



THE OUTLOOK

MONMOUTH UNIVERSITY'S
STUDENT-RUN NEWSPAPER SINCE 1933

Special
Valentine's Day
Features Section
Pages 14 & 15

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"To Write Love On her Arms" First N.J. Chapter Coming to MU

NICK HODGINS
CLUB AND GREEK EDITOR

Your life matters. This is one of the main ideas that the non-profit organization, To Write Love on Her Arms (TWLOHA) stresses. Sophomore Sarah Vander Wall is bringing a chapter of TWLOHA to the University this semester, as well as making Monmouth the first college in New Jersey where TWLOHA is recognized.

According to their website, twloha.com, "To Write Love on Her

Arms is a non-profit movement dedicated to presenting hope and finding help for people struggling with depression, addiction, self-injury and suicide."

The idea of TWLOHA is that no one person is alone, no matter how much it may seem that way. The site goes on to state, "We know that pain is very real. It is our privilege to suggest that hope is real, and that help is real."

"We live in a difficult world," TWLOHA explains on their website, and yet "you're part of a bigger story. You need to know that your life matters."

About a year ago the founder

of TWLOHA, Jamie Tworkowski, spoke at Vander Wall's previous college, The College of New Jersey. The idea that the organization covers so many different things and touchy subjects appealed to Vander Wall. "The fact that people aren't alone can really brace the stigma for those affected," she explained. "I think every college should have it. Knowing people who have been through rough patches in their life, and that they aren't the only ones, can make a difference," she said.

TWLOHA encourages treatment on their website, whether it is from people sitting in front of

counselors, people stepping into treatment and at more desperate times, calling a suicide hot line. Beyond treatment the idea of TWLOHA is to bring people together, to help one another. "We believe community is essential," the site states, "That people need other people, that we were never meant to live life alone."

The organization, according to TWLOHA's website, started with a story written by Tworkowski, about 19-year-old Renee Yohe, who struggled with addiction, depression, self-injury and attempted suicide. Tworkowski's story, written in

February 2006, discusses Yohe's life five days before she entered treatment. While unable to get Yohe checked into a treatment center, friends offered moral support in the meantime. "We became her hospital and the possibility of healing filled our living room with life," Tworkowski had said on the page.

They began selling TWLOHA t-shirts as a way to pay for Yohe's treatment, as well as creating a Myspace to give the organization a web-based home.

Love continued on pg. 16

New Residence Hall in the Works

TAMMY SYBEL
STAFF WRITER

Every year the time comes when e-mails are received and lottery numbers are assigned to designate what student gets to pick what room on what day. The better the number, the better the residence hall. Many will be glad to hear that a new residence hall is in the works to help accommodate those who get left out of housing each year.

We want to build a new residence hall not to address an increased student enrollment, but rather to respond to an increased demand for student housing on campus," said Mary Anne Nagy, Vice President for Student and Community Services, regarding the reasons for building a new residence hall.

Currently, the only guaranteed housing is for the incoming

first-year students who arrive at the University every fall to begin their college career. That is an aspect that the University hopes the new residence hall will fix.

"Most especially, we want to be able to guarantee our first and second-year students housing with us on campus for two years," Nagy said. "At the present time, we guarantee first-year students, but after that students must participate in the housing lottery process."

The hope is that the additional space will ease the currently high demand for rooms on campus.

"With additional beds on campus, we are confident that all of the demand by second-year students for housing can be met and they will no longer

"Additional beds will provide more opportunities for students to live on-campus instead of moving off-campus."

RAYMOND GONZALEZ
Associate Director of Housing Operations

Hall continued on pg. 3



Home Profile Find People Settings Help Sign out

Students Tweeting @MnmthProblems to Make Remarks on Campus

CASSANDRA FIGEROUA
STAFF WRITER

A new way to reveal problems about the University became available on the Internet. It is called #MUProblems, which is a trend on the social media website known as Twitter.

Twitter is a site that gives individuals the opportunity to share and discover what is important to them. "Find out what's happening, right now, with the people and organizations you care about," says the Twitter homepage in an attempt to attract users.

By "tweeting" or posting an update to the #MUProblems trend page, students have the ability to state their feelings and comment on instances that occurred at the University. The trend has been used by students to tweet about their course load, the teaching skills of the professors, the wireless Internet, tuition money, food

and parking. #MUProblems is a trend that speaks about the negative aspects of the University.

MU is an acronym for different schools, such as Marshall University, so the trend #MUProblems is not limited to solely Monmouth University. Many of the tweets are focused on those schools. However, @MnmthUProblems is a twitter page created specifically for Monmouth University students and faculty. It is not a trend page; rather, it is a separate twitter identity.

"Monmouth should definitely look over the site, if they haven't already, and take note of things that bother students," said Nicolette Dimucci, a sophomore at the University. "To please a student, you need to think like one."

The health and welfare of the University's student body is promoted by the Student

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News

President Obama proposes a plan to keep college tuition in check.

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Opinion

From toddler pageants to bargain hunters, TLC airs a number of programs.

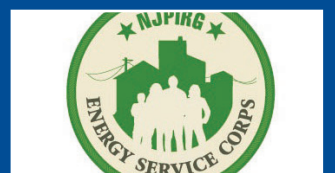
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Entertainment

Did you see *Chronicle* yet? Read a review here first.

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Club & Greek

You may have heard of the Energy Service Corps, but here's the full story on the organization.

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Obama Orders Lowering of Higher Education Costs

Colleges and Universities Failing to Comply May Face Loss of State Funding

LAUREN GARCIA
ASSOCIATE NEWS EDITOR

During the State of the Union Address made on January 21, President Barack Obama proposed a plan requiring colleges and universities to find ways to keep tuition down. If they are unable to do so, he threatened to take away state funding.

While the risk of losing money from the state looms over the roofs of several institutions, University students may rest assured that they are not at one of the most highly priced universities in the country.

“If you were to look at Monmouth’s history of tuition increases versus many of our colleges in the state of New Jersey or around the country, Monmouth has taken the approach of modest tuition increases,” said Claire Alasio, Associate Vice President of Enrollment Management and Director of Financial Aid. “I think that there are other institutions out there that aren’t as responsible about their tuition increases. If I had to infer what President Obama was saying, I don’t think they are saying institutions shouldn’t increase tuition. I think they’re saying in-

stitutions should do it in a reasonable and responsible way.”

Tuition rises every year in order to maintain rising costs of facilities on campus and to meet the expectations of students and their families, such as maintaining small class sizes, limiting the number of adjunct faculty, providing wireless computer access and making cable television available

tuition fees cost among these private institutions has risen by over \$3,800 more than tuition and fees at the University. Accomplishing this has taken concerted efforts by the entire University community to be prudent in making spending decisions and carefully choosing the priorities that can be funded.”

“It would be unrealistic to ex-

Due to the reduced or declination of certain sources of income, such as the balancing of state budgets and the declining in interest rates, it becomes difficult to keep tuition costs low, according to Craig.

“Nevertheless, Monmouth University’s tuition increases have consistently been among the lowest charged by private colleges and universities in New Jersey for

tion of federal aid to institutions that do not lower tuition is a part of a plan to make higher education available and affordable to more people.

Craig explained that details regarding the Obama’s plan to control college costs have yet to be released. “It seems that the proposal will include making new federal funds available to those institutions that meet certain yet to be determined criteria for controlling costs,” Craig said. “It appears that any college or university that receives federal funds could be impacted by this including the University but we expect that MU’s history of very measured and responsible tuition increases positions the University well.”

University services and finances aside, tuition is also directly affected by the economy. While debate as to whether University graduates will be able to find employment opportunities is widely disputed, one thing can be sure for a higher education institution: “A growing economy will ease pressure on state budgets which may allow the restoration of funds that were reduced or eliminated during the economic downturn,” Craig said.

“Nevertheless, Monmouth University’s tuition increases have consistently been among the lowest charged by private colleges and universities in New Jersey for over 15 years, resulting in a tuition and fee rate that is in the lowest third of that group of institutions in the state.”

WILLIAM CRAIG
Vice President for Finance

in the residence halls, according to William Craig, Vice President for Finance.

“We have been working to keep costs down for more than a decade,” Craig said. “We have one of the lowest tuition and fee costs of the private colleges and universities in New Jersey. Over the last 10 years, the average annual

pect that, as cost of electricity and the cost of businesses go up, that students would be paying the same tuition that they were paying in 2000,” Alasio added.

Tuition costs can be kept down, even those of the University whose expenses increase in gradual, fair increments. Although, this task is more difficult than it would seem.

over 15 years resulting in a tuition and fee rate that is in the lowest third of that group of institutions in the state,” Craig said.

However, the warning that federal funding may be taken from larger institutions remains if costs cannot be kept down. According to President Obama’s State of the Union Address, the discontinua-

Psychology Department Hosted 55th Semi-Annual Research Conference

PRESS RELEASE

The psychology department proudly hosted its 55th semi-annual research conference, co-coordinated by Dr. Natalie Ciarocco and Dr. Janice Stapley, on Saturday, December 10, 2011, in Bey Hall. Attendees, which included both field experience and senior thesis students, their parents, family, and friends, as well as the psychology department faculty, were treated to a full day of poster and paper presentations. The presentations were the culmination of students’ senior thesis projects as well as students’ field experiences in the fall 2011 semester. Field experiences included students working with individual faculty members, as well as the students in Dr. Doris Hiatt’s PY 410 Field Experience course.


The day began with opening remarks from the department chair, Dr. Janice Stapley. Dr. Stanton Green, Dean of the School of Humanities and Social Sciences, also offered remarks that both congratulated and encouraged the day’s presenters. The attendees were also greeted by Miranda Bobrowski, the president of Psi Chi, the International Honor Society in Psychology.

Throughout the day, nine paper presentations and 31 poster presentations displayed the results of each student’s original senior thesis project. Projects, under the guidance of faculty supervisors, were seen through from idea conception to data collection and the display of the results at the conference. Drs. Demarest, Dinella, Holmes, Lewandowski, and Stapley all served as thesis supervisors this semester.

This year’s recipient of the best paper presentation was Jacqueline Abate, for her paper entitled, “Evaluating Relationship Partners: The Mere Ownership Effect in Romantic Relationships.” The best poster presentation award was shared by Kristen Kohm for her poster, “The Influence of Strength of Attachment on Preschoolers’ Self-Regulation” and Chelsea Thomson for her poster, “Who Studies Abroad?: A Look at Birth Order, Personality, and Willingness to Leave Home.” The best applied psychology poster award went to Juliana Pierce, who worked with Dr. Hatchard’s organization, Making Daughters Safe Again.

Congratulations to the award winners and all the senior thesis students on the completion of their projects.

CRIME BLOTTER



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Hawk Walk Campaign Makes Next Step

LINDSAY PARTRIDGE
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

With the spring 2012 Commencement just around the corner, graduating seniors are looking to leave their mark on the University before they leave. Many of them have turned to the Hawk Walk Brick Campaign to do just that.

The campaign started in late 2009 and is currently in its second phase. Since it began, the campaign has raised \$32,982. The representatives of the Student Government Association, as well as the Student Alumni Association, were each given checks for \$16,491.

"The Hawk Walk is a wonderful opportunity for alumni and friends to have a permanent marker on the historic Monmouth campus, while supporting Monmouth students," said Dr. Jeffery Mills, Vice President for University Advancement.

The next installation of engraved bricks will be located along the walkway to the Cedar Avenue underpass, overlooking the entrance to Wilson Hall. They will be ready to view by the time of the Spring Commencement on May 16, 2012.

When asked if she was going to purchase a brick, senior Jessica Fina stated, "Absolutely! I already told my mom about it so she's prepared!"

Any and all students are able to purchase a brick and personalize an engraving. If students wanted the brick to be placed by commencement, orders must have been finalized by February 1, 2012. All of the purchasing information can be found at www.monmouth.edu/bricks or call 732-571-7528.

Proceeds from the tax-deductible bricks go directly to support the students of the University. The bricks cost between \$300 and \$400 depending on the size cho-

sen. "Even though the bricks seem a little expensive, it's totally worth it after all we've put into Monmouth," said Fina.

Many students find the campaign to be a great idea, but one student in particular was extremely moved by the project. "I get really emotional when I think about all my senior friends graduating but knowing I can see their name on the walk way makes them leaving a little easier," said Casey McCabe, a sophomore.

Not only will the money go to the Hawk Walk Brick Campaign, but the Student Alumni Association will also put the proceeds toward a \$25,000 endowed scholarship. The Student Government Association is also using the money to fund more extracurricular activities at the University.

Stephanie Santopadre, an alumnus of the University who graduated in 2010, gave a little insight on the impact of the campaign.



PHOTO COURTESY of Meredith Cahill

Bricks from the Hawk Walk Campaign can be purchased by visiting www.monmouth.edu/bricks or calling 732-571-7528.

"It's nice knowing that, even though I'm not there anymore, that brick represents me," she said.

"Monmouth had such an impact on my life and it's nice to know I have been able to leave my mark."

College Admissions Getting More Competitive

JESSICA MEYERS
MCT CAMPUS WIRE

Scoring perfect SATs, landing class valedictorian and mastering the violin don't cut it anymore.

Now it's about priming resumes in middle school, turning science projects into patented inventions and dissecting your life's achievements in 500 words or fewer. In the battle to entice big-time universities, good is no longer good enough.

The college admissions process has morphed into a focused fight to prove individual exceptionalism and convey unparalleled drive. And it may only get more intense. Colleges nationwide have seen swelling numbers of early applicants this year, fueled by an industry pushing college readiness and the growing influence of online marketing.

This could breed a generation that works harder and achieves more in its early ages, but it also threatens to promote those who can afford a competitive advantage and punish those who can't.

"Sorry, I'm an average middle-class American and I've never done anything life-saving," said Rachel Brooks, a senior at Frisco, Texas's Liberty High who shoulders five advanced placement classes, plays in the marching band, and edits the school newspaper. She also skipped her junior year. The 16-year-old was denied early admission to Northwestern University.

"It seems unfair," she said, "that you have to have all these superhero requirements to get into an Ivy League."

Admissions officers blame the aggressive mentality on the HYP Harvard, Yale, Princeton effect. Spots continue to dwindle in the nation's most renowned universities, yet the majority of schools still accept about half their applicants.

But as the college-bound pool broadens, the stakes rise for everyone.

The charged atmosphere stems partly from demand. High school graduates topped 3.3 million in 2009, bolstered by kids of baby boomers who themselves came from more educated backgrounds than their parents and today's pressing need for a college degree.

The University of Texas at Austin received 35,000 applications for the coming school year, its highest yet. About three-quarters of colleges have seen application increases each year for the past decade, according to the National Association for College Admission Counseling.

Even the time when students apply has crept up. Rice University, Texas's most prestigious college, had an 18 percent increase in early decision applications for the coming year. Baylor University received 2,000 more early applications than last fall. In the past two years, Texas Christian University's early applications have gone up by half.

"It's a good news, bad news kind of thing," said Ray Brown, Texas Christian University's dean of admission. "I'm delighted people are taking this more seriously, but the flip side is they are taking it way too seriously."

College advisers attribute the spike to myriad factors, among them the enhanced accessibility provided by technology, a more streamlined application process and a belief that early interest will grant students an edge.

"The Internet has absolutely made our ability to communicate with students much quicker," said Wes Waggoner, Southern Methodist University's dean of undergraduate admission and executive director of enrollment services. "You technically can apply on your iPhone."

Prospective attendees go on virtual college tours, hear testimonials from current students on YouTube and send a common application to several colleges by clicking a button. And a school can appeal to students who've never walked on its campus.

"Colleges are recruiting more people from all over the world," said Katherine Cohen, famed for her college consulting business that primes students for top-notch universities. "Schools are trying to attract a more diverse student body, and they are going to great lengths to do so."

Cohen's company, IvyWise, charges an average of \$6,775 for consultations.

The industry that sprouted to support interest in college preparation has also helped drive the demand. But at what cost, said David Hawkins, director of policy and research at the National Association for College Admission Counseling.

"In an environment where students without resources are already disadvantaged, the expenditure of money, which amounts to influence peddling in worst cases and preparation and coaching in the best, exacerbates the access problem we have," he said.

The entire process disgusts Tracy Begland. But she still shelled out \$60 an hour last summer so her daughter could take private SAT

tutoring classes.

"It's hard not to be sucked in," the Coppell, Texas, mother said. "You're not competing up there with your peers if you don't do some outside things."

Colleges have tried to lessen disparities by providing hefty amounts of financial aid. The University of Texas automatically takes nearly the top 10 percent of high school classes. And a greater number of applicants suggests more young people than ever see the value in higher education.

Admissions teams echo the buzzword "holistic" to describe how they mitigate for a financial leg up.

"Someone may have extraordinary test scores and academic performance, but maybe not recognize how what they accomplished has distinguished them," said Chris Munoz, vice president for enrollment at Rice University, which accepted 21 percent of applicants last year. "So don't always assume that the student who is able to travel abroad and do these other things necessarily gives them a reasonable advantage over another student."

Marcus Alvarez doesn't. The Irving Nimitz High School senior stays for after-school tutoring even though it means he'll walk the two miles home. He doesn't have

a laundry list of extracurricular activities, choosing to play drums in the band and volunteer at a law program that works with troubled teenagers. He'll be the first in his family to go to college. He's also first in his class.

Alvarez's college essay focused on self-made opportunities. He finished his applications at 11:59 p.m. on New Year's Eve.

"A lot of questions are about overcoming obstacles," Alvarez said. "And I was thinking if I didn't have any challenges, I wouldn't have anything to write about. My experience is you do what you love and everything falls into place."

He wants to go to Harvard.

LEAP INTO DIVERSITY

Does bias, prejudice and privilege exist on our campus?

