanthropists who could possibly donate and develop relationships with the University. Along with the donation of their home, they served on the University’s Communication Advisory council where they provided their insights on the development of Jules Plangere Center’s

television studio. “Usually donors are not that involved, but they were,” Dolphin said. She said she recognized the women through their professional accomplishments when they came to take a tour of the school. “When television was all live and when the world of work was all men, there was this woman, Gloria, who stood ten feet tall, one of the first woman directors of television,” Dolphin said. Gloria was responsible for saving

1981 through 1986. “In 2000, they left the house to the University but retained a life estate in the house, meaning that they were allowed to live in the house for the rest of their lives but when they both died the house would belong to the University, Dimenna said. Gloria died in 2006 and Norma died in 2012. “Since the University had no use for a residence in California, it was decided that the house should be sold,” Dimenna said. The house was placed on the market in September 2012 and sold in December of 2012. “Gloria and Norma Monty were two of the most elegant and fun-loving television professionals and life-lovers that I have ever met, and I am privileged to have known and been influenced by them,” Dolphin said. Gloria and Norma were born in Allenhurst, New Jersey. Gloria received an education from the University of Iowa, New York University and Columbia University, and was also president of Gloria



IMAGE TAKEN from tvshowspoilers.com

“General Hospital” was produced by Gloria Monty and partly written by Norma Monty.

the soap opera, “General Hospital,” when it was in its final weeks. She was asked to keep the show running smoothly until its close but instead was inspired to bring it back to life. She put the “sex and sizzle into soap operas” and made it more appealing to younger crowds, Dolphin continued. Gloria won two Emmy awards for Outstanding Daytime Drama Series and was nominated for six. Norma was nominated for two for her writing participation in the drama series. Both women’s nominations were between the years of

Monty Productions, Inc. in Los Angeles, CA. Norma went to school at the College of St. Elizabeth, Columbia University and the Film Institute of New York University, and headed the English Department at Middletown Township High School North for more than 15 years. One of the women’s greatest achievements, “General Hospital,” is an American daytime television medical drama. It is the third longest-running soap opera in the United States, winning 11 Daytime Emmy Awards for Outstanding Drama Series.

Hiring Rates After Graduation

Hiring Rates cont. from pg. 1 advising, interview coaching and resume preparation assistance. They also send out newsletters to inform students of available jobs each month. Their one-credit Career Search class (LC300) is also another resource for students to become efficient in job preparation. Hill said, “We are one of the few schools to regularly send active job postings, both full and part-time, directly to students’ email accounts.” Most colleges force students to check listings on the school website, Hill continued. “Career Services forwards nearly 2,000 job listings a year directly to students,” he said. The University completes the long and rigorous job search process for us. It then becomes our job to take the job listings and use them wisely. “I think MU can only help to an extent and then it’s your responsibility,” Larco said. The resources that the University supplies will only take one so far. It is the responsibility of the students to apply themselves and transform their first job into a reality. “I definitely advise the graduating students to start searching early,” Douglas said. “Utilize all resources that the University has to offer and travel down various avenues for a career because you never know what will interest you.” Douglas concluded, “Monmouth gives you the blueprint, but it’s up to you to create opportunities for success.”



PHOTO COURTESY of Blaze Nowara

The University holds an annual Career Fair to help students find future jobs.



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Social Work

INFORMATION SESSION

Wednesday, February 6, 6 p.m.

Multipurpose Activity Center (MAC), 3rd Floor

www.monmouth.edu/GR_infosession

SCHOOL OF SOCIAL WORK

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Monmouth University's
Student-Run Newspaper
Since 1933
PLANGERE CENTER 2ND FLOOR, ROOM 260
Phone: (732) 571-3481
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The Outlook
Monmouth University
400 Cedar Ave
West Long Branch, NJ 07764
WEB: <http://outlook.monmouth.edu>
E-MAIL: outlook@monmouth.edu
ADS E-MAIL: outlookads@monmouth.edu

Outlook masthead designed by Kimberly Lynn Mallen
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All Students Should Participate in Picking New President

THE OUTLOOK STAFF OPINION

Later this year, the University will be announcing the presidential candidate that will be taking President Paul G. Gaffney II's place after 10 years. But before the next president is hired, the students are able to get to know the four candidates running for the opening position. Is it important that the students of the University get to know their new potential president before he is chosen? Here at *The Outlook* we tried to answer that question.

A special committee has been created to help with the process of the presidential search, and although students are not able to make the final decision, *The Outlook* believes it is essential for students to be involved in the process.

The University has been holding information sessions for each candidate where students can ask any question they wish. This gives students the opportunity to speak to the candidates on a more personal level before any decision is made.

An email was sent to students with a link to an electronic form to be filled out after attending the sessions for the candidates. The form consists of five simple questions. The first two are

multiple-choice asking to pick the candidate you liked best and then what your position at the University is. The next three are short answer asking about the candidate's strengths, the concerns you have with this specific candidate and your name, which is optional.

These forms will be sent to the Board of Trustees in order to assist them with choosing the next president. The deadline for this feedback is February 6.

As an undergraduate, the fu-

spent.

However, if you are a graduate student or an alumnus, the future of the school should still be important to you. When you graduate from any institution of higher education, the reputation of that University is reflective in the degree that you earned from that institution. If the University has a clean reputation, you are often given more opportunities than a University that is only known in a negative way.

The Outlook believes that giving students this opportunity in the process of the presidential search allows us to build a better relationship with the future president.

The next president is going to be around for many years to come and he will be the future face of the University. Why not participate in the process?

People looking for more information and updates about the presidential search can find a separate webpage on the University's website. It has information including the presidential search committee pledge, the charge to the presidential search committee, the committee members, the leadership statement and information on the candidates themselves. The link is <http://www.monmouth.edu/presidentialsearch/>.

"As an undergraduate, the future of the school matters because you will be a part of it. Whether it is only for one more year or four, the future of the school still affects you."

ture of the school matters because you will be a part of it. Whether it is only for one more year or four, the future of the school still affects you. We feel that because we are students, we know what changes should be made and we know the administration that should be getting hired. The students truly understand what the University needs.

Some of the editors believe that we pay enough for tuition; therefore, we are given the right to get to know the person who decides on how our money is



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

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How Much is Too Much Sharing?

Social Media Users Share More Than Necessary Online, Exposing Themselves to Criticism

ANNA CHAMBERLAIN
STAFF WRITER

As most college students would agree, I have a slight addiction to social media. There is nothing like the feeling of someone liking one of your photos on Instagram, having a secret crush comment on a Facebook status, or finding a funny new video on Youtube. Every time I get a chance in between classes or when I am procrastinating doing homework, I am checking my social media accounts.

While sharing on these sites can be informational and entertaining, there is one question that comes to mind. How much sharing is too much on social media?

In between the pictures of cats and funny e-cards, there are people who pour their heart out onto Facebook as if it were a private diary. When people comment on these statuses, the writer gets mad. If you do not want people to make a comment, then do not put it out there to be criticized.

It can be so frustrating to see people using social media to tell the world their problems and not expect a small backlash in the process, especially if they are

criticizing a person, organization, or community they know nothing about. Everyone has the right to free speech, but maybe it is necessary to take the time to think about how people might react to the information and if you want responses.

This seemed to happen most of the time during the recent election. People were posting articles and opinions about who the better candidate was and who would ruin the country.

However, people were writing things that were vulgar and downright mean to one another on these pictures and public pages.

The thing about this was that some of the users were strangers. They did not even know the other person and there were several comments made that would get you in trouble. There were also people who were friends with one another who were making these comments. Whatever happened to if you have nothing nice to say, don't say anything at all?

If the constant bickering and fighting or "Facebook drama" is not enough, there are the constant pictures on Facebook and Instagram. I have no problem with the pictures of nature, food,

and cute animals. I can even handle the constant posts of weekly do-it-yourself manicures.

However, what have plagued these sites are the blatant promiscuous photos from the females of my generation. Guys are just as guilty for this, but it seems to be more prominent with girls.

First off, why is there the need to post these pictures? It's uncomfortable and embarrassing to log on to see a group of pictures on my news feed that show more skin than a swimsuit catalog. It sets a bad example for the younger generations and can end up being a bad reflection on the user.

Do you really think someone is going to hire you when there are several posts of you acting and looking extremely unprofessional?

Even if you change your Facebook user name, or delete it, there is still the possibility that the photos exist, and could land a person in trouble. Or think of this scenario, if you are friends with relatives on these sites, do you want them to see those photos? If you would not act or look a certain way in public, do not put it online.

Social media has been a won-



IMAGE TAKEN from www.bowes-lyonpartnership.co.uk

With various social media outlets at our disposal at any moment in time, many choose to share more than what is necessary on these sites. While everyone is entitled to an opinion, some things should remain private.

derful advancement in our society. It has allowed people to connect all over the world and share ideas. People have created wonderful groups and made events happen that probably would not have been possible if it were not for the constant connection and resources of the many social media sites available.

However, it seems that sites such as Facebook and Instagram are becoming personal diaries rather than a way to connect with people. We all have freedom of speech and we all should use it, but maybe we should also take a second to think about the consequences that might occur after the fact.

Avoiding the Flu

Myths, Home Remedies, and General Tips

RACHEL GRAMUGLIA
STAFF WRITER

I am pretty sure we have all been hearing about how it is "flu season". If you have not consider yourself an official resident of 431 Living Under a Rock Boulevard, West Long Branch, NJ.

Quite frankly, I am getting sick and tired of even thinking about the flu which is pretty coincidental considering I actually had the flu, and I did not receive a flu shot.

This flu came with quite a care package. I was running a fever, suffering cold sweats, had mountains of tissues by my side, and unable to move out of my bed.

Dun dun dun.

Cue the dramatic music and everyone take five steps back.

One giant viral mess coming through.

People will absolutely do anything they possibly can in order to prevent themselves from getting the flu. People are guided to home remedies and crazy family superstitions to ensure themselves that the flu bug, more like flu truck, won't hit them straight in the face.

Honestly, it is like a truck. A big one.

The recreation of home remedies, one would think, would be the quickest and easiest solution. A spoonful of sugar helps the medicine go down, right?

Sadly, Mary Poppins does not have the solution for the flu season in her bag o' tricks.

According to an article on www.wedmd.com written by David Freeman, for anyone that finds themselves trying any way possible to prevent the flu, drinking soup and sucking on lozenges are only a few of the ways to get rid of the illness.

Freeman continued to explain that even nasal irrigation (the use of a Neti Pot) is a good way to ease the stifled presence of the flu.

"You pour salt water into one nostril and let it run out the other, clearing out your nasal passages," Freeman said.

I have personally tried using the Neti Pot, and it ended in pure tragedy. One needs to contain Neti Pot professionalism in order to successfully use the Neti Pot.

Talk about awkward sensations.

Pouring a salt water solution through one side of my nose, to have everything come out the other side was a foreign experience. It took me 10 minutes to figure out the correct and precise angle for it to work properly.

If you do, in fact have the flu and are interested in using the Neti Pot or any water and salt solution, I have one piece of advice. Have a steady hand, and you'll be golden.

After self and doctoral diagnosis of the flu, I should've worn a sign that had "FLU" written on my forehead. I had told my roommates and some close friends of mine, and I have never seen people take five steps back so quickly.

I was the little kid at the lunch table with the smelly bologna sandwich. No one wanted to be near me and get the flu, or share my bologna sandwich.

When concerned about preventing the flu, people will do anything to make sure not to catch it.

My best friend and roommate, sophomore, Olivia Caruso, took intense precautions. If the Internet told her to hit me over the head with a shovel in order to not get the flu, she would have done it.

Thankfully, she couldn't find that option on Google.

"I took my precautions by disinfecting every surface in the entire room, and immediately bought myself a pack of Airborne," Caruso said.

Everyone take note. Airborne is the most effective home rem-

edy. That stuff is magic.

People will say, however, that getting the flu shot is a good way to prevent the flu. Junior, Alfred Tillerson, believes that it is helpful to get the flu shot done.

"My arm hurt, but then I thought it was going to be worth it in the long run," Tillerson said.

Most people seem to be split on the issue. To get the flu shot or to take the risk of not getting the flu, people sway back and forth on their decisions.

Regarding the flu shot, sophomore, Raquel Warehime, firmly believes that getting the flu shot is a waste of a student's time.

She explained that getting the flu shot could lower immune systems and put people at even more of a risk of getting the flu.

"I believe that if you get the shot, you have a higher chance of getting the flu than if you didn't receive it," Warehime said.

Clearly the topic of the flu is contagious. Some people not only steer clear of getting the flu, but they also steer clear of the topic. Thankfully, the flu didn't last long for me. One week was all I needed of this congested nonsense.

For anyone that does have the flu, it will soon to be over. There is an uncongested light at the end of the tunnel. People will no longer quarantine you in a little corner in your room. You will no longer have to be the kid at the lunch table with the smelly sandwich.

More importantly, do not forget to bring your trusty hand sanitizer everywhere you go. It is important to use it after touching public surfaces, especially before eating.

However, the best way to prevent the spread of germs and getting sick is to wash your hands each time you return from outdoors. Hand sanitizer is a good temporary solution, but it is not the best method for long term prevention.

Kindle's Influence

One Student Restores His Love for Books

NICK HODGINS
CLUB AND GREEK EDITOR

I recently purchased a Kindle Paperwhite, and I can confidently say that the ebook has restored a great long lost love I once had for reading books.

A common complaint I have heard in regards to ebooks is, "I'll lose focus too quickly." Which leads me to my first point, don't get a tablet. You aren't buying a "\$200 Facebook machine" as one of my friends so cleverly put it. You're buying a reader. If you want to spend all afternoon playing Temple Run, updating Facebook, checking Twitter and Snap-Chatting then go ahead and buy an iPad or a Kindle Fire (The tablet version of the Kindle). If your plan is to read, then do yourself a favor and don't buy a larger version of your smart-phone.

Now that we have established you aren't carrying around an iPad, what exactly will you lose focus doing? Reading? Why?

Have you ever enjoyed a book so much you carried it around everywhere, trying to sneak in pages during any window of free time you may have found throughout the day? Well, with an ebook, the reading window becomes even more accessible. An ebook allows you to change the size of the font you read (which is awesome within itself). The nice side effect that comes with the size of the font, is how much font you see on a page before you have to tap the screen (so much easier than licking your finger and turning a page by the way) to move on to the next page.

