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The Polar Vortices Cited as the Cause for Extreme Winter Conditions

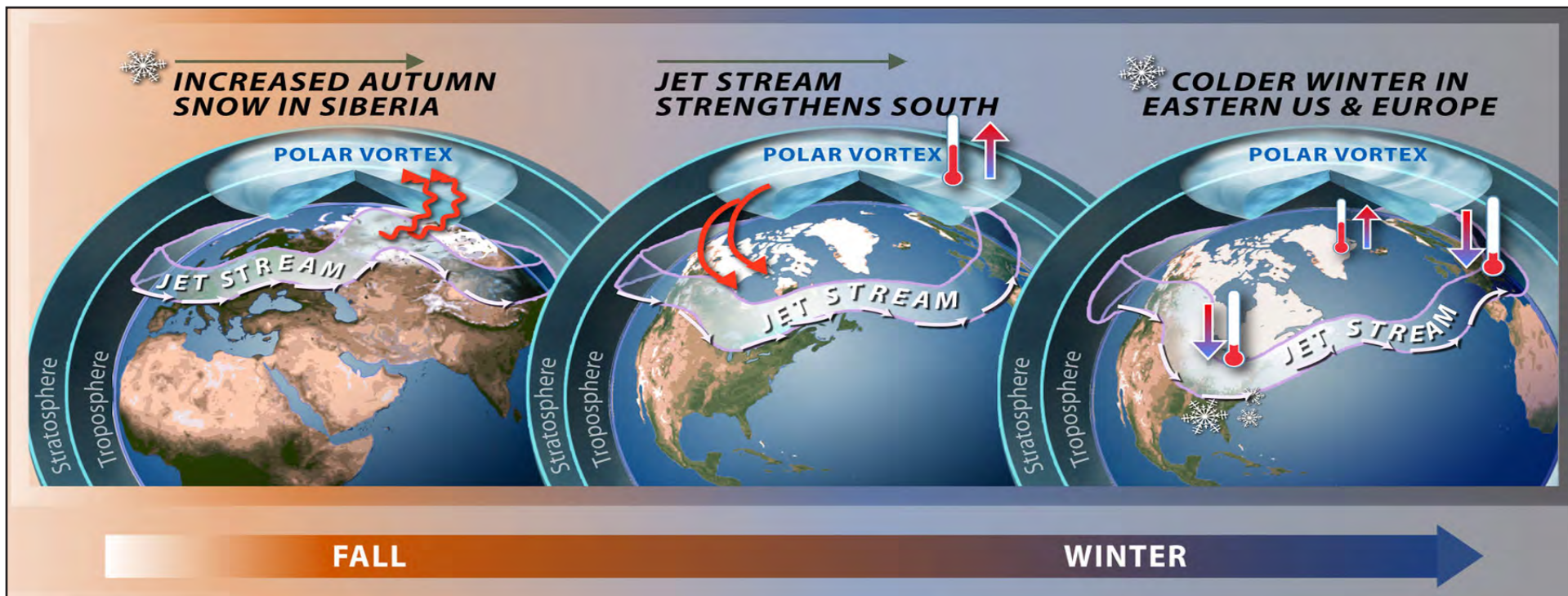


IMAGE ADAPTED from thenationalsciencefoundation.gov

The polar vortices contain a mass of cold air and regularly remain above Canada and Siberia, although during the month of January the jet stream dipped well below regular parameters causing freezing temperatures to impact the nation as far south as FL. The image above demonstrates this.

ANGELA CIROALO
NEWS EDITOR

This past January, temperatures in the Garden State dropped below freezing and on some days it was colder in New Jersey than it was in Greenland or Antarctica. The culprit? Meteorologists are blaming the polar vortex, a low pressure system affecting the Nation.

There are various explanations associated with the reoccurring weather patterns forming. One explanation for this year's surge of arctic cold weather is due to the extension of the polar vortex dipping into North America, creating below freezing

temperatures throughout the nation.

A polar vortex is a semi-permanent low pressure system over the North Pole and South Pole that exists year-round, Paul Gaffney, meteorologist and former University president, said. "In this case I believe a stronger jet stream at high altitude dipped down into the Midwest and to the East Coast bringing with it cold air from northern Canada."

There is more than one polar vortex that exists. The polar vortices, according to weather.com, are low pressure weather systems that commonly remain in the Northern hemisphere, typically over Baffin Bay in Canada and Northeast Siberia.

The polar vortices are created from the sun's rays emitting heat on the earth which rises up to the Northern hemisphere and eventually reaches the North Pole, Kayla Lewis, an associate professor in chemistry, medical technology and physics, explained. Once the hot air hits the North Pole, the air begins to circulate, creating masses of cold air in the atmosphere that hovers over Canada and Siberia.

"The hot air that goes up has to be replaced by other air or it would just be a vacuum there at the equator," said Lewis. "So the hot air rises because it's hot, this air comes to replace it and that's what forms this

[mass of cold air]."

Lewis further explains that because the earth rotates, the mass of air is broken up into different masses, called Hadley cells, and the cells are moving in different circulating directions.

"They're kind of like gears the way they turn," said Lewis. "That's because when the earth is rising, it is rising with this force called the Coriolis force, which makes things seem like they have a force and want to veer off path."

Between the Hadley cells are jets of fast moving air, called a jet stream, Lewis explained. There are two jet streams that exist, the sub-

tropical jet stream and the polar jet stream.

Jet streams are currents of air high above the Earth, according to National Geographic. They move eastward at altitudes of about eight to 15 kilometers (five to nine miles), and form where large temperature differences exist in the atmosphere.

"They form because the sun heats the Earth unevenly," National Geographic states. "As the Earth is heated, it warms the air just above it ... Cooler, heavier air then pushes in to replace the warm air, forming a

Polar Vortex cont. on pg. 3

The School of Education Partners with Toms River School District

CASEY WOLFE
SENIOR EDITOR

Toms River school district passed a partnership with the University this January, that will allow education majors the opportunity to receive field experience working in the school district, Thomas Gialanella, Interim Superintendent of Toms River schools said. Students will be placed into the district as early as Sept. 2014.

Lynn Romeo, Dean of the School of Education, said that the Univer-

sity is currently partnered with 24 school districts, 18 of which are in Monmouth County to allow education majors the opportunity to learn outside of the classroom. According to Romeo, a partnership is explained as a collaborative relationship between the school of education and local districts, and is unique to each district's needs.

Though the University is involved in previous partnerships, this is their first with Toms River. Gialanella said, "We're exploring with Monmouth what staff development

opportunities our staff would have with the faculty and the people at Monmouth."

The partnership is expected to create developments such as a novice teacher induction program, staff development on teacher evaluation programs, as well as allowing students to become student-teachers at Toms River schools, Gialanella added.

Partnership cont. on pg. 4

Melting Away SAD

JACKLYN KOUEFATI
EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

With the winter months feeling as if they are never ending and spring nowhere in sight, the "winter blues" are hitting some people pretty hard. Yes, the winter blues are in fact real, along with another condition called Seasonal Affective Disorder (SAD). Even though SAD is common for many people during the colder seasons, there are many ways to prevent and help with symptoms of SAD.

Dr. Christine Hatchard, an assistant professor of psychol-

ogy, explained that SAD is most similar to Major Depressive Disorder except SAD has a type of "seasonal pattern." "This means that individuals must meet the criteria for major depression which includes a combination of symptoms such as sad or empty mood, fatigue, difficulties with sleeping, eating or concentration, feelings of guilt or worthlessness and possible suicidality," she said.

Hatchard continued to say that once a diagnosis of depression

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Has Valentine's Day transformed into a corporate holiday?

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University pays homage to The Beatles through symposium held in Wilson Hall.

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Club & Greek

SAB and The Music Alliance co-hosted the event called Open Mic Night 2014.

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Plyoga Fitness Class Combines Yoga and Plyometrics

ASHLEY BROUSSEL
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

A new fitness class called Plyoga was introduced to the University on Jan. 29. The class is a combination of intricate yoga techniques with the extremities of plyometrics that

challenge the mind and body. People are constantly searching for new and exciting ways to de-stress after a long day of school or work through exercise, which was why Jon Cascone, Director of Intramurals and Recreation, created the class, to give students that option.

The University currently provides a variety of fitness classes, each designed to appeal to both athletic and non-athletic students. Classes range from intense exercises such as Boot Camp, to more tranquil workouts, like Yoga. Cascone emphasized, “The

benefits of the classes are numerous and we want to keep it different so that the community continues to enjoy it and reap the benefits.” Cascone added that providing students with a broad range of fitness classes to choose from widens the scope of potential benefits they are able to receive through participation.

Erica Vignola, a freshman business major, instructs the Plyoga class. She explained that offering more unique fitness classes that challenge students both physically and mentally encourages more students to participate. “It was a new challenge because I never was into Yoga before this. It was like a new world,” said Vignola. “It forces me to do both sides of the workout spectrum, the intense and less intense aspects, while also utilizing flexibility to get the ultimate workout.”

Heather Schlindwein, a business management freshman who participated in the Plyoga class, described the differences between Plyoga and other Yoga classes she has taken. “Plyoga is high intensity, using your body instead of standing and heavily breathing,” Schlindwein said. “I really liked this class because I get bored, so it was nice for something different.”

Not only does the creation of Plyoga generate a great balance between healing the mind and working out the body, it also adds diversity throughout the student body. Schlindwein said the class is a combination of people that she would never think to put together.

Cascone said, “I originally expected the class to attract athletic students only because of the fusion of the plyometrics and yoga. But what I found out is that it really is for everyone.”

Cascone added, “Erica is great at modifying each movement so that it accommodates all levels of fitness.” By proposing this new workout into the mix of fitness classes made available at the University, Cascone and Vignola hope that more students will be inclined to challenge themselves and get involved.

Schlindwein added, “It’s my first fitness class here, but I think everyone should be challenged because otherwise you won’t change.”

The Plyoga class is now being offered in the University’s William T. Boylan gym. Students can check their email for weekly fitness class schedules for more information. All students are welcome to participate in any class, regardless of physical or athletic background.



PHOTO TAKEN from plyogafitness.blogspot.com

The new Plyoga fitness class gives students the ability to recover through yoga while also experiencing an intense workout through plyometrics.

University Remembers the Kindness of Pia Deasey

MAGGIE ZELINKA
SPORTS EDITOR

University employee Piedad A. Deasey, 68, passed away on Friday, Feb. 7 from a form of cancer that has not yet been confirmed.

Most commonly referred to as Pia, Deasey worked in the University’s Magill Commons Dining Hall since Nov. 28, 2007.

Ever since she was hired, Pia has made an impact on the University’s student body.

Jackie Chalet, a junior business marketing major, had a particularly close relationship with Deasey. “Last year, I noticed she started wearing a wig and then she told me she had cancer. I was picking up some x-rays and I ran into her at the hospital one day and I assumed she was there for chemo. She didn’t have her wig on,” Chalet said. “She was happy as ever though... there wasn’t a negative bone in her body.

Deasey not only expressed a positive attitude to students on a daily basis, but she also inspired them to become better people.

“Honestly, I only wish to be as positive as her. It’s women and humans like Pia that makes you real-

ize to appreciate life and all it offers, whether it be good or bad because like she frequently told me and other students, ‘enjoy your time here, it goes by fast,’” Chalet said. “Now that I think about it, I’m not sure if she was talking about our time at Monmouth University or life in general. Either way, she has a point and I’ll make my point to appreciate the little things in life and keep positive during every step of life,” she added.

Alexandra Phillips, a junior communication major, said, “Freshman year, I learned the names of the people that worked in the dining hall and they learned my name, and Pia was one of them that I got to know quickly and would always say hi to me,” she added. “I would walk in and say ‘hola Pia’ and she would say ‘hola Alexandra,’ she liked my full name better, and she would teach me some Spanish and that was it. It happened every day since then.”

Kyle Evans, a senior communication major, also felt strongly about the University’s former employee. “Pia was one of the kindest people I’ve ever met. She had a great sense of humor and was just all about brightening everyone else’s day,” he

said. Phillips and Evans are just a few of the many who adored Deasey and looked forward to seeing her small stature waiting at the Magill Commons Dining Hall’s front desk to scan them in. When she began to only appear every so often earlier this year, students began to worry.

Nicole Comito, a senior art major, said, “I had heard rumors in the past that she was sick and when I started seeing her less and less I assumed she was taking some time off or working became too much for her.”

While plenty of students considered Deasey part of their family, many did not know the woman she was before she began working at Monmouth University.

Born on Oct. 12, 1945, Deasey was raised in Guayaquil, Ecuador where she received an education from a Catholic boarding school. She received her bachelor’s degree in accounting and her master’s degree in education while gaining a minor in child psychology.

After college, she moved to the US and met her husband, William L. Deasey. The two operated a jewelry business together up until his death in July, 1999. Upon the

passing of her husband, Deasey became an elementary school Spanish teacher. It was after all this that she

began working at the University. Deasey is survived by her son, daughter and two grandchildren.



PHOTO TAKEN from dignitymemorial.com

Pia Deasey was a widely recognized University staff member who lost her battle against cancer on Feb. 7.

CRIME BLOTTER

CRIMINA MISCHIEF

2/6/14 - 1:15 AM

MULLANEY HALL

PERSON UNDER THE LEGAL AGE / STUDENT MISCONDUCT

2/6/14 - 1:29 AM

MULLANEY HALL

STUDENT MISCONDUCT

2/6/14 - 10:06 PM

DINING HALL

ANNOYING PHONE CALL

2/7/14 - 10:30 AM

WILSON HALL

WED.

THURS.

FRI.

SAT.

SUN.

MON.

TUES.

2/5 - 2/11

MU Professor Studies the Science of Relationships

CASSANDRA FIGUEROA
ASSISTANT NEWS EDITOR

Dr. Gary Lewandowski, Chair of the Psychology Department, in collaboration with Professor Benjamin Le of Harvard College and Professor Timothy Loving of University of Texas, surveyed 1,000 adults in the US about their thoughts on relationships and Valentine’s Day.

Data was collected from 49 states, excluding Alaska, through a voluntary, online questionnaire. The survey was the first to be conducted and sponsored by ScienceOfRelationships.com, a website created by Lewandowski, Le and Loving.

The study found that “70 percent of those surveyed indicated both couple members should plan Valentine’s Day festivities. If only one partner does the planning, it is the guy’s responsibility.” Along with that, “The top three gifts women want for Valentine’s Day are jewelry (35 percent), flowers (24 percent), or a heartfelt card/gift (10 percent). Men want sex (44 percent), thoughtful card (9 percent), and ‘other’ (14 percent). And nobody wants a gag gift or a pet.”

One of the most interesting findings, according to Lewandowski, in-

volved how financial spending on a significant other contributed to love. He said that people who are in love spend less money on one another. “Often in our culture we substitute money and material things for love and affection. . . . when people are in love they feel less of a need to spend money,” Lewandowski said.

Susan Elwood, a junior communication major, has been in a long distance relationship for four years. Elwood agrees that love, particularly relating to Valentine’s Day, is not about money. “I definitely don’t necessarily think it’s important to spend a lot of money on each other on Valentine’s Day to make it special. This is the first time since high school that we’ll actually spend the day together and, although I’m excited, it’s not because it’s Valentine’s Day, it’s because of him.”

Lewandowski and his team worked on this study in conjunction with “Relationship Science Month,” which dedicates February to exploring love, relationships, and, of course, Valentine’s Day. “As a scientist studying relationships, I’m naturally curious about everything and anything relationship related,” Lewandowski said. “Valentine’s Day is like our Super

Bowl, so it seemed natural to ask people what they thought about the holiday.”

“All three of us [the website creators] are relationship researchers/professors who had become increasingly frustrated with the quality of information that was available about relationships,” Lewandowski said. “Relationships are super important, but people who wanted to learn how to improve their relationship, or find a good one, didn’t have any science-based information. Since it didn’t exist, we decided to do it ourselves.”

ScienceOfRelationships.com is based in Austin, Texas. The site has had nearly 3 million visitors in its three years of running. The researchers plan on doing more surveys relating to weddings and marriage in the near future.

According to their website, each article presented is based in the ever-growing scientific literature on relationships. The site states, “We take research findings from the fields of psychology, family studies, sociology, communication, evolutionary biology, and others, and put them in a format that you can use. We publish in peer-reviewed scientific journals and are frequently

sought out by the media and popular press sources to share our expertise.”

Le states that relationships are the cause for many of the most high and low points in an individual’s life. “Understanding why some relationships go well, and why some go badly, and how individuals can better the chances of success in their relationship, can really impact people’s well-being,” Le said. “If people are aware of the basic work-

ings of relationships it can help them make better choices in their relationships.”

Elwood said, “I think our relationship is so great because it started on a foundation of friendship. Since we were already such great friends I knew he was someone I could be myself around and trust. He makes me feel proud to be with him, and is incredibly close with my family, which is one of the most important things to me.”

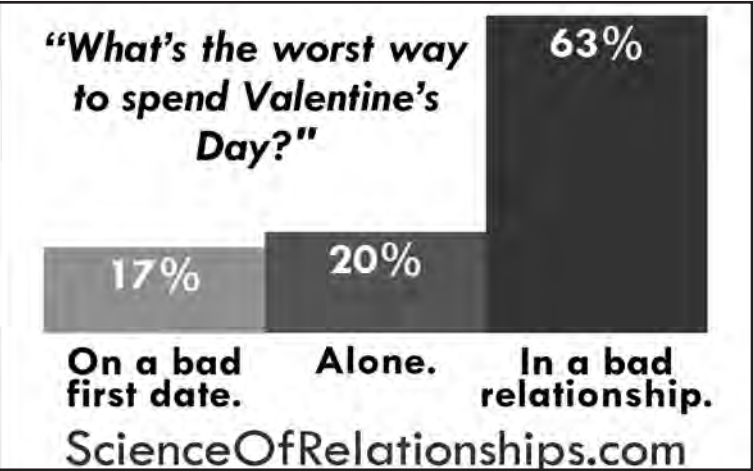


IMAGE TAKEN from scienceofrelationships.com
The relationship study found that being in a bad relationship on Valentine’s Day is worse than not being in a relationship at all, according to the 1,000 participants who took the survey.

Cold Temperatures Continue Through February

Vortex cont. from pg. 1
cool air current.”
Lewis explains that the jet streams separate cold air and warm air. “... As [the jet stream] was pinching down, another part of the jet stream was pinching upward and it made temperatures elsewhere warmer than they would have been,” said Lewis.

Because the cold air in the jet stream moved toward North America, the warm area of the jet stream was closer to Antarctica and Greenland. “So the US was freezing but you could go to Greenland and it would have been more pleasant there,” Lewis said.

According to weather.com, the jet stream was forced south due to a ridge of high pressure, causing central and Eastern America to continue to experience freezing temperatures while the West Coast was in a drought. These cold temperatures are capable of plunging as far south as Florida.

“You will note that it has been warm west of the Rockies and colder in the Eastern half of the U.S.,” Gaffney said. “Generally the jet stream that helps ‘steer’ temperatures has looked like a roller coaster with the high point on the US West coast after which the stream dips through the Midwest toward the US Southeastern states.”

Gaffney said, when this pattern stagnates as it has, the Eastern area receives colder and stormier weather. Although the pattern did not change much in January, he added.

The *Asbury Park Press* (APP) reported that the consistent cold weather may be a result of the jet stream getting locked. “A wavier jet stream ‘can get locked in more easily, so you get these extremes because you lock it in long enough’ to produce drought, heat waves, wetness and cold in some cases,” David Robinson, the NJ state climatologist at Rutgers University, told APP. Robinson also stated that the “wavier” jet stream theory has some legitimacy, although it is not universally accepted.

There are various theories that explain why the polar vortex and jet stream veered into North America this winter. Some weather outlets, including APP, reported that the polar vortex dipped into North America several times.

Many scientists believe that the cause may be due to climate change directly related to global warming. Lewis explains that due to the research she has discovered linking to global warming, she believes that this may have been the cause to the polar vortices extension into North America.