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Good luck with your coursework this semester!
~The ORR

PLEASE TAKE NOTE OF THESE IMPORTANT DATES FOR THE MAY 2012 GRADUATION:

⚠ **MARCH 1st, 2012:** Deadline to submit Graduation Applications through e-FORM's

⚠ **APRIL 15th, 2012:** Deadline to submit any additional e-FORM's requests (i.e. Substitutions, Waivers, Declare/Remove Minor, etc.)


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Are Freshmen Becoming More Serious?

THE OUTLOOK STAFF OPINION

With the rise of unemployment in our country, some researchers are also seeing a rise in maturity levels of college freshmen. According to the recent “American Freshman” poll, 85.9 percent of first year students in the United States said that being able to land a job is the most important reason for attending college.

According to an article by Larry Gordon on MCT Campus Wire, this is the strongest response to the question in 40 years and is sharply higher than the 70.4 percent in 2006 before the recession began. Most of the editors at *The Outlook* think otherwise.

The first year at college is still a wakeup call for most students. It’s the year during which they are re-establishing themselves within their social circles and figuring out who they really are. It’s the year of big transitions and big changes in a student’s life which essentially makes them more focused on dealing with those changes, than land-

ing a job after college. They are more concerned with being accepted by their new friends and finally being able to have “freedom” away from parents or guardians. To most first-year students, freshman year is about testing boundaries, when they should be focused on attaining their degree.

The majority of us had to take general education classes that are usually filled with first year students. We came to a conclusion that their attitude really takes a long time to snap into college mode. Most of the students still treated the coursework with a high school attitude. Several of them were more concerned with where the party is the upcoming Thursday rather than the paper due on that same day.

On the other hand, some freshmen are realizing the effects of the failing economy on their careers because of professors. A lot of professors are opening students’ eyes to the situation in our country and urging students to get involved with leadership groups on

campus in order to enrich their resumes. But are these students listening? Most of the students that want to get involved are juniors or seniors, who suddenly seem to have a wakeup call.

Some freshmen are aware of the bleak economy and how competitive the work force is getting. While interviewing the incoming freshmen during New Student Orientation, one of our editors realized that a lot of the students were very set on their goals. They seemed to have it all figured out and had concrete plans of what they wanted to achieve.

Through observation, we realized that college freshmen at the University are aware of the status of the economy and have a stronger set on their goals, but are no different with their mindset than past classes. Their focus is still on their transition and being accepted, and of course, where the party is this weekend. They still don’t realize the importance of enriching their resume right from the start of their college career.



Corrections:

To the Editor:

In the article regarding “books@monmouth” in the January 25 issue, it is stated that on the website “a tax of seven percent is included on purchases from the University bookstore.”

Sales of required textbooks in the state of New Jersey are exempt from sales taxes, therefore no tax is charged on them in the University Store. If the website is adding the seven percent, it will be overstating the actual retail at the store in price comparisons.

Bill Rainey
University Bookstore Manager

Editor’s Note: *The Outlook* regrets any misunderstanding this information may have caused.

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Reality TV is Not Going Anywhere

ANDREA DOOLEY
STAFF WRITER

I am so sick of reality TV, and I know I'm not the only one. It all started with "The Real World," which had a great concept of a new kind of show for the typical MTV viewer.

We had never before seen a show in which people voluntarily had their lives taped for national viewing, but nevertheless, "The Real World" was a hit.

We have seriously come a long way from those seven strangers who were picked to live in a house and have their lives taped. Reality television, it's safe to say, has become a cringe worthy obsession of our generation and even our society as a whole.

Wonder what it's like to be a hoarder, to live in clutter and filth with nothing to look forward to except the next item to add to the collection?

Look no further than TLC, "The Learning Channel." It will teach you a thing or two. Take an in-depth look into the lives of unstable people who don't know how to let go of something as simple as an empty picture frame, because they have developed some sort of emotional relationship, with not even the pic-

ture inside, but the frame itself. If you wondered what it was like to let "things" take over your home and life, "Hoarding: Buried Alive" can show you exactly what it's like.

Do you care about what polygamists deal with on a day-to-day basis, and how one man can balance his three wives and 10 kids?

I'm sure you are all dying to know, no need to fear, "Sister Wives" can give you all the details if you ever wish to live the polygamist life.

What about "Toddlers in Tiaras?" The frilly, pretty-in-pink, newest form of child abuse; and it's allowed to air on television. Really?

I would like to know how many of the little kids on that

show would prefer wearing fake eyelashes, hair extensions, and flashy costumes to put on a show to be judged and criticized for their imperfections, over going outside, playing in the grass, and getting dirty.

The show is just a prequel to

of 10 seasons, only one single relationship has remained in-tact. "The Bachelor" is like suicide for hopeless romantics.

The guy always seems so cool calm and collected, and the women seem crazy, fighting for his attention and his rose.

a bigger income than they probably ever thought possible before their initial casting interview.

They make a lot of money, and for what? Because they willingly embarrass themselves on national television to keep ratings higher than Pauly D's hair.

It doesn't seem that hard to come up with a concept for a show, with all the garbage that people watch. "Mob Wives," my guilty pleasure, proves that all you need to get people hooked is to bleep out 75 percent of what you are actually saying.

It adds to the mystery of "the lifestyle," when you play the game "what the %#@! did she just say?"

Despite the illogic of it all, we know reality television is not going anywhere any time soon. It has never been better for the hopeful reality TV stars to make it big and make even bigger money.

It is hard to imagine what could be next, what new angle producers are going try and pitch to get viewers hooked.

Maybe a show for the housekeepers of the rich and famous or the tax brokers of America, because when it comes to reality television., a sick twist of drama and sex could make absolutely anything interesting to watch.



PHOTO COURTESY of nomorechildhood.wordpress.com
"Toddlers and Tiaras" is just one hit reality television show that people can-

not get enough of.

"My Mom Forced Me to do Pageants, Now I'm a Serial Killer."

Now, onto the dating reality shows. "Will you accept this rose?" To my dismay, "The Bachelor" is still going strong. No one seems to mind that out

Bye Bye Polar Bears

JACKLYN KOUEFATI
OPINION EDITOR

The first day of February has finally arrived. Instead of everyone putting on their winter coats before heading out, they are grabbing their sunglasses and slipping on their sandals.

There is something wrong with this picture, but it's reality. This is all because of a little something called global warming.

While most people think this is a hoax that someone started just to get the world in a frenzy of spending tons of money on "going green," I believe that it is true. If someone else would like to explain the snowstorm in October and the summer weather in February, feel free. Until then, I am sticking with global warming.

Many people have heard the term before but not everyone knows what it means. Global warming is literally exactly what it sounds like, the warming of the planet. It is a result of the "greenhouse effect." According to nationalgeographic.com, the "greenhouse effect" is gases that let light in but keep heat from escaping, kind of like the walls of a greenhouse.

There are several different things that cause global warming. Coal burning power plants and cars are the largest sources. Ac-

cording to nrdc.org, the US is the largest source for carbon dioxide pollution.

Something obviously needs to be done about this. The US is supposed to be one of the most powerful countries. If we start to take responsibility and change our ways, maybe other countries will follow our footsteps.

If global warming continues to get worse, the world isn't going to be that safe of a place anymore. Storms and hurricanes are going to get stronger, flooding is going to get more extreme, and droughts are going to be unbearable.

The weather patterns are majorly affected but so is wildlife. If temperatures continue to rise, polar bears won't be able to live in their natural habitat. They are predicted to become extinct by the year 2015, according to nrdc.com.

The non-believers only think that the animals are the ones being harmed, but they are wrong. People themselves are at high risk because of global warming. It increases smog pollution intensifying pollen allergies and asthma. It even causes more of a widespread of diseases and increases the chances of heat related deaths.

Global warming takes no prisoners. No one is safe from it. But if we do something about it, we can save the planet from further destruction.

People need to be more "green." This means using renewable energy sources like wind and driving hybrid cars. Many car companies are looking into making affordable hybrid cars and some are already on the market.

I'm not telling you to go out right now and buy an electric car. I am just telling you to be more cautious because there are facts being brought about everyday proving that global warming is in fact real. According to nrdc.com, over the past 50 years, the average global temperature has increased at the fastest rate in recorded history.

There is a quote on nrdc.com that says, "Unless we act now, our children will inherit a hotter world, dirtier air and water, more severe floods and droughts, and more wildfires."

This is absolutely true whether you wish to believe it or not. Look at the insane weather we have been having lately. Look at the most recent hurricanes like Hurricane Katrina.

Global warming has been the cause of all of it. The planet truly is getting hotter.

So, next time you drive past a factory and see the black smoke pouring out of it, think of what that is actually doing to the world. Think of the polar bears. Please help save the polar bears.

Google+ is the New Facebook

NINA INCORVAIA
STAFF WRITER

The first day Google+ opened to the public in early September of last year, I was quick to make an account. After getting tired of all the undesirable changes to Facebook and the long list of "friends" that I haven't spoken to since high school, you could say I was ready to break out and start over.

It was easy to start my Google+ account. All I had to do was type in my Gmail e-mail account name and password and I was on my way to my first +1. A couple hours and a TV dinner later, I had established a few circles (Google+ groups for people you follow), and my Google+ account was officially active.

Google+ is an innovative social media platform that resembles a mixture of both Twitter and Facebook. The executives at Google give its users the tools to have people follow you, for example my old high school friends, without requiring me to follow them back. This unique tool allows users to follow celebrities and comment on their posts without having to actually be their "friend."

Google+ also gives the user the opportunity to filter and edit posts easily without any significant character limit. Being able to filter and edit posts makes privacy an easier aspect to reach in the social media world. Platforms like Facebook and Twitter have complicated privacy settings that can just be plain frustrating.

The controls aren't the only difference when it comes to Google+. Even the conversations that occur on Google+, from what I have observed, are much more mature and meaningful than the conversations on other platforms.

Google+ provides an innovative social media platform that combines all the good stuff from other successful platforms (Facebook, Twitter, Wordpress)

with its newer features and more sophisticated style.

Google+ also offers a unique video chatting application called "hangout" where you can video chat with celebrities at certain times (yes, actual celebrities coordinate their own hangouts) or your friends.

I know many of you may be reluctant to take the plunge into Google+, but trust me on this one, it is worth the switch.

Facebook is constantly making changes to its layouts. I am sure that I am not the only person struggling to learn how the new layout works or trying to figure out how to keep my classic one. The ever-evolving Facebook has just become a constant headache.

Twitter has also become a popular social media platform on campus, but your options are extremely limited. Twitter is full of "Beliebers" and spam. I feel bombarded with ads whenever I look at my Twitter feed.

Though there are some funny Twitter accounts, it's almost impossible to weed through all the accounts to find the ones that do not annoy you. Twitter is also very timely and if you don't check back within 15 minutes you could miss 100 important tweets.

As you can tell I am extremely frustrated by the lack of decent options in social media, but Google+ has created the winning platform in my eyes. The integration of all the Google tools we know and love creates a clean, easily navigable layout that has stolen my heart.

I believe everyone should leave Facebook, Twitter, and Wordpress behind and join me at Google+. I have extreme confidence in Google+.

This confidence may just be wishful thinking, considering I have become increasingly fed up with each of the other social media platforms available, but there definitely is huge potential in Google+. I hope to see all of you there.



Carbon dioxide is constantly being polluted into the air everyday.

PHOTO COURTESY of edublog.org

Why Are the Youth Not Voting?

ALYSSA GRAY
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

One vote. That’s all that it takes for someone to not only change the outcome of any given election, but also determine which paths will be taken, what rules and regulations shall be determined and how secure a populous will be in the not too distant future, but somehow the youth voter is shrinking.

Conversely despite all of the importance held behind such a vote, many youths can’t help but wonder if that one vote can truly hold a vital significance. Renee Kelsey, a freshman, believes many youths don’t vote because of these mindsets. “Youths don’t vote in elections because they are lazy and don’t want to pay attention, or think it’s a waste of time to vote and that their vote won’t matter.”

Whereas freshman Lindsey Pieschl states that, although she plans on voting this upcoming election, she hadn’t felt the need to vote before.

Such behaviorism’s stated by Kelsey and felt by Pieschl are those that every youth in America face come election time. These connotations can primarily be attributed to a basic lack of trust and unity felt amongst young Americans with the political system, as compared to that of the collective, yet polarized, sides held by voters’ ages 50 and up.

With youth voting in most scenarios serving as the minority in polled opinion, it is no wonder that several find themselves asking the age old question, “Does my vote even matter?” It is this train of thought

that has proved to be one of the key factors in deterring past youths from making their views known in the polls.

Another leading cause contributing to these inhibitions is education. The fact that voting is a privilege is something that has been drilled into every student’s head from elementary to high school. Unfortunately, that is about all that most can truly recall about voting. Pieschl states that, “We know that people died for that right and that we should utilize it, but we don’t really know how to go about it.”

This is where lack of education comes into play. By the time that students are granted the legalized right to vote at 18 they have not a clue what to do with such a power. “Youths should be more educated in high school about voting. If it isn’t taught at a young age we are going to be more reluctant to use it later,” says Kelsey.

According to Dr. Joseph Patten, Chair of Political Science Department, the true problem area in low turnouts with youth voting lies in high school drop outs not coming out to vote. Even though the dropouts aren’t lining up at the polls those youths pursuing higher education are actually on par with the older generations in the terms of voting turnout. “Education: that is what will ultimately determine whether someone will vote or not,” said Patten.

He then goes on to point out another major factor hindering youths could be the registration requirements. “In some states, such as New Jersey, one must register 21 days in advance of the election. Young people have a very transient lifestyle, they move around a lot, and are not as

settled as older demographics.” Patten goes on to suggest that having same day registration, like that in Minnesota or Maine, could potentially draw in a larger turnout amongst the youths.

Cali Carlin, a reporter for CBS, proposed in an April 8, 2008 article, that in order for politicians to draw in young Americans, they should “court the youth.” She suggests they go about such by using methods along the lines of taking advantage of media outlets, such as the Internet and social networking sites, to promote their causes. Other means suggested include holding events targeted specifically for youths, addressing the key issues for younger Americans and simply getting them involved in the causes themselves. It appears that politicians are taking Carlin’s advice.

As stated by Patten, young people have been voting more since the last two presidential elections, both of which involved the increased utilization of internet advertisements and social networking propaganda. “Voting turnout in 2008 of young people was higher than it’s been in 40 years,” Patten goes on to say that such high turnouts by young Americans is what ultimately thrust Obama into the presidency. Not only was that a factor, but this was the first time that young people have been able to single-handedly move a national election and this determined its outcome.

With the youth finally taking a stand and not only finding their political voice but letting it be heard through the polls, perhaps the change that America has been craving can be finally be achieved, one vote at a time.



PHOTO COURTESY of rockthevote.com
“Rock the Vote” is a group that encourages the youth to vote.



PHOTO COURTESY of pubrecord.org
Youth voters gather at a rally in 2008. Their presence helped propel Barack Obama to the White House.

Local Republican Running for National Senate Seat

DEREK DELUCA
STAFF WRITER

Joseph Kyrillos Jr., a Monmouth County State Senator, has hopes of moving from Trenton to Washington, D.C. next year. He announced on Wednesday, February 1 that he seeks Senator Menendez Senate seat.

Kyrillos, who represents the 13th Legislative District in the New Jersey Senate, which includes Monmouth County and the University, announced two weeks ago his intention to seek the Republican nomination and to challenge U.S. Senator Robert Menendez, the Democratic incumbent, according to the *Star Ledger*.

Kyrillos, last week issued a statement laying out his reasoning for seeking the higher office, warning that “Our country is in trouble and Washington is failing us.” He had shifted his exploratory committee into a campaign committee to run for federal office and take on national challenges.

According to Kyrillos State Senate biography, Kyrillos, 51, is a Middletown resident. His education includes a B.A. in political science from Hobart College and a M.S. in communication from Boston University. He is a commercial Real Estate Broker for Colliers International. He was the Chairman of Chris Christie’s campaign for Governor and N.J. Republican State Committee Chair from 2001-2004. He has been in the Senate from 1992 to the present, the Republican Conference Leader from 2002 to 2003, Majority Conference Leader from 1997 to 2001 and served

in the General Assembly 1988-1989. Senator Joseph Kyrillos serves on the Economic Growth, Judiciary, and Legislative Oversight Committees.

Kyrillo hopes to improve the economic state of those in New Jersey and across the United States. “Americans have seen their neighbors lose their jobs, their home values fall, their savings shrink and their economic horizon darkened by a record \$15 trillion national debt,” he said. “Washington has responded with nothing but partisan squabbling and reckless spending, and now Bob Menendez is seeking reelection to deliver more of the same.” stated Kyrillo.

According to the Director of the University Polling Institute, Patrick Murray he stated, “The biggest challenge to unseating an incumbent is name recognition. Kyrillos is known in Monmouth County but not as well known state wide.”

Menendez campaign strategist Brad Lawrence painted Kyrillos as out of touch with average New Jersey residents. “New Jersey’s voters will have a very clear choice if Senator Kyrillos becomes the Republican nominee. Senator Bob Menendez who fights every day for middle class New Jersey families or long-time Trenton insider Joe Kyrillos who sides with corporations and special interests over working families and seniors and panders to the most extreme elements of the Washington Republicans,” Lawrence said in a statement in an interview with MSNBC on February 1.

Senator Menendez has already raised more than \$10 million for his re-election campaign. Roughly

half of the money comes from North Jersey-connected donors, with law firms in Roseland, Florham Park and Teaneck combining to deliver him \$270,000, the report said.

About 300 individuals have donated the maximum \$5,000, the report said, adding that nearly 39 cents out of every dollar raised was given from outside the New Jersey-New York region.