Reading a whole fat book won't seem as overwhelming now that you aren't staring at the stacks of pages ahead of you in your peripheral.

So maybe I see three to five paragraphs on a page. Suddenly, I'm able to chip away at my book even if I only find myself with 30 seconds of spare time. I don't have to wedge a bookmark in horizontally at the halfway point of the page because I already finished the page.

Let the record show, if it is a good chapter or a really good book I would never spoil part of it by only committing 30 second spurts of reading. But some books I would gladly read for 30 seconds and pause.

The kindle is less bulky than a book, as essentially you're only really carrying around one page. You can adjust the font size, brightness, color and font style as well.

One of my biggest fears before moving over to the kindle was that I would lose the feel of the book, and I have to say I surprised myself a little.

As much as I respect and love books, I respect and love good stories more; and when I am deep into a good story, I could be reading it off of a garbage can for all I care and it wouldn't matter to me.

What I miss the most about books is the smell. Nothing beats the smell of opening up a brand new book and fanning those pages once through with your thumb. But, that is simply not reason enough to keep me reading the dead trees. Maybe someone will create an air freshener with that fresh book smell and I can hang it from my Kindle.

Another benefit to using ebooks is that they are cheaper. Sure, you shell out a little bit for the reader, but you save yourself from buying four or five hardcover books.

In addition to reading, I love to listen to music. Don't worry, I am going somewhere with this. Many a nights I have found myself scrolling through my iTunes or Spotify libraries wondering, "What should I listen to tonight? I want to hear something new." So, I find some bands I like, click on the "Listeners who liked this band also liked," and I explore.

Now, when I'm lying in bed at night, unsure of what to read, I can do just that on my Kindle. Genre search on Amazon, stumble across some good reviews, click buy and presto. One fresh, unread, non-doggy-eared page corners, easy to read, lightweight, affordable unlimited library of books coming up.

Those Earning Minimum Wage Know That Money Does Not Grow on Trees

KATIE MEYER
STAFF WRITER

Governor Chris Christie’s vetoed the minimum wage bill that came from the Democrats in the Assembly and Senate. Minimum wage in New Jersey was set at \$7.25 in July 2009. The bill that Governor Christie vetoed would have raised minimum wage to \$8.50 and would have allowed raises as the inflation in the state went up. Governor Christie vetoed this proposition and suggested that the dollar raise be implemented over the course of three years according to “Christie vetoes Minimum-Wage Hike” in *The Star Ledger*.

For the past four years, politicians and media outlets have not been shy about telling society that the United States is in a financial crisis. College students, who sometimes work seasonal or weekends only, who pay college tuition all on their own, and earn minimum wage, do not need to be told that we are in financial crisis. One needs only to check the online bank statement to know that.

So, here’s the question that we need to asked ourselves: would raising the minimum wage in this state really hurt the economy? And the answer is: it depends on who you ask.

Professor John Buzza, of the Business Department said, “I think it will impact the economy, in that small business employee and employees who work for a large company (like Wal-Mart) are minimum wage earners. The general public will pay for the increase in their income. If minimum wage is raised, companies could cut jobs. It’s a multitude effect. The premise is good, but we need to fix some of the other problems in this state before we address minimum



IMAGE TAKEN from www.itstyle.info

Governor Chris Christie vetoed the minimum wage hike passed by the New Jersey Assembly and Senate. Democrats hope to put the measure on the November ballot.

wage.”

According to a recent article published by *USA Today: College*, there is a benefit to raising the minimum wage. More money in the “Pockets of low-skilled workers” means higher consumer spending. What that means is simple: if you have more

money, you’re more likely to buy that new iPod, and buying that new iPod stimulates the stock market, which helps the economy bounce back.

“That’s great!” may be what you are thinking right now. Your next thought is this, “But I’m graduating soon, this doesn’t affect me.” And

while that may be true for you, there are some people who need that bump in pay.

Even though \$8.50 does not sound like a lot of money, consider this: a person, earning minimum wage (\$7.25), who works 40 hour weeks for 52 weeks only earns \$15,080.00

“Rosie the Riveter” Has a Modern Day Twist

Women in Com. continued from pg. 1

prove beneficial. “Having a large number of women in the military who are treated as second-class soldiers is a detriment to the health of the whole organization, as well as being, ultimately, against the nation’s values,” DeRosa said.

Sharing their belief, Panetta explained at the announcement that women have increasingly found themselves in the realities of combat over the past decade in Iraq and Afghanistan and deserve to be recognized for their actions. “They’re serving in a growing number of critical roles on and off the battlefield,” he continued, “They have become an integral part of our ability to perform our mission.”

According to the Pentagon’s website, hundreds of thousands of women have deployed into front-of-the-line conflicts. As of last year, more than 800 women were wounded and more than 130 have lost their lives in the wars of the past decade.

“It’s clear to all of us that women are contributing in unprecedented ways to the military’s mission of defending the nation,” Panetta said in his announcement.

Proponents have argued that the Pentagon’s previous ban prevented women from advancement, despite their commitments, since many promotions in high-level careers in the military are often based on combat experience.

As the years of warfare in Afghanistan and Iraq have blurred traditional notions of combat, battlefronts have become fluid and front lines virtually nonexistent. For the estimated 280,000 women who have been deployed to those two countries since 2001, their drive and determination is unparalleled, the Pentagon’s website explains.

As the Pentagon is working to figure out how it will integrate women into positions previously closed to them, top U.S. defense officials are looking at militaries throughout the world that have already sent women into combat. Many countries such as Australia, Canada, Israel, Denmark, and Germany have been incorporating women into military combat for years, an article from National Geographic explains.

Despite women engaging in combat throughout the world, opponents of women in military combat are arguing that women must be able to demonstrate the strength to carry out the same rigorous actions as their male colleagues. However, Pentagon officials have been repeatedly stressing that there will still be “gender-neutral standards” for combat positions.

With the threat of roadside bombs looming constantly in Afghanistan, the question is raised as to whether or not a female combat soldier would have the upper-body strength to be able to carry a 200-pound male soldier to safety.

Regardless of criticisms, women have continued to serve a vital role in the U.S. military since the Revolutionary War, the Army’s website explains. “Women have continually proven that the narrow stereotype, limiting their choice of occupation, was wrong. As women expanded into different roles in the U.S. Army, it was clear that the heart of a warrior was not limited to one gender,” the website describes.

Panetta took a similar stance and reminded Americans in his announcement, “Our purpose is to ensure that the mission is carried out by the best qualified and the most capable service members, regardless of gender and regardless of creed and beliefs.”

He continued, “If members of our military can meet the qualifications

for a job — and let me be clear, I’m not talking about reducing the qualifications for the job — if they can meet the qualifications for the job, then they should have the right to serve, regardless of creed or color or gender or sexual orientation.”

President Obama commended Panetta and the Joint Chiefs of Staff in a statement shortly after their announcement by saying, “I congratulate our military, including the Joint Chiefs of Staff, for the rigor that they have brought to this process.”

The President said, “Today, every American can be proud that our military will grow even stronger with our mothers, wives, sisters and daughters playing a greater role in protecting this country we love.”

Jeff Hood, Coordinator of Veteran Services, explained that women are just as capable, if not better, at completing many of the same tasks as men in today’s military. “Women have always been an integral part of our armed forces. Allowing women in combat is a just another step in the right direction for equality,” Hood said.

As many hopefuls are questioning if the Pentagon’s recent announcement will give women greater opportunities for advancement, Hood explained that women are advancing entirely on their own and have been making strides for many years. “Allowing women in combat allows the great men and women of our military to work intricately together for America.”

President Paul Gaffney, also a retired Navy Vice Admiral, expressed his support of the decision “as long as it’s voluntary and those women who volunteer meet the same standards as men for the type of combat job involved.”

The President offered a story of personal experience from 1979. “I

was the commanding officer of sea-going unit that spent 300 days at sea on the coast of Borneo with two women officers embarked,” he explained.

“There were some ships that had women, but very few were on ships that spend much time at sea. It was an experiment that worked perfectly. There wasn’t combat, but it was dangerous and very remote,” Gaffney continued

Regardless of the recent announcement, Gaffney said, “there are many, many great opportunities for women in the Armed Forces; with or without combat.”

However, he explained that he does not believe that U.S. combat operations will be changed as a result of women now being allowed in combat.

Historically, “There has been a cultural precedent for combat being a male-dominated domain,” DeRosa explained. On the other hand, as popular culture continues to flood our minds with fictional fighting women, it seems we have “culturally prepared ourselves, over time, to accept the logical outcomes of our political belief in equality,” he said.

Professor Taylor of the Communication Department and Athletics Professor in Residence explained that it will be interesting to see if whether recent policy changes will also impact physical training. However, he said, “There is no distinguished difference in the sacrifice it takes to defend our country.”

While many students consider enlisting in one of our military’s branches sometime during their college career, Taylor stressed that teaching students differently in terms of gender roles will be key. In an effort to bridge today’s gender stereotypes, female students must learn to be more assertive in class, in leadership roles, and in doing more traditional male things, Taylor explained.

a year. The poverty line for the nation is set at \$14,570.00 per year. That means that a single parent working to support a child is hovering just above the poverty line, and therefore does not qualify for support from the government, like food.

That extra dollar is looking pretty good now, huh?

Democrats in the state legislature have said that they will send the bill to the people of New Jersey. They want to put the bill on the ballot for the upcoming election for Governor according to “Christie Vetoes Minimum-Wage Hike” from *The Star Ledger*. That means that if you voted in the Presidential election, you have another chance to cast your ballot and your opinion.

“I think that in New Jersey, it might be difficult to pass, but I think it stands a better chance of getting passed than say, gay marriage or marijuana,” said Chris Down, a senior communication major.

Ashley Pacifico, a junior communication major said, “I do care if this bill gets passed because I feel like products are getting more expensive and the necessities are becoming a burden for some people to buy. A little extra money can go a long way.”

Buzza said, “I think it’s a good idea to let the state decide as long as voters are informed. But that’s always the question, isn’t it? Hear both sides of the fence before you decide.”

The race for Governor of New Jersey has begun. The decision lies with the voter.

So the real question for you to answer is this: how much does this issue mean to you? Are you willing to say yes to an extra dollar in the pocket of those who need it the most? Or is the status quo working for you?

Dr. Swanson of the Communication Department and Chair of the Philosophy, Religion, and Interdisciplinary Perspectives Department explained, “It has been a long time coming for women in combat. Women have earned it by demonstrating so powerfully their capabilities in the past decade.”

In some cases, Swanson explained, women are often better at particular tasks than men because of women’s proclivity in dealing with the local populations, most specifically women and children. “Women in combat will prove an integral part in engaging with the local culture,” Swanson said.

He also explained that attitudes have remarkably changed in recent years towards more open-minded thinking and with that, more women have been enlisting in recent years. “Women have a different role in today’s society than they have ever had before and this will undoubtedly signal a change in culture and traditional women’s roles,” Swanson said.

Shelby Sopkin, a senior and Communications major, explained that she believes women should be just as physically qualified as men when engaging in combat. “Women should have the freedom of choice as to whether or not they want to be on the front line, but they still need to have the same necessary qualifications,” she said.

Some front of the line combat military roles may open to women as soon as this year. However, assessments of special operations forces, including Navy SEALs and the Army’s Delta Force, may take even longer. The next governmental step will be on May 15, when Army, Navy, Air Force, and Marine Corps leaders are required to submit their implementation plans to the Secretary of Defense.

Cyber Bullying Tries to Stuff Freedom of Speech in Locker

Bullying continued from pg. 1

take place online, that yes, you can essentially do anything or say anything you want, nothing is stopping you, BUT you have to be held accountable for the consequences of the actions you chose,” said Giordano.

Jessica Rossi, sophomore communication major, said, “Having the right to freedom of speech doesn’t give you the right to harass innocent people. If you wouldn’t say it to their face, you shouldn’t say it online.”

Vice President of Student Services Mary Anne Nagy said that the University does not patrol social media sites unless there is a specific complaint. “We are not in a position nor do we want to be where we are going online and look for stuff through Facebook, Twitter, LinkedIn.”

Nagy continues, “If someone comes to us and says ‘I’ve had an experience’ or ‘This is what I have observed’ then we will look into it.”

Nagy believes these types of situations are about education. “Sometimes a written warning or a verbal conversation is more impactful than suspension. Sometimes community service is helpful as well.” However Nagy states that bullying of any kind, online or in person, does not have a place on a college campus.

Communication professor Mary Harris agrees with Nagy. “I think one of the best ways that schools can combat online bullying is by doing what they do best - educating. Education for students, parents, and teachers is an essential step toward getting everyone on the same page and hopefully exploring the topic in a positive manner and bringing important facts to light, such as how to handle different types of online bullying situations and how can these scenarios hopefully is prevented. Mentor programs for students would also be excellent, and I think it would be great to encourage peer-to-peer support,” said Harris.

Grillo believes the situation is tough to deal with especially with new media. “Freedom of speech is challenged in general by the advancement of new age media. Social media sites, such as Facebook, Myspace, Tumblr, Twitter, etc. make it extremely easy for individuals to communicate and express themselves. Because people do not need to post a picture nor use a real name online, it is often difficult to regulate online speech. Furthermore, social media simply provides another outlet for people in general to “vent” about all kinds of issues. Determining what constitutes cyber bullying is a gray area,” said Grillo.

Dr. Don Swanson, communication professor, said that this social media research done by institutions is not limited to colleges. “Some companies hire outside companies to check prospective employees’ social media sites,” said Swanson.

However, Grillo believes that there is no clear definition of cyber bullying so doing any disciplinary actions is difficult. “Until there is a clear definition, Universities are left to determine on their own what constitutes cyber bullying and the monitoring of their Internet infrastructure. We are now seeing universities updating their Email and Internet usage policy’s across the country to include cyber bullying and other related computer crimes, such as software and music piracy.”

Nagy is of the firm belief that depending on the circumstances, certain online activities could lead to disciplinary actions by the school. “If a threat is made to a student’s health or safety, then it may be appropriate to take action,” said Nagy.