“What’s happening is the Polar Regions are losing their ice and

ice reflects sunlight back into outer space,” said Lewis.

Lewis explained that if you were to look at the Polar Regions from outer space you are able to see the white from the ice caps, which means the light is being reflected into outer space. “Which is a cooling effect because you are not absorbing the energy of the sunlight, you are sending it back into space,” Lewis said.

Although, if the ice is melted and the sunlight is absorbed instead of reflecting it back into space, the temperatures in the Polar Regions are warmer, Lewis said. “And the contrast between the poles and the tropical regions is less than it would be otherwise,” she added.

As a result of the decreased contrast between the North and South Pole, the jet streams over the earth can become “wobbly” and can force “things to break off,” Lewis added.

Lewis also said that as a result of this change, movement of the polar vortex and jet stream may happen more often than previous instances.

This belief is not shared among all scientists. Many also believe that the cold weather is simply the result of a season change. “We have to look at much longer periods, make better observations of the environment and improve our long range mathematical forecasts before we can try to link such single events to

climate change,” Gaffney said.

Gaffney explains that though the winter has been difficult due to the polar vortex bringing cold air into North America for nearly a month, he believes the roller coaster weather pattern is flattening out. “This keeps the colder air moving from West to East in the Northern states with warmer air staying in the south,” Gaffney said. “New Jersey is on the border and that means a bit of moderation in temperatures...”

The surge of cold air is not only

to arrive on campus after a dangerous two hour drive just to find out that classes were cancelled last minute,” said Kelly Ivan, a freshman education major.

Swannack explained that the process of closing school due to weather related conditions takes into consideration many factors, involves many people and takes time to be done correctly.

Swannack must first contact the University Police Department for updated storm information issued

“So the US was freezing but you could go to Greenland and it would have been more pleasant there.”

KAYLA LEWIS
Associate Professor in Chemistry, Medical Technology and Physics

causing freezing temperatures in NJ, it is creating cold, snow-filled weather systems nationwide. States across America have been forced to battle icy roads, difficult commutes, accidents and numerous school closures.

The University has had to close school on two occasions due to snowfall. The first snow storm of the spring 2014 semester was on Tuesday, Jan. 21, and caused classes to be cancelled from 2:30 pm to Wednesday, Jan. 22 at 4:30 pm.

The second University cancellation occurred at 9:47 am. Patti Swannack, Vice President for Administrative Services said in an email, “Please be advised that Monmouth University is cancelling classes beginning at 10 am or later on Monday, Feb. 3, 2014.”

This created an issue for students and faculty members traveling to school for 10 am classes. “I parked, sat in my car and checked my email at 9:32,” said Rebecca Zidik, a junior communication major. “Then as I walked in the building I found out that class was cancelled.”

Zidik explained that as she drove to campus during the snowfall on Monday, Feb. 3, she felt as though she was risking her life and was extremely disappointed that classes were not cancelled sooner.

Other students had similar complaints about the weather conditions and time of cancellation. “As a commuter I was extremely disappointed

by the NJ State Police. Secondly, she must contact the University personnel responsible for clearing snow. Thirdly, she contacts the Vice President of Student Life and Leadership Engagement to determine if there are any special events on campus, and the person that makes the ultimate decision of whether school will be cancelled or not is Thomas Pearson, Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs.

Swannack explained that on Monday, Feb. 3, school was closed at 9:47 am because the University originally planned to close at a later time. “We planned to close at 11:15 am (the end of the next academic frame) but because the conditions seemed to be deteriorating faster than what was predicted, we decided to allow students and employees to leave as soon as possible,” Swannack explained.

As a result, the recent weather conditions have caused numerous issues nationwide including the massive pileup I-94 outside of Chicago that killed three people and injured 20.

These bitterly cold conditions are not done either. The Farmer’s Almanac predicts that the month of February will experience a great deal of snowy and rainy conditions mostly during early and mid-February. “Winter will be colder and drier than normal, although snowfall will be above normal in most of the region,” the Farmer’s Almanac states.



IMAGE TAKEN from koco.com
The polar vortex dipped well into North America, causing freezing temperatures across the nation and as far down south as FL.

University Releases an All-Access Online Portal

ERIN MCMULLEN
ASSOCIATE NEWS EDITOR

The University launched myMU, a brand new online portal that provides one-click access to all web programs for students and faculty, on Thursday, Feb. 6.

This new website, created by the University's Information Management team and their Enterprise Resource Planning (ERP) system vendor, Ellucian, enables all University students, faculty and staff to log on to eCampus, WebAdvisor, and all other web-based systems and sites from one place. After students sign in using their student ID and password, the myMU homepage will display their class schedule, a monthly calendar, an update on the weekly weather, and even a countdown to Spring Break, among many other things.

"It's great to have all the websites we utilize for school be put into one place," Kelly Parks, a sophomore business administration major, said. "I am always going back and forth on tabs between eCampus, WebAdvisor and Outlook. This makes that a lot easier to access," Parks continued.

Edward Christensen, Vice President for Information Management, explained, "We've had discussions about creating an intranet for many years. Although we have various systems that contain internal content [such as

eCampus and WebAdvisor], we did not have one system to link them all together."

After an external evaluation of the ERP system in Oct. 2012, it was discovered that students and staff were looking for a portal that would allow them to easily access all of the University-based websites that they often visited. This led to the creation of myMU.

Planning for the development of this portal began in spring 2013 and the implementation started in summer 2013, according to Christensen. During the developmental phase, two small groups of students participated in focus groups to help aid the process and to find out exactly what the student body was looking for.

Danielle Raiano, a sophomore biology major, said that she hated having to go to the University's homepage in order to access her email and all of the other online resources.

"It was so annoying having to go to Monmouth's website, click on the 'Resources For Current Students' tab just to open my email, and then I would have to open another window if I wanted to go on eCampus or WebAdvisor," said Raiano.

"[myMU] just makes it easier to find information. Instead of having to go through multiple pages, you have it all organized into one," said Payal Patal, a sophomore political science major.

Even before the creation of myMU, the University encouraged students to use the multiple technological resources that were offered. The use of WebAdvisor is necessary to register for classes and graduation, and eCampus is used by both students and professors as a way to keep up with class progress and grades. MyMU connects both of these websites.

"I think that it is an exciting addition to our portfolio of technology," said Mary Anne Nagy, Vice President for Student and Community Services. "I think that it will help us all better serve our students and be more informed about what is happening on campus," she continued.

Christensen said that the response to myMU has been "overwhelmingly positive" so far.

"Since officially going live last week, we've had over 800 unique visitors to the portal, and we'd like to see that number continue to grow as we make more and more content and functionality available," he explained.

"This is just the first phase of the implementation, and we're planning on expanding the functionality of the myMU portal," said Christensen.

To learn more about myMU, go to myMU.monmouth.edu or stop by the Information Management Training Room in Edison Hall on Friday throughout the month of February between 9 am- 12 pm or 1 pm - 4 pm for a portal demo.



PHOTO COURTESY of INFO at Monmouth University

myMU, the new online portal for students and faculty, gives connections to eCampus, WebAdvisor and the Outlook email system.

Partnership Opens Doors

Partnership cont. from pg. 1

Gialanella and the School of Education previously had a working relationship prior to the Toms River partnership, according to Romeo. In 2013, Gialanella was the superintendent of the Jackson school district, one of the first districts to partner with the University.

Marta Jahn, Coordinator of Early Field Placements, said the location of the partnered district will benefit many students. "We have many education students living in Ocean County and throughout the state," said Jahn. "This will give our prospective teachers the opportunity to visit more schools and classrooms to acquire and refine the complex skills involved in teaching."

According to Gialanella, forming connections in Toms River schools can benefit education majors once they graduate. "If you're doing your student teaching here it's better than an interview. And if you've done a good job student teaching, that's going to improve your chances," he said. Although, Gialanella added that student teaching in the Toms River district does not guarantee education majors a career once they graduate.

Shannon Yingst, a junior English education major, said that working with a local school can, however, increase job opportunities in other

areas. "Having a school partnered with Monmouth exclusively will help education students fan out into more than just the surrounding districts," said Yingst.

Yingst added that this partnership also has the ability to improve current field experience conditions. "Currently, I have field placement hours for an ESL (English as a Second Language) class in a local school [along with] three other classmates with the same teacher," said Yingst. "This limits the availability of the teacher and makes it harder to complete our hours."

Gialanella said that working with the University will benefit the students at Toms River as well. "I think [the partnership is] going to help prepare our teachers and administrators for what's coming in the future," he said. "Monmouth does a great job of providing that development and knowing what is coming in the future, and sharing it with our staff can only benefit our students."

Christine Bryk, a senior education major at Albright College, is originally from Monmouth County and believes that partnering with local schools is very good for the University. "The more you expose yourself to different classes and styles of teaching, that is only going to help you build up how you will teach your [future] class," Bryk

said. "It is a nice safety blanket for the education department to also help with student teaching placements..."

Bryk added that she encourages education majors to find experience in more than one district to gain different perspectives on teaching.

Toms River and the University agreed that this will be a positive thing for both of their reputations. University students can spread their "good name in the classroom," according to Yingst.

Gialanella said, "A relationship with a University like Monmouth can only help us, it can't hurt us."

According to Jahn, the School of Education is grateful for Toms River's cooperation. We are delighted to include the Toms River Regional School District to our community of university school partnership districts," Jahn said. She added, "We are appreciative of the teachers who are willing to serve as mentors, share their expertise, and provide an opportunity for collaboration, discussion and reflection on education practices."

The University has a list of schools and districts that they are currently partnered with on their website. Students may begin field experience after their acceptance into the education program in their sophomore year, according to the School of Education.

Knockout Game Kills Several Across Nation

ALYSSA GRAY
COMICS EDITOR

The Knockout Game, which involves a person approaching another individual and attempting to knock them unconscious with one hit to the head, has been reported to be the cause of multiple deaths across the country recently.

Several videos are featured on sites such as YouTube, CBS and HLNtv that demonstrate examples of the assaults taking place.

One video shows a homeless NJ man, Ralph Santiago, being attacked while walking alone in Hoboken on the night of Sept. 10, 2013. Santiago was struck from behind and knocked unconscious, according to a CNN report. He fell on a nearby fence, which impaled him, causing his death.

According to the CNN report, there is a surveillance video showing three young men fleeing the scene of the Hoboken incident. Two weeks later, police had two juveniles who were suspect for the unprovoked attack in custody. Similar attacks have been reported by authorities in NY, IL, MO, and WA.

"I think it's incredibly disgusting and I don't understand how people can think that it is okay to do that to another person," said Shannen Bick, a sophomore communication major. "I think it's like big groups of people who had one person who thought of the idea and the rest of the group went along with it. It's really a group mentality, I think, because nobody is going around doing this by themselves."

NJ State Assemblymen, Jon Bramnick and Ron Dancer, proposed a minimum mandated prison term bill in response to the two violent deaths caused by the Knockout Game thus far on Thursday, Dec. 12.

"Knockout is not a game. It is a violent and dangerous act," said Bramnick in a NJ.com article. Bramnick, who co-sponsored the bill with Dancer, said, "... as legislators, we must ensure that our laws address the newest inceptions of violence with the harshest possible penalties."

According to Gregory Bordelon, a lecturer of political science, NJ is considering several bills that include the specific nature of the knockout attacks, but none have progressed far enough in the legislative sessions so far.

Some bills, such as the A570 bill, which would classify the Knockout Game as a third-degree aggravated assault, and the A686 bill that would classify it as a second-degree assault, are currently being processed in the state legislature, said Bordelon.

NJ.com said the proposed bill will ensure that anyone found guilty of participating in the Knockout Game will face

a three to five year prison term without any eligibility of parole.

However, some law enforcement officials are still skeptical as to whether this game is real or not. Officials are trying to figure out if these attacks could just be random assaults.

"We're trying to determine whether or not this is a real phenomenon," Raymond Kelly, New York City Police Commissioner, told the *New York Times*. "I mean, yes, something like this can happen. But we would like to have people come forward and give us any information they have."

Most recently, Darryl Mitchell was indicted on Dec. 17 in connection to seven Knockout Game attacks that have taken place in Suffolk County, Long Island. According to a CBS web exclusive, Mitchell is accused of punching people in the head, unprovoked, in broad daylight. He is suspected of being connected to two other cases and his bail has been set at \$200,000.

Bordelon said that many of the proposed bills seek to raise the cost of the penalties given to those prosecuted. "The various bills discussed... really seek to simply increase the penalties... and/or bring the Knockout conduct, such as the singularity of the hit with intent to have the victim lose consciousness, under the umbrella of what distinguishes a simple assault from an aggravated one to make it prosecutable... and increase the degree of the charge," said Bordelon.

According to Bordelon, these increases could be in the form of "either more jail time, higher fines, or delayed time before a defendant would be eligible for parole."

Despite the higher levels of punishment that are being pursued by lawmakers, the idea that this "game" will stop anytime soon leaves some doubtful.

"I don't think that kids are going to stop until they realize the severity of the situation," said Ash Hamm, a junior business administration student. "They are just doing it because it is a fad and a part of the mob and group mentality. Until there is a death by one of the kids doing it or a major repercussion, they aren't going to stop, unfortunately."

While the Knockout Game might not necessarily be stopped by the law, Bordelon believes that college campuses need not worry about such attacks making their way into the community. "The elements of assault are clear in these Knockout Games, and laws can make prison time longer through degrees," Bordelon said. "Well lit campus and university police forces will be helpful in ensuring these acts don't start to occur on college campuses."



PHOTO TAKEN from abcnews.go.com

A 24-year-old man was suspected of being the victim of the knockout game in Brooklyn, NY during late November 2013.

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There's *Snow* Way You're Missing Class

THE OUTLOOK STAFF OPINION

Spring semester seems to almost be a contradiction as we continue to be bombarded by a new snowstorm each week. It seems as though since the semester started we cannot go a week without looking out the window to watch the roads get covered in a new fresh layer of snow. While the ground ices over, students and faculty alike await to hear of the University closings and class cancellations that are delayed or never come. With a University student ratio of 50 percent on campus and 50 percent commuter, according to Vaughn Clay, here at the *Outlook* we believe these absent or late closings to be very dangerous.

Snowy school days for the 50 percent of students living on campus provide their own sets of issues. Even though our campus is fairly small, the residents at the University still have to make their way to the educational buildings.

An editor who lives on campus said, "It's so dangerous. I live on campus so I don't have to worry about the roads or anything but the walkways are never salted or shoveled properly and I always get nervous walking through the underpass because it gets really slippery."

For the 30 percent of students who live in off-campus housing there is always the danger of driving on the roads. A lot of students in the area live on back roads in various towns close to the University. These back roads are not always plowed and tend to freeze over into ice. It can take a few days for the different communities to salt or plow the roads that students live on, making it difficult for them to get to campus.

The other 20 percent of com-

muters, along with the University faculty, often come from their hometowns. These are the students who tend to commute from anywhere of 30 minutes to over an hour away. Driving that distance in a snow-conditioned road often provides a lot of danger for students. They often tell their horror stories of their cars spinning out on the highways, or how the traction was an issue for their car on the way to class, or how their 15 minute commute suddenly turned into an hour due to the bad weather conditions.

As a University that penalizes its students for missing class, we believe there needs to be more consideration of the students' and faculty's time and safety. We understand that the process for closing the University must meet a specific requirement and should be done with caution; however the delayed cancellation from the past few storms have put students and faculty at risk. For example, last week's cancellation of class ten minutes before classes started had commuters and faculty driving to and from school in unsafe weather conditions, and the continuation of classes after Governor Christie declared NJ to be in a State of Emergency was also dangerous.

Vice President Patti Swannack commented, "We planned to close at 11:15 am (at the end of the academic frame) but because the conditions seemed to be deteriorating faster than what was predicted, we allowed students and employees to leave as soon as possible."

An editor who commutes from home said, "I got here really early to beat the snow and then I had to drive home in it with no need to be here whatsoever. Last time I had to drive home in this weather it took me over an hour to travel the same route that usually takes me 20 min-

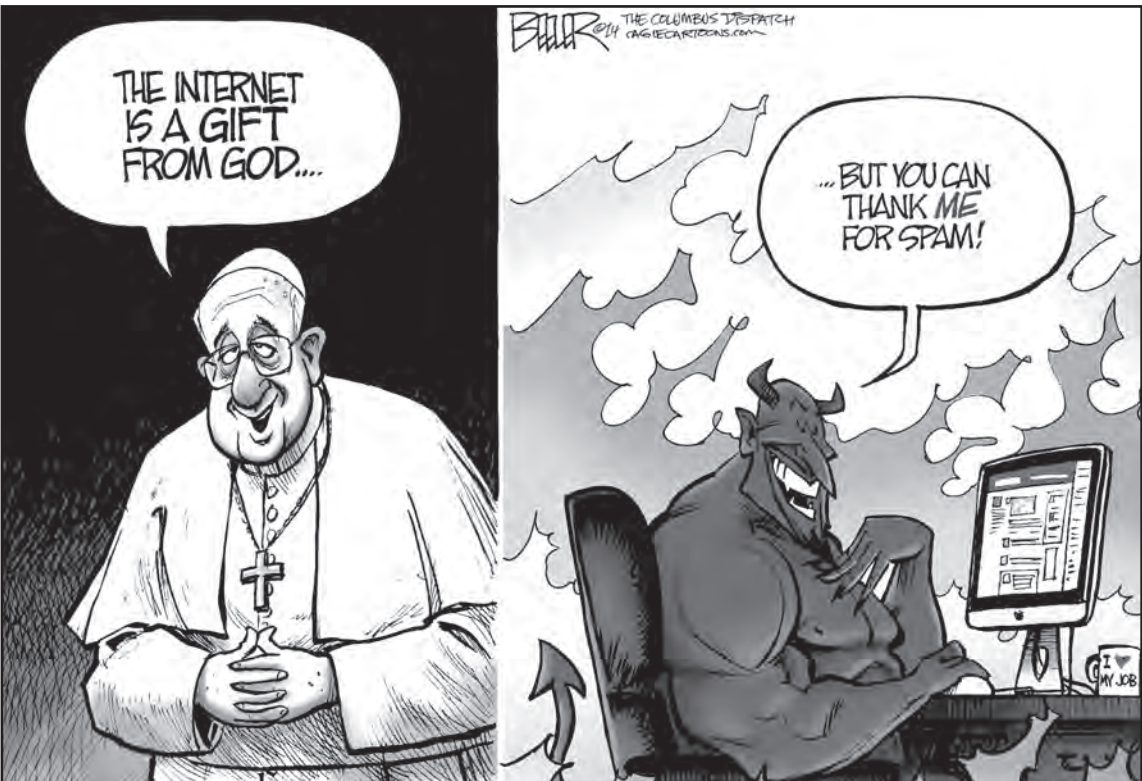
utes. I understand not cancelling until the day of, but 15 minutes before class is insane. It's dangerous no matter how far you're commuting. My family is worried too because I have the farthest commute."

Swannack explained the complicated process of school closings, through contacting a number of departments starting with the MUPD for any information from the NJ State Police, University Personal, Vice President of Student Life and Leadership Engagement, then to the Provost who makes the final decision. When closing the University, they do have to consider the forecast, impact on campus activities, and road, parking lots, and sidewalks conditions.

On the University's Facebook status posted on Feb. 3 about a delayed closing, students and community members criticized the late announcement. One student pointed out that as a University that loses students every semester to a car accident, the idea of putting more students at risk on the roads should be a major concern.

Another student commented on seeing three accidents on the drive home from school as their car spun out, explaining how dangerous the roads really were to be on. Other comments called for a better system for communication for students to be informed of cancellations from the school.

The Outlook staff suggests that the University takes into account the students and faculty who have to commute to campus during the snow storms. As more snow storms continue to threaten the NJ coast, the University should take steps to close sooner, rather than later, in order to save members of the campus community from a dangerous drive or walk.