The finance, insurance and real estate industries combined to donate more than two million dollars, the report said. Meanwhile lawyers and lobbyists have given the campaign nearly \$1.8 million.

In 1992, Kyrillos had run unsuccessfully for the U.S. House of Representatives, looking to unseat incumbent Frank Pallone Jr. (D-NJ) for the Sixth District.

“We have proven in New Jersey that strong leadership can change things for the better,” Kyrillos’ release stated. “Under Governor Christie’s leadership and with the support of conservatives like myself.” He said the state has turned around after being on the “brink of bankruptcy.”

It is not surprising that Kyrillos would look to link his name and performance to the Republican Governor. The Senator has been a close friend of Christie’s, and long seen as a close confidant, with Kyrillos serving as Christie’s campaign chairman.

Joseph X. Oxley, Monmouth County Republican chairman, and fellow Middletown resident offered his strong support for Kyrillos’ run for federal elected office this week. “We go back literally a lifetime,” Oxley said on Wednesday,

calling Kyrillos “a phenomenal, dedicated public servant,” who “would certainly represent us well in Washington, D.C.”

“Senator Kyrillos would be seen certainly by the state party as an attractive candidate by his long record of office holding, party leadership, close to the Governor,” said Ruth Mandel, director of the Eagleton Institute of Politics, at Rutgers University, New Brunswick. “And likely to be an attractive candidate on the stump.”

Given his close affiliation to Christie, who is “the most powerful voice,” for the state party, “Senator Kyrillos is pretty much assured the nomination, one would expect,” Mandel said. And, given that Kyrillos has made his public announcement, Mandel suspected “the road had cleared,” to the nomination for Republican Senator.

Menendez, running for his second full term in November, would win 43 percent against both Kyrillos and Little, who would both win 31 percent, according to the Public Mind poll of 800 registered voters. The poll also found New Jersey voters are split on President Obama’s job performance. According to the poll, 46 percent approve, while 45 disapprove, a slight improvement for Obama over the October Public Mind poll, which put his approval rating at 44 percent and disapproval at 47 percent.

At his campaign kickoff last Wednesday, Senator Kyrillos, with his parents, wife, and children by his side, opened the

event by saying “America faces tough and uncertain times. Our families face challenging times. Our spirit America’s spirit is being tested. Over 20 million of our fellow Americans are out of work or underemployed today and many millions more are discouraged, feeling left behind.”

Kyrillos in another interview stated he is running because he is “worried about the direction America is headed today.” He said, “We proved in New Jersey that conservative leadership works. We are making tough choices the same tough choices that need to be made in Washington: We cut spending, we stopped borrowing and we didn’t raise taxes. And ... we told small and big employers, ‘New Jersey is open for business again.’”

Citing statistics that he said show the national unemployment rate has nearly doubled and the national debt has similarly grown during Menendez’s years in office, Kyrillos, R-Monmouth, promised the crowd that he will “take a different path,” according to the *Asbury Park Press*.

Cristina Marzilla, a student at the University, said that “it’s time for a change in Senatorial leadership for the state of New Jersey. I feel that the time has come for a man like Joseph Kyrillos to lead us toward a more successful and brighter future. I support his efforts in both voting to repeal Obamacare as well as cutting spending. Senator Menendez had his chance and its now simply time for him to step aside and let new leadership represent us in Washington.”

Harvard Political Science Professor Robert Putnam Visits University

DAN ROMAN
STAFF WRITER

Harvard Political Science professor and writer Robert Putnam spoke in Wilson Auditorium on Friday, January 27. It is hard to find a political science book in the world today which doesn't mention Putnam. His book *Bowling Alone: The Collapse and Revival of American Community*, is a national bestseller, it is a critically acclaimed book about the decline of social capital in our society. He was the winner of the 2006 John Skytte award for the most valuable contribution to Political Science. He had been featured in numerous publications including the *New York Times*, *Washington Post*, *Chicago Daily Herald* and *The Nation*. The *London Sunday Times* has called him the "Most influential academic today" for his scholarly achievement in Political Science. He has worked with Presidents Bill Clinton, George W. Bush, and Barack Obama to push his ideas for civic renewal.

His work, however, exceeds the classroom. Putnam was the creator of the Saguaro Seminar. This seminar was an initiative by Putnam to increase social capital in America. Social Capital was a term coined by Putnam in his book *Bowling Alone*. Putnam was the first to make the country aware of the shrinking social gap in America and the consequences that can come with it. Unlike many people in political science who may talk about many problems but offer a few solutions, Putnam has decided to work on making this country a better place, which has gained him much national notoriety. Dean of the Honors School, Kevin Dooley commented on Putnam's work by stating, "The talk which examined his new book *American Grace*, examined the nature of religious attitudes in the United States and how they have risen to prominence today."

In his speech at the University,

Putnam discussed his new book *American Grace* co-written with Notre Dame Professor David Campbell. *American Grace* has been touted as the most important religious book in decades. He talked about the role of religion in our society and how 50 percent of all social activities still involve religion. A major change has occurred in our country regarding peoples' faith and how they practice and how they feel towards those of other religions. In the 1950's, families were going to church every Sunday and were much more involved in religious society. Dooley commented saying, "His presentation was fascinating because it argued that Americans are actually quite tolerant toward people with different religious backgrounds and that most Americans today do not like it when politicians use religion when discussing politics."

During the early 1960's and the start of the counter-culture revolution, people were beginning to question the existence of a higher power. This was a major shift from the 50's. In the 70's and 80s, a reaction to the counter culture saw a rise in evangelicalism and the religious right. Today, a shift back towards secularism in this country is occurring.

Young people are turned off by the linkage between faith and conservative politics have abandoned organized religion altogether according to Putnam. They still followed religion and identify with a religion but have become a "NONE." According to Putnam, a NONE is a person who believes in God and religion but does not belong to a specific religious establishment. These types of people have also been seen to be much more tolerant of other religions.

For example, a majority of people who identify themselves as Christians now say that people from other religions can also go to



PHOTO COURTESY of harvard.edu
Harvard Professor Robert Putnam visited the University on January 27.

heaven. Out of all the different religions, Jewish people have a favorability rating of 62 percent. Judaism is the most liked religion in the world, according to the study made by Putnam.

The speech by Putnam was another great presentation brought to the University through the Political Science Department, as well as the Honors School and Dean of the Honors School Kevin Dooley.

Recently the University has

had former New Jersey Governor Brendan Byrne speak, and will have him return to the University in the spring, as he is the Public Servant in Residence. Dr. Joseph Patten, the Chair of the Political Science Department, was able to secure Byrne in this position.

The University has been able to garner interest around the country now by hosting famous speakers from around the globe.

Debate Hawks Host Successful Tournament

Students Argue Over Best Way to Approach Foreign Policy

SAM MAYNARD
STAFF WRITER

The Monmouth Debate Hawks hosted the Jersey Shore Invitational Debate tournament last weekend. It brought 19 different colleges and universities to the campus, adding up to about 250 participants. Among these schools were prestigious names such as Princeton, West Point Military Academy, The Naval Academy, Cornell and a range of other established debate programs.

In these tournaments, there are three divisions for teams to compete in Novice, JV, and Open, varying in skill and experience. The whole event includes six regular competition rounds and break rounds for teams that move on through the competition rounds. The functions were held in four main buildings on campus for each specific division. Novice rounds were held in Bey Hall, JV rounds in McAllan Hall, and Varsity rounds being held in Howard Hall and the Edison Science building.

The content of these debates varies each season. Currently the topic is U.S. funding to Middle Eastern countries such as Yemen, Bahrain and Syria. Each school chooses a specific case to run as the affirmative constructive, while the negative side argues against it in order to discredit or effectively explain why this plan is flawed.

Students use different forms of evidence and proof to build their case and present it to the judge that is presiding over the round. This evidence can incorporate anything that a team believes links to a certain issue or argument set forward by the affirmative constructive. Many teams come up with elaborate displays in order to demonstrate their passion and appeal to the judge. Essentially the only rules of debate are respect for your opponents along with the ethical traditions of the sport. Although students debate political issues, the practice of debate provides them with the ability to think and formulate logical responses on their own, granting them a most valuable skill in any area of expertise.

The hours put in by the students competing were extremely long exhausting. The actual debate rounds, starting at 8:00 am, would last approximately two hours. There were breaks in between. The commitment of all of the teams was truly admirable. For a few teams in particular, this hard work paid off in the end. Institutions such as West Point, Liberty University and Boston College all left taking awards home for their outstanding performance. The end of the competition rounds on Sunday concluded with an awards ceremony in Wilson Hall. CUNY, James Madison, George Mason and West Virginia were all schools that won speaker awards, confirming the great quality of the schools in attendance.

Events such as these tend to require a great amount of volunteerism and planning. Luckily the Monmouth Debate students along with their coach Dr. Joseph Patten handled the logistics of the tournament efficiently and professionally. The team created an incredibly welcoming envi-

ronment for schools that traveled great distances to participate. The competition was an extreme success for Monmouth as well as the competitors. The tournament ended up being one of the largest events on schedule this season. The Monmouth debate program has grown significantly incorporating students of diverse majors and interests, as well as students that have a passion for politics.

Dr. Patten is very proud of his team and the way the tournament ran. "It was very exciting to host a tournament. There were 20 of the best colleges and a great group of competitors."

The Monmouth Debate Hawks have had a successful and productive season thus far, bringing home trophies from tournaments at West Point Military Academy and Rutgers University Newark. The schedule for the spring semester includes a trip to Cornell University on February 10 and another event that has yet to be scheduled.

The Debate Hawks look forward to a very successful semester and continuing to soar to new heights.

SGA Minutes

An SGA meeting took place on February 1. At the meeting, SGA President Nicole Levy asked all members of SGA to issue comments or concerns regarding the University Bookstore. She also reminded them that President Gaffney is coming in next week so all members are expected to dress business casual.

SGA Vice President Oscar Sanchez told everyone that the SGA will be dining with directors next Wednesday at 6:00 pm in the dining hall and are hoping for a good showing of students, both commuter and resident.

Guest speakers were also at the meeting. The speakers were Liz O'Brien and Susan Damaschke. O'Brien made it known to SGA that there were open Residential Assistant spots open. In order to qualify, students must have at least 2.5 GPA and be a full time undergraduate student. The applications will be available Friday. Damaschke told SGA there are open Orientation Leader positions. SGA Senators are encouraged to apply to be an Orientation Leader. If you accept the position, you must be on campus for the month of July. You will be paid \$2,100. The deadline for applicants is Friday, February 10.

Also discussed was the approval of the Boom Roast Productions group. This is a group made up of 15 students who are involved in theater. The goal is for them to put on one to two shows a semester and do possible fundraisers.

Groups looking for Senate approval are the Campus Crusaders, an acapella group. Also before the Senate will be a Wrestling Club and an Anime Club.

Advisors who joined SGA were Vaughn Clay and Heather Kelly. Clay stated that a new students discount page had been activated. The Off Campus Students Services now has a Twitter account. Kelly said that the SOAR award will be posted. Any senior who has not gotten their pictures taken, pictures will be taken during the week of February 6.

On the agenda, there are 20 interviews scheduled for Thursday, February 8 at 8:00 pm to fill four vacancies. Student affairs met with MUPD chief, William McElrath. The reason for his being there was to advise students to make sure they lock their dorms and apartments when leaving to prevent theft. MUPD also inquired about a CPR course on campus which would be five dollars a student. However MUPD is looking for a way to make it no cost to students.

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The Perfect Weapons of Mass Seduction for Valentine’s Day

JACLYN GUYER
STAFF WRITER

Think back to around January 5th. It’s only five days into the New Year and you head to your local supermarket to pick up a few essentials. However, when you begin roaming the isles you notice there is a reoccurring color theme taking over the store – pink and red. “What happened to New Years?” is probably what you’re thinking. Well, for your convenience, all of the New Year’s paraphernalia is already located in the clearance aisle and the holiday has only just come and gone.

That’s right. The stores are in full Valentine’s Day mode. There are chocolate boxes scattered here and there, chocolate roses in full bloom, and a teddy bear holding a big sign that says “I Love You.” At this point, you might be thinking “No, Valentine’s Day. I hate you.” But whether you’re single or in a relationship, the occasion can actually be enjoyable without falling into the easy “chocolate box gift trap.”

Many foodies agree that nothing says “I love you” more than preparing a home cooked meal or at least enjoying a meal together. “Cooking together and making a meal from scratch is beautiful,” said Elena Cirillo, University alumni. “And maybe even messing up terribly and having to order pizza afterwards is okay too.”

If you have even the slightest culinary skill, are able to follow directions, and can add a little pizzazz to your presentation, you already have the recipe for success. Foodnet-

work.com offers six different Valentine’s Day dinners for two, with options ranging from pasta to lamb to salmon. The recipes are supposed to be complimentary of each other, but who says you can’t mix and match according to your own taste preference? More information on these menus can be found at foodnetwork.com.

Aside from a pre-fixed menu for two, one of my favorite Valentine’s Day dinners (with huge past success) is filet mignon. Homecooking. about.com describes filet mignon as “the king of steaks because of its tender, melt in the mouth texture.” Aside from the taste, filet mignon can be very expensive to eat out, but more affordable when cooked at home. You can serve the meat with a starch (I recommend whipped potatoes) and a mixture of carrots and green beans, or what the French refer to as “haricot vert.” Add a special glaze or sauce to accompany the meat, such as béarnaise (a butter-herb sauce), or one of my personal favorites Cabernet peppercorn demi-glaze. Provided is a highly rated and recommended recipe for filet mignon with Cabernet peppercorn demi-glaze which is easy enough to follow, yet timeless in its sophistication and alluring flavors.

Though everyone might have a different main course preference, one commonality of Valentine’s Day is the importance of dessert. Theresa Lowy, Associate Director of the Kislak Real Estate Institute and passionate cook, agrees that without the proper dessert, a Valentine’s Day meal wouldn’t be the

same. “I like to keep my Valentine’s Day meal not too heavy so there’s room to indulge in the final course,” said Lowy. “You can never go wrong with homemade chocolate covered strawberries and chocolate mousse.”

For those poor souls whose taste buds reject the silky smooth sweetness of chocolate, rest assured. There are plenty of other desserts to satiate your sweet tooth.

Chris Spirito, senior, said if the dessert of choice doesn’t involve chocolate, red velvet cake would more than suffice as the perfect sweet ending. Red velvet cake is traditionally a bright red colored cake with a rich cream cheese icing that coordinates perfectly with traditional Valentine’s Day décor.

However, baking can take time, so if you plan on starting from scratch save yourself from a last minute crisis rush by preparing the day before. Simplyrecipes.com agrees that “chocolate mousse is a great dessert for entertaining because it looks pretty, everyone gets their own serving, and you can make it a day ahead of time.” As a personal, touch I like to add some fresh raspberries and whipped cream on top, and serve the mousse in individual red wine glasses.

However, food is not the only

critical element to preparing a lovely Valentine’s Day meal. Setting and mood are just as important, if not more so than the food itself. Without the right ambiance, your valentine will get the impression that this is just another ordinary dinner date. Let’s start with a few basic essentials.

Matt Titus, expert mood setter featured on TheGift.com, says that there simply can be no mood set without the proper lighting. Titus suggests purchasing soft light bulbs, lowering the shades, and creating an intimate and cozy atmosphere with candles. In addition to lighting, flowers, music, and the right table setting are all individual pieces of the puzzle that will collectively bring the evening together perfectly.

Stereomood.com offers an entire

collection of music based on your current “mood.” Some great playlists for Valentine’s Day are “In love,” “Dinner Party,” and “Candlelit Dinner.” The music plays commercial free at no cost to listeners and showcases an interesting mix of unconventional songs to keep the atmosphere interesting.

So instead of running to the store, picking up a heart shaped box of chocolates for \$12.99 and a plush teddy bear that would have been cute to receive when you were in grade school, consider cooking a homemade meal for your valentine. Light the candles, turn the music on low, set the table, and smell that tender piece of filet mignon simmering on the grill.

Don’t forget to end on a sweet note, and you’ll surely be the master of seduction this Valentine’s Day.

Recipes

Courtesy of foodnetwork.com

Filet Mignon

Ingredients:

- 6 filet mignons
- Salt
- Black pepper
- Cabernet Peppercorn Demi-glaze

Directions:

- Oil and preheat the grill.
- Season both sides of the filets with salt and pepper.
- Place the filets on the grill at a 45 degree angle to establish nice grill marks.
- Once the filet reaches an internal temperature of 125 to 130 degrees for medium-rare, remove the steak from the grill.
- Let rest about 5 minutes before serving.
- Plate each filet with the Cabernet Peppercorn Demi-glaze and your favorite side dishes.

Cabernet Peppercorn Demi-glaze:

- 1 cup white mushrooms, chopped
- 1/2 cup chopped shallots
- 3 tablespoons black peppercorns
- 1/4 cup olive oil
- 1/2 cup red wine, preferably Cabernet
- 2 quarts demi-glaze
- 1/2 cup heavy cream
- 1 tablespoon beef base

Becoming a Better “You” with Pilates

SLOANE CORAN
STAFF WRITER

Through emphasizing proper breathing technique, correct pelvic and spinal alignment, along with concentration on fluid and smooth flowing movement, anybody can become become deeply in tune with their body. You can even learn how to manipulate and control its movement.

In the practice of Pilates, it is the quality of movement which is valued over the quantity of repetitions. According to the Mayo Health Clinic, it is important to remember that proper breathing is essential, and helps you execute movements with maximum power and efficiency. Lastly, learning to breathe properly can also reduce stress.

According to Pilates.com, Pilates exercises help develop a strong “core,” or center of the body. The core consists of the deepest abdominal muscles along with the muscles that are closest to the spine. Control of the core is accomplished by integrating the trunk, pelvis and shoulder girdle.

