



# THE OUTLOOK

MONMOUTH UNIVERSITY'S  
STUDENT-RUN NEWSPAPER SINCE 1933

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## Athletics Receives Prestigious Honor

JACQUELINE KOLOSKI  
CO-EDITOR IN CHIEF  
ALEXANDER TRUNCALE  
SPORTS EDITOR

On Thursday, February 1, Monmouth University was announced as the winner of the Turnkey PRISM Award in the Division 1-AA/AAA category presented by the University of Massachusetts Sports Management program. The University of Oklahoma was honored in the Division 1-A category. PRISM (Professionalism, Results and Innovation in Sport Management), is in its second year as a collegiate award. The award, which is 6 years old, previously had been presented to only professional sports leagues. "The idea of the award is to recognize overall excellence in college. A lot of leagues have an award for one particular area," said UMass PRISM Program Director, Steve McKelvey, who added that the award allows organizations to reflect on their programs. "You look at all the key areas of an organization. It includes student athlete programs, fundraisers, etc."

management of constituent relationships, student athlete development, innovative marketing, fundraising/ development strategies, and employee development. "When we were announced as a winner we were cited in three different areas: Our community involvement, our work on the student-athlete code of conduct, and our success with our fundraising and the involvement of our coaches in fund-raising," said Marilyn McNeil, Athletic Director of Monmouth University. McKelvey said that the 'Do You Know the Code?' program was a factor in the University receiving the award and believes this to be an "innovative program." The code functions as a guideline for ethics among student athletes. "They, as a group, decided that all of the student-athletes needed to be reminded in a very concrete way about their responsibilities as student-athletes," said McNeil. "Just recently a team of four student-athletes, along with our Director of Sports Medicine, were invited to a national conference in Indianapolis to present their work on this code," she added. Joe Compagni, head coach of the Monmouth University track and field team, believes that



IMAGE COURTESY of Steve McKelvey

Monmouth runs a quality athletic program and that student athletes who attend Monmouth get an excellent Division I experience, which in turn, allows Monmouth to be competitive in every sport. "Dr. McNeil and our entire Athletic Department have worked very hard to raise the bar from year to year so that our athletic program can continue to excel." Kevin Callahan, head football coach, echoes these sentiments. "It is very flattering for the Athletic Department to be recognized by such a prestigious award. More importantly, it recognizes the leadership of Dr. McNeil, and the dedication of everyone in athletics," said Callahan. Men's soccer coach, Robert McCourt, added, "It is a wonderful recognition for the department. The commitment to excellence in athletics is something to be proud of."

McNeil said the goal of everyone in the Athletic Department is to be the best, not just in the conference, but in the entire Northeast region. "We were very proud to receive this honor. We are definitely in good company, and it reflects the professionalism

of this department's administration," said McNeil. Brenda Weare, Commissioner of the Northeast Conference, applauded Monmouth's athletic administration. "Their dedication and professionalism has always been a credit to the NEC, and with the Turnkey PRISM award we share our recognition of their talents with the rest of the nation," said Weare. Athletes and students alike

PRISM continued on pg. 9

## WMCX Hosts Concert to Remember Cosgrove

MATTHEW SMITH  
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

Monmouth University's radio station, WMCX, hosted a fundraiser on Feb. 3 in honor of fallen Marine, and 2005 graduate, Christopher Cosgrove. Cosgrove was killed in Iraq in October 2006. WMCX General Manager Kahlil Thomas said the event raised more than \$2,700. The money will be donated to Marines Helping Marines, which Cosgrove actively volunteered for many years, and Soldiers' Angels. "It was a great turnout," said Thomas, whose event was held in Anacon Hall. "The bands played well and we drew a lot of

people." Marines Helping Marines, which supports injured troops coming home from Iraq and Afghanistan, provides phone cards, electric razors, special clothing for amputees, and other items. Soldiers' Angels is another organization that helps troops stationed over in Iraq, providing them with backpacks filled with blankets, scarves, and personal items. The group also arranges visits, phone calls, e-mails, and letters from families and friends. The "Rock Out" concert featured many popular rock bands including Stealing Jane, Raposo, Racing Kites, No Fold, Hear Me Roar, Hyjinx, Above



PHOTO COURTESY OF WWW.CHRISTOPHERCOSGROVE.ORG

The Ambulance, and Hudson. Nearly 200 people came to hear these bands and support the troops. People enjoyed the concert, but everyone knew that this show – and their \$12 ticket admission – was honoring all the American soldiers in Iraq and Afghanistan who are dying for our freedom. "The bands are great, and the concert is supporting a good cause," said freshman Greg Benson. Benson said he heard about the concert from his friends and wanted to pay his respects to Cosgrove as well as other soldiers that have been killed in the war. "I really like No Fold, and that was the main reason I

came tonight," added freshman Meg Martin, who said that we should all be very thankful to have brave men and women over in Iraq who are fighting for our country. Cosgrove was 23 years old when he was killed in Iraq after suicide car bombers hit a checkpoint he was patrolling. Cosgrove's family and friends were in attendance and led a moment of silence to pay tribute to their son and friend who loved being a Marine. "[Chris' death] was a wake up call," said Thomas Minton, a friend of Cosgrove and a Monmouth graduate student.

MARINE continued on pg. 17

Wednesday 29°/16°  
Mostly Sunny

Thursday 31°/18°  
Partly Cloudy

Friday 30°/21°  
Partly Cloudy

Saturday 34°/21°  
Partly Cloudy

Sunday 31°/14°  
Partly Cloudy

Monday 30°/22°  
Sunny

Tuesday 38°/28°  
Rain/Snow

INFORMATION PROVIDED BY weather.com

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# In Case of Emergency Call C.E.R.T.

*Inaugural program graduates 16 members after weeks of training*



PHOTO COURTESY of Officer Frank LoTorto  
CERT volunteers test their skills at a mock emergency demonstration.

SAMANTHA YOUNG  
CO EDITOR IN CHIEF

After eight weeks and 20 hours of training, seven students and nine University employees graduated Feb. 2 from the nationwide Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) program.

These individuals are now qualified to assist professional responders in their respective neighborhoods. Educated in the areas of fire safety, light search and rescue, team organization and disaster medical operations, CERT members are encouraged to "support emergency response agencies by taking a more active role in emergency preparedness projects."

Wilson Hall Auditorium hosted Monmouth's first CERT graduation ceremony to recognize those who put in time and effort during the Fall 2006 semester.

With volunteerism down, Monmouth University Police Chief William McElrath said he was pleased with the members' dedication throughout the program. "I admire your ability to get involved," he said. "There are few people that do that anymore."

One of these people, sophomore biology major Mike Slisz, said he was eager to enroll in the training program.

**"I heard about the program through an e-mail from Dean Volpe. I thought it would be a good opportunity to help the community."**

MIKE SLISZ  
Sophomore

"I heard about the program through an e-mail from Dean Volpe," Slisz said. "I thought it would be a good opportunity to help the community."

The CERT program began in a post-9/11 world, funded by the Department of Homeland Security. "The President asked Americans to get involved," said Lt. Joseph Geleta, state CERT coordinator.

In 2002, New Jersey State Police approached community officials, in this case Geleta and Gary McTighe of the Monmouth County Prosecutor's Office, to become leaders within the CERT program.

Currently, there are 182 citizen core councils and 9,000 CERT members in New Jersey, 850 in Monmouth County alone.

"Monmouth County is now one of the most active counties in the CERT program," said McTighe.

CERT's goal is: "To be ready to protect yourself, your loved ones and if need be, your town and uni-

versity," said Geleta.

"We trained you to respond to emergencies," said McElrath, "but hope we never have to use you for that reason."

All prospective members must attend class sessions in which they are taught all aspects of emergency response training. As a "final exam," the volunteers are asked to respond to a mock call, forcing them to draw upon the knowledge gained over the past two months.

Parking lot 23, located near the University police headquarters, acted as the stage for this group's dry run. Under the supervision of their instructors, CERT trainees arrived on scene facing various disaster-related obstacles, including the extinction of small fires. After successful completion of this exercise, the participants were considered deserving of CERT certification.

Graduates of Monmouth's CERT program are: Bradley Bennett, Kendra Berry, Fran Ebert, Lori Ebert, Mike Gerbino, Ray Gonzalez, Ashley Hoppe, Megan Jones, Anne Marie Lavin, Joshua Margulies, Erin Miller, Dr. Barbara Reagor, Mike Slisz, Rick Su, Dr. William Tepfenhart, and Dan Vernik.

Each received a mounted certificate and a green reflective CERT vest to wear on emergency calls. Following graduation, each volunteer's phone number was entered into a computer system. When necessary, those closest to the scene are called and asked to help.

In the future, the CERT program hopes to expand and attract more potential volunteers. "The real work begins now," said McElrath. "[Our goal is to] keep people interested and motivated."

To become involved with the CERT program, contact the local office of emergency management for more information.



PHOTO COURTESY of Samantha Young  
Newly certified CERT graduates now qualified to assist in nationwide crises.

## Greek Recruitment Begins for Spring Semester

SEAN KENNY  
CLUB AND GREEK EDITOR

Monmouth fraternity and sorority chapters were out in full force Tuesday, Jan. 30 for the spring semester 'Meet the Greeks' gathering. School spirit and Greek pride filled the air and with that came yet another potentially successful recruitment season.

**"I think recruitment this semester is going to be better than ever."**

LOUIS DEMARCO  
Phi Sigma Kappa

The student center buzzed with outgoing and curious potential rushes, circulating from table to table to meet each Greek organization. A projector in the middle of Anacon Hall flashed images of fraternity and sorority members participating in community service and other times spent together as a group. Each table fea-

tured pictures, paddles and other cherished items of their respective Greek organizations.

Similar to past Meet the Greeks events, every organization was in attendance to extend their greetings to underclassmen and the Monmouth community as a whole. For the few hours they had to express their organizations beliefs and qualities, the dozens of students in attendance seemed to prove the Greek community was still a powerful and popular force on campus.

In the past, Meet the Greeks has been a successfully run program to get students interested in the Greek community, but there seemed to be a different feel to the event this year.

"I think Meet the Greeks was run more organized and well thought out this year compared to previous years," stated SGA President Brandon Bosque. "This could very well make people more serious about joining a fraternity or sorority."

Other organizations members voiced similar thoughts on how this year compared to past Meet the Greeks functions.

"I think recruitment this semester is going to be better than ever," expressed Louis DeMarco, inductor of Phi Sigma Kappa. "Everything has been run efficiently due to the Greek council and Tyler



PHOTO COURTESY of Carolyn Bodmer  
Sisters of Delta Phi Epsilon represented their sorority at the spring Meet the Greeks held in Anacon Hall.

Haven's efforts to make the spring season a success. I feel my fraternity, along with other organizations benefit from the way recruitment has run this semester."

One of the aspects of this semester Meet the Greeks were new rules put into effect. One of those rules stated that only 15 members of each organization could be in attendance and as a result, there were fewer members to overwhelm students.

Cori Buscemi, a member of the Alpha Sigma Tau sorority, expressed her feelings on the new regulations.

"Well, Meet the Greeks was more exciting this semester, not too many members were there to bombard the potential new members with letters and it seemed more comfortable," said Buscemi. "I know a lot of people came out to Meet the Greeks and I'm sure every sorority and fraternity on

campus is excited about the outcome for formal recruitment."

As the spring semester continues, Greek organizations will see how this year's format affects interest numbers. Bids will be given out Friday, Feb. 9.

The general consensus this year seems to be one of optimism and hope, but the results of the new recruitment format will be seen once new members sign on to their new organizations.

# Director of Urban Coast Institute Visits China



PHOTO COURTESY of Anthony MacDonald

Tony MacDonald presented information about is being done to protect oceans on an international level.

**JACQUELINE KOLOSKI**  
CO-EDITOR IN CHIEF

Tony MacDonald, Director of the Urban Coast Institute at Monmouth University, visited Tianjin, China from January 7 to 13, with the Delegation for the New Jersey Consortium. The delegation, which is based out of Sandy Hook, consisted of MacDonald; Michael Weinstein, a representative of the consortium; three professors from Rutgers University; one professor from Montclair State University; and a representative from the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration.

“We were invited over by several groups in Tianjin, China. We were invited over on this technical exchange and while we were over there we met with representatives from Tianjin University of Science and Technology, Tianjin Oceanic Administration, and the Tianjin Port Authority,” explained MacDonald.