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The Effect Award Shows Have on Social Media

ALISON GOERKE
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

As a college student who is active on social media, it may be common knowledge that Pharrell Williams wore a hat that resembles Smokey Bear's famous headgear on the Grammy's this past month. Or even that Jennifer Lawrence fell up the stairs when going to accept her Oscar last year.

But the real question is, do you even have to watch these award shows to know about what's going on live at the show? Do you need to watch the Grammy's or the CMA's to know that Taylor Swift sang a sappy or angry love song about one of her ex-boyfriends?

If you have Twitter or Facebook, you probably don't.

It drives my family and friends insane when I force them to watch these award shows, but no matter what they say, they sit through the show just to appease me.

This past month I was tasked with making the most difficult decision of my entire life: Do I watch *The Bachelor Wedding Special*, or do I watch the Grammy Awards?

As a reality TV junkie, I was at a crossroads being that both specials were on at the same time. Knowing that the Grammy's would be live streamed through the people I follow on Twitter, I chose to watch the wedding.

It wasn't re-

ally the most difficult decision of my life, but my twitter followers made this somewhat hard decision a much easier one.

While watching the wedding, I scrolled through my Twitter, seeing that most of my followers were tweeting about the Grammy's. Some thought they saw Beyoncé have a nip-slip and all were tweeting and posting statuses about their thoughts on the latest awards.

Their thoughts on the latest awards were mostly complaints about how their favorite singer didn't win an award they wanted but they still continued to watch and continued to tweet. I was seeing tons of tweets about Macklemore and Ryan Lewis, Taylor Swift, Lorde, and my favorite, Hunter Hayes.

I knew about my favorite celebrities and my friends opinions on my favorite celebrities within seconds of their performances and speeches.

All of this refreshing of my

Twitter feed seeing hashtag after hashtag about the Grammy's really made me wonder if I needed to watch a recap of the Grammy awards at all. I don't see a point in watching the award shows at all anymore.

If you're not big into the Hollywood world like I am, but you're thinking about watching these shows, don't even bother.

You social media friends will watch and tell you all about it as it's going on. You're not going to miss anything if you don't watch. Life will go on if you miss a Katy Perry performance or one of your favorite celebrities accept up an award.

Most likely one of your friends already posted a picture of that celebrity with their award on their Twitter, or the entire acceptance speech is on YouTube.

I have to admit, I have in the past tweeted about my favorite celebrities during these award shows, sometimes more than I should, but by doing this it's taking away the



PHOTO TAKEN from ibtimes.com

Beyoncé and hubby Jay Z performed a highly talked about opening performance for the Grammy's.

The Constant Desire for Tanned Skin

NATALI GRECO
STAFF WRITER

Ninety plus weather, bright sunrays peeping through the palm trees' shades, warm sand hugging our toes. The ocean water singing to us waiting for us to dive in for a refreshing swim. Oh summer, how we miss you.

But what is it about summer, other than the warm welcoming weather and all that time off from school that we love so much? The sun-bathed skin color everyone achieves of course.

That natural glow we all get during the summer months is a glow many strive for all year long. What exactly is it about this tanned color skin that has people doing crazy things over the winter months?

Thousands of people are constantly spending money throughout the frigid winter to achieve or maintain that summer tan that comes out once a year. Of course without the sun's strong rays, people go to extreme, dangerous measures. Tanning beds and self-tanning lotions and sprays is the alternate to sun bathing.

What is it about this orange-like color that has people either deep frying themselves or bathing in chemicals that I'm pretty sure do not belong on their bodies?

Tanning salons make tons of money thanks to these color-obsessed individuals, which is awesome for the economy, but not so awesome for the human body.

If standing outside under the sun's natural UV light is extremely dangerous, what makes people think that lying in, what feels like a human over, being

hit by rays all around is any healthier?

I personally have never been in a tanning bed or used self-tanning products; I'm more of a natural look kind of gal, but I do find myself surrounded by people who are into the tanning life.

Although I do not agree with it, I am not one to judge. I understand appearance, unfortunately is everything nowadays. It is normal to be resembling Casper the ghost in the winter.

We obviously aren't exposed to the same sun rays we are in the summer months. Indoor tanning is just as dangerous as lying on the beach, yet it is ever so popular, along with being a costly investment if one goes often.

Self-tanning, or spray tans are cheaper alternatives that achieves the tanned look, without damaging the skin along with the bank account.

The human body is quite interesting and unique, both inside and out, so why ruin it at our young age?

Everything we do to the body now shows up later. Someone once told me, "Everything that you put on your body that it does not make naturally, is bad for you in one way or another." I'll never forget that, especially because it makes perfect sense.

The way the human body has evolved, it can do everything necessary to survive, so clearly a tan colored skin is not one of those essentials.

If you need the color that desperately, by all means go for it, but my recommendation, simply wait the six months out until the real thing comes along. Even sun rays are dangerous, but at least it is the natural way and you can lather up on the SPF.

The Special Significance of Valentine's Day

WILLIAM ROMBA
STAFF WRITER

When it comes to holidays, people tend to think of the major ones, like Christmas, Thanksgiving or Easter. Even smaller ones like Halloween or St. Patrick's Day might even make the list.

While all of these holidays all have some sort of cultural or religious significance behind them, one comes to mind that can raise a few eyebrows as to whether or not it has any meaning behind it.

Valentine's Day has always been viewed as a romantic holiday; a day to spend time with that special someone.

Yes every holiday has been commercialized to a certain degree. Thanksgiving and Christmas are the obvious ones.

On its face, Valentine's Day almost seems like a Hallmark creation invented to sell cards and candy.

Last Feb. 14, CNN.com released some statistics about Valentine's Day. The news outlet projected that the average person would spend around \$130 in total on that day. In addition, they anticipated that, across the country, \$1.6

billion would be spent on candy, \$1.9 billion on flowers and \$4.4 billion on jewelry. The article also forecasted that 145 million cards would be sold and there were a whopping 1,400 different varieties of Hallmark cards available to choose from.

When one looks at these numbers, it's clear that companies like Hallmark, Russell Stover

and ProFlowers.com will be in for some pretty good sales figures leading up to Feb. 14. But despite this rise in sales, there is still a romantic aspect to Valentine's Day as well.

Whether it's because of pressure from adjusting to a new semester of classes or working a part-time job, busy schedules can make it hard to spend time

with the people that matter to us.

Even if we find the time, it's difficult to do anything overly romantic or out of the ordinary for that special someone. Luckily, there is one day a year specifically designated just for that.

Speaking as someone who will be spending Feb. 14 with a Valentine for the first time this

year, I can now see things from this perspective. Having never dated in high school, I became something of a Grinch when it came to Valentine's Day.

I always believed the stigma illustrated in that CNN article, that it was simply a day meant to bolster flower sales. But just as the Grinch realized there was more to Christmas, I can now see there is more to Valentine's Day.

It's about spending time with the people we love, showing them our appreciation and hopefully becoming closer to them in the process.

And I'm hoping that will be the case for me and my valentine. Love you Ashley.

So whether it was invented to sell cards or not, there is some merit to Valentine's Day. Hershey's may experience record sales and the hunt for red roses may turn out to be as hard as Peyton Manning's hunt for the end zone at MetLife Stadium.

But while it may not have any sort of cultural or religious meaning like other major holidays, the significance of Valentine's Day is still straightforward: to show the important people in our lives how much we appreciate them.



PHOTO TAKEN from janebower.com

Valentine's Day should not turn into a commercialized holiday; remember the true meaning and spend it with loved ones.

“It Ain’t Hip to Sing About Tractors or Trucks”

The Traditional Sound of Country is Beginning to Transform More into Pop Music

WILLIAM ROMBA
STAFF WRITER

There has always been a certain stigma attached to country music, that it’s uncool because of its twangy sound and subject matter. To quote country singer Brad Paisley’s hit single “This is Country Music,” “It ain’t hip to sing about tractors, trucks, little towns, or mama. Yea that might be true.”

However, in the next line Paisley makes no apologies. “But this is country music, and we do.”

Despite the pride for the genre that Paisley expresses in this tune, there has been movement in Nashville recently.

Record labels are now signing acts that are willing to stray from the traditional country sound and record songs that could best be described as a hodgepodge of elements taken from other genres.

Many artists now utilize an electric guitar sound, which is not always bad. But many have also adopted the same generic, computerized cadences used in rap songs, and some even use hip hop elements like AutoTune.

Because of this shift, the line between pop and country is now more blurred than it has ever been before.

Current country artist and judge on NBC’s *The Voice*, Blake Shelton, angered fans of traditional country.

In an interview for a Great American Country television

special called Backstory: Blake Shelton, Shelton was very blunt, calling these fans “old farts” and “jack****s.” In response, Willie Nelson renamed his 2013 tour the “Old Farts and Jack****s Tour.” Pure genius.

In an interview on TasteofCountry.com, Kenny Rogers, one of the first successful country crossover acts, stated “sooner or later country music has to decide whether it’s an art form or a business.

If it’s a business, welcome anybody that sells records. If it’s an art form, get rid of everybody that doesn’t sound like Hank Williams.” Clearly Nashville has made its choice.

Today, it seems all that is needed to qualify someone as a country singer is for them to mention Budweiser, a girl and/or a lifted Chevrolet Silverado in their song.

No matter how simplistic the lyrics are or how much it sounds like every other pop song on the radio, as long as the album turns a profit, that’s all that matters.

One of the things that made traditional country so popular, and that often gets lost in the sound of fiddles and steel guitars that some people find equivalent to nails on a chalkboard, was that the songs had heart.

The lyrics were intricately woven together so that they told a story. Country legends like George Jones, Merle Haggard, Johnny Cash and Waylon



PHOTO TAKEN from dfw.cbslocal.com

Taylor Swift is a prime example of an artist who’s sound is more country-pop, as opposed to the traditional country music style.

Jennings are still popular today because their songs have deeper meanings that people can relate to.

Despite this, it appears that this pop country movement is here to stay. But while this trend

may help sell more albums, it will continue to alienate a large portion of the “old farts” and “jackasses” that prefer a more traditional sound.

Although Paisley’s song describes what country music has

always been, this new brand doesn’t quite seem to fit that mold. So while modern country tries to be what the old stuff has always been, it would probably be fair to say that this isn’t quite country music.

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Students Participate in the United Nations Remembrance of Holocaust

The Briefing Focused on Hungarian Jews affected by the Holocaust

JACQUELYN CORSENTINO
STAFF WRITER

Monmouth University's Institute of Global Understanding (IGU) sent Youth Representatives, Meaghan Hess and Jacquelyn Corsentino, as well as Dr. Christopher Hirschler as a Faculty Representative. The Department of Public Information (DPI) hosted its first briefing of 2014 for the Non-Governmental Organizations (NGO).

The briefing focused on the 70th Anniversary of the Deportation of Hungarian Jews during the Holocaust. The panel included a scholar on the Holocaust, a survivor, and the current Hungarian Ambassador.

The first distinguished guest was Dr. Carol Ritter. Ritter is a professor of Holocaust and Genocide Studies at the Richard Stockton College of New Jersey. She is also the author of 17 novels regarding genocides in the 20th and 21st centuries. She provided the historical background for the audience with a short PowerPoint highlighting Hungary's passive position during the Holocaust.

Prior to World War II, 825,000 Jews resided in Hungary. After the Holocaust, only 200,000 Jews remained in the country.

During the years filled with discrimination under Hitler's Third Reich, Hungary remained uninvolved until March 1944. During that time, Adolf Eichmann, a Nazi officer and major organizer of the Holocaust, only took 52 days to round up all the Jews and place them into ghettos.

On April 15, 1944, Hungary mandated a law that profiled Jewish citizens by requiring them to wear the yellow Star of David.

On May 14, 1944 the full scale deportation of the Hungarian Jews began. Ritter informed the representatives that throughout these deportations 12,000 to 14,000 Jews were removed from Hungary everyday. During the years that composed the Holocaust and WWII, 437,000 Hungarian Jews were deported to Auschwitz.

Ritter said, "This sudden participation of Hungarians was not by chance; the people willed it."

Some Hungarians believed in the Nazi ideology, others followed the status quo for economic reasons; however, the majority of Hungarians were bystanders. Pope Pius XII's stance was ineffective against the Nazi Regime. Due to the massive amounts of bystanders, less than three out of ten Hungarian Jews survived the Holocaust.

Ritter ended her time on the panel by stating, "Never be a perpetrator. Never be a victim. Never, but never be a bystander."

Dr. Nancy Mezey, associate professor and faculty representative for the IGU, agreed with Ritter's stance on bystanders. Mezey stated, "There is no such thing as an innocent bystander. Inaction is a form of action."

The next speaker was Agnes Vertes, a child survivor of the Holocaust in Budapest, Hungary. She is an award winning independent documentary filmmaker, as well as the president of the Holocaust Child Survivors of Connecticut.

She was only four-years-old when the horrors of the Holocaust plagued her family. She began her autobiography by declaring the day she would never forget was March 19, 1944.

She claimed, "March 19 was

the beginning and then everything changed." Her family feared for their safety after the implementation of the mandated yellow star. Vertes's father decided to move his family into the city, to blend into the crowds of people.

Under the Nazi regime, a law emerged that stated that Jewish citizens could not use public transportation, which included the trains. After the train ride began, the passengers were able to see the yellow stars on Vertes's family's clothing. The passengers erupted. Numerous riders wanted to throw the family off the train; others came to the family defense. Vertes remembered her father's clearly stating, "As long as there is confusion, the Jew loses."

Realizing that the Nazi guards would murder the family if they reached the station, her father suggested jumping off the train as it came to a stop. All four of her family members were able to escape the train and arrive in the city without being recognized.

Once they reached the city, her family officially changed the name and religion on her birth certificate and her younger sister's. From that moment on, she was a "recognized" Lutheran. Her father had told her numerous times to "never mention the word Jew or state her real name."

When numerous Jews began to be deported, the family realized they needed to split up to enhance their chances for survival. Vertes's family paid a Christian woman to take Vertes and her younger sister in, and moved to the countryside. Although this woman did her best to hide the little girls, the strains of the war were too intense to keep them safe.

Vertes said, "People living in Europe during World War II could be victims of the war during air raids, not just the genocide that was taking place."

Due to these inherent dangers of living in a constant battle zone, the girls were sent away. This time, to the former Mayor's home, which housed 100 Jewish children. The

"Hateful words caused the Holocaust, not gas chambers."

AGNES VERTES
Holocaust Survivor

people at the home realized that the children would surely be casualties if they were sent to the camps and did their best to protect them in those situations. Vertes and her sister were biologically gifted with blonde hair.

When the Nazis came to validate the birth certificates of the children in the home, Vertes's sister, who was only three-years-old at the time, walked over to the Nazi and started talking to him.

The Nazi melted and declared, "There has never been an Aryan child as cute as this one." Then the Nazis left the home without verifying the children's birth certificates. Vertes proudly declared, "That was the day my sister saved 100 Jewish children."

Although the family was separated and hiding in different locations, they were all able to survive the Holocaust without being sent to the death camps. Her extended family was not as lucky. During the Holocaust, Vertes lost 200 family members. After facing survivor's guilt, she believed that during that trivial time in her life, she was able to survive in order to tell



PHOTO TAKEN from www.theholocaustexplained.com

The Hungarian Memorial for Holocaust victims is located in Budapest, Hungary. The memorial symbolizes a weeping willow with the inscription, "Whose agony is greater than mine."

her story.

When it became "socially acceptable" to discuss the Holocaust, other survivors did not believe that she faced the same horrors. After years of staying quiet, Vertes realized that she was a "hidden" child and her "hidden identity" was a story that needed to be told. After her epiphany, Vertes began educating people on her experiences and began making documentaries.

Mezey also has ancestral ties to the Hungarian Jews during the Holocaust. In 1939, Mezey's grandmother decided to flee the country with her husband and their two-year-old son. They fled from Hungary to Italy and caught the last boat to New York City.

Although her grandparents and father were able to escape, her other family members stayed in Hungary.

Csaba Korosi. Korosi currently serves as the Permanent Representative of Hungary to the United Nations, as well as serving as the Vice President of the 66th General Assembly.

Due to the 70th anniversary of the deportation of Hungarian Jews, 2014 is the Hungarian Holocaust Remembrance Year. In an effort to acknowledge the barbarisms, Korosi wanted to apologize on behalf of his country.

He declared, "The Hungarian state was guilty during the Holocaust. We are responsible for not protecting our citizens and assisting the genocide."

The Hungarian government has a "zero tolerance policy" towards anti-Semitism today. Although the country acknowledges the extreme right Jobbik party's conservative

sentative, Alexandria Fitzgerald, said, "Being a member of this briefing's audience I left emotionally impacted, due to the remarks of the panelists' experience. It was hard to decide who left me speechless because all of the members emphasized the greater theme of not ever becoming a bystander. For me it is a tie between Agnes Vertes, the brave survivor; or Csaba Korosi, the genuine ambassador."

After Korosi finished detailing Hungary's accepting atmosphere, the NGO Representatives were able to ask questions. One NGO Representative asked the panel how to prevent repeating history with regard to genocides like the Holocaust. Unfortunately, there are genocides that are occurring today.

Hirschler described the phenomenon of the genocides that continue to exist today. Hirschler exclaimed, "David Rieff wrote, 'Since 1945, 'never again' has meant, essentially, 'Never again will Germans kill Jews in Europe in the 1940s.' Which highlights the fact that genocides continue to occur. Tens of millions have been killed since 1945 and most Americans are not well-informed about the genocides and they do not protest as genocides unfold from year-to-year."

Hirschler continued, "Hopefully, Americans will never have the opportunity to hide a neighbor who is being persecuted during a genocide. It's easy to imagine helping in this situation. However, on a yearly basis, we have the opportunity to speak out against genocide, and by applying political pressure to our elected officials we can help save thousands or millions."

All the members on the panel stated that education is the first step for preventing genocides in the future.

Vertes declared, "Hateful words caused the Holocaust, not gas chambers."

Ritter concluded with a quote by Elie Wiesel, "Be careful with words, they're dangerous. Be wary of them. They begat either demons or angels. It's up to you to give life to one or the other. Be careful, I tell you, nothing is as dangerous as giving free rein to words."

beliefs, their anti-Semitism is not accepted and only maintains a 10 percent popular appeal. According to Korosi, that percentage is too high. To combat anti-Semitism, the government has focused on law enforcement, Holocaust education and remembrance, and supports a Jewish cultural renaissance in Hungary.

Progressive legislative changes occurred over the years to prevent anti-Semitism in the country. The Fourth Amendment of the Hungarian Fundamental Law was changed to allow individuals to file civil law suits on the grounds of hate speech. The preamble of the Fundamental Law was also changed and now denies any statute of limitations for the inhumane crimes committed by the Nazis.

The government also made Holocaust denial a criminal offense that is punishable with three years of imprisonment. To bridge the gap and prevent this behavior in the country, the Hungarian government has mandated that all public schools have compulsory Holocaust education.

Monmouth University alumni and the former IGU Youth Repre-

Numerous family members were able to hide, however, her great uncle was sent to the camps and survived.

Mezey stated, "It is important for the Monmouth community to be informed of the DPI NGO briefings at the United Nations. These briefings raise issues and confront past and current problems that take place around the world. The first step is educating the students on these issues, and Monmouth does a very good job at that. Students do not think about these issues unless they are informed. The second step is encouraging students to become politically active. There is still room for improvement when it comes to encouraging students to act."

Dr. Christopher Hirschler, assistant professor and faculty representative for the IGU stated, "The briefings help to inform individuals about issues such as human trafficking, genocide, and access to health care and education. Many Americans, including students, are not well informed about problems that affect people in other countries."

Finally, the last speaker was

“Today in America:” President Obama Will No Longer Wait For Congress

In the President’s Sixth State of the Union, He promises more Executive Orders

JESSICA ROBERTS
ASSITANT POLITICS EDITOR

President Barack Obama delivered his sixth State of the Union Address in Washington D.C. on Tuesday January 28. During his speech the President spoke of the growth that the nation is experiencing and how he plans to continue it into his second term.