Grillo agrees with Nagy that there is a fine line and if a student is threatened then a school should have the right to take action. “Although one of the main functions of higher learning is to promote free thought and academic growth, there is a line that can be drawn between free speech and a crime. If the activity harms another person, either physically or mentally, or if an individual uses the University’s online infrastructure to commit a crime, then yes, University’s should discipline the perpetrator. Policy needs to be extremely clear and provide detailed definitions of what behavior violates free speech. However, this may be an arduous task at best given the gray area that exists,” Grillo stated.

Shannon Killeen, Assistant Vice President for Student Services, believes that bullying isn’t different whether online or in person. “We should have policies that protect rights of students on or offline, we need to address inappropriate behavior,” said Killeen.

Bullying can lead to both physical and mental scars. Dr. Franca Mancini, director of counseling and psychological services at the University, said, “The effects of bullying will vary depending on the individual, but we often see symptoms of depression, anxiety, anger and frustration, and general feelings of sadness and loneliness in victims. There is a state of worry and feeling helpless, intimidated or threatened without recourse, as well as a sense of vulnerability, embarrassment and shame. Some people experience changes in sleeping and eating patterns. Bullying can have an effect on academics and health as well. More students who are bullied have frequent absences or drop out. The effects of bullying impact self-esteem are far-reaching and often persist into adulthood. In extreme cases, bullying can lead to suicidal ideation, suicide attempts or completed suicides.”

Mancini say that cyber bullying can have different reactions psychologically. “In cyber bullying, information moves quickly and there can be a very wide “audience” in a matter of seconds, with the victim having no way to defend themselves. The bully is also relatively protected by the electronic contact, and since the victim may not be sure who is initiating the contact and will rarely report the bullying to authorities. The extensive use of social media exposes students to more forms of bullying often accompanied by difficulty in being able to verify the person who is the bully. Cyberspace can be a dangerous place for students.”

Nagy commented that staff members of the University receive

“We are not in a position nor do we want to be where we are going online and look for stuff through Facebook, Twitter, LinkedIn.”

MARY ANNE NAGY
Vice President of Student Services



IMAGE TAKEN from transformingmedia.blogspot.com
As schools across the country attempt to combat bullying, the question lies: How far can they go while allowing students the right to free speech?

Mock Trial Hawks Compete in Two Day Tournament

PRESS RELEASE

The weekend of January 19-20 was a busy one for several Monmouth University students, as the Mock Trial team headed up to the Bronx, NY to participate in Fordham University’s Fifth Annual Sapientia et Doctrina Invitational tournament. Monmouth sent seven team members and their faculty advisor, Professor Gregory Bordelon, to compete in the two-day tournament.

Team members included Kate Nawoyski (captain), Alexandria Todd, Susan Pagano, Joseph Deller, Michael Lucia, Cara Turcich, and Miriam Peguero. In competing in only their second invitational, the team won two ballots, taking one round in the competition.

The tournament included four rounds. Each team took on the role of plaintiff in two rounds and defendant in two rounds.

Fordham’s tournament included participants from over 20 colleges, including previous American Mock Trial Association (AMTA) National Champions, New York University.

This is only the first year the Mock Trial team at Monmouth is in existence and only their second tournament as a team.

The team also participated in the First Annual Temple University Invitational in December. With that tournament on their record and many hours of practices and scrimmages, the team felt much stronger this time around.

Senior Lexi Todd said, “We not only held our own [at Fordham], but even won a round. It soon became clear to us that we were not the same inexperienced team that showed up to their first ever tournament a few months earlier.”

First time participant, senior Miriam Peguero, played the role of an expert witness for the team’s plaintiff side and attorney for the defense.

She remarked that their experience was great, “Especially for students who plan on attending law school.”

The team will compete in the AMTA Regional tournament on February 9-10 in Baltimore, Maryland. The team competed

in this invitational in hopes of bettering their competition for regionals.

Todd noted, “Both our successes and our shortcomings of the Fordham tournament provides our team with very valuable insights into how to prepare for regional’s in two weeks.”

Heading into regionals, team advisor Professor Gregory Bordelon noted, “It is amazing how much development has come from this team, from inertly learning the rules of evidence, apprehensive of how they’d be applied in competition, to all team members feeling comfortable in their own skin to make forceful legal arguments and defend their lines of questioning in the heat of competition.”

Bordelon continues, “This team is making Monmouth proud and as the mock trial program grows and deals with a criminal problem hypothetical next year, I can only imagine how stronger it’ll become!”

This press release was prepared by Dr. Gregory Bordelon and Katelyn Nawoyski.

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Break Tradition With These Valentine’s Day Gifts

ALEXIS DECARVALHO
STAFF WRITER

Valentine’s Day has always been about the tradition of a man spoiling a woman with affection and gifts. But even though the holiday does involve tradition, this does not essentially mean you need to give a typical gift. Now that this thought has been invoked in your mind, are you going to look for a great original gift this Valentine’s Day? Toss the same old chocolates and flowers idea out the window because there’s still time to create a personal gift for your special someone.

Most importantly, base your gift off of what interests your partner the most. If they love to eat, get to their heart through their stomach. If their niche involves arts and crafts, combine creativity with romance in order to make the perfect gift. If you are looking to break the trend of the conventional dinner and flowers and want something new and exciting, this article is for you.

Say your special someone loves sweets. A great present would be personalizing the treats you plan to give with a special touch. For instance, avoid the typical cupcake with pink frosting and instead make heart shaped cupcakes and write on each cupcake one of your partner’s favorite things. That way it is a treat they love, involves hobbies they love, and it all is coming from someone they love.

If your Valentine has a hankering for sushi, create your own sushi bar but make it out of sweets. All you need are Rice Krispy treats, Fruit by the Foot, and Swedish Fish. Begin by shaping the Rice Krispy into a circular sushi roll. Place the Swedish fish on top of the Rice Krispy. Next, wrap the fruit roll up around both items and voila: your own unique plate of sweet sushi.

If none of these ideas seem to

be on par with your Valentine, there are still plenty of options. A popular home-made gift is a bucket of worms. While it reads odd, it tastes delicious.

To begin, buy a bag of gummy worms, place them in a jar, and attach the phrase “Hooked on you.” If they do not like gummy worms, you can substitute them for Swedish Fish. Another take on this idea would be swapping out the gummy worms for gummy bears and apply the phrase “Life would be unbearable without you.”

Since we all attend MU, there is a good chance that whoever your Valentine is loves the beach. Another popular gift this Valentine’s Day is to attach a bag of their favorite candy to a kid’s beach shovel with the phrase “I dig you” attached. Another play on this gift would be to put the candy in a sand bucket.

Sophomore marketing major Mallory Nelson thinks the idea of making a treat rather than buying traditional gifts is a great idea. “Not only is it a huge money saver especially being a college student, but it is more intimate and it is a lot more special knowing that you put forth the effort to make something for your special someone on a special day,” Nelson stated.

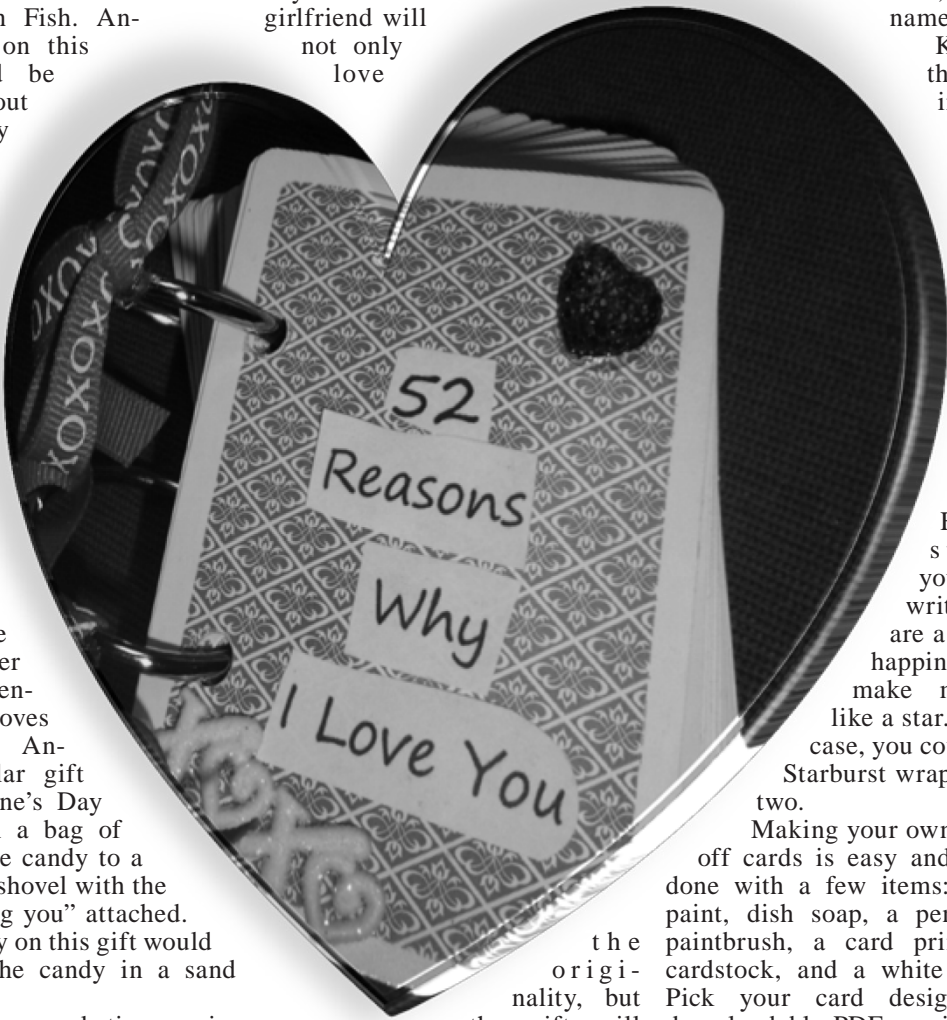
Arts and crafts are a personalized way to show your partner how important they are to you. An easy but sweet gift incorporates a deck of cards. Use each card to tell your Valentine 52 reasons why you fell in love with them. Your boyfriend or girlfriend will not only love

her name here), You are sweeter than a Bit o’ Honey. I feel like a Skor when we are together. We always have fun and Snicker. I am Nuts about spending time with you. You are worth more than 100 Grand. I love you to the Milkyway and back! (Chocolate) Kisses, (your name).’

Keeping this idea in mind, you can also become a little more creative by taking bits and pieces of wrapper. For instance, you could write “you are a burst of happiness and make me feel like a star.” In this case, you could cut a Starburst wrapper into two.

Making your own scratch off cards is easy and can be done with a few items: acrylic paint, dish soap, a pen, small paintbrush, a card printed on cardstock, and a white crayon. Pick your card design from downloadable PDFs available on Google. Write your message(s) in pen and wait for the message to dry completely.

Next, cover the message completely with white crayon. Mix a 2:1 ratio of dish soap to acrylic paint, and cover the message area. Apply very thick amounts of this solution for best results. Because of the thickness of the paint, the



Valentine’s card will need at least one hour to dry. Lastly, present your loved one with the card and a lucky penny to scratch off your special message.

If you are looking to spice up Valentine’s Day with creative activities, change up the dinner and a movie routine. Leave a Nerf gun at the door upon your date’s arrival. Leave a note attached to the gun reading, “Welcome to war! Two things: this gun with ammunition is now yours! I have one too, and you are under attack!” This creative game will bring out the children in both of you. To avoid lying on the couch or sitting in a movie theater, fill a kiddie pool with blankets and pillows, lay in the back yard, and relax.

“Doing something different is where all the memories come from,” Nelson said. “Even something as simple as going to your local park with a camera and just capturing that one day you guys spent together.

Or even try googling or Pinteresting (the answer to everything) fun different date ideas. And if that date idea didn’t work out, a memory can still be made from that.”

Instructions and pictures of these gifts can all be found on Pinterest, a site which is full of creative gift ideas.

With these ideas and the ability to use Pinterest, it is unreasonable to settle for the traditional jewelry, flowers, and chocolates this Valentine’s Day. Show your loved one how special they are by crafting original gifts to their interests.

Sophomore communication major Allie Phillips commented, “I think a personal gift shows true thought and it shows that they know you and what you like. It shows they pay attention to you. It really isn’t the gift, it truly is the thought that counts.”

So this Valentine’s Day, use all the knowledge you have of your loved one to make you their best Valentine yet.

What You Should Not Do To Your Hair

TAYLOR KELLY
STAFF WRITER

Hair is an important aspect of appearance for pretty much everyone. It is an essential accessory, and it can take a lot of work to maintain. Many people often find themselves wishing their hair was more manageable, longer and smoother, or even a different color. Most of the time, frustration is the only thing that comes out of the struggle for style. In order to achieve the hair you wish for, it is important to know more about the topic. Through my current internship with a hair coloring company, I have learned a lot of information regarding hair. Some facts that you may not have known about hair are:

1) Hair is dead once it leaves the root. 2) The average head has 100,000 strands of hair. 3) Blondes not only have more fun, but more hair with an average of 120,000 strands. While brown comes in second place at 100,000 and red in last at 80,000. 4) You can lose up to 100 strands of hair per day. 5) Hair grows .3-.5 millimeters per day, which translates to 12-15 centimeters a year. 6) Hair is the second fastest growing tissue in the body, second to bone marrow. 7) Vitamins C and D and protein can aid in hair health. 8) Pigment is what gives hair its color. With age, hair has less pigment, which results in unwanted grays. 9) Factors such as drugs, medicines, and even iron

deficiency can result in hair loss. 10) Baldness comes from genes and is experienced by fifty percent of men and forty percent of menopausal women. 11) Hair has two main ingredients—keratin and water. 12) Eumelanine and pheomelanine are proteins that determine hair color. Dark hair has more eumelanine while lighter hair has more pheomelanine.

Now that you are more familiar with the facts, you need to know what you can do to achieve the look you are going for. The most important thing to do when wanting better hair is to take care of it. Protein and vitamins

are essential for hair health and growth, so eat healthy. Iron and zinc deficiency can lead to hair loss, so make sure you have adequate amounts of both. Taking a supplement that has Vitamin B, like Biotin, will help hair growth. You are what you eat, and if you want healthy hair, you should maintain a healthy diet.