These groups would meet and, according to MacDonald, each person would give presentations on various topics during each meeting.

MacDonald explained that Tianjin is the largest port in northern China similarly to the way New Jersey and New York feature large ports.

“We recognized that there were some common issues. So, as part of the technical exchange, people talked about a variety of issues,” he said.

Two professors from Rutgers University spoke to the Tianjin Oceanic Administration about how they are using satellites to get more information about the ocean environment. The professor from Montclair State University presented information about issues regarding contaminated sediments. MacDonald, who was the lawyer of the group, spoke of the efforts that are being done internationally to protect the oceans.

“I gave a presentation on some of the international efforts to support integrated management sustainable development,” said MacDonald. “I talked about some of the international treaties that come out of the World’s Summit Sustainable development, increasing worldwide recognition that we need to do more to protect the oceans.”

In addition, he discussed what types of agreements are being done on an international scale to assist in various nations improving the oceans.

Another professor from Rutgers University presented information on projects being done to protect New Jersey for an onset of a storm as well as what was learned from the aftermath of Hurricane Katrina.

The group was in Tianjin for approximately five days, which consisted of meeting with those groups and spending a day-and-a-

half in Beijing, says MacDonald. He added that the visit to China was a “follow-up meeting from when a Tianjin representative came over here a year ago.”

MacDonald said that his favorite part of the trip was the hospitality of their hosts. “They were extremely good hosts. They met us when we arrived and they, in addition to being extremely generous in showing us around their facilities, they spent all day with us and were very attentive to our presentations.”

He added that they took them out to dinner each night they were there and took them to the local restaurants.

MacDonald, who said that he enjoyed visiting Beijing, explained that this trip to China poses much significance for the Urban Coast Institute.

“It establishes a stronger partnership with the other universities in New Jersey,” said MacDonald.

“One of the key messages of our trip to solve the ocean problems, we need an integrated approach including law and policy, good science, and good on-the-ground management so it reflects the mission of UCL.”

He added that he hoped to have made partners in China to work with on future projects. “We were looking to continue this partnership and invited them to come in 2008. We identified a couple specific proposals that some of the Rutgers professors may work on this summer,” said MacDonald.

The Urban Coast Institute was founded a year-and-a-half ago and according to MacDonald, became apart of the University’s strategic plan to develop urban coastal and ocean policy issues.

“We are a part of an effort for the universities to bring some of our resources to bear on issues confronting New Jersey’s coastal development,” said MacDonald.



PHOTO COURTESY of Anthony MacDonald

The Delegation for the New Jersey Consortium was invited to Tianjin, China for a technical exchange from January 7 to 13.

## SGA Hosts Sixth Annual Charity Auction

**NATALIE RAMBONE**  
STAFF WRITER

On Tuesday, Feb. 13 the Student Government Association will host the sixth annual charity auction at 7 p.m. in Anacon Hall. The auction is in support of Michael’s Feat, a non-profit organization.

Michael’s Feat was established to help support seriously ill newborns and their families in Monmouth and Ocean counties. It gives ease to parents who are trying to care for their children and it helps to take off some of the burden. The fund was created in loving memory of Michael Gerard Puharic, who passed away after 83 hours due to a serious chromosome disorder. Since October 2004, almost \$70,000 has been raised for funding.

So not only does coming to the auction allow one to partake in the effort to help parents and newborns, but this year SGA has been able to get their hands on many items that will be auctioned off. With the help of local businesses, such as Pier Village shops, and our own Monmouth University community, there will be everything from gift cards, gift baskets, and sports memorabilia to things worth bidding on from Residential Life and the Police Department.

Since the beginning, SGA’s effort to raise money for its charity

of choice has grown stronger each year, and this year they hope to again have support from the University community. Junior Megan Canavan, the Chair for the Charity Auction and an SGA senator, said, “The auction is completely student organized and run, for the exception of our advisers. It is a great cause because it benefits Micheal’s Feat, which, in turn directly helps families in the surrounding community. The student government enjoys running the auction and they enjoy knowing that many in the community will be helped.”

Student Government Senator Nicole Stevens stated, “The senators have been working very hard to collect donations from local businesses. We’re very excited to be raising money for Michael’s Feat-it’s such a wonderful local cause. We welcome all the students and local community members to come show their support next Tuesday night!”

To find out more about the non-profit organization, Michael’s Feat, you can go to their Web site at [www.michaelsfeat.org](http://www.michaelsfeat.org), or ask any student government senator for more information.

If you would like to make a difference and help out a good cause, you can mail any donations to: The Michael Gerard Puharic Memorial Fund, P.O. Box 787 Matawan, New Jersey 07747.

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# Bowling Club Now at MU

*SGA approves group for spring semester*

VICTORIA LUCIDO  
STAFF WRITER

Beginning this spring semester, a new club has been introduced to the students of Monmouth University – the bowling club. The President of the club is sophomore Sal Fiore. The Vice President is freshman Andrew Beushcel.

Fiore stated, “My roommate Andrew and I bowled together at Toms River High School East for three years. I have been bowling since I was 3.”

After finding an advisor, the next step was to go before the Student Government Association (SGA) for approval. Once the club was approved, Fiore met with Jon Cascone, head of intramurals, for permission to compete with other schools. Cascone needs to be aware of all competition between teams.

Each bowling team consists of five people. Fiore stated that “we already have a few students with a strong interest in the sport, but we are looking for new members who have some experience bowling.”

liam Paterson, located in Wayne, NJ. Other universities that have bowling teams include Rutgers University and Wichita State University in Kansas.

When asked why he wanted to start the team, Fiore said that “I commuted my freshman year and did not have enough of a chance to become involved on campus. In the beginning of my sophomore year, I started thinking about creating this team. My goal or desire of the club is to gain interest and become recognized throughout the course of this year and next

*My goal or desire of the club is to gain interest and become recognized throughout the course of this year and next year, and hopefully develop a solid team.”*

**SAL FIORE**  
President of Bowling Club

The club became official right before the start of the spring semester. The first step to starting a club is to get an advisor. With the help of advisor Lesbia Marrero, Assistant Director of Undergraduate Admissions, Fiore and Beushcel were able to get the club going. Fiore knew Marrero prior to coming to Monmouth because he bowled with Marrero’s son, who is currently a senior in high school. Her son also would be interested in bowling for Monmouth next year.

Marrero is involved in bowling teams in the Southern Shore Conference of high school bowling. She is currently trying to find high school students who have a serious interest in bowling.

It would be preferred if students have their own balls, shoes, and other equipment. So far the club is being sponsored by The Enterprise Rental Company. With the help of these donations, the costs of equipment should be minimal, if nothing at all.

The team will soon begin practicing at Ocean Lanes in Lakewood, NJ. Members of the club have been speaking to the William Paterson Bowling Team in hopes of competing at Ocean Lanes during a joint fund-raiser bowling event.

The goal of the team is to compete against other schools and to participate in tournaments in different states. So far, Fiore has established connections to Wil-

year, and hopefully develop a solid team.”

“We are enthusiastic about our upcoming start to the bowling team here at Monmouth,” Beushcel said. “We want anyone who is interested to come out or to contact either Sal or myself. The team is meant to be fun. However, there will be competition. Maybe we can even win some titles.”

For anyone interested in joining the club, contact Sal Fiore through e-mail at s0616669@monmouth.edu or Andrew Beushcel at s0662188@monmouth.edu.

In addition to e-mail, potential members can stop into Lesbia Marrero’s office, located on the left side of Wilson Hall on the first floor.

## Craig Receives NJ Drum Major Award

CECILIA SYKES  
STAFF WRITER

Ian Craig, a junior business management major, is the 2007 recipient of the New Jersey Drum Major Award. Nominees for the Drum Major Award are individuals who demonstrate leadership qualities and serve their communities in ways that reflect the vision of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.

Craig was presented with the award for Youth Impact on January 14 at Patriot’s Theater at the War Memorial in Trenton.

“It was a great honor,” said Craig of being recognized. He also won Monmouth University’s annual Martin Luther King Jr. Unsung Hero Award last year, in acknowledgment of his volunteer work and accomplishments.

An employee of the Disney Store in Freehold, Craig is the Regional Coordinator for the Disney VoluntEARS Program, which did not exist in the area until his efforts brought it about. He has since led his store to win the 2005 Disney VoluntEARS “National Store of the Year” for their volunteer work in the community.

Craig has been a leader in the Monmouth University community ever since he became a member. During the spring semester of his freshman year, he established the Community Service Club to give fellow Monmouth students an outlet to become involved in various vol-

unteer services, both on campus and within the local community. The club meets every other Monday in the Rebecca Stafford Student Center.

Craig is a commuter student involved on the Student Activities Board. He is an orientation leader, a student of the honors



PHOTO COURTESY OF monmouth.edu  
Junior Ian Craig

school, and is a common face to be found wherever there is community service to be done. And, after all that, he still manages to claim a spot on the Dean’s list at the end of the semester.

Craig would like the campus to realize that there are always chances for everyone to lend a hand and help the community. “There are plenty of opportunities to make a difference. Even the smallest things count.”



P R E S E N T S

*The 34<sup>th</sup> Annual  
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**Big Brothers Big Sisters of Monmouth County**  
**School Based Mentoring Program**

Big Brothers Big Sisters of Monmouth County have 2 school based mentoring program for girls and boys in Asbury Park Middle School and Eatontown Memorial Middle School. Additionally, we are in the process of starting another school based mentoring program in the Hope Charter School, also located in Asbury Park. The mentoring program matches young boys and young girls with a volunteer Big Brother or Big Sister for 1 ½ hours each week for the entire school year.

- Our program objectives are to:
- Increase academic performance
  - Decrease or eliminate delinquent behavior at home, school, and community
  - Decrease drug and/or alcohol use
  - Increase self-esteem and self concept

Applications to become a Big Brother and Big Sister are available by contacting Daniella Cuje, Director of School Based Programs at (732) 544-2224 x314. Volunteers are asked to complete an application, provide references, submit to an interview, and undergo a background check.

Special uplifting events will be held throughout the year that will involve Big Brothers, Big Sisters and Little Sisters and their parents. Year ending events will include a recognition dinner for having a successful year.

Studies have shown that mentoring works. Decide today to make a difference in the lives of our young girls and young boys. Become a Big Brother or a Big Sister today and make the difference in the life of a child!!!



Big Brothers Big Sisters of Monmouth County Makes a Positive Impact in Asbury. On Dec.. 6th, 2006, 25 Asbury Middle School students “matched” with cadet candidates from the United States Military Academy Preparatory School at Fort Monmouth attended a presentation on bullying at the school by Jerry Hamlin of the Prosecutor’s Office. At the end of the presentation, which includes frank talk about the dangers of bullying, Mr. Hamlin asked if anyone had any questions. A middle school student raised his hand and asked, “Who is going to be my Big Brother?” It was the question they all wanted answered! Big Brothers Big Sisters of Monmouth County will hold the mentoring program weekly at the Asbury Park Middle School. These programs compliment the traditional one-to-one mentoring relationships supported by our program. The after school programs are a way to reach children whose parents might not enroll in a traditional mentoring program. Experience and data show that children in these programs have a much better attitude towards school, show a decrease in delinquent behavior, better grades and increased self -confidence. But don’t take our word for it, come and see the smiles for yourself- they say it all. For more info contact: Daniella Cuje at 732-544-

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

All copy must include the author's full name and contact information.

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## Editorial

JACQUELINE KOLOSKI  
CO EDITOR IN CHIEF

Some may find it difficult or even out of the question to put Monmouth University in the same category as well known schools like UNC, Florida State, University of Florida, or Penn State. Probably the biggest difference is that we are a significantly smaller school population wise.

But if you think about it, we are a Division 1 school just like they are. Our men's basketball team, for instance, advanced to the NCAA tournament on a couple occasions and got to experience what March Madness was all about. And I stress, just like these other big-named schools. Last year, we played against Villanova, and showed we were able to play against a bigger university.

You may not see it now but hopefully after reading this editorial you will see the advantages of going to a small school like Monmouth. Because there are some, even if it may not be that obvious to you.