The President began his speech with an “It’s Morning in America” type tone, describing the lives of various everyday Americans and the good work that they do. Using the line “Today in America” he went on to talk about a teacher who spent a little extra time with students, an entrepreneur who created jobs through her business, an autoworker whose work helped America to become self-sufficient in oil production, a farmer who is ready to start the spring session of exports, a doctor who gave a child an affordable prescription, a man who worked a night shift so his son could have a better life, and finally a community who is thankful for its fellow citizens who have been lost to war.

Obama said, “It is you, our citizens, who make the state of our union strong. And here are the results of your efforts: the lowest unemployment rate in over five years; a rebounding housing market, a manufacturing sector that’s adding jobs for the first time since the 1990s, more oil produced at home than we buy from the rest of the world, the first time that’s happened in twenty years.”

Obama continued, “Our deficits cut by more than half, and for the first time in over a dedicated, business leaders around the world have declared that China is no longer the world’s number one place to invest; America is.”

Dr. Joseph Patten, Chair of Political Science and Sociology Department said, “The president set out a modest agenda for the coming year probably because Congress has blocked much of his agenda over the past couple of years. The most interesting part of the speech for me was his assertion that because of the legislative gridlock he will use more executive orders involving raising the

Dr. Michael Phillips-Anderson, associate professor of communication said, “There were no huge new initiatives in his agenda. What is different is a willingness to accomplish more by executive action acknowledging that Congress won’t pass much of what he wants.”

Phillips-Anderson continued, “He seemed more energized than I expected. This has obviously been a year when sev-

America to a point of energy independence.

Obama said, “And taken together, our energy policy is creating jobs and leading to a cleaner, safer planet. Over the past eight years the United States has reduced our total carbon pollution more than any other nation on Earth.”

He hopes to spawn economic growth, and American independence through the fields of en-

State of the Union. The morning of the speech the President announced his Executive Order to raise the federal minimum wage to \$10.10. In his speech he spoke about the need not only for minimum wage to rise but also equal pay for women in the work force.

Obama said, “It is time to do away with workplace policies that belong in a ‘Mad Men’ episode. This year let’s all come together, Congress, the White House, businesses from Wall Street to Main Street, to give every woman the opportunity she deserves, because I believe when women succeed, America succeeds.”

The President’s foreign policy has remained intact, with a call to reform surveillance programs in order to keep America secure and to be sure people’s privacy is no longer violated. He spoke of his plans to improve American diplomacy, the first step being closing Guantanamo Bay.

Obama stated, “And with the Afghan war ending, this needs to be the year Congress lifts the remaining restrictions on detainee transfers and we close the prison at Guantanamo Bay because we counter terrorism not just through intelligence and military action but by remaining true to our constitutional ideals and setting an example for the rest of the world.”

Obama concluded, “The America we want for our kids -- a rising America where honest work is plentiful and communities are strong; where prosperity is widely shared and opportunity for all lets us go as far as our dreams and toil will take us -- none of it is easy. But if we work together; if we summon what is best in us... with our feet planted firmly in today but our eyes cast towards tomorrow, I know it’s within our reach. Believe it.”

“America does not stand still, and neither will I. So wherever and whenever I can take steps without legislation to expand opportunity for more American families, that’s what I’m going to do.”

BARACK OBAMA
President of the United States

minimum wage for federal contractors and on other issues.”

Ryan Kelly, a junior political science major, said, “It’s cliché to say ‘the same recycled promises are being made’ that will ultimately keep the United States on the right track. But because of that cliché quote, I can’t put too much stock into what the President is saying.”

One of the ways the President plans to keep the progress in motion is through Executive Orders. He stressed the need for congressional action, and hope for there to be compromise, but at the end of the day, he will no longer play into rounds of never ending debates.

Obama stressed his willingness to work with Congress but forewarned, “America does not stand still, and neither will I. So wherever and whenever I can take steps without legislation to expand opportunity for more American families, that’s what I’m going to do.”

eral things went wrong for the President, but he appeared excited to move forward. He was a little feistier than we’ve seen in a while.”

Obama called for action to be taken to help create more high-tech manufacturing jobs. After the success of two “hubs for high-tech manufacturing” in North Carolina and Ohio, he hopes to launch six more within the next four years.

He wants to help more entrepreneurs be able to start up their businesses, and export more goods that are “Made in America.” The President called for changing the cuts made by Congress on federally funded research in order to lead to more products such as “Google” and smartphones in hopes for America to have more successful stories.

The Presidents claimed energy to be one of the biggest influences in the growing jobs market, along with bringing

ergy production. The President claimed America to be the leading country in the solar industry, and increasing its strengths with natural gas. Through further development and more factories Americans will be able to have more jobs and have energy independence.

Obama spoke about his plans to increase education through better opportunities early on in the child’s life. The President hopes to reform schools and work with communities to create better environments for children to learn through “high-quality pre-K,” connecting more students to high-speed broadband, re-designing high schools to work with colleges and create more opportunities for students. For students already in student debt, the President spoke of the 10 percent cap on their income post-graduation.

Minimum wage was a major controversy the day of the

Editorial: What Three Things Should be Changed about American Politics?

CHRISTOPHER ORLANDO
MANAGING EDITOR

JESSICA ROBERTS
ASSISTANT POLITICS EDITOR

This article addresses three things we would like to see changed in American politics. While no system is perfect and politics is a difficult profession, these topics are our observations of things that may help lead to a more productive political system.

Presidential War Powers

The Presidential War Powers have increased too much: Can anyone tell us when the last official war the United States declared was? Most probably said the Iraq War but that is incorrect.

The last declared war was World War II. All the other conflicts that have taken place have been military actions that the president ordered. While Congress does control the funds for these conflicts, the president ordered them. According to the Constitution, the power to declare war rests with the Congress

to offer checks and balances.

Presidential abuse of War Powers could be torn apart with a theory by Noam Chomsky, referred to as “Imperial Grand Strategy,” he explains that America acts under the idea that they can and will take action against any nation or organization that threatens their power, prestige, or security. The strategy depicts how the foreign policy of America often goes against the grain of international law in order to keep their country safe from any threat that they see fit.

This theory is seen, and practiced, by President George W. Bush in the declaration against Iraq in 2003. With the impending threat of weapons of mass destruction, something that will always be taken as a threat, President Bush decided to invade Iraq before the United Nations could investigate if the weapons truly existed, which they did not.

Legislative Term Limits

Roger Sherman, founder of Rhode Island, wrote at the time of our nation’s founding that,

“Representatives ought to return home and mix with the people. By remaining at the seat of the government, they would acquire the habits of the place, which might differ from those of their constituents.”

The United States Congress has an approval rating of 12 percent in February according to Gallop poll. As the branch that is supposed to represent the citizens of the United States, that approval rating is very sad. Compromise is a “dirty word” according to Speaker John Boehner where we think that compromise is necessary for productive democracy.

Term limits would help with the gridlock because new people would, in theory, bring new ideas to the table.

The oldest member of Congress, John Dinell, was on the floor of Congress when President Franklin D. Roosevelt gave his declaration about Pearl Harbor. He has been in office over 57 years and nothing against him personally but being removed that long from non-political life could make it difficult to relate to the citizens you serve.

Party Politics

George Washington in his farewell address warned our nation about the damage of political parties. He warned against having “a small but artful and enterprising minority” to replace, “the delegated will of the Nation, the will of a party.” ‘

We as a nation, however, have not listened to his warning and have become so divided between the party system that our Congress is nicknamed “the do nothing Congress.” In America we have accepted the two party systems of Democrats and Republicans, who are essentially the opposite of one another.

While other parties appear from time to time, like the libertarians or Tea Partiers, they are often just an extension from the two main groups. Smaller, sub parties; never really get a chance in the spotlight, most often being overshadowed by the party they are extended from. They take pride in bickering with one another on the extremities of the issues, in order to energize a political base and gain financial support for their elected seats.

The issues with the party sys-

tem are that it allows room for partisan to play into the governmental duties of elected officials. They will do anything to keep their election and support for the party, and if they do not, the candidate often falls. This is bad for our efficiency as a nation, leading to the stand stills between Democrats and Republicans when it comes to the various issues such as the national debt, immigration, taxing or various social rights.

This causes a division in not only the government that creates the laws for society, but also in the people themselves.

This was the downfall of Governor Mitt Romney in his presidential run. Instead of using his past experiences, which tended to lean more towards the center, he had to move far over to the right. As seen in The Affordable Care Act which was based off his health care model implemented in the Massachusettses. During the Presidential campaign however, he had to go against the plan because it was being used by a Democratic candidate for a national model.



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Valentine’s Celebrations for Both Single and Taken

KELLY HUGHES
STAFF WRITER

“Will you be my valentine?” We’ve been hearing this since grade school. Of course, this was back in the days when everyone was everyone’s Valentine, bringing in cards and candy for each classmate on the special day. However, that was when candy wasn’t banned in half of the schools in America and when love was a general feeling among classmates rather than an intimate and sometimes destructive passion among fellow college students.

Some of us have developed a view of Valentine’s Day as a “Hallmark Holiday,” formulated by the media and advertised as the one and only day to show your love. Others cherish it, recalling its meaningful history dating back to both the Middle Ages and the Shakespearean era.

Perhaps for bitter singles, Valentine’s Day is a brutal reminder of failed relationships or a simple annoyance of witnessing Whitman’s chocolate company cashing in on last minute attempts at romantic gestures. On the contrary, for those in love, it is a reminder of romance that is often forgotten once the honeymoon phase comes to an end.

Senior education major Mariola Cieloch is in a long distance relationship with her longtime boyfriend who attends University of Delaware, so she looks forward to the day of love.

She said, “Valentine’s Day is special for me and my boyfriend. It’s his birthday too, so we make

sure to spend time together every year since we are three hours apart.”

It doesn’t matter what side of the fence you are on about Valentine’s Day because nothing will change the fact that it occurs every Feb. 14. According to The History Channel’s website, 150 million Valentine’s Day cards are sent each year, which makes Valentine’s Day second to Christmas as the most popular card-exchanging holiday. Even though some people may have negative feelings about the day, this proves that many continue to participate in it.

If you’re flying solo this year, there are still some ways to feel the love Feb. 14. Dwelling on not being taken out a date? Spread your love to family members and friends instead. Valentine’s Day does not just have to be for couples. Make it your own by sending cards and a care packages to your parents or siblings. It will make them feel good and you feel better.

Besides giving, don’t forget to take the day for yourself as well. Since Valentine’s Day falls on a Friday this year, take the week to eat super healthy and give yourself the last day of the week to spoil yourself. Avoid night crowds and go out to eat for lunch with friends or by yourself. At night, attend or host a Valentine’s themed party by wearing pink or red and providing your guests with snacks, drinks, and games.

Senior art major Nicole Comito plans on spending it this way. “Its my first Valentine’s day be-

ing single in years, but I’m more excited for it now than when I actually had a boyfriend! During the day I’ll eat chocolate and maybe watch the Valentine’s Day movie. At night, I’m celebrating it with all my single people at a friend’s house with a Valentine theme.”

If you do have a significant other to impress, there are other ways to celebrate. Unfortunately, Valentine’s dates can have long waits and be over-priced. Luckily, cooking is actually just as, or even more, romantic. If you have a house off campus, hit the grocery store and plan a romantic candlelight dinner to wow your partner. Putting thought into your meal rather than just paying at a restaurant will impress your lover. Plus, this allows you to avoid crowded parking or long lines.

Junior education major Rachel Fox said, “I would be delighted if a guy our age actually cooked me dinner, but I of course enjoy the atmosphere of a restaurant as well.”

Rather than only focusing on dinner, you could also make plans elsewhere. Take the train into New York, walk along the beach shops in Pier Village, or go on a rock climbing date at Garden State Rocks in Morganville. Thinking outside the heart-shaped box and planning a unique date will be sure to impress your Valentine.

No matter who you spend Valentine’s Day with or how you celebrate, spend it with the people who matter most. If you do so, Feb. 14 is sure to be memorable.



PHOTO TAKEN from sherrifoxman.typepad.com

A dinner at home may impress your loved one more than a night out to eat and will cost less money.

Seasonal Affective Disorder May Be Affecting You

SAD cont. from pg. 1

has been established, a seasonal pattern then has to be identified. “This generally means that depressive episodes reoccur seasonally, most commonly during the fall and winter and the individual’s symptoms are in remission during other seasons, such as during the summer and spring,” she said. “When making this diagnosis, it’s important to distinguish a seasonal pattern of depression from events that occur seasonally and result in additional stress and possible mental health problems as coping mechanisms are strained, such as returning to college or the holidays.”

The winter blues can be confused with SAD, that’s why it is so important to make sure that a seasonal pattern is recognized, according to Hatchard. “Winter blues can seem similar to depression, but the symptoms are not as severe and are unlikely to result in a high level of distress or significant difficulty with functioning,” she said.

Other symptoms of SAD include: hopelessness, anxiety, loss of energy, heavy “leadens” feeling in the arms or legs, social withdrawal, loss of interest in activities you once enjoyed, appetite changes and weight gain, according to mayoclinic.org. The website explained that the symptoms usually start out mild and become more severe as the season progresses.

According to mayclinic.org, the specific cause of SAD is currently unknown but there are several factors that may result in the disorder. The website gives three factors: your biological clock (circadian rhythm), serotonin levels and melatonin levels. The website also states that there are various risk factors that may increase your chances of getting SAD. These aspects include: being female, living far from the equator, family

history and having clinical depression or bipolar disorder.

Anthony Panissidi, 2012 alum and business reporter for The Asbury Park Press, said he has never seen a doctor for SAD but believes he may have it. “I hate the cold, especially because it gets dark so early,” he said. “I find myself more lethargic and less happy. I also lose motivation to do things that I normally can’t wait to do in the summer, like go to the gym or visit a friend after work.”

Panissidi explained that he began to notice a change in his mood during the winter months sometime during high school. “Before then, I used to get excited about the possi-

“The past couple of years I’ve joked and called it my hibernation. Like a bear, I know I’ll snap out of it come spring time.”

ANONYMOUS

bility of snow during the winter, so I never really thought about anything else. I still get excited about snow, but I could do without it,” he said.

Panissidi continued by saying he does not do anything to help relieve his SAD symptoms. “... at least not outside of counting down the days until spring and summer. Get me to a beach already,” he said.

A 23-year-old assistant supervisor at a food store who wishes to remain anonymous believes that he/she may have SAD as well. “I’d like to see [a doctor] just because I’d like reassurance that it’s not only in my head,” he/she said. “But I don’t like the thought of being on medication and I’m sure it would lead to that, [at] least during the winter months.”

He/she explained that when fall comes and the days get shorter, he/she just gets “significantly less

happy in general” and not about anything specific. “I also just like to sleep and stay in bed ... Not that I’m tired, I just don’t want to be awake. These types of things don’t happen in the summer time, even when I’m home with no plans,” he/she said.

As for getting medical help or treating his/her symptoms of SAD, he/she said he/she “kind of just [goes] with it.” “The past couple of years I’ve joked and called it my hibernation. Like a bear, I know I’ll snap out of it come spring time,” he/she said.

There are antidepressants that can be used to treat SAD but there are also other ways to treat the condition, according to mayoclinic.org. For example, phototherapy, also known as

light therapy. Mayoclinic.org states that during phototherapy patients “sit a few feet from a specialized light therapy box so that [they’re] exposed to bright light. Light therapy mimics outdoor light and appears to cause a change in brain chemicals linked to mood.”

Hatchard explained that “full spectrum” (natural light) light bulbs can also be installed in homes and help with the therapeutic effect. She said that the full spectrum lights are different than phototherapy because the light box for phototherapy is intended for more serious sufferers. Psychotherapy is another type of therapy that can be used to treat SAD, according to mayoclinic.org. Self-help strategies can also be used, explained Hatchard. “These might include: getting sunlight and fresh air, eating a variety of fruits

and vegetables, participating in a fun outdoor winter activity, exercising, spending time with friends and trying a new and exciting hobby,” she said. “Individuals should resist the urge to sleep in too late, which is easy to do during the winter but limits the amount of natural light in your day.”

Health.com posted an article called “The Secrets to a Super-Happy Winter” that discussed certain tips to do during the winter to make the cold more enjoyable. The tips included: winterizing your workout, eating healthier, socializing in group activities, participating in winter activities like ice skating, planning a future trip or vacation, dressing

warm and staying in sunlight. The article then provides examples for each point.

Even though winter activities may not be considered self-help strategies, they can certainly make the winter months more bearable. Who doesn’t love building a snowman or cuddling up next to the fireplace under a blanket with a cup of hot chocolate while wearing a pair of fuzzy socks?

The anonymous 23 year old feels as if some people think SAD is a “made up” thing. “I have had people tell me that there isn’t a way the seasons or the weather can affect your mood. It’s hard to explain to someone how for a few months of the year, you’re just down and sad so often for no real reason,” he/she said.

James Morecraft, a senior psychology major and the President of

the Psi Chi International Honor Society in Psychology and the President of the Psychology Club, has never experienced someone with SAD but has learned about the condition. “Based on knowledge from coursework, it is important to normalize the feelings of those affected, ensuring them this is something experienced by many,” he said.

Morecraft continued to say that his advice for someone experiencing SAD would be to seek treatment immediately and not to “bypass the symptoms.”

Molly McCluskey, 1999 alumna, was a National Park Ranger of Interpretation in Alaska. “My town was in a narrow valley, and on the shortest days, the sun passed through it in about 45 minutes,” she said. “... there were about for straight months (late October to February) where there was no sunlight. It wasn’t always solid black but a dark grey for several hours. Having no sunlight definitely affected my sleep patterns, eating habits and overall energy levels.”

McCluskey explained that only having 20 hours of sunlight did impact some people negatively but she loved having late night softball games or “watching the really, really long twilight.” She said she would advise people with SAD not to drink during the colder months. “... alcohol is a depressant and when combined with cold mornings, and late nights, [it makes] a terrible combo,” she said.

The winter months can bring out depression in some people but there are many different things that can be done to help with symptoms. Whether it is seeing a doctor or just being in the sunlight more, make sure to be open to options in case you are feelings traces of SAD or the winter blues. Hopefully we will be seeing the signs of spring sometime soon.

“Generation Hookup”

Should Our Era be Deemed Kings and Queens of Sleeping Around and Not Settling Down?

TAYLOR KELLY
LIFESTYLES EDITOR

If there’s one thing that we know for sure, it’s that sex sells. From Marilyn Monroe becoming a legendary sex symbol to Miley Cyrus twerking on stage at the VMAs, people have always been drawn to the hype that surrounds scandal. Yet, can we be blamed? Sex is arguably the most humanistic act we can perform; it connects us to our ancestors as well as our next of kin, it is used for pleasure, and it is a rite of passage in the realm of coming of age. However, how soon is too soon to be hooking up with the guy you just met, your boyfriend of only a short time, or a complete stranger?

It is obvious that our generation is one that feels random hook-ups are widely accepted. However, according to the *American Psychological Association (APA)*, the history of hook ups dates back to the wild days of the roaring twenties. As women gained more freedom due to the 19th Amendment, they felt independence in not being permanently attached to a man.

The APA also noted that the 1960s brought even more sexual freedom with the use of birth control, drugs, and the popularity of the free loving flower power culture. The point is that “hooking up” has been around longer than we have, but our generation is getting all the slack for it.

Chair of the Psychology Department, Dr. Gary Lewandowski said, “I think these types of labels are provocative, but it isn’t clear from data that this generation is really all that different. It could be there is just more comfort in talking

about it.”

This leads to the question of whether or not we can blame the media and widespread use of social media for the label. Way back when, teenagers were busy hiding their extra-curricular activities from their parents. Drive-in movie theaters, backseats of cars, and vacant parks were all places where kids could go to satisfy their sexual needs. That was way before cellphones

“I think these types of labels are provocative, but it isn’t clear from data that this generation is really all that different. It could be there is just more comfort in talking about it.”