Stress can also hinder hair growth and even result in hair loss. All-nighters, exams, and essays may boost your stress levels, so you have to learn to control the anxiety, or else your hair will suffer from the effects. Exercise is a great way to relieve stress,

and being active will add to your overall health as well, benefitting your hair in a positive way.

Hair styling can also do major damage to your hair. Curling, straightening, drying, combing and scrunching can give you the look you desire for the moment, but overdoing it can cause hair thinning and breakage. Make sure you give your hair time to recover from the heat and pressure styling can cause.

Junior business marketing major Katie McCluskey attributes her long hair to the proper care. “I don’t use too much heat so that my hair doesn’t dry out, but I also don’t use too much conditioner so that there’s a balance,” she said.

Dyeing your hair can also have harmful effects. Chemicals within hair dyes can make your hair weak and brittle, and can also cause allergic reactions.

Junior anthropology and education major Madison Pinto said, “I used to dye my hair constantly, changing it from black to brown to blonde, but soon it became dead and weak, and I had to stop.”

The problem with dye is not just common for you and I. Celebrities like January Jones, Lady Gaga, and Kelly Osbourne have all struggled with hair loss due to excessive dyeing. However, there are other solutions if you want to keep coloring without harmful consequences.

Semi-permanent dyes such as Cosmo’s Love Your Color offer the color you are looking for

without harsh chemicals found in most dyes. If you want to keep your hair in shape, stick to being natural or choose healthy solutions to conventional dyes.

Although it is necessary to keep your hair clean, you should not shampoo too much. In order to maintain a healthy head of hair, you should wash it three or four times a week. Many tend to think washing their hair everyday will benefit their hair growth and health but in reality, over washing can cause the hair to dry out which can lead to breakage. Dry shampoos will help you get through the days when you do not wet and wash.

Companies like Tresemmé make these dry shampoos that are sold in convenience stores. Using oils to coat the ends of the hair will also help to prevent split ends and further damage. Having your hair trimmed every few months will also get rid of unwanted split ends and promote growth. Avoiding overexposure to the sun is also a good idea, although some exposure can allow you to achieve the natural highlights that you might desire.

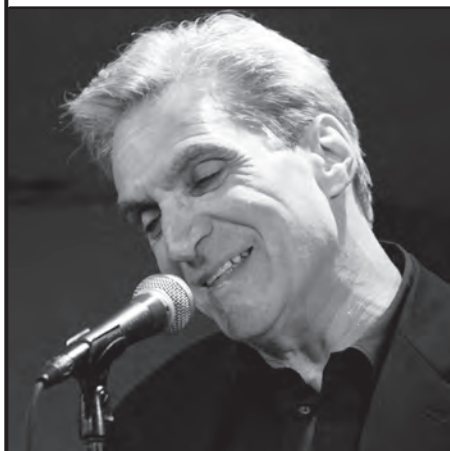
In order to keep your hair healthy, long, and looking great, consider diet, health, and maintenance. Hair is a great accessory, and it’s yours, so take care of it. Having a balanced diet full of protein and vitamins, exercising and curbing stress, and styling in moderation can all help you have the beautiful head of hair that you dream of.

HAIR FACTS:

- 1. An average person has 100,000 strands
- 2. Blondes have the most strands of hair while redheads have the least
- 3. It is the second fastest growing tissue in the body, second only to bone marrow
- 4. Protein is essential to healthy hair
- 5. Gray hair is a result of pigment deficiency
- 6. Baldness is due to genes
- 7. Hair’s main parts are keratin and water
- 8. Stress can hinder hair growth
- 9. Wash your hair three to four times a week
- 10. Dyeing hair also damages hair

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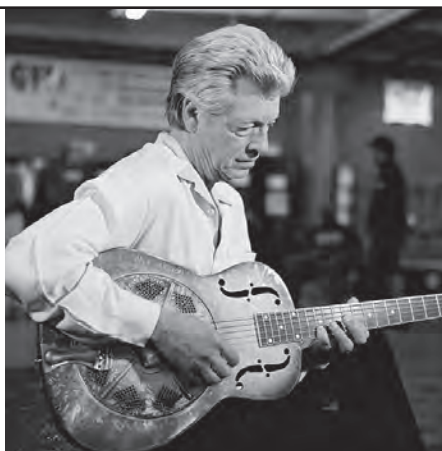
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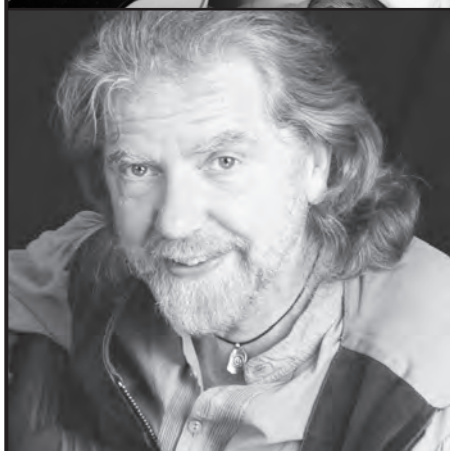
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STEP AFRIKA

FRI. APR. 12 | 8:00 PM
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RED HORSE JOHN GORKA, ELIZA GILKYSON & LUCY KAPLANSKI

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ANI DIFRANCO

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LUMUMBA ENLIGHTENING YET TRAGIC

NICOLE CALASCIBETTA
STAFF WRITER

The Provost Film Series screened their second movie, *Lumumba*, on Monday, January 28, in Pollak Theatre.

Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs, Dr. Thomas S. Pearson hosted the event. The 2012-2013 Provost Film Series focuses on the theme of African Journeys: Haunting Legacies, Fragile Futures.

Lumumba tells the story of Patrice Lumumba, an ambitious leader whose powerful words were a threat to those who opposed his vision of an independent Congo from Belgium in 1960. It's a tragic yet inspiring historical film surrounding one visionary man and country that received its independence 50 years too soon.

"I think tonight's film could not be more timely," Pearson said as he introduced the movie. He discussed the plot of the film along with topics of racism and colonial independence in today's world.

Lumumba was packed with oppressive violence and an inspiring story told in a non-linear structure. Economic, social and cultural issues within the territories of the Congo were brought to light and the film touched on the themes of love and devastation.

Professor Julius Adekunle, history professor, spoke at the end of the movie and opened up a ques-

tion and answer discussion with members of the audience. He went on to explain the historical facts behind *Lumumba* and why his ideals didn't coincide with his time. "Lumumba himself did not have political experience," said Adekunle.

Although Lumumba may have been college educated and spoke with motivational power, his lack of political experience was one of the factors that led to his demise.

Lumumba starred Eriq Ebouaney as Lumumba and was directed by Raoul Peck. It was originally released in 2000. The film ran for 115 minutes with not a minute wasted.

Ebouaney had a commanding presence on screen and displayed all the personal sides of Lumumba: The determined leader, the unwavering humanitarian, the loving father and the humility of a man with a dream.

Senior Daniel Taylor, history and education major, said, "It represented a good refined version of this historical event. It did jump around a lot, but the director told a fluent story. Overall, I liked it."

Taylor attended the film for extra credit. He said he would attend more Provost films in the series if they were similar to *Lumumba*.

Pearson said, "I think the films are very educational, students who go will have an appreciation for another part of the world." He went on to explain that as a



IMAGE TAKEN from imgobject.com

Lumumba, a historical film, showed the oppressive conditions that afflicted the Congo for decades.

professor, he always used film as an educational vehicle. Pearson picked Africa for the theme of the Provost Film Series because "We're really trying to emphasize cultural diversity." This marks the sixth Provost Film Series.

The audience for *Lumumba* was sprinkled with students, faculty and a few other individuals outside of the University.

Pearson explained they've been having bad luck weather-wise on the nights of their films this year. The highest attendance at a Provost film was around 130 people.

The next film in the Provost Film Series is *Munyurangabo* on March 23. *Munyurangabo* revolves around a boy who seeks justice for his parents who were killed in the Rwandan genocide.

All films are free of charge and open to the public. *Lumumba* is a biographical drama that had audiences in Pollak cheering, cringing and engaged. It was a film that served an educational purpose but didn't feel like a dragged out history lecture. Dr. Thomas S. Pearson said, "You can be a citizen of the world partly by being a citizen of world cinema."

Peter's Picks: Video Games Coming in 2013

PETER QUINTON
STAFF WRITER

Gamers, we've finally made it to 2013, and now that we've gotten that whole "Mayan apocalypse" thing out of the way, it's time for us to shift our focus towards an exciting, interesting, and impressive looking year for video games.

There's no doubt about it: this year will bring about some exciting advancements to the world of video games, as it seems that the next generation of consoles is right around the corner.

Both Sony and Microsoft plan to unveil their newest consoles at some point this year, and this also happens to be the first full year for Nintendo to prove the might of its latest console, the Wii U.

But while we can speculate and debate about the future these three new devices all we want, there's a much more vital question to address first: how many games can we look forward to playing this year? The short answer: quite a bit, actually.

The video game industry is known for many of its high profile titles being sequels and reboots and, for better or worse, 2013 looks no different. With games like *God of War: Ascension* for PlayStation 3, *Gears of War: Judgment* for Xbox 360, and countless other titles like *Dead Space 3*, *Dark Souls 2*, *Splinter Cell: Blacklist*, *Tomb Raider*, and *TWO Metal Gear* games on the way, it seems like nearly every major video game series of the past few years is making a return to the limelight.

Though I could have done an entire feature on all of these games, I'd like to detail a few that are really catching my eye.

For starters, there's *Bioshock Infinite*, one of the most anticipated games coming this year, and for good reasons. The latest addition to the highly acclaimed FPS



IMAGE TAKEN from deviantart.net

Bioshock Infinite (shown above) is one of the many excellent games to look forward to in 2013.

series, *Bioshock Infinite* promises to keep the core elements of the series – intense action/RPG gameplay with fully realized characters and environments – fully intact, yet also hopes to reimagine the series in a variety of ways.

The bleak underwater city of Rapture from the past two games is being traded in for the radiant, thriving aerial world of Columbia, bringing a whole new tone and a fresh coat of paint to the series.

There is also a greater sense of character development found in this entry, as the games two main characters, Booker DeWitt and partner Elizabeth, must work together and learn from one another in order to complete the games puzzles and challenges.

This emphasis on who it is you're playing as adds a more personal dimension to the already gripping level of storytelling seen in the series, and I for one am excited to see how it will turn out. *Bioshock Infinite* comes out March 26 for PC, PS3, and 360.

Another hotly anticipated title ex-

pected to arrive this year for the PS3 and 360 is *Grand Theft Auto V*, the first major addition to the widely popular and controversial *Grand Theft Auto* franchise since *GTA IV* in 2008.

Set in the sunny sandbox world of Los Santos, *GTA V* aims to push the series that many of us know and love well beyond its boundaries, with the game's story being told from the perspective of three – yes, three – main characters in a sandbox environment which will allegedly be bigger than the over worlds of *GTA: San Andreas*, *GTA IV*, and *Red Dead Redemption* combined. It's a massive game that will hopefully meet some equally huge expectations.

But sequels aren't everything in gaming, as far as future new series go, there are few that excite me quite as much as Ubisoft's *Watch Dogs*.

Though it may appear on the surface to be a typical open world action game, *Watch Dogs* takes the genre a step further by giving the player the ability to hack into anything with a microchip. From office security sys-

tems to traffic lights and people's cell phones, *Watch Dogs* gives players control over an environment in a way that's never been seen before in a video game, and it will certainly be interesting to see how this mechanic will play out when we see the full game in action.

On to the PlayStation 3. From the intense, Olympian action of *God of War: Ascension*, to the cartoony sleuthing of *Sly Cooper: Thieves in Time*, to the strange, story-book styling's of *Beyond: Two Souls*, the PS3 is looking to have a fantastic year filled with a variety of distinct exclusive titles.

But the one that has me intrigued more than the rest is *The Last of Us*, an upcoming action-adventure title from the makers of the *Uncharted* series.

Set in the ruins of a post-apocalyptic United States, *The Last of Us* follows survivors Joel and Ellie as they trek through dilapidated towns and defend themselves against hostile enemies. It seems a bit familiar, but the games cinematic feel and interplay

between the two main characters gives reason to believe that this is a title worth watching.

And then there's Nintendo, a company that I personally adore, but one that others might be rolling their eyes at just from me naming them here.

Sure, there are no major *Legend of Zelda* or *Smash Bros.* titles to expect in the near future (though this year's E3 might prove that wrong), but nevertheless, there are still some exciting titles to look out for, namely, Ubisoft's *Rayman Legends*, the gorgeous and wacky sequel to 2011's *Rayman Origins*, out February 26 on the Wii U, and *Pikmin 3*, the long-awaited strategy/adventure sequel out later this year for Wii U.

Even more interesting, however, is *The Wonderful 101*, a super stylish and intense action game coming for Wii U made by the creator of games like *Bayonetta* and *Okami*.

Instead of just one lowly hero, *The Wonderful 101* gives you control of a swarm of tiny, super-powered heroes as you travel through hyper-colored streets battling mechanized foes with a variety of unique powers.

While Nintendo's new home console is proving to be strong, it's handheld, the 3DS, looks to be doing even better this year. With highly anticipated sequels like *Fire Emblem Awakening* (Feb. 4), *Luigi's Mansion: Dark Moon* (Mar. 24), and *Pokemon X and Y*, the series' first fully 3D adventures, all due this year, it seems like 3DS owners will be quite busy playing right up until 2014.

Though I tried to touch on as much as I could in this feature, this is only the tip of the iceberg regarding what to expect in 2013. There's always more to be announced and plenty of hidden gems to unearth, so as 2013 rolls on, keep searching, keep listening, and most of all, keep playing.

Warm Bodies Heats Up Theaters

ALYSSA MAURICE
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

While movies and television have lately been plagued with the apocalyptic and zombie genres, few have really delved into the mind and emotions of the flesh-eating monsters. Rarely are the movies or shows ever written from their point of view, and they hardly ever have a zombie romance.

However, *Warm Bodies*, written and directed by Jonathan Levine, seems to have created a genre of its own-meshing together romantic comedy and zombie-horror in a clever way.