The biggest point I can make is the experience you can get from various organizations. From the perspective of a communication major, it is difficult enough to get a job post-graduation. Employers expect you to have a portfolio that stands out from the rest. But the organizations that are offered here at Monmouth that communication majors or anyone from any other major for that matter can take advantage of and get experience for work. I mean you can put together a reel for television or clips for your journalism portfolio.

I know I count my blessings everyday that I will be able to leave college with a portfolio that could rival that of a person who went to a bigger school than mine. They may have the name but sometimes

that can only go so far. If I look back now and chose to go to a bigger school like I once applied to, I can probably guarantee you I would not be in the position I am now. I most likely would not be editor of a paper or writing as much as I do now.

Case in point, another advantage that Monmouth University's size has is that students are better able to join organizations like The Outlook, Hawk TV, WMCX, just to name a few and play major roles in them. If you are at a bigger school, it is noticeably harder to do. Students are more apt to being better involved because everyone is invited and generally gets to participate. You have a much better shot at getting to play pertinent leadership roles in an organization in whatever area you are interested and that's beneficial for you as a student because it is another line on a resume. Your chances of that happening at a larger scale school are more difficult.

Another advantage of our University is the amount of internship opportunities there are to experience. We are in close proximity to both New York City and Philadelphia. There are several internships in Manhattan, for example, that are available for students through the connections at our University. In addition to that, Monmouth University is also affiliated with the Washington Center Program. Many of our students have reaped the benefits of working with the program. For instance, they earned college credit, worked in the nation's capital, and some were even given job offers post graduation. When students have experiences like these to put on a resume when the time comes to get a job, future employers look at those types of things.

A third and final advantage I

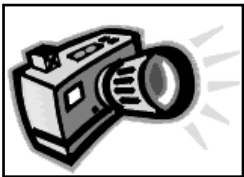
would like to bring up is the fact that because we are a smaller university we are still able to grow. We are able to expand our campus as well as implement new programs. We are trying to expand our campus for example with the possible building of the MAC.

Our University, in general, has been recognized in various ways on the national level. Our media organizations, for example, have been nationally recognized in the past and honored for awards Not to push *The Outlook*, but the newspaper did win a first-place award last year from the American Scholastic Press Association. Hawk TV and WMCX has also won many awards through the National Broadcasting Society at national competitions.

Shedding some light on the article that was written on the front page about Monmouth winning the Turnkey PRISM award from the University of Massachusetts Sport Management Program, Monmouth University was once again. The award recognized the top two athletic administrations in Division 1 colleges in the 1-A and 1-AA/AAA categories.

As mentioned in the article, the University of Oklahoma won for the 1-A category. To be in company with such a high-profile school like that is definitely something to be proud of. It shows that even though we are on a smaller scale we can still compete with the bigger schools.

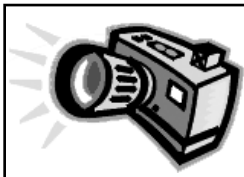
So with those few factors in mind, I hope you were able to see where I was coming from. Maybe you changed your mind, maybe you didn't. That's what opinion is all about, though. I just hope you were able to see what advantages we have by being here. We may not be big, but we are strong enough to capture some attention.



## Photo of the Week

courtesy of Sean Quinn

**WMCX's Rock Out to Support Our Troops Concert**



*Did you know... your cartoon or picture can be here next week! It can be about anything but should be related to the Monmouth community, student life, or something going on in the news that week. E-mail submissions to [outlook@monmouth.edu](mailto:outlook@monmouth.edu) and it will be printed here. How cool is that? Very.*

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# Helping Darfur: A Cause to Hope for in the New Year

ERIN STATTEL  
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

Aziza is only seventeen years old and as she went out to gather firewood in the bush with other women of her village in Darfur, three Sudanese militia men rode up on horseback and caught her. One man raped her and bit her arm and neck so everyone would know what had happened to her. She was told that she has no place in Darfur because she is black. He told her that the Sudanese would push her people out and that the land will always belong to the Sudanese. This is just one story told by Ann Curry of NBC News, but it echoes almost a million of others. Stronger efforts need to be taken in order to stop these types of atrocities.

Darfur is the region that created a stir around the United Nations General Assembly in 2006 and is located in the Sudan on the continent of Africa. The Sudan shares a northern border with Egypt, an east coast with the Red Sea and Somalia, as well as borders with Ethiopia, the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Chad and Uganda. According to Save Darfur.org, the Sudanese army and an independent yet government linked militia known as the Janjaweed, are fighting the Sudanese Liberation Army/Movement (SLA) group and the Justice and Equality Movement (JEM) groups. The two rebel forces are fighting for the Sudanese government to address the problems of the country's underdevelopment and political marginalization. The militias and the government are predominantly Arab and use mass killing, organized starvation, rape and threat to aid workers as a way to suppress the rebel movements and the Africans in Darfur.

***The Sudan has been involved in a civil war ever since its independence from the United Kingdom in 1956.***

The Sudan has been involved in a civil war ever since its independence from the United Kingdom in 1956. Nsongurua J. Udombana, author and Professor at the Human Rights Center at the Central European University in Budapest, explains in his article When Neutrality is a Sin: The Darfur Crisis and the Crisis of Humanitarian Intervention in Sudan that the Arab-dominated North has continually acted against the Christian and animist South, however most Sudanese are Muslim. The current conflict erupted in February of 2003 when the Sudanese government began the killing of the Zaghawa, Fur and Masaalit tribes because of their ties and involve-

ment in the JEM and SLA political groups. Genocide, by definition in The American Heritage Dictionary Fourth Edition, is the planned and systematic extermination of an entire national, racial, political, or ethnic group. What is being done to these people is genocide.

According to Save Darfur Coalition, whose mission is to create awareness of what is happening in Darfur, the United States is responsible for twenty five percent of all UN peacekeeping dues and several bills are pending in Congress that will help with the mission in Darfur. However, the pressure is not to be applied to the United States, but rather to the United Nations. What is happening in Darfur is a human rights crisis. With no physical intervention from the United Nations, there is a direct violation of the United Nations Charter. The Charter, which is available at un.org, was born in 1945 and states in its preamble that one of the United Nations purposes is to promote social progress and freedom for better standards of life with the hopes of tolerance and peace resulting.

In his article, author Udombana, states that it has been argued that the United Nations Security Council (UNSC) is the only body that can take direct action towards human rights-violating governments. The UNSC has not been known to expedite political action when it comes to these problems in Africa, despite its deployment of support. The UN estimates that around 200,000 people, others argue the number is close to 400,000, have been killed since the fighting began in 2003. Some 2 million others have been displaced. But there is only a cease-fire type of agreement so far.

Visible on the Save Darfur Coalition website is a resolution that was introduced into the U.S. Sen-

ate in March that called for NATO to establish a no-fly zone and a bridging force to be put on the ground in Darfur in order to protect civilians in the interim until a UN mission can be deployed. This resolution passed unanimously. There is a companion resolution to this but it is stalled in the International Relations Committee. At SaveDarfur.org there is a section about lobbying your congressman or representative. The link directs web surfers to DarfurScores.org. On this website a scorecard is given for state congressmen and representatives. In New Jersey, Senator Robert Menendez (D) scored an A+ along with Representative Frank Pallone, Jr. (D)

***Stronger efforts need to be taken in order to stop these types of atrocities.***

The core of America was founded on courageous individuals standing up for what was right. It is in our being to stand up for the right side and ignoring what is happening in Darfur is not right. We may not all be able to contribute large sums of money, as Melinda and Bill Gates did with their ten million dollar Gates Foundation donation. But even People magazine's Sexiest Man of 2006, George Clooney is attracting

people's attention to Darfur. He is working side by side with the Save Darfur Coalition and other politically charged organizations to help find a solution. Clooney's father is journalist Nick Clooney and the pair traveled to the Sudan and Chad in April of 2006 in search of raising help and hope for the mission in Darfur. The pair recruited the help of Democrat

Barack Obama and Republican Sam Brownback to plead with the American government to take action. Currently, the actor is joined by Don Cheadle of the film Hotel Rwanda and U.S. Olympian Joey Cheek in the effort to involve the aid of nations such as China and Egypt.

There are plenty of ways to educate oneself about the region and its occurrences. While surfing the web for advice pages on how

to keep New Year's resolutions, visit websites such as the Global Nomads Group (www.gng.org), The United Nations (www.un.org) or Save Darfur.org (savedarfur.org) to become informed. Sites like these offer various insights into what needs to be done as well as what can be done right now. There are petitions to sign that will go directly to the UN in order to influence its decision of action. There are also petitions available to encourage the United States to support a stronger multinational force to help in Darfur. Take a look at the United Nations web page to become educated on the organization and its role in the world.

Motivate yourself and your community, whether it is a congregation, a campus or a club, to spread the word and lobby Congress and the UN. Motivate others to learn about what is happening and how as individuals we can help but as groups we can heal. With constant education and action against the atrocities in the Sudan, there could be a brighter future for people like Aziza. Maybe her story won't be so common someday.



Letter to the Editor

Dear Editor:

I feel that I must comment on an article in the January 31st issue by Sean Kenny, “World According to MU: Climate Change”. In this article Sean quotes a person who says that the oceans are supposed to rise 20 feet in the next two decades. If that were the case I would immediately move to the Appalachian Mountains, and Monmouth University could, in the very near future, offer a hands-on program in field marine science (and marine chemistry, marine psychology, marine communications....). The students would be able to

view fishes from their first floor classrooms without having to leave their seats. I do believe the worst case scenario for sea level rise in the next 100 years is an increase of four (4) to 36 inches. The last number would still be a disaster for island nations, and have bad implications for near shore communities. I do not mean for this correction to be taken offensively, but as a professor, I feel it is my duty to teach.

Sincerely,  
Don Dorfman, Ph.D.  
Bio Dept

Eminent Domain: Comparison between Long Branch, NJ & New London, CT

DAVID WALLACH  
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

Eminent domain is something that has affected many people’s lives and will continue to cause distress in communities throughout the nation. The most recent United States Supreme Court decision regarding the use of eminent domain has caused turmoil throughout the lives of thousands of people, due to the influence that its decision will play in the times to come. The significance that eminent domain can play in a community can affect a society in both a positive and negative way, so it is significant to come up with a “plan” that will be able to take the best of both sides and make it into one mutually beneficial plan. New London, CT and Long Branch, NJ are two cities’ that have seen both the good and the bad. New London, CT was at one time considered to be one of the most economically successful cities in the Northeast during the middle of the nineteenth century. Like most good things, New London’s fame and glamour came to an end due to a gradual increase in both crime and poverty. After many years of struggle, city councilmen of New London saw the construction of a new multi million-dollar research facility for the pharmaceutical company Pfizer as a great building block to give their community a well-deserved face-lift. The city of New London decided to use the power of eminent domain to acquire the necessary amount of property in order to begin their new development plan. Property owners were reluctant to give up their homes and battled the City of New London to the highest court in the United States. The Supreme Court’s decision, in a 5-4 majority ruling in favor of the city of New London, stated that the necessity to improve the economic development of New London would deem to be serving the public good. As stated in the 5th amendment of the United States Constitution, “nor shall private property be taken for public use, without just compensation.” It is clearly stated that our nation’s founding fathers did not consider it necessary to use eminent domain, unless it would serve the public better use. By the Su-

preme Court deciding to expand the definition of “public use” to include “economic development”, they will now have a major influence on every forthcoming eminent domain legal matter. Just as New London did, Long Branch, NJ can now see its glory days in the rear view mirror of its convertible, while cruising down Ocean Avenue on a beautiful summer day. After being one of the most glamorous summer resort towns on the east coast; crime, drugs and poverty have chased it all away. While many people are waiting for the rebirth of their Jersey Shore town, others feel that eminent domain is just as unconstitutional as not having cracker jacks while sitting down at a big league baseball game. The city of Long Branch has already completed the first phase of their so-called rebirth, by taking away beachfront houses and replacing them with high-rise condominiums and retail stores. On one hand, you can say that the redevelopment of Long Branch’s boardwalk is beautiful to look at, will attract more people and will strengthen the city’s struggling economy. On the other hand, families that have been living in their homes for decades, and regularly wake up and read the newspaper with their cup of coffee, while watching the waves break, like so many of us can only dream of will be having their property taken away from them against their will. In order to prevent ongoing legal battles regarding eminent domain, I have come up with my own “plan” to put a stop to all of this disarray. I feel that if courts deem that it is necessary to acquire an individual’s property, then that is acceptable, under one condition. I feel that the government should be obliged to pay 250% of the property’s fair market value to the home owner in order to act as an incentive, cover moving expenses and to assure that the homeowners will be more then justly compensated for all of their troubles. The influence that the New London Supreme Court decision will play in Long Branch is still undetermined but it is promising that the Supreme Court’s decision will play a factor in all eminent domain cases to come.