GARY LEWANDSKI
Chair of the Psychology Department

and social media existed.

With picture messaging, texting, Twitter, Facebook, and Instagram (among plenty of others) private life has become public for everyone to see. Even if you’re not updating your Facebook status about getting to second base with Tommy from your science class, chances are other people may have found out and spread the word. This goes to show that if you’re going to continue your hookup sessions, you may want to stay far away from the public eye.

The idea of sex appeal has also been heavily influenced by the media. Our television screens and internet pages are flooded with images of picture-perfect Victoria’s Secret models in scantily clad clothing, movies are filled with highly graphic sex scenes, and pornography is easy to come by with one simple search.

Young girls are highly influenced by this, and brand markets are tailoring their products to the

that social norms have changed drastically, even in the last 50 years. According to infoplease.com, in 1950, the median age for women to get married was 20.3. In 2010, the number was 26.1. Six years can be a significant span of time in a woman’s life, which can account for why we aren’t holding off for marriage as often.

Lewandowski added, “There is a trend where people are waiting to get married later.”

It was historically traditional to wait until marriage to lose your virginity, but back then, most brides were younger than most of today’s college students. It would be unfair to compare the marriage standard with such a big age difference between them.

Sophomore business administration major Kelly Park said, “Our generation is just more accustomed to not settling down. We shouldn’t be considered ‘the

hookup generation’ because we like to keep our options open. I like to think we are a generation of both happy couples and happy singles.”

The age old song “Love and Marriage” links the two together, and it is expected that if two people decide to get married, there is a lot of love going on between the two. However, we don’t have to be in love to hookup.

ships is unique to them, and should not be attributed to an entire population, as it has been with the notion of the “hookup culture.”

The role of women in society has also changed, which has in turn altered the process of forming sexual relationships.

Women are no longer desperate housewives, waiting for their husbands to come home to fulfill their every need. Instead, women are part of the working world, the educational world, and have many more hats than they wore in the past. For this reason, they have gained independence and somewhat equality, in the modern day. If women can get jobs just like men and go to school alongside them, why shouldn’t we have the same sexual rights?

Men hookup with women and are often seen by their friends as a hero and women should have the same luxury, if they so choose. If a standard is to be set for hooking up, it should span across both genders. And if it is seen as self-objectification, this should not have a gender standard either.

Although men have always been seen as sexually and physically dominant, the myths about their lack of emotional attachment may not be true.

According to *USA Today*, a survey of over 5,000 people revealed that men typically fall in love faster, with 55 percent of men saying they have felt love at first sight, while only 44 percent of women responded that way. The survey also showed that women prefer personal space more than men. Research like this aids in changing the way males and females are viewed in society.

Even though hooking up is often given a negative connotation, it does have benefits. Kate Hakala of the *Nerve* actually looked at the positives of the hookup. Some of them include enjoyment and upward mobility for women, the potential relationships that can be formed, and the improvement of one’s sexual performance before settling down. She also mentions that it’s not as harmful as many people make it out to be, and that the stigma of hooking up has been blown out of proportion in the media recently.

The media objectifies women, but this does not mean women have to self-objectify. If women choose to become intimate with a partner (or series of them), it should be because they are empowered to do so, not because of society’s influences or that of peer pressure.

The question of whether or not hooking up objectifies a woman is based on her individual choices and reasons for doing so. If she is influenced heavily by the sexualization of the media, she may strive to become one of the objects portrayed on the screen. But, just because a woman is comfortable in her sexual skin, that doesn’t mean she is trying to turn herself into an item or object.

On a broader scale, we need to work on how both men and women are viewed sexually in society, both in real life and in the media. This will allow us to remove the stigma that looms above our generation when it comes to settling down and hooking up.



IMAGE TAKEN from metro.us

Hooking up comes with our culture’s independence and freedom, aspects that were not always present in society, but doesn’t have to define us.

OSCAR NOMINEE REVIEWS

“Gravity” Soars Beyond Expectations

AMANDA GLATZ
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

Outer space has always been characterized by the dichotomy of inexplicable beauty and overwhelming terror. Director Alfonso Cuarón depicts the great unknown as such in his Oscar-nominated film, “Gravity,” using innovative 3D technologies to take his audiences on an otherworldly adventure. The film’s cinematography (done by visual expert Emmanuel Lubezki) is arguably the best of 2013’s lineup and succeeds in establishing realism in an otherwise fantastical story.

“Gravity” begins with simple statements on a black screen, providing the viewer with textbook information about space before Cuarón drives his point home, delivering a 12-minute long panoramic view of the Earth. The shot is captivating and instills in onlookers a real sense of weightlessness.

For those who prematurely believe that the film is nothing more than astronauts floating in space, these opening scenes may not show much potential. But much like one of the film’s prevailing themes, it’s worth sticking around for the ride - especially when a nearby shuttle just exploded.

The debris is headed towards a US shuttle where two astronauts are in the middle of conducting research when they receive word from Houston about the impending collision. Matt Kowalski is



IMAGE TAKEN from motherjones.com

Sandra Bullock spent the majority of filming without other actors and against a green screen, making “Gravity” an impressive accomplishment for all involved. Unsurprisingly, it received 10 Oscar nominations.

the veteran of the duo, played with an off-beat reverence by George Clooney. With him on this routine mission is Dr. Ryan Stone, a medical engineer played by Sandra Bullock, who has no previous experience in a space suit but a ton of emotional baggage.

In terms of social conduct, these two characters are perfect opposites. It is only after some persistent prodding by Kowalski that we uncover a personal detail crucial to Stone’s character development: her only daughter died when she was just a young girl. Shortly after this informa-

tion settles on the audience, the emotional moment is interrupted by one of utter terror, as the debris finally makes contact with the US shuttle.

Cuarón’s use of technology makes “Gravity” a very effective thriller, in that the viewer is placed directly in the action. IMAX audiences will especially appreciate this illusion, as pieces of the space shuttle seem to fly right off the screen.

When one considers how the landlocked actors performed their sequences, the innovative filming technique becomes even more extraordinary. Confined to

an LED screen box, Clooney and Bullock acted out their scenes with no more than a space suit to provide character inspiration. With this resourceful decision by cinematographer Lubezki, the film’s lighting gives the characters a fitting sense of fragility.

Ultimately, though, it is not the cinematography that keeps viewers engaged, but the emotional (and surprisingly relatable) story of Dr. Ryan Stone.

The film’s greatest triumph lies in the character arc portrayed by Bullock, who is impressively convincing as a woman whose torturous past has left her with

little to live for. Still grieving over the loss of her child and convinced that she can’t carry on, Stone is faced with a question: Would dying in space really be so bad? Though the answer seems obvious, in Stone’s emotional state, never returning to Earth is presented as an easy solution to all her problems. Separated from Kowalski and with no clear way home, she could very effortlessly succumb to her sorrows.

It is this emotional turning point that drives the heart of the story, and leaves viewers rooting for a character that struggles to root for herself. Though the film very obviously portrays Stone’s plot as a choice between life and death, it takes on a bigger meaning as the terror of outer space becomes a backdrop for the terror of moving on. In the end, Stone must rediscover that life on Earth is worth living.

The importance of this plotline is conspicuously absent from the movie trailers but perhaps rightfully so. Cuarón’s plot unfolds so organically that to give away the truths uncovered in the character development might make the film less powerful. Trailers showing Bullock and Clooney simply dodging items in space, however, might not have done the film any favors, as many have written it off as boring or trite. But it would be a mistake to overlook this gem based on any preconceived notions. Allow yourself to get lost in the story, and as Dr. Ryan Stone can tell you, you’ll be in for “one hell of a ride.”

“Her” Redefines the Unconventional Love Story

ERICA BONAVIDACOLA
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

Do not cross the line. This is the oldest story in the book. From the playground to the workplace, society has been advised to never cross the proverbial line. In an age where society is connected by a constantly evolving technology, it has become increasingly difficult to distinguish where the line actually exists. In fact, where is this new line and have we crossed it yet?

Director Spike Jonze, fresh off the success of “Bad Grandpa”, works in tandem with costume designer Casey Storm and production designer KK Barret to create the world that Theodore Twombly (Joaquin Phoenix) lives in. While many would expect a future Los Angeles to resemble something similar to the style of “The Matrix”, Theodore’s planet is eerily similar to today’s world. The major difference between Theodore’s world and our own is the complete advancement of technology. It becomes apparent that in Theodore’s world, social interaction amongst humans has become obsolete.

The film explores this inevitable growth of technology and its effect on the age-old tale of unrequited love in a not-so-far-off future. The sci-fi drama, opens with Theodore Twombly (Joa-

quin Phoenix) proclaiming his undying love to an unknown entity. While his declarations serve as a foreshadowing for future events, the audience quickly learns that Theodore’s job is to generate such sentiments. Similar to the way an operating system works, Theodore is expected to produce these emotionally-charged and genuine letters to strangers solely based on the information given to him by his clients.

Reeling from the aftermath of a divorce from his wife (Rooney Mara), Theodore finds himself in a state of depression. Several shots of the movie hone in on him going through his daily routine in a methodical and detached nature. Without even realizing it, the audience develops a camaraderie with Theodore as he checks his email, drinks his coffee, and wanders his local streets.

Salvation comes to Theodore in the form of the world’s first A.I. (Artificial Intelligence) operation system. Enter Samantha. Samantha (Scarlett Johansen) is no ordinary operating system. In fact, she has a silky-smooth voice, a quirky opinion, and an undeniable presence. Although she is without the amenities of a physical body, Samantha appears to be the ultimate woman: nurturing, kind, charming, funny, and responsible without expecting much in return.

Samantha is wired to answer Theodore’s emails and organize his life to make it more manage-

able. However, after fully immersing herself in Theodore’s life and spending the entirety of his days with him, Samantha develops a very human emotion: curiosity. She yearns to understand the complex nature of humanity. She aches to feel emotion. Her sole portal to the physical world is through sensitive and insecure Theodore. In a classic tale of give and take, these two reel from each other’s input.

Theodore’s physical presence makes up for Samantha’s non-physical presence. While she portrays her emotions through her voice, Joaquin Phoenix does an excellent job of conveying his emotions through his body language. Jonze expertly illustrates the various mediums of expression on opposite ends of the communication spectrum.

Just as most people are cautious, Theodore acknowledges the risks he is taking when diving into his relationship with Samantha. Just as most people are reluctant to admit the truth, Theodore bypasses these concerns and falls into a state of denial. Ultimately avoiding contact with the outside world, Theodore gives himself to Samantha, perhaps in an attempt to compensate for his failed marriage. As their relationship grows, it becomes apparent that both Samantha and Theodore harbor an insatiable fear of being alone. The two cling to each other in a wild attempt to satisfy the needs they had both previously wired them-



IMAGE TAKEN from cdn.screenrant.com

Joaquin Phoenix falls in love a piece of Artificial Intelligence, but who wouldn’t fall in love with Scarlett Johansson’s voice?

selves to stifle.

Perhaps the most interesting facet of the film is that typical issues found in most relationships also arise in Samantha and Theodore’s unconventional connection. Communication, the sole issue that the film revolves around, becomes a problem between the two as they delve further into their journey together. Theodore’s insecurities consume him and Samantha attempts to convey her own feelings through electronically composed music. The struggles that the couple faces adds an undeniable amount of humility to an

otherwise futuristic and technological world.

“Her” is a film that evolves as smoothly as the technology does in it. It is not shy in its depiction of the future and the looming threat that current technology poses. It expertly weaves a classic love story between an unconventional pair. “Her” diminishes the proverbial line, just slightly passing it and exploring the possibility of a world without lines. Instead, “Her” suggests a future where technology and humanity can coexist rather than dominate one another.

MU Celebrates Beatlemania

NICOLE MASSABROOK
ENTERTAINMENT EDITOR

The University proved that Beatlemania is alive and well on Saturday at a day-long symposium titled, “Ladies and Gentlemen... The Beatles.” The event, which filled Wilson Hall, was sponsored by the University’s Center for Performing Arts, the Department of Music and Theatre Arts and the GRAMMY Museum. Participants listened to discussions, musical performances and some even had their brain activity mapped.

Stanton Green, Dean of Humanities, introduced the day by giving a little background on his own history with The Beatles. “[The Beatles] came into my life in 1963 when a friend showed up with a mop top and Beatles boots,” Green said. Even when he started college, Sgt. Pepper’s Lonely Hearts Club Band could be heard from dormitory windows and he moved in for the first time.

The day featured a lot of this sort of reminiscing. Of course, the symposium was not just a walk down memory lane. Bob Santelli, Executive Director of the GRAMMY Museum, asked in his Keynote Address, “Why did we, literally, go crazy about them?”

While Santelli noted that the genius of John Lennon and Paul McCartney had a big hand in it, while every other panelist seemed to add reasons to the list.

The first panelists were Professor Kenneth Campbell and students who had taken his First Year Seminar on The Beatles. First year students Timothy Kemner, Sarah Lewis and Jessica Mentzel as well as senior Alison Abate all spoke about their experiences and research on the Fab Four. Abate has been a Peer Learning Assistant for the past two years in the class, so she has essentially taken the

class three times. She said that she went back to her original essay from freshman year.

Abate, a graphic design major, said, “I think the reason The Beatles are so important is that they did come into our lives when we needed them. They spoke about war and about love and about loss. Those are things that, no matter who you are or what age you are, those are important things, and those are things that everyone thinks about in life.”

Professor Kenneth Campbell once again joined the discussion on the Faculty Panel along with Professors Christopher DeRosa, Aaron Furgason, Stuart Rosenberg and Hettie Williams. Campbell discussed his theory that the British band wouldn’t have been the same if they were named Paul and the Beatles (a name trend at the time) because it really was about all four. “That made the Beatles special is that they were more than the sum of their parts,” Campbell said.

DeRosa analyzed “Echo Boomers,” the children of baby boomers who discovered The Beatles after Lennon died. Furgason went into a discussion of how much money record labels made off of The Beatles. Rosenberg reviewed each studio album The Beatles released (where he repeatedly requested for the music to be turned up more). Williams brought up the influence of African-American culture on The Beatles and said, “British bands helped to reintroduce black music to the masses.”

Black culture was brought up a few times throughout the day. Early on it was mentioned that the term “rock n’ roll” was taken from black culture (it was a slang term for sex), and The Beatles Motown influences were continually mentioned. Williams, along with Santelli, discussed the mutual respect between the band and Smokey Robinson. While Williams discussed Robinson’s cover



Miss the show? Watch clips on youtube.com/MUOutlook

PHOTO TAKEN by Nicole Massabrook

A rooftop concert was the last public performance from The Beatles. It was only fitting to end the day with a surprise set on the balcony featuring both students and teachers.

of “Yesterday”, Santelli was able to bring in moments that he shared with Beatles’ members where they discussed their respect for Robinson.

Santelli often added a few words to panelists’ presentations, offering his extensive knowledge and personal interactions with the band. Professor Joe Rapolla said that was one of his favorite parts of the day. Rapolla said, “I, of course, enjoyed all of the music, but hearing the students present and discuss their Beatles stories, and having Bob Santelli fill in a lot of the gaps of my knowledge of The Beatles was great!”

Rapolla, head of the Department of Music and Theatre Arts, helped put the event together. He organized about half a dozen student performers and even stepped in to perform when a student came down with laryngitis at the last minute. The music helped to keep the mood upbeat

and gave the audience a lot of short breaks in the lecture.

Some audience members were lucky enough to have Professor Andrew Demirjian map their brain activity while they listened to their favorite songs in a project called “Brain on Beatles.” Demirjian was asked to contribute a paper to the symposium, but his work with data sonification and sonifying brainwaves led him to a different idea. He said, “Students in my Responsive Media AR/CO 404 class last spring had an assignment to create a musical or visual self-portrait with their brainwaves. So fusing all this together I came up with an idea of creating a sonic portrait for visitors of their brain activity while listening to their favorite Beatles song.”

Participants picked many songs; though Demirjian said the most popular were “Let It Be,” “While

My Guitar Gently Weeps” and “A Day in the Life.” The process involved Demirjian creating his own program. The communication professor explained, “The brain emits seven types of brainwaves so I took the ones that are most involved with attention and cognition and created a program that scaled their ranges to play over three octaves of a C minor scale. These notes would then be sent to a DAW (Digital Audio Workstation) and played by instruments like violins or piano.”

Demirjian’s project emphasized Abate’s earlier point: The Beatles evoke strong and relatable emotions. “I was really blown away by the earnestness and near spirituality visitors brought to the project. Sometimes it was difficult to wake them from their eyes closed meditative state while listening,” Demirjian said.

The day finished with a professional panel including Vini Lopez (original E Street Band Drummer), Bobbi Bandiera (Bon Jovi guitarist, Southside Johnny and the Asbury Jukes), Marc Muller (guitarist), and Doug Sulpy (author of “The Complete Beatles Audio Guide”). The audience gave plenty of applause to Lopez and Bandiera, obviously showing some respect for local-grown talent.

To finish off the day, there was a closing performance. The Beatles’ last performance was on a rooftop, so it was only fitting to finish off the day with a concert on the balcony of Wilson Hall. Dave Annum, Nickolas Haberstroh, Eddie Soles, Jesse Lauria, Rapolla and Professor George Wurzbach rocked out in front of President Brown’s office in true rock n’ roll fashion.

Towards the end of the final panel, Bandiera said, “From beginning to end with The Beatles, it was such a great journey and learning experience.” The same can be said of the symposium.

Would Students Deport Bieber?

BRIANNA MCCABE
CLUB & GREEK EDITOR

A “We the People” White House petition on deporting pop star Justin Bieber, 19, received over 240,000 signatures, which surpassed the 100,000 signatures threshold required for an official White House response.

Created on Jan. 23, the petition states, “We the people of the United States feel that we are being wrongly represented in the world of pop culture. We would like to see the dangerous, reckless, destructive, and drug abusing Justin Bieber deported and his green card revoked. He is not only threatening the safety of our people but he is also a terrible influence on our nation’s youth. We the people would like to remove Justin Bieber from our society.”

The name Bieber is exploding in newspapers, tabloids, blogs, and social media sites across the nation for recently getting hammered with a DUI while drag racing, aggressively resisting arrest, double-teaming a stripper with his buddy, assaulting a limo driver in Toronto, and having his plane held in NJ after allegedly smelling like marijuana. Bieber is sliding head-first down a very slippery slope.

And thus, the petition to deport this mindless musician was born by the ingenious Michigan native Roger Skyrzynski who simply had enough of this blasphemy. Although originally intended to be

a joke, this petition is no longer a joking matter.

Brad Rubin, a senior criminal justice student, despises everything about Bieber and his music, therefore forming the belief that he needs to go back to Canada. “Just like any other criminal, regardless of celebrity status, he must be punished. He has made an even bigger fool of himself and I hope that he gets what he deserves,” Rubin said. “Just because he’s some ‘famous artist’ does not give him the right to drag race while being under the influence of drugs and/or alcohol.”

As stated in an article published in *Yahoo! Celebrity News* last month, Bieber is understood to be living and working in the US under a renewable O-1 visa for entertainers as opposed to a green card that is issued for permanent residents. It is unclear whether Bieber’s recent illegal actions will affect his visa.

The petition to deport Bieber will be active on the White House’s website until Feb. 22. A report by *ABC News* on Jan. 29 said most petitions that warrant a response can take up to 30 days.

“We the People” petitions that have passed the 100,000 signature mark include one asking the White House to replicate and build a “Star Wars” Death Star to more serious matters such as one asking the Obama Administration to produce a legislation strengthening gun control laws. This one, howev-

er, has been highlighted due to the feuding “beliebing” teeny boppers in support of him and the working Americans who get sick to their stomachs whenever the name Justin Bieber is uttered from the lips.

He is talentless and a humiliation to pop culture, scratch that, culture in general. Bieber has tainted the pop realm with monstrous pop “hits,” only to be accompanied with pictures of him gnawing on the breasts of strippers that have gone viral.