Pilates strives to elongate and strengthen, thus improving muscle elasticity along with joint mobility. A body which is balanced with strength and flexibility is less likely to be injured. Pilates conditions the whole body, even the feet and ankles, according to Pilates.com. No muscle group is over worked or under worked. Your entire musculature is evenly conditioned and balanced, helping you enjoy daily activities and sports with improved ease, better performance and less chance of injury. That is why so many sports teams and elite athletes now use Pilates as an integral part of their training regimen.

Many of the exercises are per-

formed in reclining or sitting positions, and most are low impact and partially weight bearing.

You should consult with your medical professional if you experience any doubts about your Pilates program, according to Pilates.com. If you suffer from physical pain, you should take extra care before beginning a Pilates program.

According to Pilates.com, You should never feel pain while practicing Pilates. If you do, you know that there is something wrong. Don’t be afraid to pull back if you feel overwhelmed. Pilates was designed to progress naturally from one movement to another. If you feel stopped at one movement, don’t give up. Start at the beginning and work your way back to the areas you have found most challenging.

According to Pilates.com, Pilates was developed in the early 20th century by Joseph Pilates. He first called Pilates “contrology” because he believed that the mind controlled the muscles. There are six original principles of Pilates which are: concentration, control, center, flow, precision and breathing.

Many Pilates teachers refer to the group of muscles in the center of the body – which encompasses the abdomen, lower and upper back, hips, buttocks and inner thighs, the “powerhouse.” All movement in Pilates should begin from the powerhouse and flow outward to the limbs.

Chris Hirschler, Ph.D., MCHES, Assistant Professor of Health Stud-

cal and emotional benefits as well. “Pilates contributes to improved coordination, posture and balance, enhanced flexibility and posture and can also reduce pain-especially within the lower back.”

Pilates is great for stress relief. It can reduce stress by concentrating on breathing techniques and movement which help you to stay focused.

Breathing is one of the most important aspects of Pilates. “Breathing through a challenging pose helps us to learn to stay calm in other stressful situations,” explains Schaaff.

It’s true, a deep breath that begins down in the diaphragm can impact significantly on stress and should therefore be used in any stressful situation.

Actually taking the time to stop and inhale/exhale deeply gives the body and mind a brief moment of self-awareness. Too often students become so caught up in a task that we forget to experience time in the present moment. Recognizing how busy we are, and correcting it with a prolonged breath, is a positive response that will balance stress levels. Pilates can teach you how to breathe correct-



PHOTO COURTESY of bodyinbalancephysicaltherapy.com

Pilates is much more than just an exercise. It can be a great stress reliever too.

ies, School of Nursing & Health Studies, says “Anyone who has practiced Pilates knows it’s great for one’s core muscles. My ideal week consists of Yoga, Pilates, free weights and Zumba.”

Professor Julie Schaaff, Lecturer in the School of Nursing & Health Studies, M.S. in Exercise Physiology, believes mind-body exercises like Pilates and Yoga have numerous physi-

ly and is known as “diaphragmatic breathing,” according to Pilates.com.

Mind and body exercises remind us to pay attention to what we are feeling inside of our body- our breathing, thoughts and feelings, so that we can learn to develop contentment which in turn can lead to living a more fulfilling stress free way of life.

According to *US News*, Pilates techniques will help you achieve an overall mindfulness and attention to the here and now. Being in complete control of your movement will mean that you’ll enhance your quality of life and ultimately reduce stress.

Instead of performing exercises in autopilot, you’ll be mindful of every action that is being carried out within your body and a state of complete awareness can be achieved. Once your Pilates class is over, you’ll be left with a sensation of calm and feel completely energized.

The best part is that Pilates is easy to start. There is a plethora of books, tutorials and videos to help get you started. On campus, students can check out the Yoga Club and even register for a 1.0 credit Physical Education Yoga, Pilates, or Tai Chi class. What can be better than earning credits while making an effort to become healthier?

If you practice Pilates regularly, it will change your body. According to the Weill Cornell Medical College, “Pilates is known for creating long, strong muscles and a leaner look; Pilates improves muscle tone, balances musculature, supports beautiful posture, and teaches you to move with ease and grace.” All of these aspects will make you look and feel fit.

Making the choice to engage in a physical education class such as Pilates is an enormous stress reliever and can also boost self-esteem. When you feel better, that radiates, and you look better as a result.

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Sunday Mass
Sundays at 12 PM in Wilson Chapel

Daily Mass
Mondays & Tuesdays at 12 PM in Wilson Chapel

Catechism Group
Tuesdays at 4:30PM at the CC

Eucharistic Adoration
Thursdays at 12 PM in Wilson Chapel

Valentine's Day Party
Thursday, Feb. 9 at 7 PM at the CC

Penance Service
Wednesday, Feb. 15 at 7 PM at the CC

Pajama Party
Thursday, Feb. 16 at 7 PM at the CC

www.mucatholic.org/ on Facebook
Monmouth University Catholic Centre
16 Beechwood Avenue, West Long Branch, 732-229-9300
Gate to our house is located in the rear corner of Lot 4 next to the Health Center

Monmouth Area Vegetarian Society (MAVS)


Free Events open to the Community:

Sunday, Feb 19th at 1:00 pm
Film Screening of Water - The Great Mystery followed by special guest speaker Lindsay Kemp of Love Bottle.
There will also be a vegan potluck as part of this event.

Sunday, March 11th at 1:00 pm
A special presentation by The Front Yard Farmer Wendy Weiner, whose amazing gardening work has been seen at such places as Jon Bon Jovi's JBJ Soul Kitchen.
There will also be a vegan potluck as part of this event.

Sunday, April 1st at 5:00 pm
Transitioning to a Vegetarian Diet, a special presentation by Lauren Forney of Center Your Health and 3 Healthy Chicks.
There will also be a vegan potluck as part of this event.

All events will take place in the Magill Commons building
Please RSVP to mcharris@monmouth.edu.

 Follow the Monmouth Area Vegetarian Society on Facebook for healthy recipes, events, and updates

FIRST YEAR SEMINAR PEER LEARNING ASSISTANT (PLA) INFO SESSIONS

If you are someone who...

- ✓ Has an interest in becoming more involved at MU
- ✓ Would like to work closely with full-time faculty to support learning within the First Year Seminar
- ✓ Has taken FY seminar and want to help new students adjust

PICK A DATE:

ANY WEDNESDAY BELOW:

Feb 15	Feb 22	Mar 21	Mar 28	Apr 18
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3:30 PM – 4:30 PM
CSS Conference Room
(Lower Level of Student Center)

For more information contact Bea Rogers at brogers@monmouth.edu or call 732-571-3584

Scheherazade: Tell Me a Story Engages Viewers With a Powerful and Moving Tale

DAN STE. MARIE
STAFF WRITER

The Provost Film Series kicked off last Monday in Pollak Theatre, entering its fifth year at the University, with a screening of the Egyptian movie *Scheherazade: Tell Me a Story*.

Provost Dr. Thomas Pearson acted as host for the event, welcoming guests to the theatre, and introducing “a great film.” He said this year’s theme, “A Journey into Muslim Culture with a Special Focus on Women,” was inspired by the events that led to the Arab Spring.

“How was it in these ancient capitals of the world that we saw such political volatility?” said Pearson. “Everybody was talking about the role of the social media in bringing about various upheavals; we were thinking it’d be very interesting to use film to get some sense of the political, social, economic and cultural origins of those upheavals against the patriarchal regimes.”

There was an open discussion afterwards with guest panelist Dr. Maysa Hayward, Dean of E-Learning at Ocean County College, who was born and raised in Egypt.

She said the title *Scheherazade* is based off the popular Middle Eastern story “One Thousand and One Nights” where a Scheherazade is a woman trickster that tells stories to a king to avoid having her head cut off. In the movie, *Scheherazade* is



PHOTO COURTESY of tresspassmag.com

The Egyptian film, *Scheherazade: Tell Me A Story* is about a reporter, Hebba (Mona Zaki), who discovers that sometimes the most personal stories can have the biggest impact.

a woman “exposer of real life, in your face situations.”

Scheherazade is a story about Hebba (Mona Zaki), a well-known television host of “Dusk to Dawn” notorious for covering controversial political topics like illegal immigration that leaves the government irate. She’s a very pretty woman but a fierce host that climbs over tables as she debates with her guests.

Her husband, Karim (Hassan El Raddad), has a successful career at the government run newspaper and is offered to be Editor-in-Chief. The only catch is he has to convince Hebba to stop covering controversial issues and do more light material.

This is not an easy feat for Karim as he wants the position desperately, trying to suck up to the current Editor-in-Chief and other top government officials any chance he gets. He sweats as he tries to figure out how to convince Hebba.

“We agreed not to meddle in each other’s careers,” Hebba asks her husband as they discuss the matter over dinner in their luxurious apartment in Cairo. She’s reluctant and feels suffocated, but she wants to please her husband and help him succeed. “Marriage is more important to women than a career,” her friend says.

To cool her head, Hebba shops for new makeup where she’s helped by

a female employee that isn’t convinced Hebba’s helping citizens with her news coverage. The employee takes Hebba outside of her comfort zone to a place where garbage burns and women stare if one is not wearing a head scarf. These are the people she should be focusing on, the real women of Egypt, “They’ll make for a great story.”

Hebba begins interviewing various women of different backgrounds to let them tell their story, thinking the government shouldn’t have a problem with that.

Except these stories hold more weight than she originally thought as three different stories are shown with immense detail, each depicting men, society and the government as cruel and unjust.

With each story Hebba slowly realizes how crucial being independent is, the dire situations women find themselves in and the little obstacles they have to survive and overcome. She worries about what lies ahead in her future.

Director Yousry Nasrallah does a marvelous job of interweaving the story of Hebba and her guests’ stories which can be disturbing and show a bitter side of Egyptian culture. Nasrallah conducts the ensemble well as each character

is passionately genuine, acting in some very tough and powerful scenes.

Screenwriter Wahid Hamid wrote a script that never holds back and will leave any viewer speechless. To write this kind of a story is a courageous accomplishment, as *Scheherazade* won Best Screenplay at the Brussels International Independent Film Festival.

Zaki is a wonderful star for the movie, a beautiful woman that displays a range of emotions with such conviction. She is incredibly aggressive when trying to seek interviewees and arguing with her husband, and moving when she cries as she sympathizes with her guest.

“It was very thought provoking, what other choices did any of the characters have? Were they really restricted in the choices they had available, did they make good or bad decisions?” said Rosemary Wright, a resident of Ocean Grove. “It was very interesting because it wasn’t so clear that some of these people couldn’t have done something differently themselves.”

Hayward thought the timing of when the movie came out was great, as Egypt was boiling with frustration, and censorship was rooting out expression. She said Egypt let the movie be made to show they weren’t censoring everything, as it went beyond social status and education. Hayward asked the audience as she pondered herself, “Does art provoke social norms or the other way around?”

Three Friends Chronicle One Super Adventure

MATTHEW FISHER
ENTERTAINMENT EDITOR

With the rise in popularity of found footage and superhero movies, it was only a matter of time before they both united. Well, it seems the wait is over with lost camera footage revealing the trials and tribulations of super-powered humans in *Chronicle*.

Although found footage films can vary from one to the other, *Chronicle* is as strong as *Cloverfield* and the *Paranormal Activity* series. These movies are about bringing reality to fiction and it’s cool to see this done with superpowers. Being confined to what’s on screen, we can also feel the same thrills and chills characters show with each new skill. This makes things seem more exciting and intriguing. As one character says of his camera, “It serves a purpose.”

Chronicle could have been done in a regular fashion, but instead, the camera adds mystic to certain situations and keeps one eager to see what will happen next as superpowers enter reality.

Chronicle is about a loner named Andrew Detmer (Dan DeHann), who lives with his dying mother and abusive father. As she gets worse, he decides to record life on camera from home to school. Andrew shows viewers his lack of friends except for his cousin, Matt Garetty (Alex Russell). He also has to deal with bullies, and generally stands alone, eating lunch by himself on the bleachers.

After Matt convinces Andrew to go to a party and, Andrew does so with his camera, he leaves after bothering some guy. Outside, Andrew meets Steve Montgomery (Michael B. Jordan) who says he has to see what he and Matt found in the woods. Soon, Andrew sees an odd hole in the ground with a strange noise emitting from it. Matt and Steve go to investigate it and Andrew follows reluctantly. There they find

a strange, glowing object with something inside, but they start to feel ill as the noise grows, and then the camera turns off.

Three weeks later, Andrew, Matt, and Steve have been developing their superpowers from that mysterious construct, specifically telekinesis, allowing them to do anything from stopping baseballs in midair to flying. However, as they get more powerful, these friends realize they need to keep their powers in check or it could take hold of them.

Like any found footage film, it helps to have a believable cast of unfamiliar faces. This is achieved with *Chronicle*’s main cast as DeHann, Russell, and Jordan look and act like high school students while giving their characters distinct personalities.

DeHann shows Andrew’s depression as well as his joy at gaining his powers, Russell acts as the voice of reason, and Jordan is the comic relief of the group and gets some of the funniest lines.

More so, they present their characters having no responsibilities by laughing when they pull pranks on unsuspecting people like when Jordan moves a woman’s car from one spot to another and they laugh like actual teens as the lady gets frantic.

These actors display a care-free attitude to not make Andrew, Matt, and Steve feel like superheroes, but kids with superpowers. Later on, DeHann and Russell capture Andrew and Matt’s struggling relationship with angry expressions and tough stances as their powers pull them into dark territory.

Josh Trank does a wonderful job directing *Chronicle*, capturing all the fun of having powers as well as the dangers of them. Yet, he really shines with how he plays with the camera. While many found footage are in first-person, it’s not always the case here. The director incorporates the powers into the camera work and altering the

film’s perspective.

Rather than feeling weird, this makes the movie more interesting by expanding its scope, like when a tracking shot is used to show Andrew pushing his camera away from him as he lies in his bed, or as Andrew and Steve talk to each other as the camera spins around them. Not only is the camera work smooth, but the editing by Elliot Greenberg is nice as scenes move and jump seamlessly.

Trank also takes advantage of other camera forms like security and news footage to round out scenes. In fact, the climactic battle jumps from one camera type to another so that every crash, punch, and feat of strength is seen and felt. Trank does fantastic here by giving viewers a heart-stopping fight that feels like something out of the *X-Men* movies.

The script by Trank and Max Landis is like a mash-up of *Cloverfield*, *Spider-Man*, and *Kick-Ass*. The first couple minutes can be a little dull, but it’s meant to build up Andrew’s powerless life. It’s really when Andrew, Matt, and Steve find the thing that gives them powers (which is hard to make out and wonderfully kept in the dark) that the movie really excels.

One of the best scenes is at night after an accident when Matt makes three rules about using powers. It sets a standard for all of them and makes it a waiting game to see who will ignore them first.

Seeing these characters react and deal with their super situation is most of the fun in *Chronicle*. Viewers see



PHOTO COURTESY of geekpreview.net

Superpowers enter the real world and director Josh Trank is there to capture this event in the found footage film, *Chronicle*.

this intensity as Andrew becomes obsessed with his powers, talking about evolution and crushing a car or pulling the legs off a spider with his mind. Trank and Landis introduce fine struggles and darkness toward the end of act two as events slowly build upon each other toward the action-packed climax.

Now the film isn’t completely serious as Trank and Landis present humorous scenes to remind the audiences these aren’t superheroes. This means playing around with their gifts for fun rather than fighting crime like moving a woman’s shopping cart as well as mentally controlling a teddy bear and scaring a little girl.

Still, the screenwriters are conscientious to show consequences like when they play football in the sky only to later encounter jet airliners.

Chronicle has the ability to appeal to everyone but it helps to enjoy superhero movies, mainly realistic superheroes seen in *Kick-Ass*, *Super*, and *Defendor*. These

movies are always fascinating because it shows what life could be like if people fought crime or had powers.

Now while the teens in *Chronicle* do have superpowers, they don’t deter from the realism and are convincing by controlling things with their mind. The special effects team does great bringing these powers to life, as when Andrew and Steve hover in the clouds during a thunder and lightning storm or when these friends build Legos using their minds.

Overall, *Chronicle* is a fine appetizer to this summer’s comic book movies like *The Avengers* and *The Dark Knight Rises*. It does well to make people really take a look at what having superpowers (or supreme telekinesis) are like rather than watching a costume hero take to danger and not give a second thought.

However, some things are left unsaid by the end of the movie that would be compelling to unravel in later films. Hey, with a name like *Chronicle* who’s to say that this tale won’t continue?

University Alumni Rocks With Karmic Juggernaut

DIANA KUMPF
STAFF WRITER

Local psychedelic progressive rock band Karmic Juggernaut tore up The Press Room in Asbury Park during their show last Friday night. The three-man band rocked so hard that the audience was left slack-jawed and mind-blown.

Karmic Juggernaut (K-Juggs for short) is a heavy rock group whose music mixes forms of funk, blues, metal, and classic rock to form an exceptional band. This sound would be comparable if you had Rush, Umphrey's McGee, and Primus morphed into one fantastic super group. Their style is truly original and refreshing.

As the band took the stage, the bar had an overwhelming smell of beer and urine. People began to crowd the band with the first squeal of the guitar. Without hesitation, the band unleashed a dark, technical, groovy jam.

Hours before the show the guys sat in their studio called "The Hangar," and discussed the history and future of Karmic Juggernaut. The band is made up of Kevin Grossman (drums), Randy Preston (guitar/bass/vocals), and University alumni, James McCaffrey (guitar/bass/vocals).

All three members attended Wall High School, and in 2004, they formed the band to try out for a battle of the bands. The first time they played together during the audition, "We just went into the audition and jammed...it was cool," Grossman said.