Here’s Why the MAC Needs to be Built

JOHN GENOVESE  
GRADUATE ASSISTANT

Round and round it goes, where it stops nobody – and I mean nobody – knows. Such is the ongoing battle between Monmouth University and the WLB Zoning Board of Adjustment over the school’s proposed Multipurpose Activity Center (MAC). Since last week’s editorial in *The Outlook* expressed concern over the MAC, it seemed worthwhile to convey a differing opinion. However, it’s only right I reveal my biases. I graduated from Monmouth in 2003 before returning in 2005 for graduate school. As an undergraduate, I worked at The Outlook and broadcasted many Monmouth sporting events for WMCX. So, yes, I’m a sports guy. Who knew how good it could feel to be so honest? Nevertheless, I’m not here to talk about my purged soul or psyche. As a current graduate student, and Monmouth alum, I feel it is crucial to the University’s growth to have this new building. Now, I know it’s the word “growth” that scares many of the University’s neighbors. But if I decide to build a shed in my backyard, next to an older (and smaller) shed, am I really expanding? I was never good with these philosophical questions. But I’m just throwing it out there. But here’s the deal. If Monmouth basketball is to be more competitive in Division I athletics, as well as draw bigger programs to West Long Branch (i.e. Georgetown, Villanova, Cincinnati, and even Rutgers) then we have to make it worth their while. These teams won’t play in the facilities we currently have. A big part of athletics is forming these relationships with other programs. We can’t adequately do that as of now. There’s also the matter of recruiting players for our own teams. We are in the same league (Northeast Conference) and region with schools like

Wagner College and Fairleigh Dickinson University. Institutions such as these have newer facilities, which can make a significant difference in landing top student-athletes. Bottom line(s): We need to compete and we deserve that opportunity. Speaking of competing, when’s the last time anyone went to a Monmouth track and field event on this campus? Sure, they have the one outdoor event they host every year. Other than that, the team is always on the road. A new indoor track, along with other training facilities, should not be too much for a program that consistently generates success in the NEC. But the MAC goes beyond just

We need to compete and we deserve that opportunity.

Monmouth athletics. The Jersey Shore is known for its high school sports. The new facility would allow Monmouth to host occasional high school basketball tournaments. Not only would it be exciting for these younger athletes to play in a collegiate gym, but these student-athletes represent the future of Monmouth University. It’s a great way to have potential students and their families feel a connection to Monmouth. While the MAC benefits the students of tomorrow, the students of today will still have the option of utilizing Boylan Gymnasium. With Monmouth’s sports teams using the MAC, students interested in intramurals are free to occupy Boylan at more covenant hours. Plus, by having more than one weight room on campus, students and staff have more options for utilizing all of Monmouth’s resources. Speaking of utilizing resources, the MAC is also supposed to house the book store. This would allow the

space where the book store currently resides (the student center) to be used for other student functions. Plus, we can rectify the decision of moving graduation from campus to the PNC Arts Center. I can understand why it was moved. After all, my graduating class was the one who got soaked on the Great Lawn. With the MAC, Monmouth wouldn’t have to worry about alternate locations for events like this. As I understand it, Monmouth is trying to comply with the zoning board by trimming down the number of seats in the MAC as well as limiting the number of events it would host. In addition, Monmouth is apparently opening the facility to the surrounding community, as it should. As for the traffic situation, by not having events simultaneously at Boylan and the MAC, this should help alleviate any traffic concerns. Between the MUPD and the West Long Branch Police, I don’t see why the traffic can’t be contained. Regarding potential traffic problems, Asbury Park Press sportswriter, Tony Graham, recently wrote in one of his columns, “Let’s be realistic, this isn’t Giants Stadium.” Well said, Tony. I can understand the argument against building the MAC, especially where the neighbors are concerned. I’ve read some editorials in the Asbury Park Press that have essentially called President Paul Gaffney a bully. Some say he’s failed to follow through on certain promises. I can’t pretend to know if all this is true. What I do know – at least in my humble opinion – is that Monmouth University is a positive for West Long Branch and the surrounding communities. I’m very proud of the education I have received from Monmouth. I continue to witness the great things that students and faculty are doing at this campus. Those great things won’t stop – even if the MAC never gets built. But if it does, you can expect even greater things.


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# To Those Who Share the Dream

## MLK tribute celebration honors unsung hero recipients

WESLEY CHIN  
NEWS EDITOR

The annual Martin Luther King, Jr. Tribute celebration brought a packed crowd to Anacon Hall last Wednesday, honoring this year's Unsung Hero Award winners and nominees, as well as past and present individuals who exhibit Dr. King's vision and dream of racial equality. This past year marked the 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Dr. King's historic visit to the university in 1966.

Hosted by Heather Kelly, assistant director of Student Activities, and Bradley Bennett, Residential Life Administrator, the gala event presented students and community members with certificates of recognition. Dr. Johanna Foster, professor of political science, Annie Hainesworth, founder and director of the Conquer Hunger & Needy Together, Inc. (CHANT) food pantry of Neptune, and students Julie Hudson and Erin Majesty were named Unsung Heroes of 2007.

Twenty-three faculty members, 17 students, and 3 members of the community nominees were also acknowledged during the reception.

"I am grateful that someone saw the contributions that I make everyday in keeping Dr. King's spirit and legacy alive," said junior nominee Aaron Reevey. "Just to be mentioned in the same sentence as Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., is an accomplishment in itself."

Each recipient was awarded Unsung Hero for specific actions and initiatives they have brought forth. Foster co-founded two college-in-programs within New Jersey and New York prisons. College Con-

nections provides pre-college, college, and continuing education courses for women in New York medium security prisons. Women's Re-Entry Initiative for Training and Education (WRITE-NJ), co-founded with Dr. Rebecca Sanford, works to improve access to education and viable job training for women in prison.

"I feel like a direct beneficiary of the sacrifice Martin Luther King made to the free world," said Foster during her acceptance speech. "It is, without a doubt, the most humbling experience I have had. To receive an award in the name of Dr. King, and all the thousands of other civil rights activists...is an enormous responsibility that I will continue to work toward fulfilling."

Hainesworth opened CHANT, a food pantry in Neptune that provides struggling families necessities for decent living, including canned goods, bathroom amenities, and, in one instance, appliances, like a refrigerator. Although not present during the ceremony, fellow CHANT member June Delecki accepted the award on her behalf.

"I bring up her rear," Delecki said of Hainesworth's dedicated work ethic. "She keeps going, and I can't catch up to her."

Students Hudson and Majesty have been recognized for their efforts to bring Fair Trade products, most notably coffee beans, to campus. Fair Trade ensures farmers get an adequate compensation

for their crops, including rice, tea, and vanilla. Last semester, the two campaigned were successful in bringing Fair Trade to campus, having many venues of campus.

Key Arts Productions performed "The Road to Freedom" a picture slide show, video clip performance combined with live spoken word narration and singing. Narrator Joe Patterson read stories of prominent black figures of history, including Sojourner Truth, Harriet Tubman, and Martin Luther King. He also played keyboard with fellow performers Wendy Grathan and Antoine Da-

along with familiar songs and clapping to the beat.

"It's always good to get feedback from the crowd, because it unites us all to the music," Patterson commented. "Civil rights music kept people together. It gave people the spirit to keep going and persevere."

"Music feels important, especially when this generation is so far removed from past events," said Davis. "[Performing here] is a pretty good feeling. Music is my life, and the story of my life: it all coincides."

"Martin Luther King's vision was greater than many people re-



PHOTO COURTESY of Christina Guarino  
Performers from Key Art Productions presented a slideshow highlighting the lives of important figures in black history.

vis while they sang classic and current songs, including "Swing Low Sweet Chariot", "This Little Light of Mine", and "I Believe I Can Fly". The responsive crowd participated in the show, singing

member," Kelly said. "It was for civil rights, it was for kindness, it was for hope, peace, and unity for the entire world. If everyone was to live his dream each day, the world would be a beautiful place."

## Turnkey PRISM Award Winners Announced

PRISM continued from pg. 1

are taking notice of Monmouth's achievement. When he learned of the honor, Vikram Gupta, a sophomore tennis player and marketing major said, "It shows that the Athletic Director and everyone in the athletic community works hard and is committed to strengthening the athletic program here at Monmouth."

Michael Kelly, also a sophomore majoring in history, commented, "I think it's outstanding. Hopefully, the athletes in New Jersey will opt to come here rather than go out of state."

After receiving the Turnkey PRISM Award, McNeil said Monmouth is looking to build on this honor.

"For the future, this award gives us the confidence to continue doing what we are doing, but to do it better. Athletics is like that: you are always getting ready for the next game, and that is what we do administratively as well," she said.

## MU Promotes Depression Awareness

PAUL BAKER  
STAFF WRITER

Depression and suicide are ever-present in the lives of young adults, especially those at college. However, there are many clubs, organizations, and individuals devoted to helping and maintaining those who fall victim to depression. One such group is the Counseling and Psychological Service department at Monmouth University.

One of the department's goals is to promote awareness of depression and help students to identify it in their peers. This was demonstrated at the discussion on depression hosted by the Counseling and Psychological Service department on Wednesday, January 31. The event was hosted by Kate Memoli, who filled in for Franca Mancini.

The discussion, held at Young Auditorium in Bey Hall, began with a 30-minute video displaying the hardships of depression. The film shared real-life stories of college students who were dealing with depression and suicide. It also showed the reactions of survivors, family members, and close friends. As students and faculty watched and listened to the heart-wrenching stories in the dark, the room filled with tension, release, sympathy, and relation to the on-screen students.

"I thought this presentation was very touching yet educational," said junior Brittney Austin, who was attending for a class. "It definitely forced me to realize how lucky I am to still have my friends and family by my side."

Friendship was one of the main points of the discussion. The hosts offered informational flyers, dis-

cussed how to identify someone in need, and explained the moral obligation of friends to help those in need. This was especially stressed in the video; there were many instances where friends of depressed and suicidal individuals wished they had known what to look for and how to react to the signs of depression.

Though the movie broke the ice for the students, the discussion was the most important aspect of the event. Memoli encouraged open discussion and answered any questions people had. She explained the many resources the Counseling and Psychological Service department has for students. The department offers "coaching" on how to talk to someone who is depressed, and emphasized how students should not be afraid to speak up because it could save a life.

About 15 to 20 people attended the discussion to further their knowledge about depression and helping those in need. "It was an eye-opener," said graduate student Kim Spinelli. "It showed me that I need to keep an eye on my friends and family more."

The Counseling and Psychological Services department felt it accomplished its goal for the evening in Young Auditorium. "I was glad with the turnout," said Memoli. "We always hope for an interest but don't expect much on a dreary winter day."

The department encourages students to visit their Web site under 'Academics' on the MU homepage, where more resources, information, and helpful links can be found.

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# This Week's Hot Hits

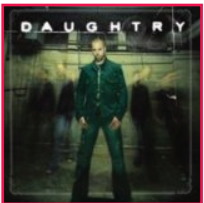
This week's chart topping albums according to Billboard are:



Holding the number one spot is Pretty Ricky's *Late Night Special*. This is the album's first week on the charts.



The Shins' *Wincing the Night Away* holds the number two spot. This is the first week on the charts for The Shins' newest album.



Daughtry is spending their tenth week on the charts with their self-titled debut album.



The 2007 Grammy Nominee compilation features top nominees.



Rounding out the top 5 albums of the week is John Mellencamp with his album, *Freedom's Road*.

# Oddioblender

Making music his own way

RUSSELL CARSTENS  
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

As college students, we all know looking for music online is an easy way to discover a new favorite artist. Such is the case with how I discovered the imaginative, beat-oriented, fun and sometimes nerdy (in an awesome way) music of Oddioblender.