Michael Lubischer, a senior accounting student, believes Bieber is in a position to be a role model but he does not act like one. “[This behavior is] unacceptable by anyone, especially someone [like Bieber] with such a large influence on American youths,” he said.

At 19, Bieber may be old enough to legally consume alcohol in Canada, but he clearly still has a lot of maturing to do before anyone can seriously consider him a functioning member of humanity... but even that may now be a little too far-fetched. I seriously doubt there ever being a general consensus of Bieber being considered an asset to the world.

Bieber has shown that he is incapable of producing anything positive for society, “other than stimulating the marijuana industry, single-handedly keeping the saggy hammer-pants trend alive, and giving Selena Gomez inspiration to write break-up songs,” as stated in a copy-cat “We the People” peti-

tion against Bieber that was originated after the original.

Claude Taylor, Athletics Professor-in-Residence and member of the faculty in the Department of Communication, believes Bieber is responding to all of the money and fame that comes along with becoming a child celebrity. He said, “People want to hear his art, but because he is stuck in this Miley Cyrus trajectory of being really reckless, ‘Beliebers’ and fans everywhere are going to eventually stop buying in to him.” Taylor believes he is stuck in the transitional phase of attempting to become an adult star.

Brittany Dalton, a junior business management student, doesn’t believe Bieber warrants special treatment from authoritative figures simply because of this title. “It would be nice to see him get deported,” said Dalton, “but realistically he probably won’t because of his popularity here in the US... Either way, I don’t think it would really matter if he got deported because he would still have fans here that support him and he would most likely continue to be successful in Canada.”

Although Dalton, Lubischer, and Rubin all agree that Bieber is an irrelevant musician, they wish people would focus such passion on issues towards issues that actually mattered and deserve this much attention.

Taylor said, “Bieber has burned a lot of bridges and people are go-



IMAGE TAKEN from huffingtonpost.com

Justin Bieber was released the day after his DUI arrest in Miami on \$2500 bail.

ing to be less inclined to support him. But, the fact that there is a petition circulating to deport him shows that he is a major public figure. It is symbolic that [this petition] is overblown.”

The name Bieber now brings hatred to a lot of people who feel disrespected by this obnoxious young adult. We the people are ready to raise our pitchforks in opposition of this abomination in order to walk down Bieber-free streets and once again ensure life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness.

Don’t officials at the White House realize that Maslow’s hierarchy of needs goes as follows: physiological, safety, belonging, self-esteem, self-actualization, and on the tippity top, the deportation and/or exiling of disgraces like Bieber from society? Kidding, but not really.

A Toxic Friendship: The Story of “Frienemies”

CASEY WOLFE
SENIOR EDITOR

The TV called for attention. Tonight on *CNN*: When friends become bullies. The taunts began in second grade when Ally Del Monte started taking medication for a thyroid disorder and gained 60 pounds. The boys at her elementary school in Westchester County, New York, banned her from the jungle gym because they said she would break it. The girls made fun of her large jackets and told her she was fat, ugly and weird.

I looked down at the open bag of potato chips sitting in my lap and the curves of my body, unflatteringly folded into rolls from my relaxed position. How many pounds have I put on in the past year? I didn't even have a medication to blame. My friends have never said anything, I think.

Dr. Franca Mancini, Director of Counseling and Psychological Services, said, “Having friends is such an important part of our lives, and the desire to belong is so strong that it's often difficult to understand when the comments and interactions that occur between friends become toxic destructive to the person involved. Generally speaking, if being with certain friends makes you feel anxious, insecure or fearful of making a mistake or expressing your opinion, or if you find that you are often the target of negative comments or if others are laughing at your expense, it's important to take a look at the relationship.”

“To me, it was normal because that's what I was used to. At first I didn't consider it bullying because the people treating me like this were supposed to be my friends. That's how I perceived myself because that's what they were telling me.”

As she spoke, I looked for the flaws that her friends pointed out to her. Her face was plump and rosy. Her collarbone was

not at all visible. I reached for my own clavicle, suddenly realizing how much skin was layered over it. I suddenly felt like the TV was mirroring my reflection five years earlier. I've battled with body image before, but never did I attribute those struggles to my friends.

“They called me a fat pathetic bitch, told me I was worthless, I was ugly, my mom should have aborted me, I should just kill myself, no one likes me, they all want me gone,” she said. “I felt hopeless. They could reach me everywhere I went. I couldn't escape.”

I had a friend once when I was in sixth grade who told me there were multiple people who wished I was dead. I remember thanking her for telling me. Not with sarcasm, but with sincerity. I thought her honesty was a sign of true friendship. We ate lunch together the next day at school, like always. I wonder if she even remembers the look on my face when she told me, because her sly smile from that moment is forever ingrained in my memory. Since then, I've never had a friend who tormented me that way. The *CNN* reporter introduces to the audience, Ally's mother, Wendy.

...She also didn't know Ally had an account on the blogging tool Tumblr until she found her daughter balled up and sobbing on her bed, trying to open a bottle of her father's blood pressure medication. She was planning to attempt a drug overdose. That's when she saw dozens of messages on Ally's phone, telling her to kill herself.

The reporter flashed her sympathetic eyes and concerned pout. The interviews went on, using words like alone, hopeless, worthless and disgusting to describe how Ally felt. Ally's friends were making me feel disgusting.

Mancini advised seeking help outside of the potent relationship. “If someone is feeling bad about a relationship or friend-

ship (and bullying can occur in romantic relationships as well) they should share the information with someone safe outside of the friendship/relationship and get perspective,” said Mancini. “Speaking with a counselor or a faculty member or with someone in Residential Life if they are resident students, would be a good start.”

I thought of my own friends who have been out of middle school for quite some time. They are all gorgeous, but they never made me feel like I wasn't. I understood now that everything my friends said was genuine. Any bullying I had experienced after middle school had been only from me. However, cases like Ally's do happen, and sometimes the way our friends see us is the way we see ourselves.

According to *CNN*, 30 percent of 18-year-olds have been bullied by the people they call their friends. I looked at Ally on my TV screen again, no longer hyperaware of my own image. She had very pretty eyes framed by long lashes, and her hair fell just-so over her shoulders. I bet her “friends” never told her that. The reporter began her happy conclusion about Ally emerging from such a dark place and inspiring others in similar situations. But was that really the end of Ally's story?

Bullies don't stop because you start a motivational blog, or speak publicly against the issue. Ally said on the *CNN* report that there is no such thing as a success story for anyone who has been bullied. The best you can do is survive it.

Mancini added, “Fear of looking weak may lead some individuals to remain friends with the bully. Most often the bullying will continue and the person will continue to feel bad about themselves. Those feelings lead to low self-esteem, sadness and depression, and we've heard and read about the effects of these

situations.”

On the other hand, Mancini said that people often overlook the fact that the bullies are the ones who have the self-esteem issues. She said that they many times try to reassure themselves by harassing others.

I remembered the friends

important lessons I've learned. However, I was lucky enough to escape the harmful situation.

In every relationship I've been in since then, I've made myself aware of how I treated others in fear of becoming that so-called friend. Think about your words and actions in every



IMAGE TAKEN from losergirl.com

Ally Del Monte (above) began a motivational blog, wrote a book and makes YouTube videos to help others who have been bullied the way she was.

who made me feel so awful in sixth grade. To this day, they are shadows over my self-esteem. Of course, there came a time where I learned to stand up for myself and with support from parents and real friends, removed the toxic influences from my life. The entire experience was one of the most

conversation you have. Be honest with friends about how they are influencing others and ask them to tell you the same. Shadows can be destroyed by emitting light on a situation, but for many who are not honest and aware, there are still too many candles that will keep burning out.

University Clubs Embrace the Social Media Trend

WESLEY BROOKS
STAFF WRITER

In an ever-changing world of technology, websites such as Facebook and Twitter are becoming a popular medium for campus clubs and groups to communicate with each other. This is often done to remind members of monthly meetings and keep them updated on happenings in between them.

Freshman Sam Tok, feels that social media is very helpful in communicating an event. “Facebook groups for clubs are a great way for members to keep in touch and post happenings in the club.”

Clubs such as Residence Hall Association (RHA) set up a page on Facebook at the beginning of each semester and add members from the first interest meeting as well as new ones to the group.

Sophomore Kelly Schulhafer, is in the intramural softball club and feels that the page they currently have is a good idea. “The page is only open to club members and is a great way for people to stay connected with the group. If the page were left open to the public, it would not be as useful because people can access it randomly and request friends just by looking.”

Some clubs are not currently active on social media and are looking for new members. Junior Deanna Puglio feels that this

would help gain new members. “I would like to see more members in the psychology club and I feel a social media page would do just that. If the page was created it could be open to all of MU and not just the club to get an idea who is interested.”

Even faculty feel that social

media is a plus when it comes to ensuring that everyone is on the same page. Golam Mathbor, Associate Dean of the School of Humanities and Social Sciences and advisor of Phi Eta Sigma, the freshman honor society is very enthusiastic about this when it comes to clubs. “Social media

sites are very beneficial for clubs as they ensure that members are on the same page when it comes to questions or agenda for the next meeting.”

This past fall, RHA sponsored its annual “Battle of the Buildings” for all resident students. Each paper flyer, email or poster made for

the event had a special hash tag (#) code that students were able to use to share pictures or memories from the event. With this rise in social media trends in events like this one, people must be aware of the precautions that must also be taken when uploading pictures or using the site to communicate meeting information.

Mathbor also said, “People can get very abusive with social media sites so precautions must also be taken.” Most clubs that have a page close it to members of the group, which means in order to be a member one must join the club and have an administrator from the group add him or her to the page. This allows postings from the group to be seen only by individuals who are in it thus maintaining privacy; however there are some other groups that are open, meaning anyone can join without requesting.

Sophomore Stephanie Mamo feels there are pros and cons for both. “It is really awesome to see what specific clubs offer without being a member, but I also like my privacy when people have to request to be in the group.”

Social media sites have a lot of positive results when it comes to their impact on clubs. From gaining new members to keeping the group informed on the latest happenings, they are becoming another tool in the lines of communication.

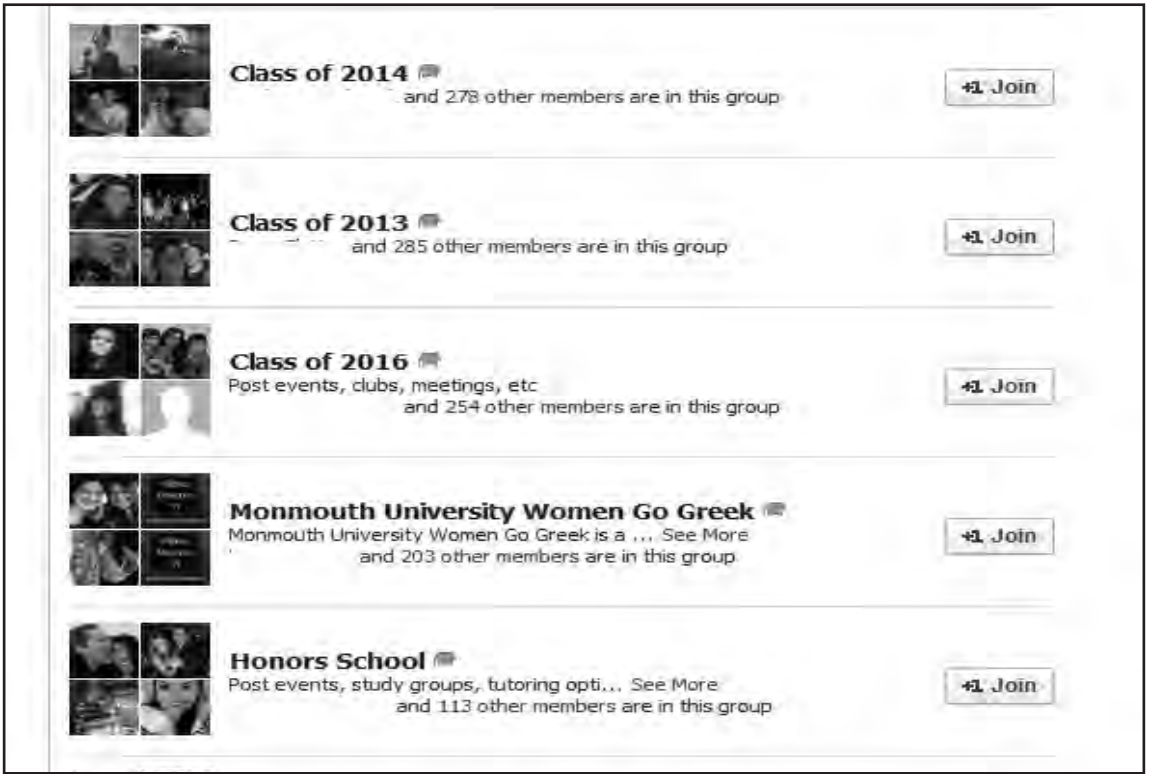


IMAGE ADAPTED from Facebook.com

Many clubs and organizations on campus use social media sites such as Facebook to make announcements and communicate with their members.

The Magical World of John Stessel

Student Excels as an Inventor of New Tricks and Best Selling Products for Magicians

VICTORIA KEENAN
STAFF WRITER

For some people, magic only happens around holidays like Christmas or when they go to places like Disney World for the first time. For sophomore John Stessel, magic is apart of his everyday life.

Magic has always been a passion of Stessel's; not only has it helped him in his social and professional life, it has helped him grow into the person he is today.

"When I was eight my sister Jen, who also goes to Monmouth, bought me my first magic set. It

"I am very proud and am very lucky to be able to invent my own magic tricks, and it has taken me to a lot of places and has made me the man I am today."

JOHN STESEL
Sophomore

had a couple of corny things and one card trick. Once I learned the card trick, I was hooked, it became an addiction. And once I learned sleight of hand with a pack of cards the rest was history," said Stessel.

Stessel explained that his

friends have always been very supportive and are the reason why he can perform the way he does today. "Growing up I played ice hockey for various teams and as one could imagine, young hockey players are the worst audience ever. Yet through the struggle of performing for them it made me who I am today." He said that he gives huge credit to his friends and his peers for the assistance in building his skills.

While Stessel continued to practice magic, the tricks he wanted to accomplish became harder and harder. "My desire to do more impossible tricks grew, and this desire was never met by anything I could purchase, so at the age of 13 I began inventing and developing my own tricks," he said. "Originally, nothing was very worthwhile but as my creativity grew so did my talent at creating. At the age of 15, I was able to partner with two companies, Vanishing Inc. and The Blue Crown, to put out my acclaimed first effect flush linking rubber bands. It became a worldwide best seller!" Flush linking rubber bands are bands that link together seamlessly without breaking the elastic.

"From there I have produced several other inventions which now totals five professional products, two of which are best sellers! I am very proud and am very lucky to be able to invent my own magic tricks, and it has taken me to a lot of places and has made me the man I am today," Stessel added.

Junior Gino Lombardi, Stessel's fraternity brother, said, "I think it's incredible how he uses his creativity to enhance his talent and how successful he has been in the creation



IMAGE TAKEN from youtube.com

Sophomore John Stessel (left) demonstrates one of his magic products used in a trick called infiltration in which two solid objects are able to intersect with one another without breaking their form.

and distribution of his original tricks."

Stessel explained that as his love for magic grows, he becomes more interested in creating tricks rather than performing them. As a college student, he tries to steer clear of performing to "keep away from the stereotypical ideology of a magician."

"I try to keep magic more to myself, but last semester I did a

performance to aid the Haiti and Guatemala trip. The show was my first stage show and I had a great time doing it, but I will probably never do another stage show again. It was very stressful."

Stessel added, "Last semester I also continued to make magic products and have five or so that are almost ready to be released. But while at school, academics

are my first priority and last semester I achieved my true goal while being here, which was receiving a 4.0. So as for magic at Monmouth, it's more of an afterthought than a priority."

On his final thoughts about his passion Stessel said, "Mundus vult decipi, ergo decipiat. Translation from Latin, meaning, 'The world invited deception, so let it be deceived.'"

A Surprising New Method for Creating Stem Cells

MOMNA AYUB
STAFF WRITER

Fascinating and extensive research in Japan has developed an innovative way to create working stem cells by treating blood cells in an acid bath. This discovery holds much promise and could potentially revolutionize numerous health fields as well as illuminate the advent of personalized medicine.

While normal body cells have specific functions in specific areas such as liver cells, cardiac cells, or muscle cells, stem cells are unique in that they are able to become any other type of cell. Such transformations would allow for successful life-saving regeneration treatments in which patients can fix damaged areas of their bodies using their very own transformed blood cells.

Previous stem cell research has

already been applied in allowing for surgical regeneration and healing parts of the eye, heart and brain. It would truly be a miracle to have access to this revolutionary form of healing for such essential organs such as these.

Dr. Dorothy Lobo, biology professor, said, "In recent years, many labs have been working to try to figure out how to 'induce' normal cells to convert them into stem cells (these are induced pluripotent stem cells)

– this has been a challenge. Trying to find the right combination of cell types, environmental conditions, and signaling molecules needed has been complex."

Considering the intricacies of bodily function especially at the cellular level, this discovery comes as a shock even to Dr. Haruko Obokata, a developmental biologist who worked on this research project who said that she was "really surprised that cells would respond to their environment in this way."

The physical procedure involves the shocking of blood cells to an acidic environment that, in turn, propels their transformation into usable stem cells. Such a treatment would allow long and expensive regenerative surgeries such as those for macular degeneration, an age related illness causing sight loss- to be reduced immensely in both time and cost.

Lobo said, "With this breakthrough, a simple treatment can cause isolated cells to become pluripotent. It has a lot of promise. The two major benefits are that it may allow for easier treatment if a patient's own cells can be used, preventing the immune rejection that would accompany using stem cells from another source. Also, it removes the ethical dilemma of using embryos to derive stem cells. For these reasons, this is really important work."

This research has been tested on mice and showed positive results. Continued efforts would allow for the possibility of future generations having access to a form of personal-

ized medicine. This would involve individual patients being able to have treatment specific to each one of their health requirements and it would also eliminate complications often faced by transplant patients whose bodies sometimes reject or have difficulty accepting cells from outside sources.

The question still remains, as of now, how quickly researchers will be able to perfect a form of this method that will be applicable to human patients. Sophomore health studies major Rehvin Hao pointed out, "While discoveries such as these are extremely significant, they are not indicative of assured success. However, mice and humans are not so different in a genetic sense and because this research is based as such, it holds a lot of potential and it will be exciting to hear what happens next."

Freshman business major Zareen Shueib agreed and said, "Discoveries like these are always fascinating to hear about especially because they could possibly change lives. It's also amazing what we are capable of doing when we put our minds to it."

This extensive research has been ongoing for years and hopefully in the coming years, it will only advance in becoming more efficient and accessible to human patients who could greatly benefit from it. In the meantime, we will continue to be awed by the nature of our cells and the truly unexpected ways in which our bodies allow us to heal.



IMAGE TAKEN from bbc.co.uk

By soaking blood cells in an acid bath, scientists are coming close to a breakthrough in stem cell research.

Say What? The Evolution of Internet Slang

WESLEY BROOKS
STAFF WRITER

In recent years, slang terms that were once considered unacceptable have made their way into everyday vocabulary. Words and phrases like “googling” something are heard commonly everyday both in and out of the classroom.

Leah Schweitzer, a junior social work major, feels that this

“What was once considered not acceptable just a mere 10 years ago has now become almost embedded in everyday language.”

LEAH SCHWEITZER
Junior

is because people are on these resources daily so they have become a regular way of life. She said, “Students almost always ‘google’ something for fun and I have even heard my professors use this term quite often.” What was once considered not acceptable just a mere 10 years ago has now become almost embedded in everyday language.” Some other students, however, still see significant gaps when it comes to where people are from in the US. Caden McMillan, a junior social work major, said that she sees dramatic differences when it comes to

what is considered acceptable in one region versus another. “My family is from the south and says ‘y’all’ but I grew up here in New Jersey and say ‘you guys.’ In the south, ‘you guys’ is considered to be not accepted and y’all is viewed to be the correct way to speak,” she said. McMillan added, “Despite this, I feel people are eager to learn about the diverse cultures that there are on our campus.”