After winning the battle of the bands, K-juggs created their first demo. "We made a sick demo and sold it to everyone in the high school," Grossman said. That recording ended up getting the band their first gig at the Stone Pony.

The Stone Pony really enjoyed having the band play and began to hire them regularly. "We started doing gigs there. I think that year alone we did like 10 or 15 shows. We also played New Years that year," McCaffrey recalled.

As the band got older, keeping in touch with their audience was not as easy as it use to be. "Once we got out of high school, it was a lot harder to like tell everybody. It was just as easy as walking around the hallway being like 'show tonight, eight o'clock. Show tonight, eight o'clock.' It's not the same anymore," Grossman explained.

Preston positively replied, "I would say that the crowd has gotten bigger than it was back then."

"Well, they are better now cause it's like, people are actually coming out because they really want to come out," Grossman agreed.

Inevitably, the band has had their issues. "We've been through three bass players," McCaffrey said. Up until the last three months, the band had been playing with a new bassist. He left the band suddenly without explanation.

"He won't be getting a Christmas card from me," Grossman joked.

While searching for a new bassist, McCaffrey and Preston switch playing guitar and bass on different songs during live shows and do so with ease.

After about eight years of play-



PHOTO COURTESY of Diana Kumpf

Local band Karmic Juggernaut rocked out on February 3 when they played their signature heavy rock beat at the Press Room in Asbury Park. James McCaffrey, who plays guitar, bass and sings, is also a University graduate.

ing together, they have never officially broken up. The crew even played together while attending different colleges. "Randy was in Boston, Kevin was in Hartford, and I was down here [at Monmouth], and still throughout it all we were still doing stuff. When the summer came especially," McCaffrey explained.

The name Karmic Juggernaut

"Karmic is where music should be going... They have the ability to engulf the audience in their sound, sending the mind to a different planet known as Karmic Juggernaut."

RYAN BERNERO
Senior

also has never been changed, and Preston jokingly explained its meaning. He said, "The name didn't make much sense at first. It was just kind of like, oh, it sounds cool but as time went on it was like, oh...we can make this make sense if you look at it this way, you know. It's like half of our music is karma and the other half is juggernaut and it meets somewhere between."

"Karm-Juggers bro," McCaffrey and Grossman chimed in, laughing and repeating the phrase in a spaced out tone.

Listeners and lovers of K-Juggs waited anxiously for their newest EP, that was released in early January. On the EP, there are four songs, many of which were recorded in Ron Frangipane's, associate professor of Music and Theatre Arts, own recording stu-

dio.

One of the song entitled, "Oo Whaa Hoo" was recorded and taped using only solar electricity in various spots in New Jersey. A music video for that song will be released within the next few weeks and can be found on their website, KarmicJuggernaut.com.

Other songs on the EP such as "Guacamole Genie" were performed at the Press Room. McCaffrey and Preston's timing while playing was completely spot on as their fingers swept all over the fret boards. Grossman bashed on his red marble drum set and head-banged his long brown hair in beat matching fury.

The bands intensity was contagious. Not a member in the audience sat still.

"They're incredible," senior Colton Kayser said, "There are no better musicians out there. My jaw hits the ground every time I see them."

Kitty Moon, a junior at the University could not agree more. She said, "Karmic is the greatest display of musicianship I've ever seen. And holy crap, do they put on a live show!"

The band has a few shows planned for the future including the festival, Some Kind of Jam Seven in Schuylkill, Pennsylvania on April 28. The band also hopes to play in Keyport sometime in March. Updates on upcoming shows will be listed on their website.

Senior Ryan Bernero cannot wait to see the band perform again. He said, "Karmic is where music should be going. Their band is most definitely going somewhere. They have the ability to engulf the audience in their sound, sending the mind to a different planet known as Karmic Juggernaut. People need to know about K-Juggs."

New FOX Series Can Be a Little Out of 'Touch'

NICOLE MASSABROOK
STAFF WRITER

Kiefer Sutherland (Jack Bauer on "24") is making a surprisingly quick return to television. Most actors who finish an eight season television series might take a break or at least try to act in movies.

Yet, Sutherland will be returning to your screen March 19 on FOX after deciding the sci-fi drama "Touch" was just too good to let someone else have. Why was it so appealing to him? After watching the pilot, your guess is as good as mine.

The show revolves around a single man, Martin (Sutherland), and his 11-year-old son, Jake (David Mazouz). His wife was killed in the World Trade Center on 9/11, leaving him to raise his son alone.

Jake has been diagnosed as autistic as well as mute and does not interact with anyone. Jake will not let anyone touch him, not even his own father. He spends his time writing numbers in books and playing with cell phones that Martin brings home from the lost and found at his job. Jake often escapes from his care providers and climbs up cell towers.

After one too many adventures up the cell tower, child services is called to check up on Martin and Jake, and decide if Jake should be institutionalized. Martin doesn't think his son is crazy. He finds a website from an institute that claims that humans with advanced intelligence are often mistaken as being autistic.

With the help of a professor, Arthur Teller (Danny Glover), Martin realizes that all of the numbers Jake writes have meaning: a time, a place, a phone number.

Martin has to figure out what they mean and how they are connected. Jake acts out because he is helping a chain reaction. Without Jake's climb up a cell tower, none of the people in the episode (whose locations range from London to Tokyo to Baghdad) would ever be connected.

The concept is interesting. It demonstrates how one piece of technology like a cellphone can connect people all over the world. It's also somewhat refreshing to see technology portrayed in a

positive light, since most sci-fi/fantasy portrays it negatively.

Yet I have to wonder how this will be kept up as a weekly show. The concept is interesting now, but it seems like something that would get boring after 22 episodes. Tim Kring (creator of "Heroes") created the show, so there might be some intricate master plan that just can't be seen yet.

The acting is good, and even the slew of guest actors were quite convincing in their roles, but I'm not actually sure that Sutherland is capable of any emotions outside of brooding. He can do angry, pensive and sad quite well, but I'm not sure he knows what happy looks like. That doesn't really matter though, because his character Martin only seems to brood and be pensive.

However, something is missing. It lacks that certain spark. There isn't any real chemistry be-

tween the actors, but then again, all of the characters are supposed to be strangers so that tends to be fine. They don't appear to have much character development and that makes them pretty flat.

It seems like what you see is

what you get from all these characters and it's just hard to care about them with the exception of Jake.

So much time was spent on glimpses into the lives of various people being connected that it was hard for the audience to connect with any of them.

As any "Heroes" fan knows, Tim Kring's fatal flaw is the desire to show the entire world. He creates more characters than he knows what to do with and it leaves the audience feeling rather disconnected.

"Touch" technically premieres on March 19, but viewers got to see a preview episode on January 25 after "American Idol."

FOX has done this before, most memorably with "Glee." It appears like it was a good plan. According to usatoday.com, over 12 million viewers tuned in, but it's hard to say if it will last.

While there isn't anything particularly awful about the show, there isn't anything particularly wonderful about it either. It seems like a show where the plot will get old fast if they stick to the pilot's formula.



PHOTO COURTESY of collider.com

Kiefer Sutherland plays Martin in the new FOX series, "Touch," who discovers that the numerical messages his son Jake (David Mazouz) leaves actually predict future events. "Touch" had a special preview on January 25 and premieres March 19.

How to Not Be Single on Valentine's Day

A Step-By-Step Guide on Curing Your Singledom by February 14

MICHELLE GILMAN
STAFF WRITER

Ah, Valentine's Day. That time of year when your television haunts you with online dating commercials, tempting you to log on and meet "the one!" Flowers.com is gradually showing up on the side bar advertisement of every website you log onto and you suddenly feel this compulsion to get into a relationship; even though last month you were living the single life like it was nobody's business. It's time to start looking for a new companion, getting past that awkward first date, and then entering into a relationship.

Now, everybody knows that the beginning of the relationship is one of the most fragile times in the dating world. One wrong move and you're immediately pegged as "damaged goods." For example, when you meet someone you like, you become friends on Facebook. That doesn't mean it's time to update your status with things like "February is so cold! Wish I had a cuddle buddy!" Can anyone say creep alert?

But nothing beats the classic "Who wants to be my Valentine?" status. Nothing like letting every single one of your 1,200 Facebook friends know that you are getting no action whatsoever. Facebook is tricky when it comes to dating, so it is important to be on your best online behavior, especially in the first few months. "Last year, this girl I was seeing sent me a relationship request on Facebook after our third date. I haven't spoken to her since," said Mike Zelek, 21, a senior at Rowan University.

Even without Facebook, the beginning of any relationship is dangerous, also known as Phase one, especially right before the big V-day. We all act like angels and dance around each other like we're walking on broken glass. Girls pre-

tend they "love" football and are die hard "Yankee fans." "I always get more texts from girls in February just because they want me to show up on Valentine's Day with candy," said Alex Cohen, sophomore at the University. Guys act like they aren't jealous when their new girlfriend hugs her lab partner

vor, and stop talking about yourself 24/7. It's time to let him get a word in. No guy wants to hear you babble on about how annoying your mom is and why your favorite drink at Starbucks is the nonfat mocha iced latte with no whip. "Usually when I'm on a date I sit there listening the entire time, I love when I can get a word in

their iPhone playing Temple Run all night. "My ex used to take phone calls without even excusing himself when I was mid-sentence. It made me want to scream in the middle of a restaurant," said Kayla Nennecke, 22, senior at Seton Hall University.

One more deadly mistake so

it past the initial meeting process and the pains of a first date, and enter into a relationship, then kudos to you. But there's nothing like a little Facebook to mess up a good relationship! Girls, try not to stalk your boyfriend's wall 18 times a day, calling him about every single girl that writes on his wall. "Sometimes I think about deleting my Facebook to avoid getting nasty texts from whoever I'm dating," said Zelek.

And another thing, ladies, there is nothing more aggravating than a mobile uploaded picture of the flowers and drug store box of chocolates that your "baby" sent you. If you want to lose all of your true friends, be sure to upload one of these shots to your Facebook the next time you receive flowers. Nobody cares that you have "the best boyfriend in the world." The flowers probably came from Shop-Rite and cost \$9.99. Congratulations, your boyfriend is competent enough to drive to the food store!

Last but not least, guys, if you want to sit around and play X-Box all day, rather than hang out with your "amazing girlfriend," then fine. But a word of advice: Don't even think about touching that controller the next time your girl is hanging out in your room and you guys are the least bit bored. "If a guy is playing his stupid Xbox when I am at his house, I am tempted to break the controller in half," said Ventricelli. Unless you want to majorly piss off your girl, you will pretend that controller doesn't even exist.

Now that you all know how to act like a shining star when in a relationship, go out and find the one! Preferably not on eHarmony.com. But whatever your relationship status, try to make the best of this upcoming Valentine's Day, whether it is on a hot date with your sexy new partner or at home with your Netflix account and a chocolate bar the size of your face.



PHOTO COURTESY of funnystatus.com

Don't let Cupid get the best of you this Valentine's Day, and keep your cool while dating so that you can score a brand-new relationship.

with the perfect cheekbones and perfectly chiseled six-pack. Anyone who enters into a relationship between February 1 and 13 can officially be labeled as "desperate". But then again, at least you're being desperate together!

Phase two: The first date, also known as, a really awkward job interview with sexual tension. Now this one is to all you ladies out there. If you have found a guy that is willing to take you out to dinner, and pay, do him and yourself a fa-

vor, and stop talking about yourself 24/7. It's time to let him get a word in. No guy wants to hear you babble on about how annoying your mom is and why your favorite drink at Starbucks is the nonfat mocha iced latte with no whip. "Usually when I'm on a date I sit there listening the entire time, I love when I can get a word in

their iPhone playing Temple Run all night. "My ex used to take phone calls without even excusing himself when I was mid-sentence. It made me want to scream in the middle of a restaurant," said Kayla Nennecke, 22, senior at Seton Hall University.

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Meet the Real-Life Cupid

Profile of Gary Lewandowski, Psychology Professor Who Specializes in Relationships

CASEY WOLFE
STAFF WRITER

Valentine's Day is quickly approaching and many people will be spending time with their boyfriends, girlfriends, finances, and spouses. But what draws us to these people?

Dr. Gary Lewandowski, psy-

chology professor who specializes in relationships, studies just that. As an undergraduate, he studied at the University of Pennsylvania in Millersville, and moved on to the State University of New York at Stony Brook for graduate school.

Throughout his career, Lewandowski has been featured in many

different press interviews, including *CNN*, *The New York Times*, *Women's Health*, and *Cosmopolitan*.

Lewandowski's studies are primarily based on relationships and the self, focusing on aspects of relationships that are healthy and beneficial to the individual. Hands-on research and experience are also a major part in his studies.

"My job is to be curious. My job is to ask questions. I get to ask these questions about relationships, and I have my own answers, and I get to see if those things are right," he said.

One of his main areas of research is the positive side to break-ups. Lewandowski often observes examples of this study on our own campus. "Former students who had me in class would learn about this research and later come up to me and say 'Hey, Dr. L., I had a break-up, it was great,'" he said.

The students, Lewandowski said, are the most exciting part of what he does in his career. Getting to see his students be a part of his studies, whether it be through helping him co-write his papers or growing successfully in the relationships field independently, is most rewarding. The interaction with his students is also the reason he chose to teach.

Thus far, Lewandowski has been successful in achieving his career goals. Most recently was his website, *scienceofrelationships.com*. The site makes other people's research more

accessible to the general public and has been running for nearly a year. Readers can ask questions and receive responses about the studies posted. "Something that's really important to me is getting down under the ivory tower and making sure that the things that we're doing really benefit people more directly," he said.

Another one of Lewandowski's career goals is writing a textbook which he is currently in the process of. Also, his website features a book he co-authored called "The Science of Relationships: Answers to Your Questions about Dating, Marriage and Family."

Along with teaching an intimate relationships class at the University, Lewandowski also teaches Experimental Methods in Psychology, Senior Thesis, Intro to Psychology, First-Year Seminar, and Self-Identity seminars. Lewandowski will also be giving a talk on the science of high quality relationships sponsored by the Psychology Club on February 13 at 7:30 pm. This will be held in Young Auditorium in Bey Hall.

Lewandowski said, "If you really want to believe somebody is meant for you, you'll overlook some things. So I would say love is blind, it's deaf, it's a little dumb."

And for those who are living

away from their partners for the first time, Lewandowski offers a reason not to worry.

"There's a lot of work that shows that long distance relationships in a lot of ways are better. You have to base your relationship more on the good stuff like strong elements of friendship, trust, and commitment."

He also says that there are no tell-tale signs of when a relationship is headed downhill.

"Relationships should be overwhelmingly positive experiences. When it gets to the point where you're having a hard time figuring out if this is a really good thing, that's a pretty strong sign that your relationship is shaky. Particularly in a college relationship, you should have an abundance of good experiences. You don't have some of the stresses that long-term relationships have and there is plenty of other potential partners around," said Lewandowski.

But as Lewandowski is a relationship optimist, he leaves young couples a few tips for this Valentine's Day.

"There's nothing special about diamonds and things and stuff. Stuff doesn't matter. Valentine's Day is an arbitrary day, but it is an arbitrary day that's your chance to reaffirm how you feel about your partner. Really, you should make every day Valentine's Day."



PHOTO COURTESY of aupsychology.com

Gary Lewandowski, has been featured on *CNN*, *The New York Times*, *Women's Health*, and *Cosmopolitan*.

A Day of Love Celebrated Around the World

How Other Countries Celebrate Valentine's Day

NANA BONSU
STAFF WRITER

“Te quiero,” “ti amo,” “je t’adore,” or simply, “I love you.” Valentine’s Day means different things to the many people around the world, and it also carries with it traditions that vary from country to country.

In the United States, Valentine’s Day is viewed as a holiday meant for people to express love and appreciation for one another. Customarily, cards and flowers, as well as chocolate and various candies, are exchanged as gifts. Most of these items are usually in the shape of hearts and are either red or pink. One of the most popular things for couples in the United States to do on Valentine’s Day is to have dinner or attend parties.

From a young age, children in the US also take part in Valentine’s Day festivities. In many elementary and middle schools, students give handmade cards to each other and exchange holiday candy. Kristin Kleinberg, a first-year student, said, “Some of my best Valentine’s Day memories are spending the day with my friends or seeing the look on my mother’s face when my father would get her something really great for Valentine’s Day.”

Much like in the US, in Britain people exchange flowers and candy with one another, but a significant difference is the singing children. According to theholidayspot.com, in Britain, children sing special songs about the holiday, and they are rewarded with candy, fruits, or money. Baking is also a British Valentine’s Day tradition. People bake valentine buns with caraway seeds,

plums, or raisins.

Also, in Britain, one month prior to Valentine’s Day, tabloids and magazines publish poems to commemorate the holiday. The tradition stems from British poets who wrote love poems, as well as the romantic versus associated with Saint Valentine.

Presently, Valentine’s Day in Italy is celebrated in a fashion similar to the way it is celebrated in the US, but in the past, Valentine’s Day in Italy was celebrated as a Spring Festival. According to stvalentinesday.org, “Young people would gather in tree arbors or ornamental gardens and enjoy listening to music and poetry readings.” Over time, the tradition has ceased and the holiday has become an ordinary holiday celebration with standard traditions used throughout the world. However, a Valentine’s Day gift that is very popular among young people in Italy is Baci Perugina, a small, chocolate-covered hazelnut containing a small slip of paper with a romantic poetic quote in four languages.

Similarly to the way Valentine’s Day used to be celebrated in Italy, Valentine’s Day in Japan and Korea is not only a one-day celebration. The celebration begins on February 14, but it does not end until March 14, which is known as the “White Day.” Contrary to the common belief that it is the men who are to give women candy on Valentine’s Day, in Japan, women give chocolates or gifts to the men they love, and oftentimes, the women make the chocolates and candies themselves. Women can also give gifts to any man who is close to them, such as male friends, and this tradition if re-



PHOTO COURTESY of sakura-zen.com

In Japan, Valentine’s Day is celebrated until March 14, and women bake chocolates to give to men.

ferred to as “giri-choco.” March 14 in Japan is the day when men who received gifts or chocolates from women are to return the favor.