Oddioblender is the musical pseudonym of Gustuf Young, an electronic musician from Fort Worth, Texas. His music is a blend of many different styles, hence the name. Almost a decade ago in 1998, Young began composing songs on his computer by recording everyday sounds and arranging them into a chaotic, yet musical order. In addition to his beat programming skills, Young plays the guitar, keyboard, drum machine, recorder, bass and percussion.

Oddioblender's inspirations range from the electronic music virtuoso Aphex Twin, to singer/songwriters like Tom Waits and over the top rockers GWAR. Young says, "Everything gives me influence in some way. Some music makes me want to lean in one direction, while other music will make me run from that direction screaming."

His many songs may contain

melodic keyboard patterns over quick drums, atmospheric guitar and keyboard instrumentals, remixes of Nintendo themes, or hip-hop songs about video games and other nerdy things. Several of Oddioblender's fan-favored songs contain 8-bit sounds found in nostalgic Nintendo classics, which has earned him a loyal following from old-school video game fans internationally. This all boils down a loose genre which is known online as "nerdcore," and Young is one of its crowning champions, although there's no way in hell you can pigeonhole his music. Oddioblender fits loosely into the genre, and his songwriting style refuses to be categorized, while still remaining concrete in Young's vision.

One unique thing about Oddioblender's musical philosophy is that he isn't afraid to generously let people download his music for free, which is available on his website, Oddioblender.com, where he has several albums. Other albums of his are available for a very reasonable price on the home-run label Give Daddy The Knife, which distributes CD-R copies of electronic music in the nerdcore genre.

Of the free online music movement that's gaining popularity;

Young believes that, "It really started gaining steam in the late 90s when people learned they could just use a computer and some stolen software for next to nothing." Many people are downloading freeware multitracking programs or getting them from friends or Web sites, and Apple's popular Garageband program is one of the newest ways people are making music at home and on computers in a way that's easy enough that anyone can learn.

Although the Internet is a great place to showcase this kind of music, Young is wary and says, "Internet music is extremely overproliferated and short lived...because you're one of the millions who are doing the same thing, and people don't have time to see what's fodder and what's not."

Young doesn't plan on stopping anytime soon, though. Although he hasn't played live recently, he usually performs with his computer and an effects processor, which he plans to make more exciting in the future. He says, "I'm working on making my live shows more dynamic...it's too boring to watch a guy fiddle with his computer for three hours." You can hear his music at [www.oddiblender.com](http://www.oddiblender.com) or [myspace.com/oddiblender](http://myspace.com/oddiblender).

# It's All About the Benjamins

And I'm not talking about money

LISA PIKAARD  
ENTERTAINMENT EDITOR

On a night in February when the temperature was well below freezing, Jenkinson's in Point Pleasant was packed with people defying the weather and rocking out to the live music of The Benjamins. Kicking off the night with Papa Roach's "Last Resort," the crowd was instantly hooked. The night showcased hits from the 80s, 90s and today, including one of The Benjamin's newest covers, "Forever Young." The band played the song in a rock style, very different from the original, but it definitely worked. The crowd favorites, how-

ever, were "Love in an Elevator," "Don't Stop Believin'," "Crazy B\*tch," and a fantastic Bon Jovi medley. The night was a blast for all who attended, with only one small problem (and I am not referring to Joe kicking the microphone away from the drums), the band only played two original songs while the audience was more than willing to hear a few more. The crowd was ecstatic to hear The Benjamins play their own music. The first of the originals played, "17 March," was being sung with deafening volume from the crowd. This song was definitely the greatest success

for the men of the night. The second original song the band performed, "Wonderful" is a beautiful song that, although many people did not yet know the words, had them dancing and cheering anyway. With the lyrics, "I close my eyes and I see you there/ All I need is to see you smile, walk a while/ Be your friend again/ All I want is to say you're mine forever/ 'Cause you're wonderful," the somewhat gruff yet soothing voice of DeGennaro is unbelievably settling and moving when he performs this song. The tracks originated on the band's debut album "Go!" which sold approximately 30,000 copies. Both original songs are being re-released on their new album "Chronicles of the Garden State," which is to be released in April.

The most important aspect of The Benjamins is that their music and their fans really mean something to them. Singer, Joe DeGennaro said, "When you think of moments in life you think of a song." It's evident in their lyrics that there is meaning behind the songs they've written and that they aren't performing simply to sell records. The Benjamins' original song "Hazel" is a beautiful song about that kid in high school who always got picked on and how everything comes full circle. Although selling records is important to the band, DeGennaro points out, "Never lose site of the people who follow your band." In the few shows I have seen The Benjamins perform, they have always

stopped to talk to fans that either just started seeing their shows, or that follow them wherever they go. There were many people at Jenkinson's that drove over an hour to show their support, and each and every band member stopped to talk to those who wanted just a moment of their time even though Anthony Picone, the guitarist, had a fever of 102 degrees. The band played two sets with an original tune in each. A unique aspect of The Benjamins' live shows is that every band member can sing and usually does. At Jenkinson's, Ben DeGennaro, older brother to Joe, sang many songs, including "Enter Sandman," while his brother picked up a guitar to rock out with Anthony. Anthony also took a break from guitar and let Joe play solo, performing songs by the All-American Rejects (and from personal experience, Anthony is so much more fun to talk to than some of the guys from the All-American Rejects). Needless to say, the band tries to give the audience a bit of everything. Fans of music of every genre and artist ranging from Nine Inch Nails to Panic! At the Disco and A Ha can rock out to The Benjamins. The band has talent and they are a ticking bomb waiting for their chance to explode. One thing I love about The Benjamins is that they work hard and work all the time. Ant, playing with a fever, and Joe, who had no voice before the show began,



PHOTO COURTESY OF Lisa Pikaard

Bassist Ben DeGennaro poses for a picture while playing Saturday night at Jenkinson's.

played as though they were completely healthy. Being signed to a small label without much money, they have to work hard. "We got where we are by creating our own buzz in our own way," stated Joe when asked how their following got to be so many thousands. True, The Benjamins may not be Bon Jovi. But they are very important to quite a significant group of people in New Jersey, and some day you may just see their name in lights selling out at Giants Stadium. They're playing at the VIP Trade in Party at Jenkinson's on February 18. I'll be there, and so should you!



PHOTO COURTESY OF Lisa Pikaard

The Benjamins lead Singer Joe DeGennaro and guitarist Anthony Picone trade places for their rendition of "Wonderwall."



# Not Quite Epic

GREG EGAN  
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

There is finally a film that parodies adventure and fantasy movies. *Epic Movie* follows in the tradition of the *Scary Movie* and *Date Movie* franchise. *Epic Movie* spoofs recent films such as *Pirates of the Caribbean*, *Willy Wonka and the Chocolate Factory*, *The Chronicles of Narnia*, and *Harry Potter* series, and various superhero movies.



PHOTO COURTESY of rottentomatoes.com  
The Superman spoof in *Epic Movie* is one of the high-lights.

The film starts by following four orphans who come from different backgrounds. The first was brought up by the curator of the Louvre (*The Da Vinci Code*), the second, a refugee living on a missionary that was headed by a man

passionate about wrestling like in the movie *Nacho Libre*. The third orphan encountered *Snakes on a Plane*, and the last wound up going to school at the X-Men Academy, but he possessed no special powers. The orphans meet after they win a trip to a chocolate factory.

While in the factory, they come across a wardrobe that transports them into the land of Gnarnia. As their adventure continues, the orphans meet characters that include a wacky pirate captain, students of wizardry, a talking beaver, and the film's villain, the white b\*tch.

The story line in *Epic Movie* flows well in comparison to other recent satires that are usually a compilation of multiple skits. There are, however, only a few genuinely funny scenes in the movie. One scene goofs off of the MTV show "Punked." In the scene, the actor emphasizes Ashton Kutcher's immature mannerisms as he pranks one of the orphans.

*Epic Movie* brings back both characters and references from films of the past. Chewbacca and the storm troopers from *Star Wars* are spotted in the film. The movie makes a reference to *A Christmas Story* when one of the characters gets her tongue stuck to a frozen



PHOTO COURTESY of rottentomatoes.com  
Darrell Hammond does a fantastic job "being" Johnny Depp.

pole. The most amusing character in *Epic Movie* was a pirate captain named Jack Swallows. The actor who played the pirate did a superb job imitating Johnny Depp's character in *Pirates of the Caribbean*.

While parts of the movie were amusing, as a whole, the film contains only occasional laughs. The film has its share of bathroom humor, most of which is not funny. The characters in this movie look too embarrassingly old to be playing teenage orphans as they are all easily pushing 30. At least the writers of this film came up with a new genre to parody off rather than just making a sequel spoofing the same genre. I would recommend that viewers wait to check out *Epic Movie* on DVD.

## Britpop Princess and a Talented Artist?

### *Alright, Still* and Lily Allen Score Double Category Hit

WESLEY CHIN  
NEWS EDITOR

If you let your eyes decide, this London Town talent might pass you by. Somewhere behind stylish vintage dresses, lavish jewelry, and Nike Air Max 90s, there is Lily Allen, the 21 year old Hammersmith native who has climbed to levels of international recognition from the realm of internet obscurity. Her debut CD *Alright, Still* dropped late last January in the U.S., less than a year after its spring 2006 unveiling in the U.K.. It has reached the number two slot on the U.K. Album charts, and Allen's first single, "Smile," debuted at number one while cracking the U.S. Billboard 100 singles at 89. Touring shortly after her introduction to mainstream music, Allen has extended performance dates in 2007 throughout the U.S. on MTV's Discover and Download Tour, as well as Europe, Japan, and Australia. Not a bad showing, considering Parlophone Records initial interests stemmed from buzz surrounding Allen's online demos found, sure enough, on her MySpace profile.

Allen brings an honest, fresh sound to the current realm of female vocalist, infusing dance-hall beats with elements of ska, reggae, and soul. *Alright, Still* begins with the single, "Smile," which kicks off the CD tremendously with a smooth, strolling bass line, bright organ lines, and a definitive upstroke, ska-driven guitar. "Shame On You" jam packs virtually every instrument used on the recording, including a piano, organ, and tambourines. Crediting Blondie, The Specials, Prince, and T. Rex (which she claims is the best band ever), it's apparent that Allen's eclectic taste of music is present in her own original work.

While her voice doesn't transcend multiple octaves, its soft and sultry sound complements



PHOTO COURTESY of yahoo.com  
Lily Allen may look prissy but she has undeniable skill.

her literal, witty, and, at many times offensive lyrics keep your ears at full attention: in a word "nice". Allen sings about a night on the town, in songs like "Knock 'Em Out" and "Friday Night", but doesn't falsely glamorize each account as a cliché "night with my girls". Rather, her lyrics, mostly written from a first-person narrative, call upon more realistic elements of avoiding unwanted male attention at the pub, and catty behavior of other female patrons at the local club. In Allen's woe-lamenting, yet ironically named and optimistic anthem "Everything's Just Wonderful," she has no time for a carefree evening out, mostly because, "I wanna get a flat I know I can't afford it, / It's just the bureaucrats who won't give me a mortgage / Well it's very funny cos I got your [bloody] money / And I'm never gonna get it just because of my bad credit". The song opens up with a synthesizer hook reminiscent of dentist office muzak or supermarket satellite tunes, which would have listeners snoozing, if not for its smooth transition into an upbeat hand-clap driven groove. This track is one of the best songs on the album that will turn listeners into instant fans.

Lyrical, Allen covers the entire board, ranging from the aforementioned club and pub romps with friends, observing the

lesser-seen sights of London in "LDN," or catching her brother partaking in some "herbal" remedies in the song "Alfie," which is his name. Listeners won't scratch their heads to open-ended metaphors, nor be plagued with meaningless club-anthem one-liners. Each song is direct and reminiscent of an actual situation Allen has been in, and she sings as if she is telling us the story verbatim. Although coming off as an aggressive, independent 20-something, she allows herself to be exposed and vulnerable in the song "Littlest Things," recounting on better times with, presumably, a former love: "The littlest things that take me there / I know it sounds lame but it's so true / I know it's not right, but it seems unfair / That the things remind me of you / Sometimes I wish we could just pretend / Even if for only one weekend / So come on, Tell me / Is this the end?" Still, these rather mushy moments are short-lived, as Allen jumps right back into songs about raving out an ex's sexual shortcomings on "Not Big," or adapting her own version of a 50 Cent song called "Nan, You're A Windowshopper": the title explains itself.