The zombies are not portrayed as the villains per se, but rather are victims of a plague in limbo between their former human lives and their ultimate demise. The film is narrated by R (Nicholas Hoult), a zombie, whose only memory of his human life is that his name began with an R.

During a routine feeding on some of the few humans who have survived the mysterious zombie-causing epidemic, R meets Julie and becomes immediately drawn to her after eating her boyfriend's brains (romantic, huh?). R then adopts some of the late boyfriend's memories with Julie and is inclined to protect her.

Julie (Teresa Palmer) is a witty, fearless tomboy whose charisma is definitely an asset to the film. After saving her from his fellow undead, R begins to

bond with Julie over similar music interests, old records and other artifacts R has collected over time. The connection he makes with her slowly begins to humanize him and as anyone could have predicted, they fall in love.

However, they run into some complications. Julie's father is the head of a group of mercenaries

with the intent to eliminate all of the zombies, and Julie must eventually return the favor of R saving her. They also must avoid the "Bonies," skeletal villains that all zombies eventually become once they lose all aspects of their humanity and no longer have any control over their minds.

Despite an absolutely absurd plot, the likability and chemistry of the characters makes it actually believable and oddly romantic. While the whole "love conquers all" theme is relatively unoriginal and predictable, the zombie twist helps it avoid the label of a total cliché.

The comedic aspect of the film rests almost entirely on Hoult's inner monologue as R and the one-liners delivered by his best zombie friend M (Rob Corddry), but the humor dwindles away by the end of the movie.

The comedy

and eccentricity of the plot seem to be the only thing separating *Warm Bodies* from your average cheesy romance. There is definitely not as much suspense or gore as one would expect from a stereotypical zombie movie, but this is forgivable considering the main element of the film is the unfolding love-story.

With the assistance of excellent makeup, Hoult makes for a very convincing zombie. Despite having hardly any lines (excluding his narration of course), he still manages to give an impressive and comedic performance through his body language and physical disposition. This isn't surprising given Hoult's background. He received much critical acclaim in 2002's *About a Boy* and in the raunchy hit British series "Skins."

All of the actors, including those with supporting roles like Corddry and Julie's friend Nora (Analeigh Tipton), delivered notable performances, and with a less adequate cast the movie would have been a total disaster. Considering the unconventional nature of the relationship between R and Julie, it was crucial for the two to give solid performances in order for it to be at all relatable and thankfully they succeeded.

The soundtrack included music from Guns 'N Roses, Bruce



IMAGE TAKEN from schoolrack.com

Actors Nicholas Hoult and Teresa Palmer play Americans in *Warm Bodies*, but in real life Hoult is British-while Palmer is Australian.

Springsteen, Bon Iver and Bob Dylan, to name a few, and was definitely a nice touch to the film. All of the music was appropriate for the scene and played at just the right times.

The PG-13 movie is definitely directed towards the teen audience (and rightfully so) with only slight violence and some crude language.

The finished product was likely the best they could do given the storyline. While it wasn't a complete waste of 97 minutes, it definitely was not a movie I'd think about watching a second time. Then again, when making a romance movie with zombies and trying to include action, sentiment and humor, mediocrity is pretty much inevitable.

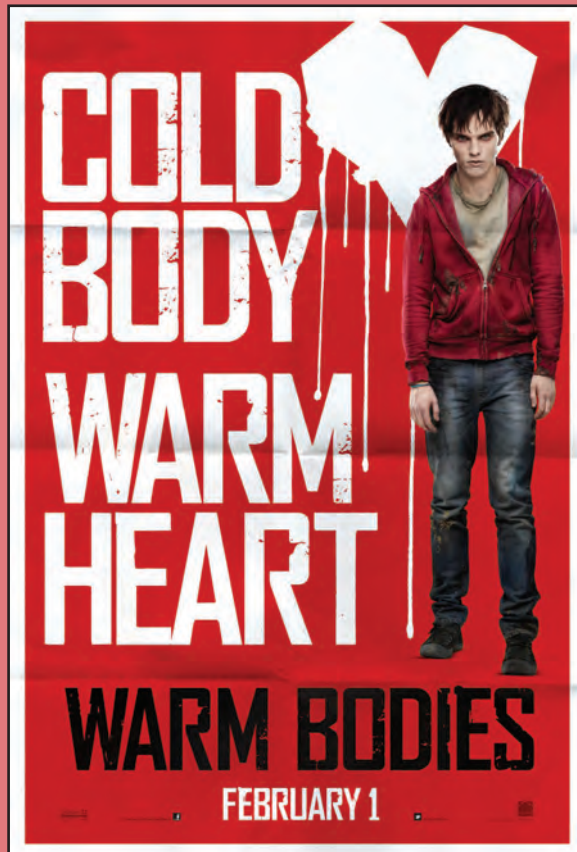


IMAGE TAKEN from filmarcade.net

Warm Bodies is based on the 2011 novel by Issac Marion. The sequel is currently being written.

Coheed and Cambria Ascends to New Heights

ALYSSA GRAY
COMICS EDITOR

Although Coheed and Cambria's freshly released sequel album in *The Afterman* series might be labeled *Descension*, this musical composition is proving to be far from a decline.

Coheed and Cambria, composed of lead vocalist and guitarist Claudio Sanchez, lead guitarist Travis Stever, drummer Josh Eppard, and bassist Zach Cooper, is recognizable to many and is usually found as a curious oddity amongst the wide span of musical libraries.

Despite their beginnings in 1995 as metal-headed rock group with pop-punk habituals, the band seems to have finally found a stable identity as a progressive rock group in their *Afterman* project and is flying high as a result.

Things were not always as positive as they are currently for Coheed. They were initially thought to have reached the glass ceiling with their hit 2005 record *Good Apollo, I'm Burning Star IV, Volume One: From Fear Through the Eyes of Madness* and with the assistance of chart-topping singles such as "Welcome Home," "Ten Speed (Of Gods Blood and Burial)," and "The Suffering." Through critical opinion the band fell down with their following two albums, appearing to have run out of creative compositions with the 2010 release *Year of the Black Rainbow*. But with *The Afterman*, Coheed appears to be setting aside any past inhibitions and melodic faux pas.

Continuing the story from their previous album, *Afterman: Ascension*, *Descension* follows Sanchez's tale of astronaut Sirius Amory in his manufactured realm of "The Amory Wars." Set

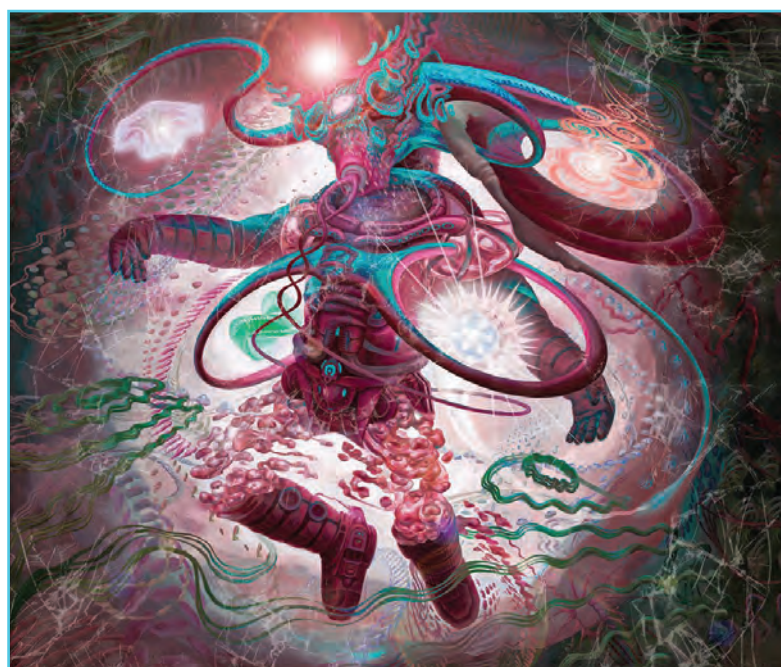


IMAGE TAKEN from musictrajectory.com

The Afterman: Descension is a follow up to the band's fall release, *The Afterman: Ascension*.

in a futuristic time place where an abnormal energy mass known as the Keywork thrives, Amory explores the curious unknown beyond that of any other; soon discovering that the Keywork is actually a holding cell where all spirits go after their time expires on Earth.

Arguably their most challenging album to date, with the story behind the music being difficult to follow without knowing the events within the tale, Coheed showcases their pristine storytelling capabilities nonetheless by depicting the tale of Amory.

Upon first glance, *Descension* gives the impression of a more upbeat tune as opposed to *Ascension*; not lyrically but with beat and it's combination of bluesy, New Orleanian and Latin rhythms. With powerhouse songs such as "Number City" and "The Hard Sell," both of which morph the audience into a head-bob-

bing, foot-tapping mass, as well as the combination of trumpet, heavy bass, technologic sound warps, and shape-shifting vocals, Coheed and their famed complexities are presented beautifully.

However, contrast is presented in a manner to make one follow the shift in emotion as they listen; this occurs most prominently in track six, "Away We Go," presenting a slower paced anthem, which ties into the rest of the series flawlessly despite its toned down ticks. At the same time, the song also plays tribute to rhythms very much reminiscent of music from the *Good Apollo* era, ensuring applause from old 'Heed Heads' and new alike.

Coheed dives into its self-made abyss a little deeper while playing with more than just beats. In their haunting ballad and break through single "Dark Side of

Me," the band brings emotional emphasis to a whole new level and aligns the audience with a tone most can identify with all through their manipulation of electronic theatrics and lyrical combinations.

To close out the album comes "2's My Favorite 1" which serves as a decent vehicle of closure, wrapping up the album with its silver-line inducing metaphors. Although the album puts forth several heavy themes, such as exploring the reality of death or the push-pull effects of love, the set ultimately ends its tale on a high note for Sirius Amory and Coheed alike.

Taken as a whole, *The Afterman* series proves to be a unified work, complementary like a pair of twins.

Ascension is most obviously the green light allowing for Coheed to explore different spheres of musical influence while still staying at home in their progressive routes and permit for "The Amory Wars" sequence to be illustrated. However, *Descension* still houses some of the band's strongest works to date.

The Afterman practically

reeks with confidence, with its routes sprouting from Sanchez's imaginative lyrics, Eppard's energy, and the emphasis on high-low range brought on by Stever and Cooper. Not to mention the ballsy use of technologic robot voices, a persistent theme in the two albums-one which helps them accomplish the futuristic setting of "The Amory Wars." It is all of the details that Coheed blend into their latest, and possibly greatest, composition that makes it amazing.

Admittedly, the excessive praise amounted in this review might be off putting to some or at least make a few skeptical to those who only faintly know the band from the hits they had in the past.

If anything, the well-written verses and complexities they simply call "tunes" should speak for themselves. High concept thought and forward thinking, whether in the form of music or storyline in Sanchez's case, are what lie within this dual album. If that doesn't gain Coheed any props in this high standard realm of music, then there is essentially no justice.



IMAGE TAKEN from pinartarhan.com

Coheed and Cambria formed in 1995 in Nyack, New York.

Abroad-er Experience Awaits University Students

ERIN MCMULLEN
STAFF WRITER

Traveling the world seems to be something that a lot of people have on their bucket list, and who could blame them? They see pictures and videos of people and places in countries and cities that exist across the ocean, and they can only wish that they will one day be given the opportunity to experience those images themselves.

The study abroad program here at the University was created for those kinds of people; the people who yearn to step outside of their comfort zone and venture into the unknown. The program gives students who wish to travel the world the opportunity to study in a variety of different countries during their time at the University.

Students are able to choose from three semester-long programs in either: London, England; Sydney, Australia; or Florence, Italy. If a semester seems like too long of a time away from home, the University also offers summer programs as well; a six-week program in Cadiz, Spain and a four-week program in Florence, Italy. Fortunately, the tuition and fees for all of the semester long programs are the same abroad as they are here, so airfare and spending money are the only extra expenses that a student has to worry about.

Erin Smith, a junior, recently studied at Regents College in London, England during the 2012 Fall semester. “I chose to study abroad because I knew that college was going to be my only chance to get out and see the rest of the world with no real strings attached,” Smith explained.

It’s difficult to travel freely after graduating, especially if a person intends on jumping straight into their career field upon leaving the University. Studying abroad gives students a once-in-a-lifetime chance to experience the world, and it’s best for them to grab onto that opportunity when it’s right in front of them, even if they are feeling a little apprehensive.

Chris Hirschler, the faculty director of the study abroad program, recalls a former student who barely had any travel experience before going to Guatemala on a faculty-led program. “She was very nervous; however, she relaxed, had a great time, and performed fantastic work helping the organization Salud Y Paz.” Her experience on that trip eventually helped her become a Peer Learning Assistant in a first year seminar course.

Smith also admits that it was difficult to leave behind her family, friends, and boyfriend for a whole semester, but every time she found herself feeling down, “I just remembered that I was living the

dream and taking advantage of a once in a lifetime adventure,” she explained.

Traveling that far from home, and for fairly extended periods of time, is not the easiest thing to do, however, those who run the study abroad program at the University know that. Hirschler, along with assistant director Robyn Asaro, are available every step of the way to help with questions or concerns. They even send weekly issues of *The Outlook* as well as other care package items to the students studying abroad.

Not everyone planning on making the courageous trip abroad is nervous, however. Freshman Taylor Murphy plans on participating in the same semester long program that Smith just completed in London, adding, “I’m not really worried about getting homesick because some of my family lives in London. I’m mostly just really excited.”

And students should be excited; studying abroad can be a truly amazing experience. Hirschler pointed out that participating in the program “might increase their [the students’] appreciation for their own family, travel, adventure, or ‘slow’ food.” Not only does studying in another country expand a person’s horizons, but it also opens up plenty of other opportunities to do some more traveling while away.



IMAGE TAKEN from monmouth.edu

College is the most opportune time to travel outside of the United States. The University’s Study Abroad Department is planning a trip to Oxford this summer with the English Department.

During her semester in London, Smith visited four other countries: Ireland, France, Italy, and Wales, where she rode ponies for a week-end. That’s what Murphy is most excited for, “traveling and seeing other parts of the world.”

The possibilities that become available to students who study abroad are truly endless, and it seems, as Hirschler describes it best, “Studying abroad has been shown to improve one’s academics, self-confidence, social circle,

and job opportunities. It also provides for a lifetime of wonderful memories.”