In Denmark, Valentine’s Day is viewed as a day for the young. They refer to Valentine’s cards as “lover’s card,” and previously, these cards were translucent, so when held near light, the card reflected the picture of someone handing their lover a gift. According to the holidayspot.com, another Danish tradition is to send pressed white flowers called snowdrops to friends. Danish men also send what they refer to as the “gaekkebreve” or “joking letter.”

The letter is a romantic letter that contains a poem or rhyme written by the sender. However, the sender does not sign his name. Instead, he uses dots; one dot for each letter in his name. The woman who received the letter is to guess who sent it to her, and if she guesses correctly, the man will give her an Easter egg during Eastertide.

Although people around the world celebrate Valentine’s Day in many ways, the underlying concept of the day is the same in all countries. The purpose of the holiday is for couples to express their love to their significant others and to

do something nice for one another. People tend to forget that the significance of the day is not to criticize whether or not you were given roses and diamonds or whether your significant other treated you to a fancy dinner at a high end, exclusive restaurant. Kleinberg said, “I believe that Valentine’s Day is a greeting card holiday. Couples shouldn’t just give gifts and be romantic toward each other only on February 14; they should show love and romance to each other everyday.” Over time, people lose sight of what the day is truly about, which is showing your loved ones how much you care.

The History of the Day of Hearts

Origins of Popular Valentine's Day Traditions

TAMMY SYBEL
STAFF WRITER

The lights slowly dim, people have only eyes for one another, and murmurings of sweet nothings can be heard as candles in candelabras are lit and the purring of soft music sets the atmosphere around them.

This can only mean one thing: Valentine’s Day is making its annual appearance. Every cliché regarding love and the expectation of love circulates around this day adored by many, and abhorred by more still.

What is it exactly that makes Valentine’s Day so romantic, so couple-centric? Or rather still, what makes it so dreaded? Not many may know that the origin of this day goes back centuries and was only recently that it became affiliated with all things X’s and O’s.

The small multi colored candy hearts bestowing its recipient with sweet words of affection and warm fuzzy feelings would be interested to know that Valentine’s Day is based upon the legend of St. Valentine, which dates back all the way to the third century. Though not much is known about St. Valentine, one legend has it that he secretly wed lovebirds unbeknown to the emperor who had outlawed marriage for young men who were more fit to fight in battle with no strings attached than to be wed till death do them part.

When he was found out, St. Valentine was ordered to be executed. Another popular legend

is that St. Valentine was killed for attempting to aid Christians flee prison, according to history.com.

Pertaining to the latter, practitioners of Christianity were quite often subject to persecution and prejudice.

Dr. Kenneth Campbell, history professor, said, “The fear was that Christians worshiped only their god and not the emperor and that their emphasis on the afterlife would diminish people’s commitment to the Roman state.”

And in this time, many martyrs, including St. Valentine, sacrificed themselves for their beliefs.

“There were many martyrs who did die for their faith, and yes, trying to convert an emperor would make many enemies among those who were still committed to preserving Roman paganism or who just feared the grow-

ing influence of the Christian,” Campbell said.

sociated with love, because he was viewed as a very romantic and compassionate individual. As anyone who giddily awaits lifting the intertwined lace laden covers of heart shape boxes filled to the brim with promises of scrumptious deliciousness should know that it was not until the eighteenth century that many of the common features of modern Valentine’s Day emerged. It was not always teddy bears and candy that this holiday was about.

One attribute of love, which Valentine’s Day greatly centers itself on, is that of the meanings of flowers. What this entitles is that each flower has its own meaning unlike all the rest.

The red rose, which is commonly given on this day, symbolizes love. In actuality, there are numerous different types and colors of roses.

According to languageofflowers.com, the pink rose symbolizes happiness, whereas the

white rose can mean youthfulness or innocence. This meaning of flowers was extremely popular in Victorian times when young men and women courted.

The placement of Valentine’s Day in February is also interesting to look into.

“This is perhaps most necessary in the middle of winter. February can be pretty bleak and seem like a long month, even though it is the shortest month. In some way, I think that Valentine’s Day helps by providing a reason to celebrate with a special dinner or romantic evening during the long, cold months between Christmas and spring,” Dr. Campbell said.

So what is it about Valentine’s Day that makes people’s eyes pop, their manner change in an all-encompassing way? “It’s a time to celebrate love and the special person or persons in your life. The importance of caring about someone,” Brittany Diamond, senior, said.

The history of this day though is not forgotten. “It is more about the historical significance and how it has become what it is today. You need to be able to know the past to appreciate the present,” Alyssa Costello, senior, said.

So this Valentine’s Day, grab those Hallmark Valentine’s Day cards and stock up on those heart shaped boxes, for love is in the air and Cupid is aimed and ready to shoot you next. From the poem “Sacred Emily” by Gertrude Stein, “Rose is a rose is a rose is a rose.”



PHOTO COURTESY of breviary.net

St. Valentine would marry couples in the third century, when marriage was outlawed for young men fit to fight by the emperor, according to legend.

This in many aspects is why St. Valentine is so closely as-

sociated with love, because he was viewed as a very romantic and compassionate individual. As anyone who giddily awaits lifting the intertwined lace laden covers of heart shape boxes filled to the brim with promises of scrumptious deliciousness should know that it was not until the eighteenth century that many of the common features of modern Valentine’s Day emerged. It was not always teddy bears and candy that this holiday was about.

To Write Love on Her Arms

Monmouth Becomes First N.J. College to Adopt a Chapter of TWLOHA

Love continued from pg. 1

TWLOHA began hearing from other people with similar problems who were seeking help and looking to share their stories, as well as others who were looking to get involved and help in any way they could.

The site directly goes on to



PHOTO COURTESY of fanpop.com

Hayley Williams of Paramore sporting her TWLOHA shirt to support the organization at a show.

say in the description, “Over the four years, we’ve responded to 150,000 messages from people in 40 different countries. We’ve had the opportunity to bring this conversation, and a message of hope and help, to concerts, universities, festivals and churches. We’ve learned that these are not American issues, not white issues or ‘emo’ issues.” These are issues of huamity, problems of pain that affect millions of people around the world.”

Junior photography major Nicole Sidari has been a follower of TWLOHA since she first saw her favorite band, Anberlin, supporting the organization a few years ago by wearing TWLOHA t-shirts.

She explained, “I think suicide prevention is important, especially lately there have been an increasing number of stories where people have committed suicide because of depression or



PHOTO COURTESY of fanpop.com

To Write Love on Her Arms is backed by popular bands such as Switchfoot (above), Paramore, Ale-
sana and Anberlin.

bullying.” Sidari went to high school with Rutgers student Tyler Clementi, who just last year had committed suicide after being harassed by his roommate for being homosexual. She said, “It is important to let people know they are not alone, and that is what TWLOHA is for, they can get support and they can get help if they are having those thoughts.”

Vander Wall is currently making her way through the process of becoming a recognized orga-

nization on campus. The club advisor is faculty adjunct Kathryn Nogueira who works in the Communication Department. Nogueira’s roll as the advisor involves helping out in whatever ways possible to get the organization off the ground and running.

She said, “This (TWLOHA) is such a great organization and I am so happy that Sarah is working so hard to bring it to campus. I encourage all students to get involved because it covers so

many different issues that a lot of students may be struggling with.”

Vander Wall said, “Community is essential. Spread the word. Spread hope.” She explained that the club is still going through the process of becoming recognized and there are a few more steps to take.

The first meeting will be announced at a later date. To learn more visit TWLOHA.com or e-mail Sarah Vander Wall at s0813544@monmouth.edu.

Club and Greek Announcements

Men’s Lacrosse

The University men’s lacrosse program enters its third season of competition in the Liberty Conference of the NCLL. The Hawks, in their first season under Head Coach Jerry Dohn, went 2-0 in fall competitions in 2011, notching a 5-4 win against Rowan and a 7-6 victory over pre-season #12 TCNJ.

Led by senior captains Vin Sodano, Joe Milano, and Michael Asprocolas, the Hawks seek their first ever playoff berth and look to compete for the Liberty Conference Championship.

Be sure to witness the team’s rise to national prominence this spring in home contests against Rutgers-Camden, Rowan, La-Salle, Cabrini, Arcadia, TCNJ, St. Joseph’s, Temple, Delaware Valley, and Rider.

Go Hawks!

College Republicans

The College Republicans are looking for college students that are concerned about our future. During these economic hardships, many recent college graduates are having difficulty in finding jobs they are qualified for.

The upcoming presidential election is an opportunity to change that with a slate of candidates that can change the status quo.

Please join us if you are concerned about the future economic outlook, including the country’s ever-growing \$15.2 trillion budget deficit which could have consequences for our generation’s future. Please e-mail us at mugop@monmouth.edu if you have any questions.

Our next meeting is slated for February 22 (location TBD). We will also be hosting a debate viewing party that night as well for all who are interested.

The Outdoors Club

Last week, The Outdoors Club picked a perfect time for one of their many day hikes.

Last Saturday the club traveled to the historic Allaire State Park where they spent the day exploring and hiking the gorgeous terrain.

Many more day trips will be coming up this semester, as well as the club’s traditional big spring trip.

More information will be released at the meeting on Wednesday, February 8 at 3:30 pm in Bey Hall room 132.

The Outdoor’s Club will also be discussing upcoming day trips and fundraisers.

Don’t forget to check out the official Monmouth University Outdoors Club Facebook page for updated information; feel free to post any questions or suggestions regarding the club or any of the trips.

Begin by Believing

Begin by Believing is having a general club meeting Wednesday, February 8 at 3:30 pm in the Student Center’s Carol Affiliate Conference Room. We will be talking about spring events.

All Lifestyles Included

Just a reminder that ALI meets every Wednesday on the third floor of the Student Center (in the corner near the Affilito-Conference Room)at 3:30 pm.

We have a lot of exciting events and fun social gathers this semester including our fabulous, annual drag show and so much more!

Come check us out, we are always doing something entertaining and getting everyone involved!

Monmouth’s Got Talent

This Wednesday, February 8 Student Activities and Student Center Operations will be holding their annual Monmouth’s Got Talent.

The event starts at 10:00 pm and is located in Pollak Theatre. student ID’s are required to get into the event.

Open Mic

This Friday, February 10 Student Activities and Student Center Operations will be holding an Open Mic Night with fluff and stuff.

The event starts at 8:00 pm and is located in the Rebecca Stafford Student Center.

RHA Movies in Oakwood

This Friday in the Oakwood Lounge, RHA will be doing two showings of the movie *The Rum Diary* at 8:00 and 11:00 pm.

On Saturday, also in the Oakwood Lounge, they will be showing the movie *Tower Heist* at 8:00 and 11:00 pm.

Lambda Theta Alpha

February 21, we are having an event called Meet the Lambdas where both Lambda Theta Alpha Latin sorority, Incorporated and Lambda Theta Phi Latin Fraternity, Incorporated will be present.

Comm Works

CommWorks: Students Committed to Performance has a new weekly meeting time for Spring 2012!

Visit us on Thursdays 1:00 to 2:15 pm in Plangere room 235.

Economics and Finance Club

The Economics and Finance Club will be meeting every Wednesday at 2:30 pm in Bey Hall, room 231.

Students can check out our website for further information as well as our calendar of events at muefc.wordpress.com.

Bingo

This Saturday, February 11 Student Activities and Student Center Operations will be holding an I love Monmouth Bingo game.

The event starts at 8:00 pm and is located in the Rebecca Stafford Student Center.

You Can Never Have Too Much Energy

Spotlight on Monmouth University Energy Service Corps

ALEXIS ORLACCHIO
STAFF WRITER

“The Energy Service Corps is a joint partner of New Jersey Public Interest Research Group and AmeriCorps,” said Tom McKeon, Monmouth University Energy Service Corps Organizer.

“AmeriCorps is like the domestic peace corps and NJPIRG finds issues which concern the public such as hunger, homelessness, textbook rip-offs, sustainable university, etc,” said McKeon.

According to McKeon, energy efficiency also falls into a category that concerns the public. The United States is currently using energy at an unsustainable rate, which means they are using energy quicker than the energy can be made. “Currently 80 percent of our energy comes from dirty sources such as coal, gas, and oil which not only pollute our environment but costs more and more each year,” said McKeon.

McKeon’s role in the Energy Service Corps is to create connections for students so they can develop leadership skills and successful work on the campaigns.

There are other organizers working with students on college campuses in California, Wisconsin, New Jersey, and Colorado. The New Jersey colleges involved with the ESC are Princeton University, Rutgers University, Stockton College and MU.

“What makes Energy Service Corps so unique is that it’s a state-wide student directed and student funded organization working on real social issues,” said McKeon.

Organizing projects like home weatherization’s, K-12 education, and community outreach/service accomplishes this.

Weatherization is the process of sealing and insulating your home to help save energy. Simple things like checking the temperature of the refrigerator and hot water heater are simple tasks to help weatherize the home. “It’s easy to talk about problems,



PHOTO COURTESY of Tom McKeon

The Energy Service Corps is the only on-campus organization which can fulfill the experiential education requirement. Above, University students sign pledges to conserve energy by using CFL lightbulbs, unplugging electronics when not in use, etc.

but it’s different to actually come up with solutions,” said McKeon.

“K-12 consists of going to local schools, boys and girls clubs, youth centers, etc. to teach about energy efficiency,” said McKeon.

Community outreach educates anyone over 18-years-old about energy efficiency and organizes projects such as CFL distributions and tree plantings.

“The Energy Service Corps strives to educate students and the surrounding community about conserving energy and how it is important to your development,” explained Rachel Fisher, sophomore and intern in charge of the public relations for the Energy Service Corps at Monmouth University.

“I got involved with ESC through filling out an interest card,” said Fischer. “I also heard a lot about it when members came to my classes and spoke about the goals and the main mission of what the ESC does.”

“The ESC is super excited about the upcoming kick off meeting which will be held on Wednesday, February 8 in the Club Dining Rooms,” said Fisher.

The ESC is currently planning a Tree Identification week where all the trees on campus are labeled with both their common and scientific names. “Other projects are still in the works but they are sure to be exciting all while providing tips on how to be energy efficient,” said Fisher.

“Monmouth is a premier school of going green!” said McKeon. “Last semester, NJ ESC weatherized 70 buildings, 44 of which were done by Monmouth students.”

“The ESC is the only on campus organization which can fulfill the experiential education requirement,” said McKeon. “Internships are a great way to boost a resume, develop leadership skills, and actually make changes within the community.”

“The best way for students to get involved with the Energy Service Corps is to attend our kick-off meeting on Wednesday, February 8 at 2:45 in McGill Commons, Club Room 109,” said McKeon.

“There we’ll launch the semester by highlighting last semester’s successes and introduce this semesters goals.” Surf Taco and pizza will be offered to all who attend.

Students Compete to Play at SXSW

PRESS RELEASE

WEST LONG BRANCH, NJ – Reverse Order would like to thank all our friends and fans that support us at shows, buy our merchandise and click on a like when we’re in a contest. It’s because of your support Reverse Order was chosen as one of the top four finalists in a contest called Hometown Sound.

Our music will be played in 830 Maurice Stores across the US and people can either scan the QR code on our poster to vote or go to www.facebook.com/reverseorder and click on the link. Round two will run from Feb 6 through the end of the month and you can vote everyday.

The winner gets to perform at SXSW an annual music conference and festival held in Texas and shoot a professional music video in LA, so we hope you’ll continue to support us.

If you’re not familiar with Reverse Order we hope you’ll check us out. We’re a pop/rock band with a high energy show. We like to have fun, get everybody on their feet and take them away from whatever is weighing them down.

We’re on all the social networks as well as iTunes. For the 21+ we have a show coming up at the Nip and Tuck on February 11. Music starts at 10:00 pm and admission is free. On Sunday Feb 19 we are going to be performing with Allstar Weekend at the St. George Theater on Staten Island. We’ve set up a special link where you can get discount tickets and our CD free. Just go to www.reverseorderonline.com.

Shadow PR Talks Sports

PRESS RELEASE

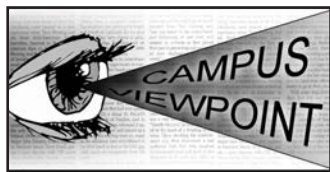
Zack Rosenberg, Director of Sponsorship for the Lakewood BlueClaws comes to Monmouth University Wednesday, February 8 at 3:00 pm to discuss with Shadow PR members about their PR skills and working in sports.

“As a sports communication minor, I believe it is a wonderful opportunity to have Mr. Rosenberg speak to the chapter. Hearing about sports PR from someone who is in the industry will be beneficial as I approach graduation” states Ali Nudo, one of Shadow PR’s account executives.

Rosenberg has been with the BlueClaws since 2006 when he started as a marketing manager. Then in 2009 he moved up to assistant director of sponsorship. Finally, in 2011 he became the director. Prior to his work with the BlueClaws he gained experiences at Octagon as an intern.

Rosenberg’s relationship with Shadow PR is new but he has already helped the firm get on their feet by connecting them to their first official client, the Lakewood Chamber of Commerce where he serves on the board of directors.

The PRSSA bi-monthly Speaker Series was instituted in 2009 to provide networking opportunities for public relations students and professionals. To stay up to date about who is speaking when follow us on Facebook at www.facebook.com/speakerseries . For more information about the speaker series or Monmouth’s PRSSA Chapter go to www.monmouth.edu/prssa or contact Amanda Erdmann, Communication Director, at s0756510@monmouth.edu, or Dr. Shelia McAllister-Spooner, Faculty Advisor, at smcallis@monmouth.edu.