Beneath the stigma of Britpop brattiness and fame (did I mention she's the daughter of English comedian and actor Keith Allen?) Allen shows how British artists are on the rise to reclaim solid mainstream music. This recording runs the gamut of varying musical tastes, opening its flexibility to multiple venues. Allen's message is not represented as too girl-power/party girl, nor is it overly sensitive or recollective.

*Alright, Still* simply acts a window directly into the singer/writer's world, without the jumble or pressures of female vocalist's clichés. It's honest and original, which seems to be lacking in recent popular music endeavors of this style.

# Halftime Happenings

LISA PIKAARD  
ENTERTAINMENT EDITOR

Billy Joel is a classy, talented man who did a beautiful job singing the National Anthem at the Super Bowl. Prince is a strange man with an interesting history who was given the opportunity to perform at halftime. I don't know about you, but I was definitely very afraid as to what in the world he was going to do.

Describing Prince is easy, a family friend of mine explained while watching the halftime show presented by Pepsi. "He's like the black even more feminine Michael Jackson!" I would say that sums up the person that Prince, or the squiggly design, or The Artist Formerly Known as Prince, is. His halftime show was nothing like I expected (with the exception of the design of the stage, which I figured would occur).

The show began with lightning bolts, which fit the climate perfectly being that it was pouring the entire game. He then

performed with the exception of "Purple Rain." Prince's performance was definitely not up to par with the great halftime performers of the past like The Rolling Stones or Paul McCartney. But it was not as bad as I had originally anticipated.



PHOTO COURTESY of news.yahoo.com  
Prince performs at the Super Bowl halftime show.

## The Messengers

CLIFFORD BUGLE  
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

Modern day horror movies have been in a steady decline. Studios have been producing remake after remake and sequel after sequel. It's nice to finally see something that at least tries to be original. Movies about haunted houses are far from being few in number, but *The Messengers* stands out in a way that is refreshing.

Jess (Kristen Stewart) and her family have just moved into a farm house in North Dakota from Chicago in hopes of starting fresh and somehow saving their financial problems by cultivating a sunflower harvest. Little do they know, of course, that their new home is being haunted by the wife and children of the family that used to live there six years ago. The story is not what sells the film. How the story is told is key. Stewart gives a solid performance, and the fact that she doesn't have big breasts and wear skimpy clothing is a nice change of pace from other recent horror movies.

With American horror adapting to the likes of Japanese horror more and more within the past ten years or so, audiences have become desensitized to seeing grey decomposing bodies move jerkily about on walls and ceilings. They've also gotten used to flash editing that is meant to disorient the audience (heightening the tension) but now just annoys them. I can gladly say the latter is not in this movie. Rather, the directors Oxide and Danny Pang decided to use steadier camera movements and exercise framing in order to create tension. Half of the haunting sequences don't

involve seeing the ghosts, and they are the most thrilling. It is invigorating to realize that there are horror directors out there that still believe that it's what you don't see that is more frightening than what you do. These elements of the film show tremendous promise for future projects by the Pang brothers.

With a decent storyline setup, and smart directing by the Pang brothers, the film would be much better had it not been for the over-the-top ending. The ending falls by the wayside in order to put together a puzzle that was neither puzzling nor very thought out. The promising buildup leads to a cheesy *Shining*-esque finale, which won't scare or startle. Typicality ruins what would be an otherwise stand out horror flick.

*The Messengers* is not original by any means, and a poor ending will disappoint hardcore horror fanatics. The changes in how the film is shot and how the story is told should be big enough to encourage them to keep coming back to the theater. I, for one, hope that this film leads to a growing trend in the horror genre that will help break the mold from which most modern horror films are made.

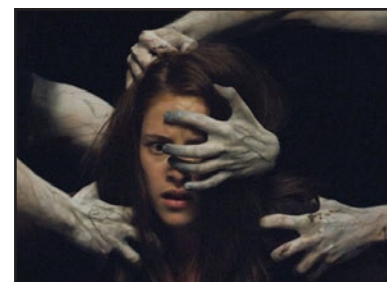


PHOTO COURTESY of rottentomatoes.com  
Kristen Stewart as Jess in this week's number one box office hit, *The Messengers*.



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CLUB and GREEK

Alpha Xi Delta

Hey, thanks to everyone who came out to Meet the Greeks, Round Robin, and round two of recruitment this past week. It was great meeting all of you and we hope to see you all Thursday night. The sisters have been working hard and dedicating lots of hours to formal recruitment. We are really excited for preference night and bid day! Best of luck to everyone and have a great week! Much Xi love to all!

Alpha Sigma Tau

Thanks to all the girls who came out to Round Robyn, it was a fun time. It was wonderful meeting all the girls interested in Greek Life. Good Luck on your voyage.  
Valentine’s Day is soon, and we are proud to announce we will be selling candy grams! If you see our table outside this week and next, come by and buy a candy gram for your best friend, boyfriend, girlfriend, and even for yourself! Happy Valentines day!<3

Summer - I love you. You are the best little ever! Love pearl. Radiance you rock! Thanks in advance got yhr hair/makeup help! Paradise & Pearl awesome superbowl party! Love you all Twinkle. Scky moves to Jersey City and little face Muse misses her like WHOA! Love you Radiance and Cyprus = when can we go back to Canada? <3 Muse P.S - DA BEARS! Biggz, you are the best and we need to have lunch! Secret, Luckystar thanks for hanging out with me non-stop! Love you - Summer. Spryte we need a date night soon. I love you little! - Serenity. Euphoria and LuckyStar buy their very own pirate lover! Secret I love you so much - Lucky Star. Shimmer and Luckystar love mexican food with the rents. Gia and Matey Better Crocker it up in AXP’s kitchen for the Stupid Bowl on sunday while standing ground! Jamon! <3 Matey. Cleo and Electra go pary hopping on friday niht. Riff and Electra fill up on yummy Jack’s wings during superbowl. Riff and Arielle make excellent partners and decide the fist pump is out – face slapping is in. LuckyStar - thanks for just helping me out and being there! <3 Tink. Secret, Vogue - you rock! thanks for all <3 Tink Vogue - your biggie is obsessed with you. I love you muchisimo! Secret Euphoria - my dear - you grabber – inappropriate times. loserface, love you chicks. Scky: we will miss you thanks for the couch - GIA P.S.: Monroe shut up! Thanks you to all my lovely ladies for being there for me this week <3 Cleo. I’m still freez-ing <3 Spryte! Happy Valentines Day lovely ladies! - Euphoria. Happy late b-day cypress! I love you Secret and big-love Radiance

Delta Phi Epsilon

Spring 07 Recruitment is moving along, and we look forward to taking our future new member class. Good luck girls and follow your heart.

Hey girls, Cops & Robbers mixer was awesome! I can’t wait for more!- dolce. Conrats Caliente on Miss Monmouth! I <3 my sorority! Xoxo neveah. Caliente-Yay Miss Monmouth! Love being ridiculous with you-mixer & Bey Hall! Missed you Biff- xoxo cieLo. Hi little Aloha, I love you! Love Roxie. Starlet and STellar\* Keepin creepy men stalkin’ on myspace since 1985. What up Bobby de Brit. DESTINi and Perfect, I miss you sooo much! – Aloha. Good luck to all potential new members! Yay recruitment! So much fun Friday. Love you Nikki, Tat, & Ali <3 Vegas. Congrats Caliente! Much love. Hot cops. Hollywood, Vegas, & DaZZle...J.J. Whattt!

Sigma Tau Gamma

What Up Monmouth,  
Hope everyone’s been enjoying themselves. If you’ve been looking to join a fraternity then we’re the ones for you. Other groups’ll tell you that they’re the best, but just remember that Sig Tau is better than the rest. We don’t fit just one person, we’re the right choice for everyone, look at our brothers and you see individuals who would fit in with different fraternities, but as a whole we’re something new and something better.  
**SIG TAU...FOR LIFE!!!**

Sincerely,  
Sigma Tau Gamma

Sigma Tau Gamma

Brothers! Phi Sigma Kappa would like to wish everyone good luck this week during recruitment events. We also would like to thank everyone who came out Friday’s round robin, we hope everyone interested in a Greek organization found something that they want to be a part of. This is Launchpad signing off saying, DAMN PROUD!

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## With St. Valentine's Day approaching, are you excited or bummed?

BY: SUZANNE GUARINO



**Ranley**  
freshman

"I'm excited to look for a Valentine."



**Angelly**  
freshman

"I'm kind of excited because there's love in the air."



**Dan**  
freshman

"I'm excited because I hope to get candy."



**Chris**  
freshman

"I am excited because I get to spend it with my girlfriend and friends."



**Mary**  
sophomore

"I am very excited about Valentine's Day because I will be spending it with my boyfriend who I have been dating for 3 years and we're going to Olive Garden!"



**Sheree**  
freshman

"A little on the bummed side, I don't think I have a Valentine!"



**Jennifer & Erin**  
freshmen

"Excited because we're going to have a girls night with our best friends and order in and watch girly movies!"



**Darrin**  
sophomore

"I'm excited because my birthday is the day before Valentine's Day."



**Allison, Marc & Evan**  
freshmen

"We're excited about Valentine's Day because it's Allison's birthday!"



**T.J.**  
freshman

"I am excited for Valentine's Day because it's an excuse to party and wear red."

## Office of Student Activities and Student Center Operations

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### This Weeks Campus Events

#### WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 7, 2007

HIV Testing  
Health Center, 1:00 - 4:00 PM

Orientation Leader Info. Session  
RSSC 202A, 3:30 PM

Movie - Fast Food Nation  
The Underground, 7:00 PM

Meet the Lambdas  
The Underground, 9:00 PM

#### THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 8, 2007

Leadership Development  
Workshop: Group Dynamics  
RSSC 202B, 12:00 PM

Black JEOPARDY!  
Anacon Hall A, 8:00 PM

#### FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 9, 2007

Fraternity and Sorority Bid Day

Poetry Slam with Helena D. Lewis  
The Underground, 8:00 PM

MU Ice Hawks vs. Delco  
Wall Sports Arena, 9:00 PM

#### SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 10, 2007

Winterball  
Wilson Hall, 7:00 PM

Performing Arts: Maureen McGovern  
Pollak Theatre, 8:00 PM

#### SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 11, 2007

Performing Arts: Hansel and Gretel  
Pollak Theatre, 2:00 PM

#### MONDAY, FEBRUARY 12, 2007

Orientation Leader Applications Due  
Office of Student Activities, 4:30 PM

Craft Night  
Catholic Centre, 7:30 PM

Men's Basketball vs. FDU  
Boylan Gym, 7:30 PM

#### TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 13, 2007

Charity Auction benefiting Michaels Feat  
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# Life Across the Pond

## Dublin, Ireland

LINDSAY PLESNIARSKI  
STAFF WRITER

Hello MU!!! Ever since high school I have always wanted to travel to Ireland. Being one of the most popular tourist stops in Ireland, I decided to go to Dublin. Wow! It actually wasn't what I was expecting! I was picturing acres and acres of grass and mountains...and instead it turned out to be a huuuge city. Many people already know this, but I didn't! Haha, it ended up being a fun trip anyways!

Dublin is veeery similar to London! It was sort of like we went 'next door' and not into a totally different country. The only dif-

*Some of the other tourist attractions we went to was the National Art Gallery, a tour of the Book of Kells, The Laughter Lounge... the Dublin castle and St. Patricks Cathedral...*

ferences were the currency (euro instead of the pound: it's less expensive in Ireland yet our American dollar still comes short), their accents, and the bars stay open until 4AM.

I booked the trip through Ryanair.com...which is-by far-the cheapest website to buy tickets. Our trip started on Thursday night and we came back Sunday morning. Even though we only had a couple days, we did accomplish many things....without even plan-

ning out an itinerary! Yup, we basically arrived there and was like, "Okay! What should we do?" Hahaha, it's more common than you think. We got the brochures from the hostel we stayed in (luckily it was a very nice hostel; bunkbeds!!!) and figured out what we wanted to do from there.

One destination that we had to go to was the Guinness Factory. Dublin is the place where Guinness is made and the self-guided tour was amazing! They even treated us with a free pint of Guinness just for buying admission!

One of the most amazing parts of the factory was that there was an awesome man-made waterfall that you can walk behind and take pictures (they came out good too!).