Described on the school’s website as a way to “greatly enhance your sense of independence and self-confidence,” the study abroad program can not only add substance to your resume, but it is also an effective way to learn new things about yourself. It may even change the way you look at things in your own country, and even your own home.

We Are Family *Has the Definition of a Traditional Family Changed Over Time?*

WESLEY BROOKS
STAFF WRITER

Each one of us at the University has grown up learning different values from our family, but it seems that the overall values we share today have not changed as much as one may think. These range from expectations for school achievement to the types of colleges one should attend to the amount of chores one should complete.

One may view school course selection and academic achievement as a cornerstone to future success. “I am one of four children and while my family supported me, I was left on my own to decide courses I should take in high school and the college I wanted to attend and luckily, I made the right choices,” said Alyssa Caporaso, a junior.

Competitive grades were not a factor for her. However, in today’s global society of ever increasing competition, many families are capping one’s GPA both in high school and college to be at a certain level for jobs and scholarships.

Pat Layton, sophomore, notes, “My family stresses that my GPA should be a 3.5 or better so that there is a higher chance of getting a job, and they themselves are highly competitive.” Layton said chores were stressed as well.

While not as strict, Rebecca Leitt, marine biology major, recalls talks with her family about going to college at a young age, as that is what almost everyone is doing to get ahead in his or her life. “I looked at many schools prior to deciding to come here,” Leitt explains. “I almost had my sights set

on Brown, a large four year university in New England.”

Some families view the reputation of the school as more important than the actual quality of education one receives there.

Dr. Heather Brown, an English professor, notes that the overall philosophy of going to college and competitive involvement in activities was just as important when she was growing up in the 1980s and 1990s.

Brown was the firstborn of three children resulting in more responsibility on her. “I took on a lot of responsibility for doing what was necessary to succeed in school and keep the house clean as both completing school

work and chores were stressed.”

Brown also was extensively involved in extracurricular activities, as many of us are today. “I was active on the soccer team, the

school literary magazine, the choir, and student government,” said Brown. “I also performed in talent shows and musicals once or twice a year, singing and playing guitar. I really enjoyed the opportunities to meet people and explore different activities and I still do.”

The one main difference is that Brown’s parents did not complete a formal education beyond high school, but strongly encouraged her to do so by attending college. “I knew from a very young age that if I was going to accomplish any of the things I wanted to achieve, going to college was a necessary part of that journey.”

Unlike most who believe that the values of a traditional family have changed significantly, it is safe to say that values have remained stable. While modern ideals may be more integrated into our lives, nothing will break what family values can teach.

what do these athletes have in common?



Patrik Baboumian
Powerlifter



Amanda Riester
Boxer and Bodybuilder



Patrik Baboumian
Ultrarunner

THEY ARE ALL VEGAN

MAVS Sports Nutrition Event

Sunday, Feb 24th, 1pm

Monmouth University
Magill Commons Club Dining Room
RSVP to mcharris@monmouth.edu



Sacrificing a Tan for Summer Education

EMILY TAYLOR
STAFF WRITER

Annoyed and frustrated at your newly printed syllabus, your roommate looks over your shoulder and mutters, ‘That class was a breeze; I took it over the summer.’ You glance back at the 15 page major research paper, group presentation and three examinations and think about dropping a class because your 19-year-old pal said taking it during summer would be worth giving up time in the sun. Dedicating time and money to a summer class may be worth neglecting your job as a camp counselor, but it may not be for everyone. Summer classes are meant to keep students ahead, a float or on board to graduate and are not seen as a loophole to a better grade, because believe it or not, you will be kept the full class period.

The weather will be getting warmer towards the end of March and class attendance at the University will dramatically decline as you find classmates enjoying the perks of a one mile radius to the Jersey Shore. If you’re one of those students who will take advantage of the allowed two absences per semester solely for a warm week in May, a summer class may not be the best idea.

Surrounded by white walls, white floors and books may not be an ideal summer vacation. Senior education major Ashley Mcpeek said, “Being inside when it is 85 degrees and sunny and your friends are at the beach is a serious downside.”

Consider your options before turning your nose up at the idea of “summer school,” as it is vastly different than what we thought summer classes were in high school. It’s a great way to

be ahead in credits in order to lessen the load and defer from an 18-credit semester for your entire junior year.

The University promotes its ideal location to beaches with a 15 percent reduced tuition rate and affordable housing in order to attract students to its summer programs. Public relations professor Kristine Simoes said, “If you don’t have a full load, you can’t get financial aid, which deters many students from considering summer courses. The school does offer some incentives on price to help compensate for that.”

Whether students are interested in the accelerated four week class schedule or the six or 12 week, they should be aware of several aspects before committing to a summer of academia.

1) Professors have no obligation to shorten the class time simply because it is 80 degrees. The beach may be around the corner, but realize you are a student first and foremost; not a lifeguard.

2) Do not expect an easier workload. The stipulation may be that a summer class is less tedious than a regular semester class, but we all know what happens when we assume. The chances are that you may find it easier because you’re not distracted with five writing intensive courses, work, internships and relationship maintenance. Scattering your classes over the summer period is a great way to ease stress and pressure during the fall and spring terms. Mcpeek said, “A great summer class to take is anatomy and physiology because it allows your full attention and requires a lot of memorization.”

3) Parking is no longer a hassle



IMAGE TAKEN from cornwallseawaynews.com

Summer courses can be a good way to catch up or get ahead, but students must be willing to give up their full time summer vacation in exchange for class and study sessions.

or an excuse for your tardiness. There will absolutely be open spots and close ones too! The weather is too nice anyway, so walking long distances is even embraced because you need to even out your tan lines.

4) Campus life may be a little lonely without all of your sorority sisters, frat brothers, teammates and friends around. You may not have the benefit of always seeing a friend in the Dining Hall, but learning to be more independent and focus solely on tomorrow’s presentation will be simpler without “Teen Mom” playing in the background.

5) Monmouth County has the best cuisine and nightlife around.

If you’re of legal drinking age and can appreciate a good bite to eat looking over the Atlantic Ocean, sitting in class will be worth it on the weekend. Finally, you can experience Bar A without guilt that your final is quickly approaching.

6) Fighting over space is over (for now). You might actually have your own room if dorming on campus in eight-person suites will be likely occupied by three.

7) Not every class is available. The University offers 150 classes to students over the summer term. It is recommended to complete a general education class as these courses represent a 1/3 of total graduation requirements.

Simoes said, “Many courses are offered online or as hybrids which cuts down on the commute.”

At \$712 per credit, it is urged that University undergraduates register during the dates of March 29-April 13 in order to guarantee a spot. A follow-up email will be sent to students this month reminding them of these dates.

Summers at the University have kept many students from returning for a full summer vacation to their homes. With the beach right around the corner and plenty to do, summer classes are a definite benefit to a student who is a busy bee during the standard fall and spring semesters.

Can DNA Store More Than Genes?

MOMNA AYUB
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

Three years ago a pair of geneticists sat at a bar discussing the issue of where to store their institute’s copious amounts of research data due to the fact that storing such information on hard drives had become exceedingly expensive. What began as a mere quest to find an alternative to store DNA, protein and other genetic sequence information ended up as an exceptionally revolutionary idea: storing real-life practical files within DNA itself.

Now in 2013, these two geneticists, Ewan Birney and Nick Goldman of the European Bioinformatics Institute, have succeeded in storing a set of Shakespeare’s sonnets, a PDF of the first paper describing DNA’s double helix structure, a 26-second mp3 clip from Martin Luther King, Jr.’s “I Have a Dream” speech and a JPEG photograph of their institute-all within a molecule of DNA. They’ve published their research in Nature, one of the world’s most prestigious scientific journals.

This enormous feat renders a hopeful and exciting future for DNA stor-

age. Such an endeavor is also likely to lead to more success because DNA is an optimal storage device, being sturdy and extremely compact.

Furthermore, storing information on DNA is relatively inexpensive, especially when compared to the cost of using external hard drives. And just as storing information on silicon chips and in hard drives was reaching its maximum point in both pushing budget costs and storage limits, this breakthrough has had excellent timing. Sophomore education major Maham Ayub said, “Such a breakthrough in DNA research is especially conve-

nient due to the monumental use of technology in our current digital age, which is bound to become only more advanced. It is fascinating to be able to store practical files in life’s own genetic make-up and it really makes me wonder what other great accomplishments our future will hold.”

This inventive technology can be of immense assistance in our ever-advancing modern society. Numerous companies will be able to utilize DNA to store cumbersome amounts of data for a substantially lower price. Perhaps someday we may even see DNA storage devices put to practice in our own school databases at the University.

Biology professor Cara Muscio comments, “As we continually increase the rate of data production in our digital world, the need to upgrade the stability and longevity of our storage systems becomes clear. DNA storage, though in its infancy, is another fascinating example of looking to nature for efficient, persistent, and beautifully designed mechanisms that may help us achieve our wildest dreams. However, as with all discoveries, potential ethical and practical issues will need to be addressed before it is commonplace to carry around your own ‘DNA library.’”

So how does it work? Essentially, the code of the specific files Goldman and Birney selected were converted to binary code and then converted once more to the four letters of the DNA code. This step was accomplished through specialized software that Goldman wrote. It allowed the audio, photo and document file information to be encoded in the DNA nucleotide bases- adenine, guanine, cytosine and thymine.

The DNA was then subjected to a standard DNA sequencer which is a device used to determine the order of the nucleotide bases. Once the machine aligns the bases in the proper order, it can determine what is coded in that sequence of DNA. This allowed the files that Goldman and Birney encoded to be re-opened. Although they encountered slight difficulty at first, these innovative biologists were able to retrieve the encoded files with an impressive 100 percent accuracy.

However, as with all modes of change, moral and ethical issues persist. Although skeptics are justified in questioning the source of the DNA to be used and just how quickly it will be able to be integrated into modern society, it is the attempts at progress that matter.

Junior health studies and physical education major, Kinza Awan, agrees that, “This form of storage is not so farfetched. It’s so amazing as to the things we have accomplished in the last 15 years, that an idea like DNA storage doesn’t seem impossible. Yes, it is something that will take a lot of manpower and brainpower, but you never know. In 30-40 years from now, we might be using DNA to store data instead of hard drives.”

Goldman predicts that if such DNA is to be used for other practical files, then in the near future it would be possible to simply, “Stick it in the fridge or bury it in the garden or they [DNA storage companies] would store it. And they can guarantee it will be there a hundred thousand years later,” said Goldman. Such an economical mode of storage brings us not only an efficient way to potentially live our lives, but also yet another example of the seemingly limitless bounds of the human imagination.



IMAGE TAKEN from time.com

Researchers have discovered that practical files may be encoded within the nucleotide bases of DNA molecules.

It's Always Sunny in Philadelphia

SAB Announces Plans for a Trip to Philly for Students in March

CHRISTINA GROTHUES
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

The Student Activities Board will be sponsoring a trip to center city Philadelphia on March 2 and 3. Reservations for this trip began January 28 on the second floor of the Rebecca Stafford Student Center and the last full day to reserve your spot will be Monday, February 12. This trip includes one night in the Philadelphia Marriott Downtown and a coach bus ride that transports students from the University to Philadelphia.

Megan McGowan, Assistant Director of Student Activities said, "This trip gives students the opportunity to stay in a safe area of Philadelphia for a discounted rate." According to McGowan, the hotel is typically very expensive but after collaborating with the Marriott by going through their group booking agent, prices could be discounted anywhere from 20 to 40 percent.

Christopher Preciose, a sophomore studying business and an active member of SAB, was selling tickets in the Rebecca Stafford Student Center and said that students were very excited about the trip.

Genevieve Kobus, a junior studying business with a concentration in marketing and management, said, "The reason that I signed up for the trip is because I have never been to Philadelphia before and would really like to see it. This is a good opportunity to do that because the trip is very inexpensive and there is no itinerary set so I can see whatever I want to see."

Preciose said, "This is a trip where students are free to do what they want in Philadelphia." Activities in the area include The Liberty Bell, Independence Hall, The Franklin



PHOTO TAKEN from offlistofimages.com/philadelphia

Philadelphia or "The City of Brotherly Love" got its name from one of its most famous citizens, William Penn, who saw his tract of land as a place where everyone from every background could live together in peace and harmony. The Greek phrase for "brotherly love" is *philos adelphos* which means loving brothers, which became Philadelphia.

Institute, The Philadelphia Zoo, The Philadelphia Art Museum, as well as the freedom to do other activities that are available in the city.

McGowan said, "Another highlight of this trip is that the bus is going to make a stop so students attending may buy a famous cheesesteak from Pat's and Geno's." Students have the opportunity to try a world famous cheesesteak without having to worry about finding transportation to get to these restaurants themselves.

"I would really love to see the Liberty Bell and Independence Hall. I would also like to try a famous cheese steak and see what the nightlife is like in Philly," said Kobus.

Sami Kofsky, a junior studying English and education said, "While I am in Philadelphia I am planning on going sight-seeing and taking advantage of the fun restaurants and any other type of night life that is available."

Kofsky said, "I decided to go on this trip because it was a really good deal for a night in Philadelphia and we have the freedom to do whatever we want while we are there. I usually always try to take advantage of the SAB trips because they offer us great discounts."

This trip costs \$55 per person for a group of four, \$75 per person for a group of three, \$100 a person for a group of two, and \$200 per person

for one individual in a room. This trip is also available for guests of University students for a \$15 additional fee per non-MU student.

Kofsky, who has been involved with the Student Activities e-board for the past three years, said, "I always encourage students to take advantage of everything that SAB offers. It is what will make your college experience unique and meaningful. When we graduate we will not be able to get all of these great deals like we do as students."

Kobus said, "I have not yet been able to experience a trip through the school before, however I have heard that they are a lot of fun and worth the money. I am very excited for this

trip especially because I have never been to Philadelphia before."

Louis Garbarini, a junior studying communication, said, "This is the first Philly Trip since I have been involved with SAB. We try to think of fun and different trips that the students would like to go on so this year we thought of Philly. Last semester we had a long weekend trip to Boston, Salem, and Plymouth Rock."

McGowan also said that trips in the past have been very successful, including the Spring Break trip to Disney last March. "In order to have successful trips, we must fill the minimum number of rooms. The turnout has to be high enough in order for the trip to be a success."