A student who wishes to remain anonymous said that the phrase “Yo what up” is very popular among college students today than it has been in the past. The student said, “It is an easy way to get one’s attention and very common of students to use.”

The term to “tweet” someone refers to “talking” to a person or organization through social media to get quick and important updates.

“I remember just last week when everyone was tweeting about whether or not they had class during the snowstorm. I don’t feel the word is slang anymore because of how often it is used,” said junior communication major Anna Mikalauskas.

The phrase “tweet” is becoming so widely used that it has made its way to being in professional flyers for campus and other major up-coming events. The same goes for symbols such as the Instagram hashtag symbol and code.

A slang term that has become nonexistent in the last five years would be to “instant message” or AOL Instant Message (AIM) someone. Rob Rubin, a junior, believes this is as recent as in the past few years. “Five or six years ago, I [was

always on] AIM, but now other sites are taking over that capability and the phrase has been removed from slang entirely to where it is not used anymore.”

This slang phrase has died out almost completely in the English language as a result of new technology. Eileen Jones, professor of foreign languages agrees that slang terms regarding use of technology such as the internet are now part of our everyday vocabulary. “When my kids were in

school and I started here on campus, the most slang you would hear is a person ‘IM-ing’ someone, now I even tell students and other people in my department alike to google something if they do not know the answer to a question or where to find information.”

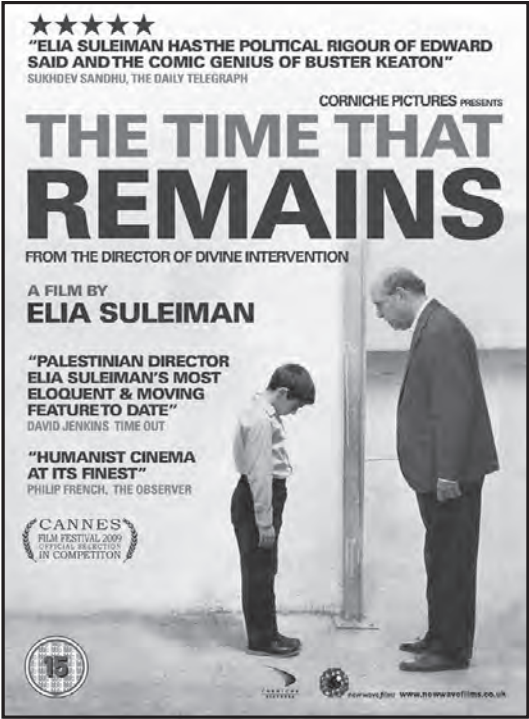
It is even more prevalent to hear popular social media site names being used as parts of speech now than even a mere 10 years ago. Freshman Annie Sie-

gel hears this almost all the time across campus. “I hear people using social media [terms] as verbs, like I tweeted her or I’ll Instagram it or we Snapchatted, etc.” This has evolved overtime since the creation of sites such as Twitter or Snapchat, which have become popular only in the last few years. This could very well be due to the ever rapid increase of technology and the simple ways of being able to communicate as a result of it.



IMAGE TAKEN from blogsolute.com

Social media have coined terms such as Googling, tweeting and Instagraming, making them widespread on the Internet as well as in real conversation.



The Provost’s Film Series for 2013-2014 will focus on
“Fateful Choices: Power and Identity in the Promised Land”
The films to be shown will explore the critical decisions people make where power and identity often collide on a daily basis. Family ties, ethnic heritage, gender, religious teachings, and historical experience—all converge to make life challenging, sometimes tragic, but always unpredictable.
Host: Thomas S. Pearson, Provost / Vice President for Academic Affairs
“The Time That Remains” (2009) NR • Tuesday, February 18, 2014 at 7:30 p.m.
Monmouth University • Pollak Theatre
A humorous heartbreaking film that depicts the life of Palestinian Arabs living as a minority in Israel.
Plot summary is based on the IMDb website
Free of charge and open to the Monmouth University community and the general public.
Organized by the Provost’s Office and the Office for Global Initiatives.

MONMOUTH
UNIVERSITY

WHERE LEADERS LOOK *forward*

ADVANCED SUMMER REGISTRATION BEGINNING MARCH 10, 2014

Continuing students in good academic standing are invited to register **EARLY** for all the Summer 2014 sessions.

The WEBadvisor online listing of SUMMER COURSES will be available 2/10/2014.

Students will be able to self-register using the WEBregistration component of WEBadvisor.

Students who have not yet obtained advisor approval will need to register in-person at the Registrar’s Office.

Full details are listed in the information and instructions e-mailed to your MU e-mail account.

WEBadvisor Screens for Registration:

- Course Schedule Information
- WEBregistration Approvals / Blocks
- Course Prerequisite Worksheet
- Search and Select Courses
- Register for Previously Selected Courses (Worksheet 2)
- Remove from Waitlist

Questions ... Contact
registrar@monmouth.edu
askanadvisor@monmouth.edu



ONE-CLICK ACCESS



to email, eCampus and WebAdvisor!
Links to forms, policies and systems in
one place for easy access!

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UNDERGRADUATES: We need your help!



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experience and
be entered to
win one of ten
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<https://survey.review.com/ss>

The “Students Say” profiles created by The Princeton Review will be based on survey responses from students like yourself!

You must use your Monmouth e-mail address when you log in.



The Princeton Review takes your privacy seriously. Personal information will not be shared with any third party unless you give permission. The full privacy policy can be accessed from the student survey login page.

University Professor Named New President of PRSA NJ

BRIANNA MCCABE
CLUB & GREEK EDITOR

Specialist professor of communication Kristine Simoes was inducted as the new President of the Public Relations Society of America (PRSA) NJ chapter at PRSA NJ's 2014 Kick-Off Meeting on Thursday, Jan. 30 in Tinton Falls, NJ.

As defined by PRSA.org, "PRSA is a community of more than 21,000 public relations and communications professionals across the US, from recent college graduates to the leaders of the world's largest multinational firms." Members represent nearly every practice area and professional setting within the field of public relations.

Simoes initially became affiliated with PRSA NJ ten years ago in an effort to be able to offer more knowledge in the classroom as well as to earn her Accreditation in Public Relations (APR), which is a credential that recognizes public relations practitioners who have mastered the knowledge and skills of the field. The thought of becoming a member of the leadership board didn't cross her mind until she was urged by Sheila McAllister, associate professor of communication and co-advisor of the University's Shadow PR Firm and Public Relations Student Society of America (PRSSA) chapter, who believed the role of Vice President would expand Simoes's knowledge in the field.

According to Simoes, an academic professional has never before led the chapter until her election three years ago. "I would walk up to people like I was running for Congress," she joked. Simoes promised to bring more of a South Jersey presence, an academic presence, and more overall visibility to the chapter.

As Vice President, Simoes assisted PRSA NJ President Jennifer Tornetta in budgeting, programming events, overlooking agenda reports on the committees, and organizing the Pyramid Awards which, according to Simoes, is one of the biggest events that PRSA NJ hosts.

Tornetta said, "Kristine is one of the classiest and most exceptional leaders I have ever had the privilege of knowing. She is a dedicated teacher, she walks the talk, and she comes from the non-profit world which is great perspective for our chapter."

Simoes thanked Tornetta for leading the chapter this past year. "Jennifer is calm, cool, and collective, so basically, the complete opposite of me. If I ever run into a problem, I think to myself, 'WWJD?' or 'What would Jennifer do?'" joked Simoes. "Jennifer is my dear friend and colleague. She is the Kate Middleton to my Fergie."

Chad Dell, Chair of the Communication Department, said, "[Simoes] was nothing short of fabulous: confident, down-to-earth, and completely in charge. She had the room eating out of the palm of her hand."

The newly inducted President then introduced the 2014/2015 leadership board with professionals including President-Elect David Patti of JFK Communications, Vice President Loren Waldren of MWW Group, and Treasurer Joe Gargiulo of Coyne Public Relations.

PRSA NJ currently has approximately 300 members, as stated on PRSANJ.org. Simoes plans to increase membership for the chapter by 5 percent during her term as President. The chapter plans on obtaining this objective through collective programming, PRSSA mentorship, and support of membership.

Simoes said she wants to work more cooperatively with other communication organizations like the Public Relations Counsel of Greater Atlantic City as well as the Jersey Shore Public Relations and Advertising Association (JSPRAA) in order to cultivate more members.

According to Dell, by expanding the presence of PRSA NJ, Simoes "will increase the connection between college students and professionals, which will certainly benefit our students at [the University]."

Thirteen students and members of the University's PRSSA chapter were present, in addition to other



PHOTO TAKEN by Brianna McCabe

Members of the University (from left to right) Kyle McKenna, Lauren Cisneros, Mary Harris, Kristine Simoes, Brianna McCabe, and Laurel Weber attended PRSA NJ's 2014 Kick-Off Meeting.

University faculty and staff that are submersed in the communication program, to congratulate Simoes on her new position. Admission for students was \$10 whereas for both PRSA members and non-members it was \$40.

Victoria Day, a junior public relations student, attended the event and said Simoes is a role model and inspiration to her in her endeavor of becoming a public relations practitioner. "Not only is she a public relations guru, but she teaches in a way that gets her students ready for the real world. She assigns us hands-on projects which we can put into our portfolios for when we go on interviews," she said.

Other students that were present at the ceremony included members of the newly founded Stockton University PRSSA chapter in addition to students of Georgian Court University who are interested in possibly starting a chapter to enhance their classroom experience by gaining leadership opportunities. According to PRSA.org, there are more than 10,000 students that are members of the PRSSA national network of public relations professionals.

"One of the interesting parts of the night was hearing NJ reporter for NBC 4 Brian Thompson speak," said Day.

The approximate 60 people in attendance welcomed award-winning journalist Thompson as the keynote speaker of the evening as he provided a first-hand perspective on making NJ news by addressing the challenges public relations professionals face in the emerging media market.

"I do tweet, but that doesn't mean I'm a twit," laughed Thompson, who prefers Facebook over Twitter. "Twitter has become so overloaded with various people who tweet that you can't keep up with it if you follow it. If you follow hundreds of people on Twitter you have this constant twitter feed and you can spend all day looking at it, but you can't really keep up with it," he said.

Thompson is most known for his 28 straight hour coverage of Superstorm Sandy and his tweet of the infamous picture of the rollercoaster that ended up in the sea that went viral.

During his speech, Thompson acknowledged the number of stu-

dents in attendance and exclaimed that he was impressed. He advised the students that in order to become successful one must become digitally adaptive, develop social media savviness, understand key trends in technology, and welcome knowledge of the world into a daily ritual to stay informed.

Laurel Weber, a junior public relations student and Vice President of PRSSA, said Thompson's speech seemed to engage the audience for most of the hour that he spoke, but other parts seemed lost and less cohesive than she expected. "His thoughts seemed jumbled and he jumped from topic to topic without taking a breath," she said.

Simoes said in the future she wants to keep the keynote speech to more of a PRSA NJ focus in order to give an overview of the chapter and showcase the advantages of being involved.

Day believes Simoes will flourish as President of PRSA NJ because of her hard work and dedication to the field. She said, "Professor Simoes is passionate about what she does and that is evident through her teaching. She is more than fitting of this position."

Now Stop ... Zumba Time!

5,6,7,8 Club Hosted Zumbathon to Promote Wellness and Fitness Amongst Students

TAYLOR COPP
STAFF WRITER

The 5,6,7,8 Club hosted a two hour long Zumbathon event to raise money for their annual recital while promoting health and fitness during the winter months in Anacon Hall on Friday, Feb. 7 from 6 – 8 pm.

President of the 5,6,7,8 Club Sarah Van Vliet felt that hosting an event featuring Zumba would be a great way to promote the increasingly popular exercise. "Zumba is working out while dancing and our club is a dance club. Since Zumba is such a big craze we thought it would be a good idea," said Van Vliet.

5,6,7,8's Zumbathon event was open to both men and women. The club charged each person \$3 in order to participate in the event and raised a total of over \$35. The proceeds will be used to alleviate the costs for costumes and other expenses for the club's annual recital that will be held later in the year.

Conducting the Zumbathon event were instructors Alaina Serenelli, a member of the 5,6,7,8 Club, and Isabel Marmolejo, the club co-advisor.

Marmolejo, a Spanish Professor in the Department of Foreign Language Studies, offered Zumba

Fitness classes at the University from 2009 to 2012. "Zumba was a life saver for me!" exclaimed Marmolejo, who has been practicing Zumba since 2007. "When I moved from Ecuador to the United States in 2007, Zumba was the perfect way to beat homesickness."

Marmolejo also uses Zumba as a way to make new friends, and have fun while working out. She

one is really interested in getting healthy and fit." The senior jokingly continued, "Half the time you don't realize how much of a work out you're getting, but you definitely feel it the next day."

Zumba offers a wide variety of benefits that are hard to find with traditional methods of exercise. According to WeightWatchers.com, "Researchers determined that Zumba is an effective inter-

"I think Zumba is as popular as it is because everyone is really interested in getting healthy and fit... Half the time you don't realize how much of a work out you're getting, but you definitely feel it the next day."

KIRSTEN WEBB
Senior

said, "In our spare time, my husband, Christopher Hirschler, who is also a professor at the University, and I would practice the recently learned moves in our living room. Sometimes we'll have some fun leading a Zumba choreo (dance) at weddings, birthdays, and even graduation parties."

Secretary of 5,6,7,8 Club Kirsten Webb said, "I think Zumba is as popular as it is because every-

val-style, total-body workout with built in variety because every class and every instructor is slightly different."

"If we look at the heart-rate monitor strips during the Zumba session, it kind of looks like an interval workout, going back and forth between high intensity and low intensity," as stated on WeightWatchers.com by lead researcher Mary Luetgen, M.S.

"Because of that, with Zumba you burn a lot of extra calories compared to a steady-state exercise like jogging."

According to Zumba.com, Zumba was "accidentally" discovered in the 1990's by Colombian dancer and instructor Alberto "Beto" Perez. Perez forgot his tape of aerobics music for a class he was teaching, so he improvised a class using non-tra-

ditional aerobics music, such as merengue and salsa. After Zumba's original success in Colombia, the exercise was introduced to the US in 2001. A Zumba class now uses elements of hip-hop and martial arts in addition to merengue and salsa, according to the site.

Zumba Fitness is a global lifestyle brand that fuses fitness, entertainment and culture into an ex-

hilarating dance-fitness sensation. As stated on Zumba.com, over 14 million people are enrolled in Zumba classes all over the world, and it is also possible to burn hundreds of calories per session.

The 5,6,7,8 Club put together a public relations team in order to advertise the event. Club members organized the hanging of flyers, Facebook posting and mass e-mail sent to all University students, employees and faculty.

Van Vliet said that although the turnout was not as large as the club projected, the club will be hosting bake sales to raise additional funds to go towards the club's recital. "For the recital, we have been working with the Boys and Girls Club of Asbury Park. We go there once a week to teach [the children] a routine and the children will also be performing in our recital."

Webb urges students to become involved with the 5,6,7,8 Club. She said, "The best time to join is during the fall semester or the very beginning of the spring semester because around this time we've already started choreographing dances for the show."

Marmolejo said, "I recommend doing Zumba everyday of your life. There is even an app, so you have no excuses."

Gender Studies Student Group Wants to Reactivate on Campus

BRIANNA MCCABE
CLUB & GREEK EDITOR

Over 50 students are coming together in an effort to reactivate the Gender Studies Student Club that seems to have lost membership over the years due to diminishing student participation.

Director of the Gender Studies Program Johanna Foster said, “Gender shapes every area of social life, often unfairly. This injustice applies not just to women, but to different groups of men and members of the lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender (LGBT) community as well.”

Foster reactivated the Gender Studies Student Club approximately 10 years ago, when, according to her, the idea emerged out of a section of an Introduction to Gender Studies course that was offered at the University. She said during the first year of its existence the group was named the “Best New Student Club” by the Student Government Association (SGA).

During the years it had a renewed presence at the University,

discuss reactivation and receive the necessary signatures to re-establish the club.

Taylor believes that gender is central to our lives. He said, “[Gender] is a powerful force that people underestimate, and I don’t think people truly understand what it is. Students can really become more whole of a person by understanding how gender functions in their lives and in other people’s lives.”

Foster said, “Even if students don’t necessarily have the flexibility in their schedules to declare a minor in Gender Studies, it doesn’t mean they can’t be involved in gender justice on campus. Part of the mission of Gender Studies is to study gender critically so that we can have the tools to transform gendered relationships and institutions.” She added there are approximately 30 students with a declared minor in Gender Studies, but the student group, if approved by SGA, will be open to all students with different academic focuses.

According to SGA Chief Justice Michael Migliaro, the first step to becoming an active group at the

“[Gender] is a powerful force that people underestimate, and I don’t think people truly understand what it is. Students can really become more whole of a person by understanding how gender functions in their lives and in other people’s lives.”

CLAUDE TAYLOR
Co-Advisor of the Gender Studies Student Club

the group organized and supported events around of range of gender justice issues including gender violence awareness like The Clothesline Project and The Vagina Monologues, Breast Cancer Awareness, transgender rights awareness, support for women ex-offender organizations, and student participation in Women’s History Month programming. “I plan to encourage feminist student engagement and restore the status that it once was in the past,” said Foster.

According to Claude Taylor, co-advisor of the Gender Studies Student Club and member of the faculty in the Department of Communication, the Gender Studies Student Group started to weaken around 2007 and 2008 and then completely diminished from campus around 2010. The group, however, still had a budget up until two years ago.

“This is the chance once again for students to help create a student culture at the University where gender issues are given a strong voice,” added Foster. Interest meetings were held on Friday, Jan. 31 and Wednesday, Feb. 5 in Bey Hall to

Univeristy is to fill out a preliminary club verification form which asks group members to provide a brief synopsis of the purpose of the club and offer additional details that one believes should be made aware to SGA. Clubs are then asked to meet with the Director of Student Activities and Student Center Operations Amy Bellina to discuss the club’s goals and operations.

“I approve or deny the club based on whether SGA believes that this organization will benefit the campus or not,” said Migliario. In the case of approval, the organization then must create a constitution and a roster.

Nichole Smith, a junior sociology major, plans to increase awareness of the Gender Studies Student Group, if approved, through emails, flyers and social media. She said, “[I hope I] can gather the interest of non-members, so [that] we do not have a repeat of it losing our recognition.”

Jessica Ketch, a junior sociology and psychology major, is actively involved in the strides being made to reactive the Gender Studies Student Group. She said, “I feel like a

lot of people don’t realize that we create gender and it is who you want to portray yourself as. Sex and gender are two completely different things, and I hope to make this message more widely spread on campus.” Thus far, both Ketch and Smith have drafted the constitution and updated the roster.

Taylor and Foster are in agreement that the students that have attended the interest meetings are not predominantly female, and it is encouraging to see such gender diversity. Taylor said, “It is encouraging to see more male students getting involved, especially now that masculinity is very high profile right now. There is a lot of controversy surrounding men and how they are trying to define themselves and make sense of what it means to be a man, a real man, in 2014.”

Taylor continued, “We are hoping to have men come to learn how to redefine masculinity for themselves. Men need to give attention to that because it is not enough to just follow the pattern.”

Foster observed more gender diversity within the interest group

Mic Check 1, 2, 1, 2 Students Perform at Open Mic Night

JACKLYN KOUEFATI
EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

The Student Activities Board (SAB) teamed up with the Music Alliance to present Open Mic Night 2014. The event took place in the Rebecca Stafford Student Center (RSSC) Café on Jan. 31 at 7 pm.

Students were able to sing, read poetry or even perform stand-up comedy. Hot chocolate was also served for anyone attending or involved in the event.

SAB Vice President of Major Events Lucy Russo believes that between 10 - 15 people performed. Students were encouraged to sign up beforehand but walk-ups were also welcome.