What are you doing for Valentine's Day?

COMPILED BY: JOANNA ZIETARA



Brittany
senior

"I'm going on a date with my boyfriend... I don't think he has a clue where we're going yet."



Dana
junior

"Our anniversary is two days before Valentine's so my boyfriend and I are celebrating in AC for the weekend!"



Raymond
senior

"I'll be spending time with my family."



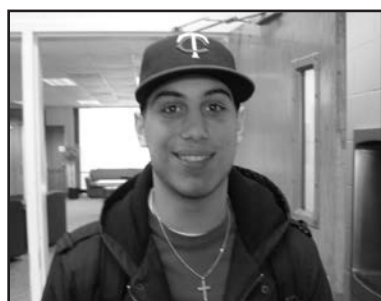
Jonas
freshman

"Just planning a bro night!"



TJ
sophomore

"I hate Valentine's Day. It's a fake Hallmark holiday."



Mike
sophomore

"I'm in class all day... but every day is Valentine's Day for me."



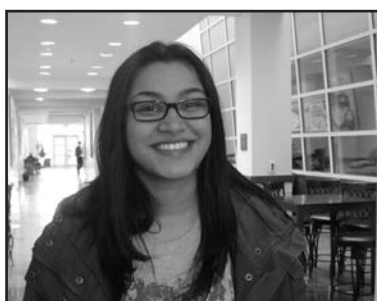
Rosanna
senior

"My boyfriend and I are going to the city for dinner and a night out."



Stefanie
senior

"I might not even see my boyfriend, I have class all day... whomp."



Ekta
junior

"I'm going out to dinner with my boyfriend in Red Bank."



Kate
junior

"Me and my girlfriends have a tradition to go to the Inkwell and eat some desserts."

Carolina Chocolate Drops

FRI. FEB. 17 | 8 PM

POLLAK THEATRE

SPRING 2012

Cowboy Junkies
FRI. FEB. 24 | 8 PM



Dead On, Live
FRI. APR. 13 | 8 PM



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Workingman's Dead
& American Beauty**

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TICKETS!**

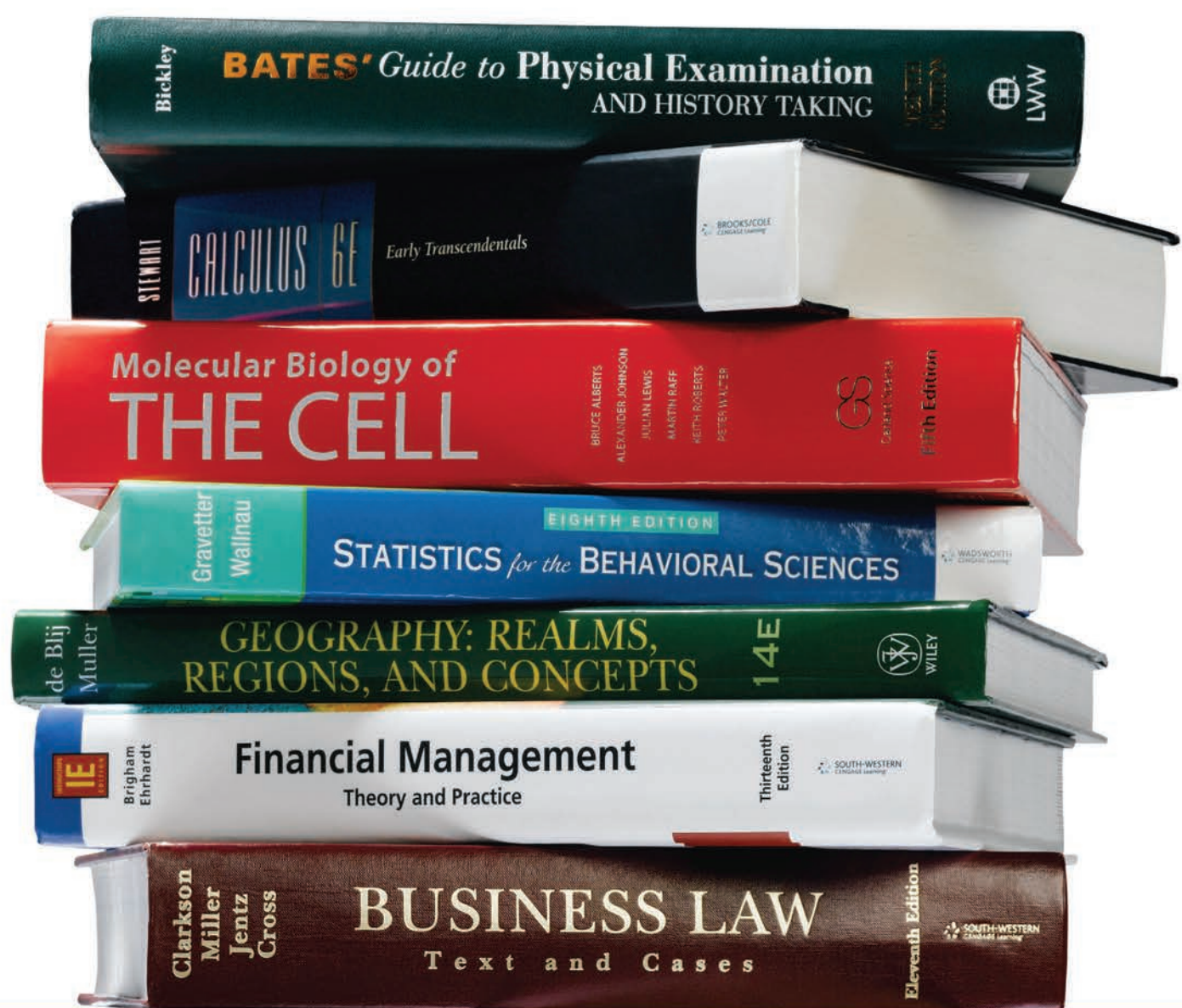
*All Monmouth University full-time students are entitled to one free ticket to any two performing arts events, excluding Concerts East events. After the two free tickets have been used, the student cost will be \$5.

Adam & Anthony
from RENT SAT. APR. 21 | 8 PM



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DC Turns Back the Clock ‘Before Watchmen’

MATTHEW FISHER
COMICS EDITOR

The Watchmen are coming back! DC Comics will release six prequel miniseries under the banner, “Before Watchmen,” to showcase new adventures featuring Rorschach, Dr. Manhattan, and Silk Spectre as they fight crime. A back up feature, the Crimson Corsair, will also be included in each issue.

For those unfamiliar with Alan Moore and Dave Gibbon’s groundbreaking miniseries, “Watchmen” took place during 1985 in an alternate world where America won the Vietnam War and Richard Nixon is in his third term as President.

The story begins with the death of the Comedian and the proceeding investigation by the deadly yet insightful Rorschach. While he searches for clues and talks with other heroes to solve the death of the Comedian, the reader gets a look into the lives of these characters and a sense of how vigilantes changed the course of history starting in the 1920’s. Along the way, the world is holding its breath as the U.S. and Russia head for nuclear war.

“Watchmen” was a breakthrough not only for its rich complex storytelling but by presenting a realistic, gritty story with fallible characters.

To tell these new adventures, DC Comics has collected some stellar creative teams to further develop the world of “Watchmen.”

According to DC Comics’ blog, “The Source,” writer Brian Azarello and artist Lee Berjemo are working on “Rorschach” and Azarello is also collaborating with artist J.G. Jones on “The Comedian.”

J. Michael Straczynski is writing two miniseries: first is “Dr. Manhattan” with Adam Hughes supplying art, and second is “Nite Owl,” featuring art by Andy and Adam Kubert.

Former “Watchmen” editor, Len Wein will write “Ozymandias”

with Jae Lee illustrating. Wein will also be witing the back-up story, “Curse of the Crimson Corsair,” with original “Watchmen” colorist John Higgins.

Writer/artist Darwyn Cooke is pulling double-duties on “Minute-men” as well as writing “Silk Spectre” with Amanda Conner handling the art.

Following these miniseries, DC will also present “Before Watchmen: Epilogue” that includes another “Crimson Corsair” story.

On “The Source,” Dan Didio and Jim Lee, DC Entertainment Co-Publishers gave their reasoning for exapnding upon “Watchmen.” They said, “It’s our responsibility as publishers to find new ways to keep all of our characters relevant... After twenty five years, the Watchmen are classic characters whose time has come for new stories to be told. We sought out the best writers and artists in the industry to build on the complex mythology of the original.”

Although original series artist, Gibbons, told “The Source,” “I appreciate DC’s reasons for this initiative and the wish of the artists and writers involved to pay tribute to our work,” Moore is less than thrilled.

This wouldn’t be the first time Moore was annoyed about a new “Watchmen” project. When *Watchmen*, directed by Zack Snyder, came out, he asked his name not be listed in a creator credit.

While talking to the *New York Times* about “Before Watchmen,” Moore said, “I tend to take this latest development as a kind of eager confirmation that they are still apparently dependent on ideas that I had 25 years ago.” He continued to tell the *Times* that while he would get money from this endeavor having been the series writer, “I don’t want money...What I want is for this not to happen.”

In regards to Moore’s statement, writers and artists listed as “Before

Watchmen” creative teams have raised their voices to the issue to justify being able to tell new stories of his creations like Rorschach, the Minutemen, and Nite Owl.

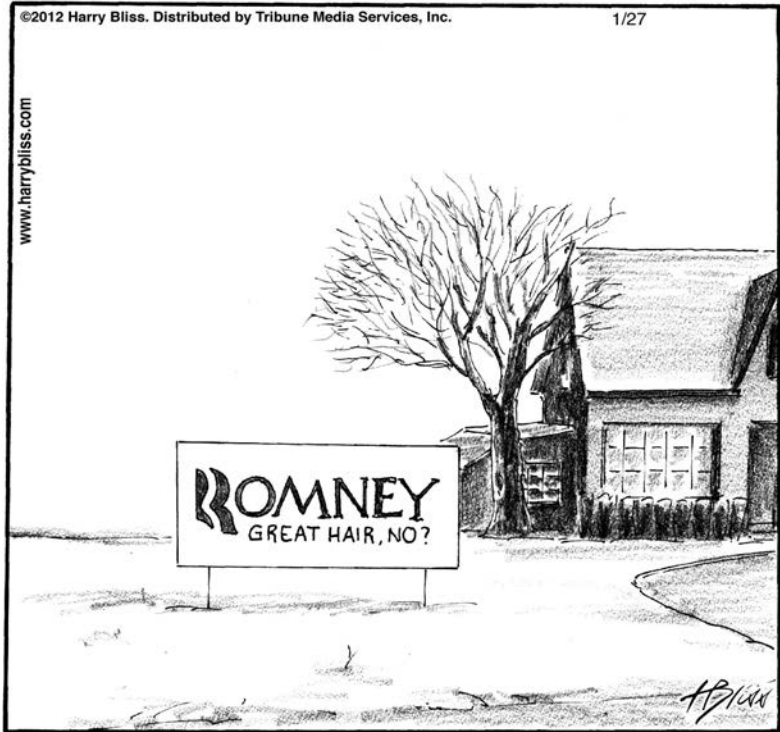
In an interview with comic-bookresources.com about his Dr. Manhattan miniseries, Straczynski explained his reason for accepting this job and why creators should be allowed to explore “Watchmen.” “A lot of folks feel that these characters shouldn’t be touched by anyone other than Alan, and while that’s absolutely understandable on an emotional level, it’s deeply flawed on a logical level. Based on durability and recognition, one could make the argument that Superman is the greatest comics character ever created. But neither Alan nor anyone else has ever suggested that no one other than Shuster and Siegel should ever be allowed to write Superman.”

What’s really interesting about the whole “Before Watchmen” endeavor is that it isn’t the first time people have attempted to broaden this universe.

Watchmen: The End is Nigh was a prequel video game to the film adaptation featuring the superhero duo, Rorschach and Nite Owl, fighting crime on the streets of New York City.

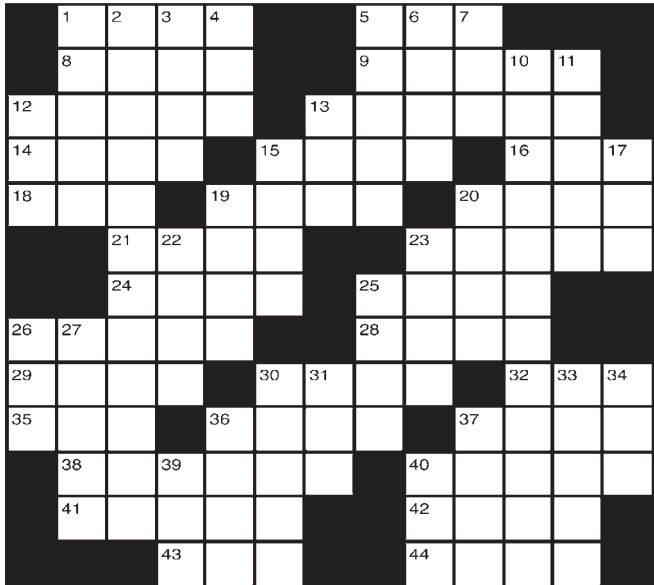
Writing about the “Watchmen” prequels, Brett White, of comic-bookresources.com, said, “‘Watchmen’ is revered because it’s ‘Watchmen,’ a name that has become synonymous with ‘game-changing genius.’ But I think the comic book community also viewed ‘Watchmen’ as some sort of marathon to see how long an insanely popular series could go without a new installment, and this news means the streak is over.”

As the release dates for these books arrive, there is a sense of excitement and uncertainty to “Before Watchmen.” I know I’ll be watching the comic book racks to see how this project plays out.



THE TV CROSSWORD

by Jacqueline E. Mathews



Created by Jacqueline E. Mathews

2/5/12

ACROSS

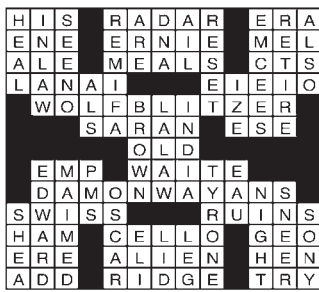
- 1 “Dharma & ”
- 5 Rather or Aykroyd
- 8 “The ___ Boat”
- 9 “___ Lucy”
- 12 A. J. Foyt or Jeff Gordon
- 13 Family series about a collie
- 14 Annoys
- 15 Jay of late-night TV
- 16 “Boys Don’t ___”; Hilary Swank movie
- 18 Susan of “L. A. Law”
- 19 Rayburn or Wilder
- 20 “___ of Echoes”; Kevin Bacon film
- 21 Late newsmen Huntley
- 23 Oxfords and sneakers
- 24 Broadcasts
- 25 Speak indistinctly
- 26 “Air ___ One”; movie for Harrison Ford and Glenn Close
- 28 Actress Shelley of “Cheers”
- 29 Songbird
- 30 HLN’s “Dr. ___”
- 32 “Ice ___”; popular animated film
- 35 Military dance sponsor, for short
- 36 Alan or Cheryl

- 37 Actor ___ Garrett
- 38 Burstyn and Pompeo
- 40 “They Call Me MISTER ___”; Sidney Poitier film
- 41 Dr. Mark ___; Dick Van Dyke’s role on “Diagnosis Murder”
- 42 Cain’s brother
- 43 “___ Given Sunday”; movie for Al Pacino and Dennis Quaid
- 44 Deep mud

DOWN

- 1 Angry look
- 2 Actor on “NCIS”
- 3 Arden and Plumb
- 4 Country in which “Hogan’s Heroes” is set; abbr.
- 5 Sawyer or Keaton
- 6 Additionally
- 7 Refusals
- 10 Actor on the new “Charlie’s Angels”
- 11 “___, Indiana”; short-lived Omri Katz drama series
- 12 Get ___ of; eliminate
- 13 Goodman of “Dancing with the Stars”
- 15 “___ Make a Deal”
- 17 12-mo. periods
- 19 Actor Richard ___
- 20 Give the cold shoulder to
- 22 Bumpkin
- 23 As ___ as molasses
- 25 Iditarod vehicle
- 26 Common respiratory ailment
- 27 Desert refugees
- 30 Mr. DeVito
- 31 Yellow Brick and others; abbr.
- 33 Actor Clark ___
- 34 Sullivan and Bradley
- 36 Like pricey hamburger meat
- 37 Swedish actress ___ Andersson
- 39 Hawaii’s Mauna ___
- 40 Scottish cap

Solution to Last Week’s Puzzle



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2/5/12

THE K CHRONICLES



Running in the Moonlight

Track and Field has Strong Showing in “Moonlight at the MAC” Tournament

GAVIN MAZZAGLIA
STAFF WRITER

The University track and field team competed twice this past week in anticipation for the upcoming NEC Championships. Last Wednesday, the men’s and women’s teams hosted the “Moonlight in the MAC Classic” in the MAC.

The Hawks were highlighted by some personal records from Tilah Young, Sandra Jean-Romain, and Josh Mann. Mann came up short from qualifying for the IC4A Championships in the triple jump. His mark of 14.25 m/46’9” was not only a personal best mark but was also the fifth best mark in the triple jump for the men in school history.

“We performed to our expectations in about every event,” Coach Compagni said.

Monmouth also featured throwers in the top five finishing for the weight throw. Errol Jeffery’s throw was good enough for first as he was followed by Taylor Bernstein, Dan D’Amato, Ryan Snyder, and Shane Carle. Three Hawks also finished in the top three for shot put, as Shane Carle came in first and was followed by Bernstein and D’Amato.