CLUB AND GREEK ANNOUNCEMENTS

Student Alumni Association

SAA offers students opportunities to improve networking and leadership skills, promote campus spirit, volunteer in the community, and develop contacts with alumni. Please join the Student Alumni Association for their March meeting on Wednesday, March 6 at 7:20 pm in the Alumni House.

Pre-Law Club

The Monmouth "Law Hawks" Pre-Law club is seeking officers for the 2013-14 school year. Please email Professor Bordelon, university pre-law advisor at bordeleon@monmouth.edu for more information.

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.

WMCX

WMCX will be hosting their "12 Hour Music Fest" on March 14 from 10:00 am to 11:00 pm (yes, there are actually 13 hours). Each hour, we will have a different band performing a live acoustic set and interviewing with one of the WMCX DJ's. Tune in to WMCX 88.9 fm and check it out!

Council For Exceptional Children

The CEC Club will be having a meeting Wednesday, February 13 at 3:30 in McAllan Hall, room 125. New members are always welcome. It's a great club for education majors.

Monmouth Area Vegetarian Society

MAVS would like to announce its first event of the spring 2013 semester. The event will feature speaker, Marc Rosimillia, co-owner of Bio-Balance Fitness, located in Rumson, NJ. Rosimillia will be speaking about incorporating a plant-based diet with metabolic workout regimes, to achieve optimal fitness and healthy lifestyles.

The event is free and open to the public and will be held Sunday, February 24 at 1:00 pm in the Magill Commons. If interested in attending, RSVP to mcharris@monmouth.edu.

Alpha Kappa Psi

Alpha Kappa Psi will be sponsoring a "Resume 101" lecture in collaboration with Assistant Dean William Hill of Career Services on Wednesday, February 6 from 2:00 pm to 3:00 pm in room 202-B of the Student Center.

Phi Kappa Psi

Phi Kappa Psi will be holding a prize drawing at the men's basketball game on February 16.

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.

Latin American Student Organization

The LASO is teaming up with the Monmouth Review and CommWorks to hold its first poetry workshop on Tuesday, February 12 from 6:00 pm to 8:00 pm in the Monmouth Review office on the third floor of the Student Center.

We welcome those with a passionate interest in writing poetry. Bring a writing utensil and paper and we'll take care of the rest!

Mock Trial Team

The 2012-13 Mock Trial team will be competing in the Baltimore Regional Tournament of the American Mock Trial Association's national tournament on February 9 - 10.

There are over 600 college mock trial teams competing in AMTA's regionals in the month of February. In its first year of existence, Monmouth's team has competed in two invitational tournaments so far and won ballots in both tournaments in competitive fields.

Team members Kate Nawoyski (Capt.), Lexi Todd, Michael Lucia, Cara Turcich, Susie Pagano, Joe Deller, Miriam Peguero and Liz Anderson will be vigorously advocating in the fictitious case of Allen v. Neptune Underwater Expeditions. Best of luck to them!

LASO is also hosting its first Latin dance lesson on Friday, February 15 from 4:00 pm to 5:30 pm in Anacon. All are welcome to join us! Light refreshments will be provided.

Alpha Xi Delta

Alpha Xi Delta - Iota Nu is hosting Karaoke for a Cure on Wednesday November 7 at 10:00 pm in Anacon. This will be our first ever AmaXing Challenge event here at Monmouth!

This competition style event will have teams of two signing karaoke songs. Judges will pick their top two teams.

They will then go head-to-head for top prize with the winner being chosen by the audience! Even if you do not participate there is still a chance for a prize. During intermission we will have door prizes to give out!

Tickets will be sold in the Student Center November 5-7 and at the door prior to the event. The pricing for tickets will be \$5 prior to and \$7 at the door. All proceeds will go to our philanthropy Autism Speaks! Come out for a fun night!

If you are interested in participating with someone or being a judge please email s0753481@monmouth.edu and or let a sister of Alpha Xi Delta know.

Snow Day!

SAB Teams Up With Alpha Sigma Tau to Host a Winter Wonderland in Lot Six

RACHEL FOX
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

Though it did indeed snow late on the evening of Saturday, February 2, a winter wonderland was brought to campus in another sense during the day with the Snow Day event hosted by the University's Student Activities Board and co-sponsored by Alpha Sigma Tau. Due to inspiration from wanting to enhance the feel of snow in a snowless environment, Snow Day was created.

Held in lot six, more commonly known as the Cedar parking lot on the residential side of campus, Snow Day consisted of a giant blow up snow globe in which students could stand in to get their photo taken, a fun slide, outdoor heaters, and hot chocolate.

The event was originally supposed to begin at 12:00 pm, but was postponed a half-hour due to cars that were parked in the parking lot.

Megan McGowan, Assistant Director of Student Activities, explained that gates were supposed to block off the entrance to the Cedar lot but they were not put up at the correct time. As a result, cars that were parked in the parking lot were blocking where the fun slide and snow globe were to be placed, thus delaying the set up of the event.

Students whose cars were parked in the lot were contacted by the University Police Department and were asked to move their vehicles. Once the vehicles were moved, set up was able to begin and the event was up and running by 12:30 pm.

Though the event was postponed



PHOTO COURTESY of Student Activities Board
The Student Activity Board's biggest attraction at Snow Day was the giant snow globe set up in lot six which students could pose in for pictures.

by a half-hour, sophomore Lena Suarez, a member of both SAB and AST, and Sami Kofsky, a junior who is also member of SAB, agreed that the half-hour delaying of the event did not affect its attendance. In fact, McGowan stated that Snow Day was intended to be a stop-by event, not an event in which a large crowd was expected all at once.

In attendance was freshman Meg Mattaliano, who claimed she was initially attracted to the event because it was free.

According to Suarez, SAB's events are free so that students can have fun things to do without it being costly.

Mattaliano also shared that aside from the fact that the event was free, taking a picture in the giant snow globe was what made the event appealing.

Jackie Schubert, a freshman, said, "I really liked the snow globe idea and its originality."

This snow globe was about 15 feet tall and was comprised of fake snow flurries and a wintry backdrop. The fake snow

flurries enhanced the winter theme and added to the snow globe effect. Inside the snow globe, a photographer was available to take students' pictures, which were then printed out shortly after the photo was taken and given to the students on the spot.

Most students also chose to have a peer take their photo from the outside of the snow globe in addition to having their photo taken inside, this way the vastness of the snow globe could be captured.

The fun slide, Suarez said, "Was a good imitation of snow tubing to mimic the popular winter activity." Hot chocolate and outdoor heaters were provided so that students could keep warm on such a chilly February day.

Both Suarez and Kofsky were generally pleased with the turn out of the event and agreed that there were minor details that could have made the event more of a success.

"The event was originally supposed to be held in the residential quad but was moved to Cedar parking lot because the fun slide exceeded the weight limit that the University permits on the quad," Suarez said. "If people saw this event in the quad, there definitely would have been more of a crowd, students coming in and out of the residential buildings would be more likely to stop by if the event was hosted in a more prominent and convenient location."

Suarez also considers that music may have attracted more students and may have also reminded them that the event was occurring.

SAB's next event will be Saturday, February 9 to see Spiderman on Broadway.

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Nicole
senior

"To be kind to others. I think that if half of the people in the world were kind to others we wouldn't have half of the problems we do now."



Sarah
junior

"Honesty. Because if you lie too much you're going to get caught, it always comes back to you."



Siri
freshman

"Loyalty. Because I feel like if the people around you aren't loyal then you can never really trust them."



Sheila
senior

"Life always works out, because our biggest proof is our experience."



Ian
senior

"Trust. You can't rely on someone or talk to someone if you can't trust them."



Taylor
sophomore

"Respect. If you have respect for other people then they have respect for you."



Reid
junior

"That people should have a general understanding and be open to new ideas. It would cut down on ignorance and arrogance."



Merrily
Science Professor

"To always be honest with yourself. I think sometimes it is tough, but it is key."



David
senior

"To treat others the way you want to be treated."



Brittney
junior

"To put family above everything."

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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 an 8
You're extra charismatic this week and certain someone's are certainly taking notice. Prepare yourself for a few date offers and shine bright. However there is no need to take any big risks or travel too far on these outings. Sometimes it's the smaller gestures and events that are really worth the while.

♉ Taurus • (April 20 - May 20) -This week is an 8
A friend helps you discover new paths and maybe even a few doors along the way. Write up your results in order to get a solid answer for where you should head first in your new endeavors. Don't get too eager to talk about the money though; all comes in due time.

♊ Gemini • (May 21 - June 21) -This week is a 9
Maybe concealment or perhaps not telling your boss just what you think, just yet, will be the best option for now. More study is required in order to map this course out correctly. Keep in mind though that changes happen abruptly, so prepare yourself for any unexpected turns along the way.

♋ Cancer • (June 22 - July 22) -This week is a 6
Surprise that special someone with tickets for just the two of you, or maybe even plan an elegant little romantic something. Look to music or the arts in particular for an extra dose of inspiration. It just might be what you need to challenge those practical assumptions of yours in a way you will really enjoy.

♌ Leo • (July 23- Aug. 22) -This week is a 7
Make plans, but don't go running with them just yet. A female perspective will provide new ideas that you might add to your course of action. Things are changing quickly for you, and you might be urged to make haste, but remember that time and honesty will really help you prevail in the end.

♍ Virgo • (Aug 23 - Sept. 22) -This week is an 8
You're feeling on top of the world this week! You can see for miles and mile all around, and you're feeling a dash bit more charming too. Use this to secure yourself and relax a bit, for there is a bit of abundance quickly headed your way.

♎ Libra • (Sept. 23 - Oct. 23) -This week is an 8
Now is a good time to buy since your pockets are lined with savings. Make your purchases and goals realistic though; by doing just that you will gain resources, respect, and maybe even a few new networking devices if you play your cards right.

♏ Scorpio • (Oct. 23 - Nov. 21) -This week is a 7
People are willing to help you out this week, so go ahead and ask for those invoices and loans. You're full of good ideas in a profitable field of study that everyone is interested in. Attitude is everything though, so remember that big egos might feel good for a little but in the end are very heavy to carry.

♐ Sagittarius • (Nov. 22 - Dec. 21) -This week is an 8
The time has come for you to step up to the plate! Assume some more responsibility and reach that new dream. However with more authority comes more controversy, so remain open to new ideas but be prepared to defend your own.

♑ Capricorn • (Dec. 22 - Jan. 19) -This week is an 8
You're best work involves your passions this week. Distant shores beckon you and your interests; the timing is off for the travel though. Remember that you don't have to go far to win, but with careful steps you will go a good length.

♒ Aquarius • (Jan. 20 - Feb. 18) -This week is a 9
Get into the motion of upgrading home comforts for maximum appeal. Take necessary steps to do so, and in the process take note of some other things you would like to accomplish in life; make decisions to form a budget and then from there just put your back into it.

♓ Pisces • (Feb. 19 - Mar. 20) -This week is a 7
The time is good for you to travel now but make sure that you take care of business first. The numbers are looking good but it never hurt anyone to plan ahead first; so keep up the proactivity and you might find yourself welcoming a good result and fantastic opportunity..

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Hawks Split NEC Games, Martin Scores 1,000th Point

RYAN CLUTTER
STAFF WRITER

The women’s basketball team played two games this weekend, losing on Saturday and winning on Monday. Their record sits at 9-12, 6-4 in the Northeast Conference (NEC). Senior forward Abby Martin needed two points to reach 1,000 for her career entering Monday’s game against Central Connecticut State.

About two and a half minutes in, she made a shot from point black range to become the 16th woman in MU history to net 1,000 points. “We’re really happy for (Martin),” said head coach Jenny Palmateer. “She’s such a workhorse for us and to be so undersized and to do what she’s done over the last four years is really a tribute to her. She’s a big piece of what we do.”

In practice last week, Chevan-

“We knew that this was a game we had to win. There’s kind of a logjam in the middle of the NEC right now so we need to start separating ourselves.”

CARLY THIBAULT
Senior Guard

nah Paalvast, the leading scorer in conference games this season, sprained her ankle. She missed both games, but Palmateer is hopeful she will be ready for next weekend.

On Saturday, the Hawks fell to Bryant 58-55 as they watched a fu-

rious comeback fall short. Down three with 3.8 seconds left, MU was unable to get a shot off as the buzzer sounded.

“This one hurts,” said Palmateer. “All losses hurt, but this one really hurts because I felt like the team really competed in the second half.”

Bryant forward Naan Ankoma-Mensa posted a double-double with 18 points and 16 rebounds.

Alysha Womack paced the Hawks with 11 points. Kasey Chambers added nine points in what Palmateer called the “best game she’s played for us all season.”

MU was outplayed in the first half and took a twelve point deficit into the locker room. They came out energized in the second half, immediately calling for a full court press on defense. It resulted in nine steals and twelve points off

turnovers in the half.

Gabby Singer’s presence on defense accounted for much of the second half resurgence. She fouled out with four assists and four steals. Both teams were in foul trouble and free throws were common in the second half. MU

had 22 free throw attempts in the half; Bryant had 16.

On Singer, Palmateer said, “When she fouled out it was a big hit because she was being really aggressive on the defensive end, causing some havoc, getting some steals. She’s a communicator on the floor for us, she’s our floor general.”

The Hawks took a 46-44 advantage on free throws by Carly Thibault. The lead was short-lived as Bryant regained momentum and didn’t lose the lead again.

“We have to execute better,” said Womack. “Every loss we have, no matter to who it is, hurts. We can’t let it linger too long.”

They came out on Monday ready to play against Central Connecticut State. Thibault led all scorers with 21 points, connecting on all four of her three-point attempts and was 9-9 from the free throw line. Sara English recorded a double-double with 11 points and 11 rebounds. Singer added 10 points of her own. Womack and Chambers led the team with four assists apiece.

“We knew that this was a game we had to win,” said Thibault. “There’s kind of a logjam in the middle of the NEC right now so we need to start separating ourselves.”

The Hawks dominated the boards, out-rebounding Central Connecticut State 49-25. Offensive rebounds were huge for MU who grabbed 17 offensive boards that led to 12 second-chance points.