Also, the place where you got the complimentary pint was on the very top bar, in a place called 'Gravity Bar'! WOW was the view gorgeous! We were sooo high up that we had a view of the mountains in Ireland! It was very very pretty, just very very hard to grab a seat and sit down to enjoy the drink...the top floor was packed!

Some of the other tourist attractions we went to was the National Art Gallery, a tour of the Book of Kells, The Laughter Lounge (amazing comedy club which turns into a disco/dance club afterwards), we checked out the Dublin castle and St. Patricks Cathedral, and took a double-decker open top bus tour! For only having a couple days in a city like Dublin, we accomplished a lot! We must've walked 10 miles the whole trip!

When traveling, make sure you bring very comfortable walking shoes because, so far, I have never walked so much in my life as I have studying abroad! Talk to you later Monmouth!

## Czech Me Out: Weekend in Prague

DANIELLE DECARLO  
STAFF WRITER

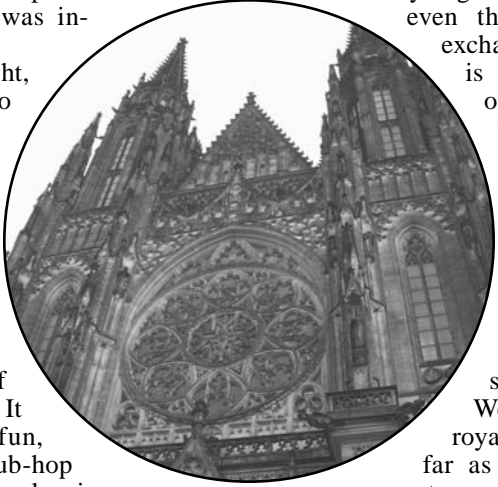
Sorry for the cheesy title. But, as you can probably tell, I spent my weekend in Prague. Prague is located in the Czech Republic. It is a beautiful city with a lot of history behind it. I would highly recommend going there if you study abroad and plan on traveling Europe!

Since the exchange rate is pretty decent in Prague (20 Kc to \$1), we ended up staying in a pretty nice apartment for the weekend. It was right in the center of Wenceslas Square, which is in the heart of Prague. There is all kinds of shopping around there, and the Charles Bridge and Prague Castle are only about a 20 minute walk away. We were also right by the Prague Museum, which unfortunately we didn't get to explore. But it is a beautiful building anyway.

We arrived at our apartment at about 10:30 p.m., and were a little nervous to explore since we didn't speak Czech and no one spoke fluent English, so we couldn't ask for directions. However, we found a brochure by the reception area that had a lot of information about daily tours of the city that they held starting from Wenceslas Square. So we decided to do that, which was probably the best decision that we could have made! The tour was amazing, our tour guide was very informative, and we got to learn all about the history of the city. She showed us Prague Museum, which still has marks on it from it getting bombed. Then we went over the Charles Bridge, which has an amazing view of the city, and Prague Castle, which is one of the largest castles in Europe. The city is absolutely beautiful,

and the castle is a city within a city that we unfortunately didn't get to explore since the tour itself took an entire day. We did get to go inside the chapel of the castle, which was incredible.

Friday night, we went to this club that I actually can't spell the name of (sorry!), but it's four stories high and each floor has a different type of music playing. It was so much fun, we got to club-hop without even leaving the building! There was a floor of hip-hop, oldies, techno, and Czech dance music. It was a really good time, but we didn't get home until 3:30 a.m.. So, needless to say, we were exhausted when we had to check out at 11:00 a.m. and then kill about five hours before our plane arrived! To waste some time, we walked around



make for future study abroad students: make sure you know a few key phrases in Czech, know exactly where you want to go before you get there, and even though the exchange rate is good, it only works well for restaurants, so you still have to keep a close eye on your spending. We ate like royalty, but as far as shopping went, everything added up to be about the same price that you would pay in the U.S.. Altogether, between my plane ticket, the apartment, food, the tour and a little bit of shopping, I spent approximately \$400-\$500. Honestly, we didn't do a lot of research before we booked our flight, so that was the most expensive part. So, do your research and make sure you know a little bit of the language and culture before you go!

I will be in London for the next two weekends, and a couple of the other girls from Monmouth and I have decided to do all of the touristy-sites of London like the British Museum, Buckingham Palace, the London Eye etc., so stay tuned next week!

If anyone has any questions about studying abroad, you can contact me on Facebook or by e-mail at ddc\_marie@yahoo.com.

PHOTO COURTESY OF Danielle DeCarlo  
Prague Castle

*...make sure you know a few key phrases in Czech, know exactly where you want to go...[and] keep a close eye on your spending.*

Wenceslas Square and shopped a little bit. Unfortunately, when we got to the airport, our flight was delayed for over two hours. So we didn't actually get back to Regent's campus until 4 a.m..

Prague was a really good time. But some suggestions I would

## Fallen Marines Honored

MARINE continued from pg. 1

"You've got death tugging at your elbow everyday."

After witnessing the sacrifice made by his friend, Minton said he has a desire to join the armed services after graduation.

"[Being a Marine] is a very heavy responsibility and probably one of the greatest honors anyone can earn," he said. "I hope I live up to the same caliber guy he was."

While people paid tribute to Cosgrove, many in attendance also were trying to cope with having their loved ones in Iraq.

"My brother is over in Iraq, and I feel that this is a good way to support what he is doing over there for us," added Brian Singer of Long Branch.

He also said that there should be more fund-raisers like this one for the soldiers over in the Middle East to help support them.

"The soldiers in the war need our support," he continued, "and this fund-raiser is a good way

to get people's attention about the serious situation that is happening over in Iraq."

Wesley Chin and Samantha Young contributed to this story.

**If you would like to donate to fallen Marines, please visit:**  
**<http://www.fallen-marinememorialrun.com/donation.html>**



PHOTO COURTESY OF David Downing

Hear Me Roar was one of eight bands that performed at the Rock Out concert on February 3 in Anacon Hall.

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# Men's Basketball

## Beaten at the Buzzer

### FDU Rallies from 18 Points Down to Stun Hawks

CRAIG D'AMICO  
ASSOCIATE SPORTS EDITOR

It was 334 days prior to Monday night that the Hawks were celebrating at center court of the Rothman Center following a last-second Chris Kenny layup that clinched Monmouth's fourth NEC Championship and a trip to the NCAA Tournament.

After being forced to watch their interstate rivals hoist the championship trophy on their floor last March, the Fairleigh Dickinson Knights opened the doors to their "castle" for the first time since, and were able to gain a measure of revenge.

three pointer from the top of the key to tie the game at 62.

On the Hawks' ensuing offensive possession, Jhamar Youngblood was fouled, fouling Hazard out of the game and sending Youngblood to the line for free throws. Despite missing the first half of a one and one, Youngblood was able to track down the rebound, saving possession for the Hawks.

With just seven seconds left, FDU coach Tom Green called for his team to foul. Michael Peeples committed the foul of Marques Alston, sending the senior to the charity stripe for two shots. After making the first to give Monmouth a slim 63-62 lead, he was off on the second.

sending the Rothman Center into pandemonium.

Both teams traded the lead back and forth in the opening minutes, before Monmouth found themselves trailing 20-16. From there, the Hawks engineered a 16-0 run to grab an 11 point lead. The Blue and White finished the first half on an 18-4 run, leading 34-24 at the intermission.

FDU shot a miserable 28 percent from the field in the first half, including 1-8 shooting on three point attempts. On the other side, the Hawks had one of their finest halves of basketball all season, taking it right to the basket, and outscoring the Knights 24-10 in the paint.

the Hawks since day one, did them in on this night, as well. Monmouth shot 8-15 from the free throw line, including key misses by Youngblood and Alston in the final minute. The Knights also capitalized on 18 Monmouth turnovers, which resulted in 25 FDU points.

"To win on the road against a good team like this, you need to not turn the ball over, make foul shots, and play good defense," said Monmouth head coach Dave Calloway. "Down the stretch, we didn't do any of those. We didn't

of Boylan Gym, the Hawks drop to 1-10 on the road this season. They will be looking forward to exorcising some of their road demons with a trip to the Spiro Sports Center in Staten Island to take on the Wagner Seahawks on Thursday night. The Hawks defeated Wagner at Boylan Gym in their first game of 2007, 69-58.

Monmouth and FDU will then step back into the ring for round two, as the Hawks will prepare to welcome the Knights back to Boylan Gym for a rematch on next



PHOTO COURTESY of Monmouth Sports Information  
John Bunch followed his triple-double vs. St. Francis (NY) with 14 points and nine rebounds against the Knights.

Despite being down by as many as 18 points in the second half, the Knights used a 10-1 run to cut the deficit to three with 3:33 left in the game. With Monmouth clinging to a 62-59 lead inside the final 60 seconds, Eric Hazard drilled a

The Knights moved quickly, and got the ball in the hands of junior Manny Ubilla, who sank his only basket of the game on a ten foot jump shot from the left wing as the final buzzer sounded, giving the Knights a 64-63 win and

Despite watching Monmouth open up the second half on a 12-4 run to lead 46-28, the Knights never let up. After trailing since the 7:35 mark of the first half, the Knights would continue to chip away at the lead, eventually overcoming the Hawks at the final second.

Fresh off his triple-double on Saturday night, the first triple double in Monmouth D1 history, John Bunch led the Hawks with 14 points, 9 rebounds, and three blocks. However, he also committed seven turnovers. Alston, who collected his 500th career rebound during the course of the game, finished with 13 points, and Coleman and Youngblood finished in double figures, scoring 12 and 10 points, respectively.

Cameron Tyler led the Knights with 19 points, while Hazard finished with 14, 12 of which came from beyond the three point line. Monmouth did a good job in containing the NEC's leading scorer and reigning NEC Player of the Week Andre Harris. After scoring 34 points in his previous game against Robert Morris, he only managed 13 points and 10 rebounds against the Hawks.

Missed free throws and turnovers, problems that have plagued



PHOTO COURTESY of Monmouth Sports Information  
Dejan Delic had seven points in Monmouth's loss to Fairleigh Dickinson.

play very well for all 40 minutes."

A game that featured five ties and six lead changes is the latest chapter in the longtime rivalry between the two most successful programs in the Northeast Conference.

The loss drops the Hawks to 10-13 overall and 5-6 in conference play. Currently, Monmouth sits in the eighth spot in the standings, but are two games back from number two Quinnipiac.

Away from the comfy confines

Monday night.

Before they take on FDU for the second time, the Hawks will travel to Wagner to take on the Seahawks. After taking on FDU again, the Hawks will stay in West Long Branch to take on Central Connecticut State.

**Notes:** The buzzer-beating shot by Farleigh Dickinson's Manny Ubilla made it to ESPN Sportscenter "Top Plays." It was the number one play of the night.

## The Hawk File: Jonathon Schmid

ERIC M. WALSH  
ASSISTANT SPORTS EDITOR

Any coach would love to have a player who is the consummate competitor. While there are many on the campus of Monmouth University in each sport, one that stands out is senior soccer athlete Jonathan Schmid. Although Schmid may not have the gaudiest

a valuable component to our success. He will be very difficult to replace next season," says head soccer coach Rob McCourt.

Schmid, who played in his final season at MU this past fall, has been contributing to the men's soccer team since his first game in his freshman year. Despite contributing only four goals and four assists in his first three years as a Hawk, Schmid was named team

a school record 14 wins, and the first NCAA Tournament birth in school history. "It is a great feeling being one of the worst teams four years ago and now being unbeaten in the conference for two years straight. And being ranked 16th in the country was a good feeling and great exposure for the school and our program," says Schmid. The athlete also earned a second team all-NEC honor for his efforts on the pitch in his senior season.

A Business and Marketing major from Kingston, Pennsylvania, Schmid plans to pursue his love for the game. Even though his Monmouth soccer career is over, Schmid hopes to continue playing elsewhere. "I hope that I can still play soccer somewhere and I'm going to give that a go," remarks Schmid about his possible future plans. With all the success he has brought to the Hawks in his four years as a player, there is no reason why Schmid would not be able to do the same for a team on the next level.

If his success at Monmouth is any indication, Schmid will have no problem reaching his goals.

**"He is not a big stats player, but he is such a valuable component to our success."**

ROBERT MCCOURT  
Men's Soccer Head Coach

statistics or the many individual accolades and awards, he has displayed constant leadership qualities and has epitomized the true meaning of a teammate.