The Hawks continued to dominate the games. Two Hawks finished in the top two for both the high jump and long jump. Jake Bartlett came in first place in the high jump while Erik Anderson trailed in second. In the long jump, Stevenson Cajuste came in first

and Darvin Hendersen finished in second. Cajuste also came in first in the 60 meter hurdle with a time of 8.59 seconds.

In the pole vault, Peter Matano’s mark of 4.57 m/15’ was good enough for first place. He was followed by Tom Jeffers and Jordan Subai, who came in second and third place, respectively. In the mile run, Ryan Mulligan finished in first place with a time of 4:27.04. In the 800 meter run, Alex Leight came in first with a time of 1:59.92.

For the women, Tilah Young recorded a personal record in the weight throw with a distance of 17.55 m/57’7”. In the shot put, Sandra Jean-Romain also recorded a personal record with a mark of 14.21 m/46’7.5”, good enough to qualify her for the ECAC Championships. Rachael Aliotta came in second in the shot put and fourth in the weight throw.

In the pole vault, Lauren McDonald came in first with a mark of 3.35 m/10’11.75.’ Lachelle Wallace came in second in the 60 meter dash. In the mile run, Juliet Smith finished in first with a time of 5:24.44. Kelsey Maher finished in second in the 3,000 meter run with a time of 10:47.34.

In the 400 meter dash, Mel Lewis finished in second place with a time of 1:00.44. In the 200 meter dash, Kafi Daughtry came in second with a time of 27.01. In the 4 x 400 relay, the team of Maguire, Horn, Patrick and Lewis came in first with a time of 4:19.17.

On Friday and Saturday, some members of the men’s and women’s teams competed in the New Balance Invitational at the New York Armory in New York City. Some of the nation’s top teams competed in the event. The event included over 100 schools competing.

On the men’s side, Khari Bowen set a freshman record in the mile run with a time of 4:14.92, coming in 25th place. His time was .02 short of qualifying for the IC4A Championships. Vince Elardo came in ninth place in the weight throw and seventh in the shot put. Ford Palmer finished in eighth place in the 800 meter run with a time of 1:52.43. In the high jump, Ed Kramer came in sixth place with a mark of 1.99 m/6’6”.

For the women, Jennifer Nelson ran the mile run in 4:59.07, which was the fourth best time in school history for the women’s team. Nelson joins Amanda Eller as the only duo in school history to post sub-five minute miles in the same season. The 4 x 800 meter relay team of Amanda Eller, Emily MacEwen, Danielle Toritto and Ali Hehn finished in ninth place with a time of 9:06.89.

“The key is to learn from each opportunity and get stronger every week. We have to execute the details,” Compagni explained.

Monmouth will compete in the Northeast Conference Indoor Championships in Landover, Maryland this weekend.



PHOTO COURTESY of MU Photography
Lauren McDonald finished in first place in the “Moonlight at the MAC” tournament, setting a rookie record after clearing 3.35m.

Women’s Basketball Falls to First Place Quinnipiac

MAGGIE ZELINKA
STAFF WRITER

This past Saturday, the University’s women basketball team went head to head with a 16-5 Quinnipiac University at the MAC. A solid fan base came to support their third place Hawks take on the second place Bobcats.

With the playoffs approaching and number of games winding down, the Hawks realized how important it was to win this game. “As conference play continues and begins to wind down,” Coach Palmateer states, “Every game becomes exponentially more important. With the structure of our conference tournament, we are playing for home court advantage.”

Quinnipiac quickly took the lead in the first half and within four minutes, they had a five point advantage over the Hawks. With an official time-out called at 15:59, Monmouth was able to take a breath and prepare themselves for the next minutes of play.

The ladies scored the next four points bringing the score to a 7-6 game with 14:47 left on the clock. The Bobcats sunk the next basket but Monmouth retaliated quickly and the game stayed at a close score of 9-8. With a little less than 10 minutes left in the first half, Quinnipiac was to create a 10 point lead against Monmouth as the scoreboard read 22-12. The Bobcats increased their lead to a 14 point advantage over the Hawks within 20 seconds of creating the 10 point lead.

Monmouth slipped far behind Quinnipiac on the scoreboard and with 5:25 remaining, the Hawks were down by a whopping 18 points. But these next five minutes were Monmouth’s most impressive moments of the game. The Hawks scored the next 14 out of 18

points with two three-pointers with junior guard Carly Thibault scoring one and junior forward Betsy Gadziala scoring the other. The score read Quinnipiac 38 Monmouth 30 by the half.

Spectators could only imagine what the team’s coaches were saying during half time. Both teams created many loose balls on the court and also many poor passes to their teams. Being unable to keep one’s hands on the ball was common in the game as well. But both teams did not let these elements of poor play bring them down.

During the first half, it appeared the only strategy in which Quinnipiac bettered at than Monmouth was creating space. The Bobcats were always looking around, always playing the offense not so much the defense, but through their play they could move all over as quick as they wanted which was difficult for the Hawks to cover.

The second half started out much like the first with Quinnipiac taking an early advantage over the Hawks. Within two minutes of the second half, Quinnipiac was able to score eight points while Monmouth stayed stationary bringing the game to another 16 point lead. Thankfully, Monmouth’s junior guard, Alysha Womack, was on the court and helped the Hawks gaining the next six points bringing their total points to 36. Unfortunately, the Bobcats also scored during this time period bringing their total points to 51 creating a 15 point difference.

At 13:08 Monmouth had a score of 40 while Quinnipiac had a score of 55 keeping the 15 point lead consistent. The Hawks could not recover from this deficit and fell even further behind the Bobcats. By 6:54, Quinnipiac was leading 68-48 creating the second 20 point lead of the game for the visitors. It



PHOTO COURTESY of MU Photography
Gena Broadus battles for a rebound in Saturday’s 75-63 loss to Quinnipiac. The loss dropped the Hawks to 12-10 (7-4 in the NEC).

was at the 5:02 mark when Quinnipiac’s guard, Felicia Barron, dribbled down the court right thru two of Monmouth’s defenders, making the game, 71-50 that the ladies took full force offense.

The Hawks were down 75-57 by the two minute warning but they were not done trying just yet. With merely seconds left in the game, the Hawks continued to move around the Bobcats. Sadly, their last minute effort was just not good enough and Monmouth fell to Quinnipiac 75-63. The bright side is that the Bobcats lead Monmouth by 20 points in some parts of the game but Monmouth was able to cut the final score down to a 12 point lead and in this case, the score truly does reflect the game at hand.

Through the game, it appeared as if the court was made for one reason: a Barron vs Womack show. By the time the first half was completed, the ladies posted similar statistics. Barron contributed a total of 15 points for her team, 10 of those coming within the first ten minutes. Womack has her team high as well at the half with 8 points. By the end of the game, Barron had a total of 23 points while Womack contributed 19 points for her team.

This head to head match up even impressed high authorities, such as the head coach for Monmouth, Coach Palmateer. “Barron was unbelievable. She can score in a variety of ways and we struggled to keep her under control,” Coach Palmateer continues, “We had

several people defending her during the game and were never really ever able to contain her. Hats off to her. She had a great game.”

Coach Palmateer believes that her team do not have to tweak their game strategy for the upcoming game, they just have to alter their attack method.

“We plan on approaching Sacred Heart with the same game strategy. The difference needs to be in the execution of our strategy,” Coach Palmateer states, “We know we are a team that has to get it done on the defensive end. We have to come into every game the hungriest, most energetic team on the court. When we do that we are a tough team to beat.” The Hawks will next host first place Sacred Heart on Monday at the MAC at 7:00 pm.

Pat Light Looks to Shine in 2012 Season

DARIA DELUCCIA
STAFF WRITER

Drafted right out of high school, junior baseball star Pat Light’s dream of playing professionally is becoming a reality once again, being named to Baseball America’s Early 2010 Top College Prospects, and selected at number 25 on the top-100 chart.

Following in his fathers’ footsteps, Light started his baseball career while in kindergarten. “I wanted to be like my Dad,” stated Light. “We’ve always done a lot together.” After trying out soccer and basketball, he realized that baseball was his true calling. When Light first started playing, he started out in the infield. However, as the six foot six athlete began getting taller he went in as a pitcher.

Light attended Christian Brothers Academy, where he collected a 20-0 career record with 1.52 ERA. That record is still the best career record in Shore Conference History. Light was also a two-time 1st team All-Shore selection and 3rd team all state. He was selected 28th in the 2009 MLB Draft by the Minnesota Twins coming out of high school. However, he realized that aside from not being completely ready to play professional baseball, Light did not think that it was the best opportunity for him.

Freshman year, Light realized he needed to step his game up if wanted to continue playing baseball at this level. Coming off of what he referred to as his “worst season yet,” Light realized the work that he needed to put into his baseball career. As a sophomore, Light started 13 out of the 14 games he

played in racking up 61 strikeouts for the season. Then, this summer Light was offered a prestigious opportunity to play in the Cape Cod summer league. After having much success there, Light is feeling good about his own personal game this year and hoping for a victorious season.

Now that Light is once again being looked at by the MLB, he is realizing that his college days may be ending sooner than he expected. Playing on the Universities team, he described making friends that he will miss not seeing nearly as much as he does now. “I’ll miss my friends a lot,” explained Light. “That’s why I’m trying to make the most out of this year with all of them, just in case this is my last semester here.”

Some may wonder where Light’s inspiration comes from; but this pitcher looks up to none other than Roy Halladay. The Phillies pitcher, now hall-of-famer, has overcome obstacles in his life that he did not let affect his love for the game.

With so much success usually comes a strong sense of arrogance. However, this is not the case with Pat Light. After all of his accomplishments to date, Light maintains a humble and modest attitude towards all of the successes he has achieved. Another quality about Light is his ability to be appreciative for any luck or good fortune that has come his way. But aside from that, he was able to realize that after having one bad season, he needed to pick himself up and work hard to follow his dreams. “I can be a lazy kid,” joked Light. “But I worked very hard the past two years; I had to make up for freshman year.”



PHOTO COURTESY OF MU Photography
Pat Light looks to take his talents to the pros after playing for the Hawks.

The best advice that Light ever received was from his father this past year, reminding his son to play the game he has so much passion for. “Relax and play baseball. Don’t worry about anything else,” recited Light. As for his own advice, he warns anyone starting off to “just play. Don’t over think anything too much, that’s where you get yourself in trouble.”

This being such an exciting time for Light, it must be extremely hard to even imagine yourself truly fulfilling your dreams. “You always hope for it,” explained Light. “But you can’t really ever imagine it happening to you.”

Men’s Basketball Splits Home Games, Falls to Seventh in NEC

ED MORLOCK
ASSISTANT SPORTS EDITOR

The men’s basketball team split their home games this week. The Hawks defeated Sacred Heart on Thursday 63-56. On Saturday, Quinnipiac handled the Blue and White 71-48.

Monmouth (7-18, 5-7) had a chance to take control of sixth place in the Northeast Conference (NEC) with these games and couldn’t take full advantage. Quinnipiac (13-10, 6-6) is now in sixth place in the conference. The Hawks are tied with Sacred Heart (11-14, 5-7) for seventh.

Thursday night the Hawks faced one of the best scorers in the conference, junior guard Shane Gibson. Gibson averaged 26.1 points a game against conference opponents when they came into West Long Branch. The Blue and White did not allow Gibson to take over the game, but he still managed 22 points, 16 coming in the second half.

Andrew Nicholas kept the Hawks in the game in the first half. He had 11 of Monmouth’s 25 first half points.

“We all started off slow shooting wise. We started shooting too many three’s in the beginning. I just started moving around and my teammates found me. I took open shots,” said Nicholas. “I knocked down some shots. I feel like I got my shot back finally. I struggled the last couple of games.”

With 2:31 remaining in the

game, the Pioneers were leading 54-46. The Hawks closed the game out with a 17-2 run.

Junior guard Jesse Steele made a three-pointer at 2:27 to cut the lead to 54-49. An Ed Waite steal at the 2:00 mark led to a Dion Nesmith layup to make it a 54-51 game.

The Hawks’ aggressive defense continued. Austin Tillotson stole the ball from Gibson, and layed it in to put the MU deficit at one with 1:41 left in the game. Louis Montes missed two free throws for Sacred Heart, giving the Hawks the ball with a chance to take the lead.

“When you don’t answer the challenge, you get a beat down, and that’s what we got tonight. We got exactly what we deserved.”

KING RICE
Head Coach

Ed Waite converted an easy layup with 55 seconds left to put the Hawks ahead 55-54. Another Tillotson layup and a couple Steele free throws put MU ahead 59-54 with only 18 ticks on the clock. Evan Kelly cut the lead to three with a layup and 13 seconds remaining. Nesmith’s clutch free throw shooting put the game away, and the Hawks defeated Sacred Heart.

Nicholas led the Blue and White with 15 points. Nesmith and Steele joined him in double figured, combining for 25 points.

Saturday night the Hawks knew Quinnipiac was one of the best rebounding teams in the country, and this ended up being

a huge difference. The Bobcats out-rebounded Monmouth 50-29. The Bobcats had more offensive rebounds (21) than the Hawks had defensive (20).

“When you don’t answer the challenge, you get a beat down, and that’s what we got tonight. We got exactly what we deserved. We got out-toughed, outplayed and out-coached,” said Head Coach King Rice. “Quinnipiac played like they wanted to take sixth place over, and we let them.”

The Hawks’ one chance at getting back into the game did not last very long. At the end of the first half and beginning of the second, MU went on a 10-0 run. This cut the deficit to seven at 36-29. From here, Garvey Young scored the next five points to put the Bobcats up 41-29 and take total control of the game.

James Johnson was the games’ leading scorer totaling 18 points, nine in each half. Ousmane Drame led the game in rebounding, grabbing 10 boards.

Steele scored Monmouth’s first nine points, and led the team in scoring with 13. Nesmith added 10 more points for the Hawks.

This week Monmouth has two games against rival Farleigh Dickinson. They travel to Hackensack, N.J. Wednesday night for the first game. Saturday night at 7:00 pm the game is in the MAC.

These NEC games will be crucial in determining Monmouth’s conference tournament fate.



#Privacyproblems: A View of Social Media in Sports

DAN GUNDERMAN
STAFF WRITER

In a world where social media can sway presidential elections and world events, surely it can influence sports. This fact has been proven time and time again as professional athletes have demonstrated their two cents on issues on sites such as Twitter and Facebook. But professional athletes aren’t the only ones who are networking online with millions of high school and college athletes alike joining the club. Coaches are taking notice to this as well.

As the social media frenzy grows and tweets are becoming more of our daily language, a look at their effect on the world of sports is our focus this week, especially after a recent scholarship scandal at Michigan University.

Yuri Wright, a four star rated corner back from Don Bosco Prep in New Jersey, was committed to the University of Michigan to play for head coach Brady Hoke. But after careful consideration and investigation into his character, the school chose to release Wright of his scholarship and right to be a Wolverine. As news broke of this event, sources confirmed that it was mainly in regards to racist and foul language used on the networking site Twitter.

From a top-notch college prospect bound for a successful future to a character tainted high school athlete, Wright has fallen out of the good graces of many. After the events unfolded, Wright narrowed down his choices to his local Rutgers University and Colorado.

After careful consideration, and possibly the mindset to run far away from the problem, Wright chose to play near Denver’s Tebow-country for Colorado University. In my view, he’s lucky to have the chance to suit up again after his filthy comments.

The soon-to-be Colorado Buffalo corner-back brought a huge burden not only on himself but on the issue of morality and whether (seemingly) private information should determine scholarship opportunities. It also begs the question of whether social media makes or breaks our view of athletes.

People in support of the events that unfolded would suggest that looking into one’s Twitter and/or Facebook account can only help the program. As they delve deep into the character to make sure the athlete is a good ambassador to the college, the truth comes out. This helps coaches understand who they’re dealing with and gives them an idea of what they might have to put up with for another four years.

Critics would then suggest that anything on one’s online account is personal information and is not to be tampered

with and used to determine play on the field. They also suggest that it is an invasion of privacy and needs to be corrected. Is it hard enough to keep people out of personal lives? And is it so hard to allow your play on the field earn you a spot on a notable college squad?

Although all of these claims are accurate in our technology-driven world, my response to this is clear. Brady Hoke and the coaching staff of the Michigan University Wolverines made an excellent decision in denying Wright’s bid to be on the squad.

First off, it is no different than attending a public athletic event, analyzing character and possibly chatting with the recruit. Instead, this is accessing information online which is made public once the author submits the material. Whether or not your Twitter is set to private, there’s no saying where your embarrassing tweets or wall posts might get you.

Is it that hard to keep your racist comments and embarrassing grammar off the web? Keep that your own personal issue and be professional and admirable while you’re in pursuit of a scholarship that thousands of others would kill for.

So here’s a tip to Yuri Wright and all of those athletes who have, or intend to create embarrassing and meaningless comments; coaching staffs look for leadership qualities and character traits that will make you respected at an adult level. If you are Division-1 quality, or any form of an NCAA athlete, you do not need to be using your Twitter as your inner thoughts mechanism.

Be respectful, be enthusiastic and show the world what you can do with it in the palm of your hands. Let’s refrain from using derogatory comments about sex or skin color on a public platform, as we are in 2012; the age of information.

Let’s not blame these findings as deceptions or privacy invasions, because as the freedom of information age spreads, it will only get worse. There will be more Yuri Wright-like comments on Twitter or Facebook in the future but hopefully the next time around it will be from someone who surely knows the consequences.

This, of course, applies to professional athletes as well, who although make millions, decide to tamper their reputations with idiotic or hurtful tweets. Or, for attention getters like Chad Ochocinco, social media is their last grip to stardom. My advice: please, ignore the hype, know the power and be professional.

Please, be the careful thinking Brady Hokes of the world and realize what social media can make of you. Don’t deny its power and beware of its effect on others. Now there’s some food for thought.



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