“We talked a lot going into this



PHOTO COURTESY of MU Photography
Carly Thibault led all scorers Monday night in a win against Bryant. She scored 21 points, making all four of her three-point attempts.

game how critical this game was for us,” said Palmateer. “I’m really pleased with our effort on the glass. Our guards and our posts were able to take care of the glass. We did a great job pursuing.”

It was a tight game throughout and came down to executing free throws down the stretch. With 12 minutes remaining, each team was in a one-and-one situation with seven fouls. Free throws haven’t been a strong suit for the Hawks this year, but they were able to buckle down and hit 25-30 (83.3 percent) foul shots.

“Eventually, to get where we want to go, you have to start shooting free throws well,” said Palmateer. “Otherwise, they’re going to come back and bite you in the end.”

This was a complete team win for the Hawks, who saw contributions from up and down their lineup. They will look to take their momentum on the road this weekend.

MU plays Saturday, February 9 when they take on Fairleigh Dickinson at Stratis Arena in Hackensack, NJ. Tip-off is set for 2 pm.

Women’s Basketball Prepares for Life Without Seniors

RAY MALASPINA
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

The women’s basketball team announced the signing of three players for the 2013-2014 season. Mia Hopkins, Jenny Horvatinovic and Christina Mitchell have signed National Letters of Intent to play at MU for the next four seasons.

“I feel that our incoming freshmen will compliment the people that we have right now really well and be a really good unit that will be able to feed off each other,” said Head Coach Jenny Palmateer.

Freshmen guards Kasey Chambers and Jasmine Walker have both also heard about this new class and how they can help this Hawks squad. “I have heard about Jenny (Horvatinovic), she is a very nice player and will do a lot of the little things and is willing to work hard, so that is

“It’s a good position to come into because so many of us are leaving and it is a good opportunity for all of them (freshmen) to get time next year as long as they work hard this year. They can definitely fill our shoes next year.”

BETSY GADZIALA
Senior Forward

very promising,” said Chambers. “I heard Mia (Hopkins) scored her 1000 point as a junior and averaged around 21 points and 17 rebounds,” said Walker.

At season’s end, the Hawks will be losing almost half of their team as six seniors on the squad

will be graduating. Because of this, the freshmen this year and incoming freshmen next season are going to have to take on bigger roles.

“It’s a good position to come into because so many of us are leaving and it is a good opportunity for all of them (freshmen) to get time next year as long as they work hard this year. They can definitely fill our shoes next year,” said Betsy Gadziala, starting senior forward the Hawks.

Going into the 2009-2010 season, the opening year of the MAC, eight freshmen girls walked into the gym ready to play some basketball; four years later most of those girls are still together and the best of friends. With one transfer and the other redshirting freshman year, the blue and white have been together from the beginning, with this year hoping to be the year to win the Northeast Conference title

after losing in the championship game two years in a row.

“Everything we’ve been through, the good and the bad, the whole new coaching staff, going through all that together, going through the two losses in the playoffs the last two years I think it all brought us all togeth-

er and we’re great friends off the court and it helps on the court,” said Gadziala.

“I’ve been relying on them heavily just for the pulse of the team and to get feedback here and there,” said Palmateer. “I have been counting on them very heavily and they are taking in the freshmen and the underclassman under their wing a little bit and just trying to show them the ropes and to keep them encouraged when things aren’t going well.”

This season, the Hawks welcomed four newcomers, Chambers, Walker, Amanda Offenberg and Dotson, who have all made impacts in different ways for the team. With Dotson redshirting and Chambers and Walker getting significant playing time early on in the season, these freshmen girls are going to need to take notes from the seniors for next season and the upcoming years. “What they (the seniors) have to say is so valuable that you take in every little bit they say and I’m just like ‘wow that really helps,’” said Chambers.

Chambers expressed how much this graduating class means to her.

“To be a part of this team there is so much leadership qualities. It shows me how to act and how to behave and I really just look up to them,” said Chambers.

She went on to discuss that while playing with the seniors, she has gotten some great advice to help herself become a better player. “One of the seniors came up to me, clearly when I was having a tough time, and she just said that being a freshman is hard but I’m doing well and to just keep going and keep working hard. It will come together later and give it time. Knowing that they believe in me is awe-



PHOTO COURTESY of MU Photography
Abigail Martin is one of six seniors on the women’s basketball team. The underclassmen and incoming freshmen will have to step up and take on bigger roles in the 2013-14 season.

some because it gives me so much more confidence.”

Watching this senior class, Walker has taken notes on the way they play and how it can help her succeed. “I would use their philosophy of staying together and use their mindset of approaching everything with intensity and determination,” said Walker. She went on to talk about some advice she has already received from earlier this season.

“Whenever I was struggling, especially in practice, they would just tell me to relax,” Walker said. “I was once told after a game, ‘if you play defense in practice like how you just did in the game, I guarantee it will speak volumes and be noticed.’”

Palmateer, who is in her second season with the team, has seen how the seniors are the

leaders and how they are trying to have the freshmen follow in their footsteps.

“We’ll be really counting on them (freshmen),” said Palmateer. “The good news is I think they’re very capable of being big contributors. It’s like anything else, we’ll see how much they improve over the summer, in the offseason, and even the rest of this season. The good news is they have the seniors to go against every day in practice, so they’re getting better and keep improving. The more game experience they get, the better off they’ll be, so its long season for the freshman but really I think all of them have the potential to be key contributors next season.”

“Just keep working. You never know when your chance is going to come,” said Gadziala to the freshmen.

NEC Dreams Fading Away

Men's Basketball Lost by 20 to Central Connecticut and 15 to Bryant at the MAC This Weekend



Jesse Steele scored a career-high 27 points against Bryant on Saturday. The senior guard was 10 of 21 from the field and led the game with five assists and four steals.

ED MORLOCK
SPORTS EDITOR

The men's basketball team lost both games this weekend to fall to 8-15 on the season, and more importantly, 3-7 in the Northeast Conference (NEC).

On Thursday, the Hawks lost to Central Connecticut 78-58. Kyle Vinales scored 24 points for the Blue Devils (10-11, 6-4) and Adonis Burbage added 21.

"I take my hat off to Central Connecticut," head coach King Rice said. "We got totally out-classed tonight. Got out-coached, out-played in every aspect of the game. We've got a lot of work to do."

The Blue and White fell behind 15-5 in the first five minutes of the game.

"We got dominated right from the beginning when our shots were getting blocked around the rim," Rice said. "That set the tone for us and we could not guard them at all. We couldn't guard any of them. And when you can't guard anybody on the other team then you end up losing by 20."

"We let them get their heads up," Marcus Ware said. "They got that confidence and they were just making every shot. We weren't guarding hard enough. They were getting open shots. We weren't putting our will on them."

The Hawks clawed back and trailed 24-21 after an Ed Waite layup with 8:27 remaining in the first half. That's the closest they would be for the rest of the game. Central Connecticut went on an 8-0 run to take a 32-21 lead, finished with a layup and foul by Vinales.

Vinales, who averages more than 22 points a game, was 10 of 21 from the field. He played the entire game and tallied five assists and four rebounds to go with his game-high 24 points.

Burbage played the entire game as well. He was eight of 17 from the floor and five of 12 from beyond the arc.

Malcolm McMillan and Matt Hunter also scored in double figures for the Blue Devils. The two combined for 24 points and shot four of six from three-point land.

Sophomore guard Andrew

Nicholas returned to action for the first time after having a foot injury. He played 25 minutes and scored nine points. Nicholas shot four of 11 from the floor, including one of five from three-point range.

Ware and Stephen Spinella both scored in double figures for the Hawks. Ware was seven of 10 from the field for 16 points and grabbed six rebounds. Spinella scored 11 points, going two of three from three-point range.

Freshman forward Tyrone O'Garro led MU in rebounding with nine, all on the defensive side.

On Saturday, Bryant scored its first basket 18 seconds into the game and led the rest of the way. Guard Frankie Dobbs led the Bulldogs (15-6, 8-2) in scoring with 27 points.

"Tonight, I thought my kids re-

ally fought hard for 40 minutes," Rice said. "Bryant is a very, very good team. They really played well together."

"We fouled too many times," Steele said. "They got a lot of baskets at the free throw line." Bryant was 25 of 35 from the charity stripe.

Two free throws by Dion Nesmith had the Hawks behind Bryant 59-55 with 5:44 remaining in the game. A 9-0 run put the Bulldogs comfortably ahead of

the Hawks 68-55 with 2:18 on the clock and ended any chance of an MU rally.

Jesse Steele scored a career-high for the Hawks. The senior guard scored 27 points, shooting 10 of 21 from the field. He also led the game in assists with five and steals with four.

"Jesse played unbelievable," Rice said. "Jesse just did everything that he could tonight to keep us in it."

Spinella and Nesmith were the next leading scorers for MU, accounting for nine points each.

Dobbs was six of nine shooting for Bryant, four of seven from three-point land.

Alex Francis added 15 points and Corey Maynard joined them in double figures with 10 points.

MU got into foul trouble against the Bulldogs. O'Garro fouled out while Ware, Nesmith and Waite

all had four fouls.

"When you get in foul trouble, what can you do?" Rice asked. "It's part of the game. Another guy has to come in. You might be out of position, but no excuses. We got beat by a better Bryant team tonight. We need to just keep working and hopefully we will get some of these next ones."

The Hawks play at Quinnipiac this Thursday and Farleigh Dickinson Saturday to try and get back on the winning track.



Marcus Ware scored 16 points on seven of 10 shooting against Central Connecticut Thursday. He also grabbed six rebounds.



Contempt for the Utopia that is Modern Social Media

DAN GUNDERMAN
STAFF WRITER

"Painting the way I feel today. Focus on what matters!" Not so controversial, or so it would seem. What is hidden, is the attached picture to this statement, Jesus on the cross.

Posted by popular entertainer Chris Brown on his Instagram account after his alleged assault on fellow entertainer, helps paint the picture of our current dilemma with public figures using social media. As you might expect, this has carried over to professional athletes, who seem to always make a wrong tweet or status update.

From Terrell Owens' tweets during his game, Antonio Cromartie slamming the food at his team's training facility, Lebron James calling out his former team or Mark Cuban showing his disgust with NBA fines, it's now clear that social media has revitalized the sports world. If it is for the better, we really don't know yet.

On one hand, common citizens can now interact with their icons from the playing field, maybe receiving a retweet or a favorite. Just this click of a button expands fanbases and reverses frowns. From a business marketing standpoint, this is excellent. But on the other hand, the infusion of social media into the sports world has meant that controversy is becoming commonplace. Now that we know what athletes are eating for a pregame snack or what they're saying to their ex-girlfriends, the public is lassoed in to all the problems that arise as well.

With league officials having to monitor what their athletes are saying, it's creating a scene where unnecessary gatekeeping is a must. They need to filter what the players are saying in attempts to maintain team image. It's now become a textbook public relations crisis management lesson. Where Bill O'Reilly would say, "Welcome to the no spin zone," sadly, league commissioners can't say the same any longer. They have to worry about what athletes may be saying in the locker room, about other players, their personal lives, political thoughts, advocacy standpoints, etc. A convoluted world it surely has become.

Never has this problem been more clearly accentuated than by the creation of a recent TV series, "Catfish." With MTV viewers seeing the scope and horrors of online dating, they're starting to question the integrity of internet freedom and this unmonitored utopia of the World Wide Web. Sadly, this controversy pushes into the sports world as it just may result in a top NFL prospect being placed under the microscope of psychological questioning and even investigations. Can you guess where this is going?

Yes, it is the Te'o controversy. In recent weeks, it's been uncovered that Notre Dame linebacker and projected first round NFL draft pick Manti Te'o was a victim of an online dating hoax. He had been led to believe, over a long period of time, that he was dating a woman named Lennay Kekua. Though the two had never met, Te'o considered himself close to the online personality. After being told she had been diagnosed with cancer, Te'o made public appearances discussing the

impact of his girlfriend's illness. Then, the inconceivable happened; his grandmother died and on the same day, unfortunately, so did Lennay.

Struck with sheer sadness, Te'o trudged forward, making his whole persona seem quite inspirational. But as January rolled around, so did a *Deadspin* article uncovering a loophole in this story. This small loophole was that, well, Lennay didn't really exist. In fact, the player's friend, Ronaiah Tuiasosopo, a male, was the voice behind Lennay. Te'o had been catfished.

As Jeremy Schapp, Katie Couric and Dr. Phil all got exclusive interviews with the linebacker, it forged into one of the biggest sports scandals in recent memory. Did Te'o pretend to be impacted by cancer as a joke? How could one possibly do that? Was he really victimized? How is this possible? Turns out Tuiasosopo had fallen in love with Te'o and so on and so forth. The bottom line here is that is a highly personal story that probably shouldn't have been cast to every soul in America.

But wait. Can you believe it? In this digital world with on-demand delivery of information, this is what the top news in the entire country is. Stemming from online and social media hoaxes, the entire sports world was upended for a week. Do you understand the impact it has on our world now? This dynamic new addition to our everyday lives has created online dating mishaps and shown followers that sometimes athletes and public figures have just about everything except for something good to say...And it changes the flavor of how we report news and absorb everything around us. Though a bit philosophical, I perceive it all as truth. But do we need to get rid of social media so that these instances can be avoided? Not necessarily.

We are way too far past social media's infancy to try and take it out of the picture. People, even athletes, would go on an immediate detox for status updates. The solution, however, remains in the caring advice of a coach. It could even come from the stern demands of a team owner. What needs to be done is the creation of a firm team policy which prohibits players from communicating to the outside world so easily. A clause which discusses the impact that social media could have on the organization and the player in general should be written into their contracts.

They might need to just bite the bullet here. While pulling in millions of dollars, it would be safe to assume that they can bar themselves from using the menacing social media sites. Talk to fans or other players through an agent, or if you're Lebron James, Kobe Bryant or one of the Manning brothers, maybe a publicist. They do not need to tweet to the world about their troubles with an ex-girlfriend (LeSean McCoy) as I'm sure their money and arrogance can buy them happiness. Though my plan seems a bit radical and hardly practical because players would surely break the clause, I say hey, hit them with a pay dock or suspend them for three games or something along those lines. The organizations need to be steadfast and deliberate with this issue if they want to maintain stability in and out of the locker room.



Unable to STEEL The Show



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