"Schmiddy has been one of our most consistent performers. Sometimes it seems like his contributions go unnoticed. He is not a big stats player, but he is such

captain for his senior season. This title alone shows what Schmid meant to the MU squad.

Described as a "gritty midfielder with great a touch" in his Monmouth University biography, Schmid helped the Blue and White to their second consecutive unbeaten season in the NEC, a number 16 rank in the nation,

Name: *Jonathon Schmid*

Hometown: *Kingston, Pennsylvania*

Major: *Business and Marketing*

Most Memorable Moment at MU: *"Winning the NEC championship this year. We were pretty bad my freshman year and coach McCourt has changed this program, a complete 180."*

Biggest Rival: *"FDU. They're just a team you love to hate."*

In Ten Years: *"I would like to work on Wall Street for a living, and I see myself married and maybe have children."*

Favorite Teammate: *"Damon Wilson or D-Dash as they call him. He is as nice as white rice they say. He loves the game and always looks good doing it. John Michael Jordan is another. I have never seen a kid who loves the game and trains harder than him."*



# Track Team Looks to Build on Success, Heads Into NECs

MIKE TIEDEMANN  
STAFF WRITER

Once again, Monmouth University was well represented. This time, it was at the New Balance Collegiate Invite in New York, NY.

With 75 schools competing and over 1,500 competitors, both the men's and women's indoor track and field team put together another weekend to be proud of. In past weeks, new records have been set in Monmouth's record book and this past weekend was no different.

One of those records was in the women's 4x400m relay. Competing against several top teams in the nation, Michelle Losey, Crystal Stein, Illiana Blackshear, and Latasha Dickson put together a time of 3:49.25. This was good for fourth overall, while also being tops in Monmouth's history.

"While we only had people

Two other teams put their names in Monmouth's record books as well. The women's distance medley relay team consisting of Jessica Jones, Brittany Gibbs, Asha Arneith and Malia Lyles now own the school's second fastest time of 12:29.10.

Meanwhile, Jerome St. Bernard, Dave Martell, Chris Taiwo, and Darrin Chandler who are a part of the 4x200m relay team came in at 1:30.32. This time was also the school's second fastest time.

However, these weren't the only relay teams that had a successful trip to New York. The men's 4x800m relay team put together a time of 7:42.9 which was good enough for an IC4A qualifying spot.

On the women's side, the 4x800m relay team was able to come in ninth place with a time of 9:34.08.

These results were just a handful of highlights for what can be looked at as a tune-up for this upcoming weekend. On February 10 and 11, both the men and women will travel to Maryland to take part of the NEC Championships. The men are looking to win their third straight title, while the women will look to capture the championship that eluded them by a mere point last season.

### QUICK SPRINTS:

Bobby Smith will receive funding from USA Track & Field in order to travel to competitions throughout the summer.

He was one of only six javelin throwers to receive this honor as he was recognized for his ability and potential to be a top thrower at the next level.



PHOTO COURTESY of Monmouth Sports Information  
Head Coach Joe Compagni has his team ready for the Northeast Conference Championships this weekend.

compete in limited events as we get ready for NECs next weekend, both the men and the women had some solid results," said Coach Joe Compagni.

# Former Hawk Standout Finds His Niche in the NFL

ALEXANDER TRUNCALE  
SPORTS EDITOR

Last April, after the NFL Draft had taken place, Monmouth star wide receiver Miles Austin was left without a team. Projected by some experts to go as high as the 5th round after impressing teams at the Combine in Indianapolis, Austin remained unemployed. That was until Bill Parcells, head coach of the Dallas Cowboys, called him and offered him a contract.

At the end of training camp, Austin had officially made the Cowboys final roster as a reserve wide receiver. After being listed as inactive for seven of the first eight games of the season, Austin finally got his shot on November 12th against the Arizona Cardinals, replacing Skyler Green as the Cowboys' kickoff returner. It was a job he would not relinquish.

Austin began to make his presence known in his new role, and by Week 15, was the leader in kickoff return yards in the NFC, averaging 25.9 yards per return. But it wasn't until the playoffs that Austin would make his mark.

After making the playoffs as a wild card team, the Cowboys'

first task was to travel to the Great Northwest and take on the Seattle Seahawks. After Dallas fell behind 15-13 in the third quarter, Austin took a kickoff and returned it 93 yards for a touchdown. It was the first time in the 46 year history of the franchise that a Cowboys player returned a kickoff for a touchdown in a playoff game. It was also the longest kick return in Cowboy team history.

Kevin Callahan, head football coach at Monmouth, shared in Austin's excitement about the season.

"Miles is very excited about the entire year and was very happy to cap his rookie season with a kickoff return for touchdown."

Callahan went on to talk about the effect of Austin's performance on Monmouth's football program.

"Having Miles perform at such a high level has brought attention to MU and the football program. It also shows players from all levels of college football that have the ability can make it to the pro level."

In addition to his record-setting kickoff return for a touchdown, Austin finished the season with a 27.8 yard average, as well as eight special teams tackles.

# Women's Basketball

## Blue and White Defeat Red Flash, Terriers in Key Conference Showdowns

ALEXANDER TRUNCALE  
SPORTS EDITOR

The women's basketball team defeated both St. Francis (PA) and St. Francis (NY) last week, and remained in the thick of things in the Northeast Conference.

In what turned out to be a hard fought victory, Monmouth took on the Red Flash of St. Francis (PA) at Boylan Gym, as Rachael Ferdinand gave the Hawks an early

The Blue and White looked to be in control until the last minute of the first half, when Red Flash's Christine Ayers scored five straight points to cut the lead to single digits, 37-29 at the break.

In the second half, Ayers continued to have the hot hand. She hit two more shots to cut the Hawks' lead to 39-33. Monmouth tried to pull away with two consecutive three-pointers from Veronica Randolph and Marisa Jimenez, extending their lead to 46-33. But the St.

Francis hung tough, going on a 7-0 run, pulling to within six, 46-40.

Monmouth again grabbed a big lead, going up 59-46 on a Brianne Edwards three. But, just like last time, the Red Flash went on another big run -- this time 12-2 -- to pull to within three 61-58.

SFU eventually pulled to within one, 72-71, but it was the Hawks' stellar free-throw shooting that would prove to be the difference in the contest. Edwards and Jimenez each hit big free throws with less than 30 seconds left in the game, and Jennifer Bender hit one to seal the victory for Monmouth, 76-71.

Edwards led the Hawks with 15



PHOTO COURTESY of Monmouth Sports Information  
Lakia Barber and the Hawks are back in the mix in the NEC after two more conference wins.

10-7 lead. After the teams traded leads for the next three minutes, LaKia Barber would hit two free throws to give the Hawks the lead for the rest of the opening half. It also sparked Monmouth on a 13-1 run, giving them a 32-19 lead.

would prove to be the difference in the contest. Edwards and Jimenez each hit big free throws with less than 30 seconds left in the game, and Jennifer Bender hit one to seal the victory for Monmouth, 76-71.

Edwards led the Hawks with 15

points and Jimenez chipped in with 14. Bender came off the bench to add 13 in the victory. Monmouth forced 19 SFU turnovers, resulting in 29 points off those turnovers.

After the thrilling win over St. Francis (PA), Michelle Baxter's team took on another St. Francis, this time from New York. Although Monmouth would fall behind by ten points to start the game, by halftime, they had a grabbed a five point advantage, 34-29.

In the second half, the Hawks would not look back. They increased their lead to ten after a 7-2 run to open up the half. And every time the Terriers threatened to make it close, MU seemed to get big shots from their stars. Edwards hit a three to make it 44-37. Later, Nyaimah Ware would hit a jumper to increase the lead to 49-37. And, with 7:34 to play, Randolph would seal the victory with a three-pointer of her own to put the Hawks up 57-37.

In the end, Monmouth cruised to victory, 65-47. The story of the game was Monmouth's second half performance. MU outscored the Terriers 31-18 in the half, and the 47 total points allowed by the Hawks defense was the lowest allowed all season. In addition, the Hawk bench outscored the Terriers' 20-2.

Michele Baxter's team is now 13-8 overall, and their 6-4 record puts them as the 5th seed in the NEC. They will play their next three games on the road as they take on Long Island University, Wagner, and Mount St. Mary's before returning home to take on Central Connecticut State.

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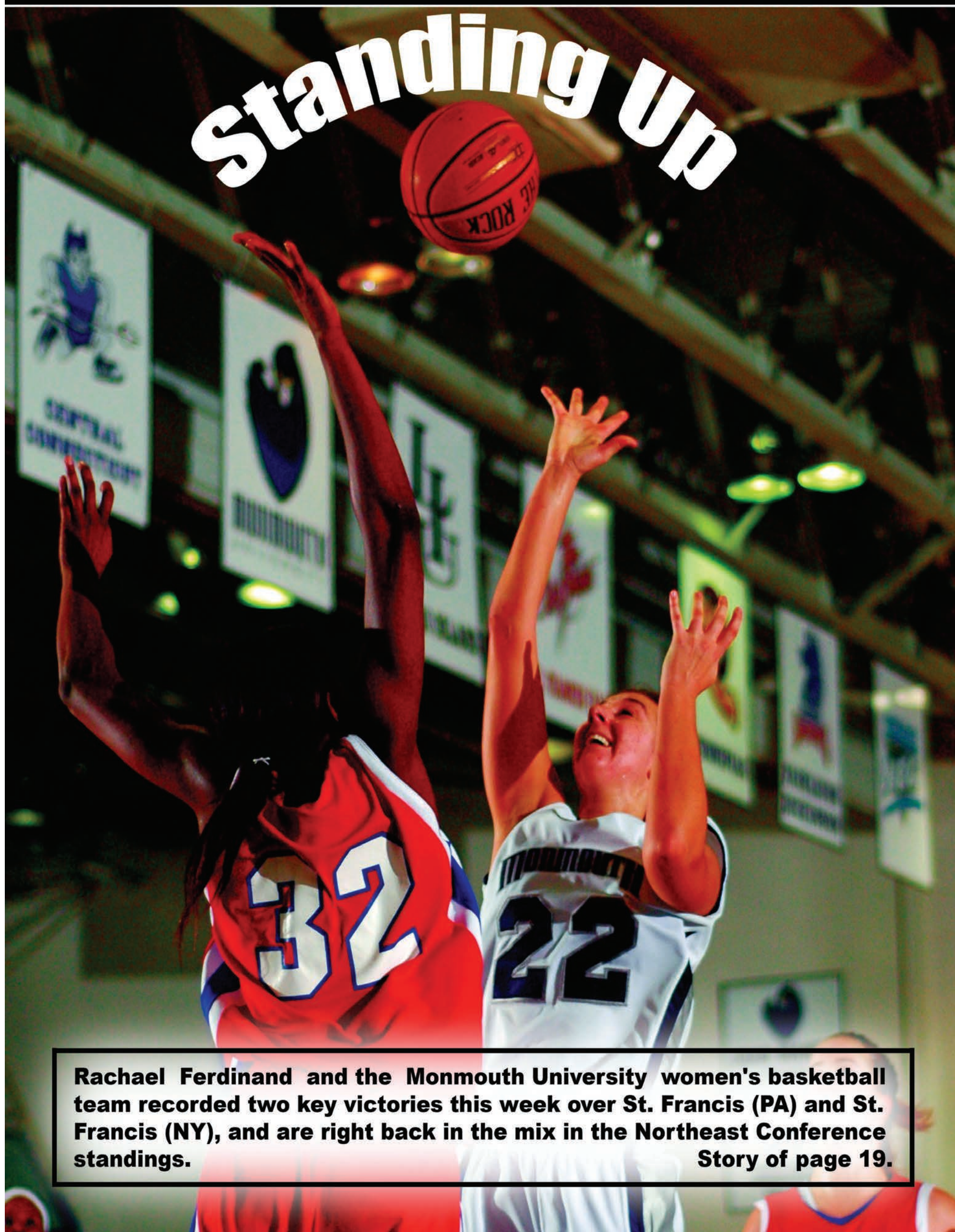
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# standing up



**Rachael Ferdinand and the Monmouth University women's basketball team recorded two key victories this week over St. Francis (PA) and St. Francis (NY), and are right back in the mix in the Northeast Conference standings.**

**Story of page 19.**