President of the Music Alliance Andrew Boxman said he thought the event went well. “We had great involvement from students who came up to perform and a solid crowd that kept the night running smooth. A couple times we had people who had never done anything of the sort before actually [get] up and rocked it. It was nice to see and to be a part of,” he said.

SAB Advisor Megan McGowan said, “I was really happy that SAB was not only doing an open mic event but that they were going to be hosting the event with the Music Alliance. When student groups work on an event as a team it really brings the event to the next level.” McGowan was unable to attend the event but heard positive feedback from fellow peers and SAB members.

Boxman was the host of the event but also rapped several times throughout the night. “I knew I wanted to be a music rapper [or] entertainer ... [at] about the age of 13,” he said. “Writing raps was the most fun I could, and still can, have.”

Boxman also rapped alongside student Daniel McMorris. According to Boxman, the two became friends last year when they lived together in Birch Hall. “Dan used to rap back in high school and when he started hanging around me a lot more, free-styling, writing, etc., he got back into the swing of things and began spitting again,” said Boxman.

Some of the other performers included Rahmann McMillan, Rachael Thalheimer, Joseph Toscano, Emily Rose Tovw and Courtney Davis.

McMillian sang and danced to Michael Jackson’s hit “Rock With You,” while Thalheimer played the guitar and sang two songs, one original song, “Skinny B****es” and one cover of Zac Brown Band’s “Colder Weather.”

Thalheimer, a freshman social work major, said, “I wrote ‘Skinny B****es’ my junior year of high school. Everyone knows those stereotypical high school girls that don’t wear enough clothing for a public school system,” she said. She made the whole audience laugh and cheer with the lyrics of the song.

“I absolutely loved performing at open mic night,” she added. “Once I’m in front of an audience with my guitar in hand, all my worries go away. It’s who I am, I’m a performer.” The freshman said this was the first open mic she has ever performed at the University before, but said that she would definitely perform in an event like this again.

President of SAB Ashley Bamonte said she absolutely loved the event. “Every open mic night that we have, including in the past years, are a huge success. It is a very unique event on campus and allows the students to show their talents and [it is] an opportunity for them to break out of their shell.”

Kylie Johnson, a freshman, attended the Open Mic Night 2014 because of her friends in SAB. “I think it’s creative. It’s a lot of original talent,” she said.

Russo explained that the only thing she would have done differently for the Open Mic Night 2014, would be to double check the schedule to ensure that there is no conflict with other programming. However, she continued to say that she cannot complain about the turnout at all. “I’m really impressed with the turnout and the talent at the event,” she said. “I hope people continue to express themselves at Monmouth and find that SAB always aims to provide that outlet for them through our events.”



PHOTO TAKEN by Jacklyn Kouefati
Rachael Thalheimer (above) was one of the students that performed at the event. She sang two songs while playing her guitar.

CLUB AND GREEK ANNOUNCEMENTS

Pep Band

The Monmouth Pep Band has openings in all sections. If you play a band instrument (especially a brass instrument), we want you! Contact Prof. Jenner at bjenner@monmouth.edu for more info.

Gender Studies Interest Group

The Gender Studies Student Interest Group Meeting for interested executive board members is today from 2:30 - 4 pm in Bey Hall Room 230!

Residence Hall Association

Meetings are every Wednesday at 8 pm in the first floor lounge of Mullaney Hall. Tickets for Winter Ball are on sale now for \$25 each! Check out our Facebook!



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♥ When:

Sunday, February 16, 2014 at 1:00 pm

♥ Where:

Magill Commons Club Dining Room at Monmouth University

♥ What to Bring:

A vegan dish - with an index card that lists the ingredients

All are Welcome: Free Event and Open to The Public

To R.S.V.P

Email Mary Harris

mcharris@monmouth.edu

 Facebook.com/MonmouthAreaVegSociety

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Wed, Feb 19

11:00a - 3:00p

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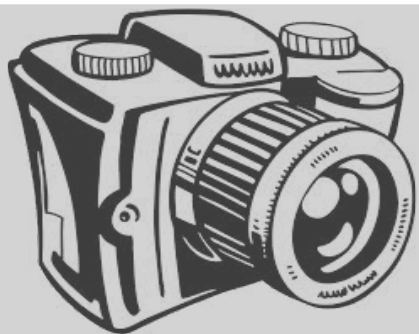
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COMICS

"MISGUIDED UNDERSTANDINGS"
BY ALYSSA GRAY



A SO-YOU-SAY COMIX #36

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Hawks Announce Recruiting Football Class for 2014

ALFRED TILLERSON
STAFF WRITER

On Wednesday, Feb. 5, the University's football team announced their recruiting class for the 2014 season. The class consists of 20 student-athletes from eight states, including the football program's first signee from the state of Florida.

"This is our first recruiting class as a member of the Big South Conference and the quality of the players that make up this class is outstanding," said head coach Kevin Callahan. "Our recruiting philosophy is to work from the inside out and this group contains seven players from NJ including a number of local players. Additionally, joining the Big South has allowed us to extend our geographic footprint from Massachusetts to Florida while continuing to be successful recruiting the players from the Mid-Atlantic region."

Since the Hawks are joining the Big South conference this upcoming fall, Callahan had more bullets to work with this offseason in regards to how many scholarships they could offer. As a former member of the Northeast Conference (NEC), the football programs were only allowed to issue 40-scholarships. With the move to the new conference, the Hawks are able to issue ten additional scholarships, bringing the number from 40 to 50. Fur-

thermore, plans for a \$15-million upgrade to Kessler Field have been planned to increase the program's desirability and creditability. With a new conference, stadium upgrades, and more scholarships to offer, the Hawks can take more approaches to recruiting.

Callahan and the Hawks' coaching staff managed to sign seven players from NJ, four from PA, two from MD, two from VA, one from NY, one from MA, and one from IL while managing to sign two from the state of FL.

While four signees are local products from the Shore Conference, the headliner of the class is Marcus Leslie, a defensive back from Miami's Coral Reef High School. Leslie is the first prep recruit to sign from the state of Florida. He is also Callahan's most ballyhooed recruit since he took over the football program in 1993. Just how big of a get is Leslie? According to *Asbury Park Press* columnist, Josh Newman, Leslie chose to sign with MU over the likes of Appalachian State, Ohio, Florida International, and Ole Miss.

"There's definitely a step up we felt we needed to take as we move forward into a new league and a new level of competition," Callahan said at Monmouth's National Signing Day event in the Multipurpose Activity Center. "With having the ability to play an FBS team within next

two years, we knew we needed to upgrade players in our program and that starts with this class."

Moments after signing his National Letter of Intent at Coral Reef, Leslie told the *Asbury Park Press* why he chose MU. "The environment, the people, the coaching staff, everyone was really tight and they seem like they want a team that has unity all the time. That drew my attention," he said. "Everything really impressed me about Monmouth. I wanted to feel wanted and they really made me feel wanted. I'm extremely excited for this opportunity and this is definitely where I want to spend my four years of college."

"I think Coach Dorsett [the Hawks' RB coach] and I, we built a really good relationship pretty quickly," Leslie said. "He's a real cool guy and when it comes down to it...that's the man I going to go to and he was a very important factor in this decision."

"This year is step one and we're not looking at this as a four-year process, but we're looking at it as 'right now' process," Callahan said. "We're preparing to win right now and we're doing everything in our power right now to do that."

Callahan announced that the Hawks will begin spring practices on Tuesday, March 25 and the Blue/White spring football game is tentatively set for Sat-

urday, April 26.

The Hawks' are scheduled to kick off the 2014 season at Kessler Field against Delaware State on Saturday, August 30. This will be the first time that the Hawks and the Hornets, members of the Mid-Eastern Athletic Conference (MEAC),

will play against each other. MU's debut in the Big South is scheduled for Saturday, October 25 when they travel to Clinton, South Carolina to battle the Presbyterian College Blue Hose.



PHOTO COURTESY of Scott Narder

Marcus Leslie (above front) is MU's number one football pick for the upcoming 2014 and is the first FL signee in program history.

Manning Didn't Have a Chance

ALFRED TILLERSON
STAFF WRITER

In a contest that pitted the NFL's best defense against the best offense in NFL history, defense prevailed as the Seattle Seahawks defeated the Denver Broncos in a rout, 43-8.

Peyton Manning might be the best quarterback in NFL history, but he was no match for the Seahawks' defense in Super Bowl XLVIII. The Broncos' record-setting offense, which generated 606-points and 77-touchdowns during the regular season, was held to merely 306-yards for the contest. That may seem like a good day's work, but they lacked any type of fight against a Seahawks' defense that held its opponents to 14-points per game and forced 39-turnovers during the regular season. In this game, the Seahawks forced 4-turnovers, including three crucial ones in the first half to set the stage.

On the first play of the game, an errant snap sailed by Manning's head and was recovered by Knowshon Moreno in the end zone for a safety, the second time in three years that the Super Bowl started with one. Two series later, with the Broncos in an 8-0 hole after two Steven Hauschka, Manning overthrew Julius Thomas and fell into the lap of Kam Chancellor. The second turnover led to a 1-yard touchdown plunge by Marshawn Lynch, who generated a lot of publicity this week for his reluctance for not wanting to talk to the media.

"Our defense is one of the best that has ever played," Seattle defensive lineman Michael Bennett said. "We just have so many great players. I can't believe the NFL even lets us all play on the same defense. Guys like me, Earl Thomas and Cliff Avril. It's just

unfair."

The next possession did not help any future comeback efforts made by the Broncos. Manning, under duress, was hit in mid-throwing motion and the wild heave was picked off by Malcolm Smith, the game's MVP who also intercepted Colin Kaepernick two weeks ago, and returned 69-yards for the Seahawks' touchdown. Smith was the first defensive player to win it since Tampa Bay's Dexter Jackson in 2003. However, the MVP could have been rewarded to the entire defense for their stellar play from the opening whistle to the Gatorade bath for head coach Pete

"...Peyton is a great quarterback, and they have a great offense, but we felt they hadn't seen a defense with the amount of speed we have."

MALCOLM SMITH
Seattle Seahawks Linebacker

Carroll. On the stat sheet, it says that Manning was sacked once, but what it doesn't show is much heat he was under throughout the game.

"It's unbelievable," Smith said. "No way I thought this could happen, but it feels good. I just feel so fortunate to be a part of this defense. Peyton is a great quarterback, and they have a great offense, but we felt they hadn't seen a defense with the amount of speed we have."

To start the second half, the game was put to rest for good despite the Seahawks leading by three scores at the half. Percy Harvin, who missed most of the season due to surgery, fielded the short kickoff and sprinted by the coverage team for the 87-yard touchdown. Harvin, who was acquired by Seattle via trade from

the Minnesota Vikings, also contributed to the game by accumulating 45-yards on two carries and a reception for 5-yards.

Even though the defense seemed to have stolen the show, the record-setting offense of the Broncos was overshadowed by Seattle's, an offensive unit that ranked 17 in total offense during the regular season. The catalyst for the offensive production was Russell Wilson, the second-year signal-caller from the University of Wisconsin. Wilson went 18-for-25 for 206-yards while throwing 2-touchdowns. He also contributed on the ground by rushing for 26-yards on 3-car-

to refuse to let anyone else around him allow that to happen," Bevell said. "So he's always going to be grabbing guys and making them watch a little more film, make them work a little bit more on this play or that play. A lot of the things that you would say about Peyton Manning, he has a lot of those qualities."

Heading into the game, all eyes were not on Wilson, but were instead on his teammate, Richard Sherman. A lot was made of Sherman's controversial comments following the NFC Championship Game, but he made news earlier in the week for an article that he contributed to in October. Sherman, a Stanford graduate with a degree in communication, wrote an article for *Sports Illustrated* ranking his top-five quarterbacks in the NFL and gave reasoning. Even though he rated Manning as the top quarterback in the NFL, he took a shot at him by saying that 'he throws ducks,' wobbling and imperfect throws for a quarterback. In the contest, Manning never really tried targeting Sherman. Sherman compiled 3-tackles and deflected the one pass thrown his way.

The youngest team in the NFL managed to win the first Super Bowl in their franchise's history and won by slowing down the league's best offense. Like I said, defense wins championships. In the last three meetings when the top offense played against the top defense in the Super Bowl, the defense prevailed. This was no different. Seattle's defense was impenetrable and ferocious for much of the season. Now that the Vince Lombardi Trophy is going to the Emerald City and this team has achieved what many great teams have not done, the question has become where do we rate this defense in the list of the greatest of all-time?

MU's New Stadium

MAGGIE ZELINKA
SPORTS EDITOR

The University recently announced they will be constructing a new home for Monmouth's football team, men's and women's lacrosse team, and men's and women's track and field teams.

The tentative name of the project is 'Monmouth Stadium.' The Stadium will include new chair-back seating, a high-tech multimedia center, ticket sales windows along with customer service windows, concession stands with a large variety, and permanent restrooms. The stadium will be able to sit 4,000 fans comfortably.

Season ticket holders will have seats on the second floor of the new Monmouth Stadium. Their floor will include concessions stands, merchandise stands and a 50-yard line view of the field.

With the new multimedia center, MU fans will be able to access more games on HawkVision. The new technology will also bring a higher quality to the broadcast.

Monmouth Stadium will allegedly will take six months to build. Construction has yet to begin as the University is waiting on approvals from the local zoning board. Furthermore, the University has not raised enough money to begin the building process.

The project will cost \$15 million and has been made possible through the donations of MU Athletics' supporters.

If interested in contributing to the project or the stadium's naming rights, contact Jon Roos at 732-263-5189 or jroos@monmouth.edu.

Men’s Basketball in Mid-Season Slump

KYLE WALTER
ASSISTANT SPORTS EDITOR

Men’s basketball continued to struggle this past weekend as the team fell twice to the Fairfield University Stags and St. Peter’s University Peacocks respectively. With the losses the blue and white now find themselves in the midst of a five game losing streak, and are currently ninth overall in the MAAC with a 4-10 conference record. MU posts a 10-15 overall record on the season.

While the Hawks have been exciting to watch, and shown flashes of greatness this season, their youth has been evident as they continue to have a hard time winning away from home. MU now has a 1-7 road record in MAAC conference play and a 3-9 road record overall.

The Hawks first fell to Fairfield 60-56 on Friday, February 7th in a tight knit, low-scoring contest. Junior guards Andrew Nicholas and Deon Jones were the only two Hawk players to score double digit points on the night. Nicholas was the game’s high scorer with 16 points on 6-16 shooting from the field, and also hit two three point shots, while Jones shot 4-12 overall which was good for ten points. Sophomore forward Tyrone O’Garro continued to rebound the ball well, and led the team with 11 boards.

MU started off the game on the right foot when they jumped out to an early 10-2 lead with Nicholas and, freshman guard, Josh James combining for all ten points. The blue and white maintained a steady lead throughout much of the first half, and led by six points with 6:17 remaining. However, the final five minutes of the half saw the Stags gain some momentum and, with just under three minutes left, a pair of Marcus Gilbert free-throws gave

Fairfield its first lead of the game at 23-22.

Fairfield didn’t hold the lead for long, however. Just over a minute later, freshman center, Zac Tillman hit two free throws of his own to help MU retake the lead. A three from freshmen Justin Robinson extended the Hawks lead, but a last minute layup from K.J. Rose sent both teams to the locker room with the Hawks holding a slim 28-27 advantage.

After the Stags tied the score at 29 early in the second, a Nicholas three and Jones layup put the Hawks back on top 34-29 with a little less than four minutes gone in the half.

Fairfield, however, was able to quickly respond to MU’s short burst, and, over the next eight minutes of action, took control of the game. Behind strong play from Rose and Gilbert FU went on a 20-6 run that gave the Stags their largest lead of the night, 49-40, with 8:40 to go in the contest.

Despite the deficit the Hawks did not give in as they answered with a 12-0 run of their own, highlighted by the play of Nicholas and Jones, to put MU in front 52-49 with only five minutes remaining in the game.

Unfortunately, for the Hawks, four consecutive points from Rose put FU back in front 53-52 at the four minute mark. Tight defense and clutch free throws kept the Stags in front for good as they sealed the victory.

“This was a tough night for us,” said Head Coach King Rice after the game. “Fairfield made more plays than us down the stretch to get the win.”

The Hawks had a tough shooting night overall as they went 19-55 (34.5%) from the field and only made three shots from beyond the arc. Fairfield shot only slightly better going 21-53 from the field (39.6%) while hitting

five three point shots.

Fairfield is now 5-19 on the year, and is last in the MAAC with a 2-11 conference record.

The blue and white were unable to bounce back when they travelled to St. Peter’s for their second game of the weekend on Sunday, February 9th. It was a tale of two halves as the Hawks surrendered a 14 point halftime lead and fell to the Peacocks 61-50.

Nicholas and Jones were, again, the only two Hawks to score in double figures with Nicholas leading the team with 16 and Jones chipping in with 15 of his own. The duo also led the team in rebounding with Jones recording a team high nine boards while Nicholas grabbed seven. Marvin Dominique had a game high 20 points for the Peacocks while teammate Desi Washington added 17.

MU fell behind early when Washington scored the first points of the night on a three point shot as part of a St. Peter’s run to give them a 10-4 lead four minutes into the contest. It was all Hawks for the remaining 16 minutes as MU outscored SPU 26-6 the rest of the half.

Jones scored nine of his points during the stretch while Nicholas put in seven to combine for 16 of the teams 26 points. Freshman center Chris Brady also chipped in with three of his four points on the night.

As the second half began St. Peter’s wasted no time in seizing the momentum. Washington again opened up the scoring by hitting his second three, and first of four consecutive Peacock threes, of the night which kick started a 21-7 Peacock run, over a span of 12 minutes, to tie the game at 37.

Both teams traded baskets the next several minutes, and an O’Garro lay-in off of an assist by freshman guard Josh James put the

Hawks in front 45-43 with only 4:26 left to go in the game. This would be the last time MU would lead on the night. Just twenty seconds later a three from Dominique put St. Peter’s ahead by one, a lead they never relinquished.

St. Peter’s wouldn’t allow a late comeback bid by the Hawks as they hit 7-8 free-throws with a minute remaining to ice the game. Including the Dominique three that put them ahead, the Peacocks outscored MU 18-5 the final four and half minutes of the contest.

The Hawks shooting was again their downfall as they went only 18-61 (29.5%) total and 1-14 (7.1%) from three on the night compared to 41.2% total shooting and 31.6% beyond the arc from the Peacocks. MU did shoot well from the free throw line going 13-18 (76.5%), and also out-rebound SPU 44-35 for the game.

With the win St. Peter’s now posts a 9-14 overall record, and, sitting at eighth, is one spot ahead of MU in the MAAC with a 5-9 conference record.

With only six regular season games remaining the Hawks will

look to finish strong in order to improve their seed in the upcoming MAAC Championship Tournament.

Fortunately for MU, the team plays four of their final six regular season games at home. The blue and white have fared much better in the friendly confines of the MAC, posting a 7-5 overall record including a 3-3 record in conference games.

However, the Hawks will first travel to New Rochelle, New York for a clash with Iona on Friday, February 14.

MU won’t be showing the Gaels any love this Valentine’s Day as the team looks to avenge the 79-61 loss Iona handed them on February 4 when the two teams met in the MAC.

It is sure to be a tough test for the blue and white as the Gaels currently sit atop the MAAC standings with a 12-2 conference mark and 15-8 overall record on the season. Their two conference losses have come against Canisius and Quinnipiac who are third and fourth in the MAAC standings respectively. Tip-off is set for 7 pm.



PHOTO COURTESY of Jim Reme

Andrew Nicholas (above) led the Hawks with an average of 16 points per game this past weekend on 35.5% shooting from the field.

Hawks Lose Lead Late to Quinnipiac

EDDIE ALLEGRETTO
STAFF WRITER

The Women’s Basketball team led Quinnipiac on Friday night for most of first 32 minutes of the game. However, the Bobcats fired past the blue white by outscoring them 25-5 in the last eight minutes of the game to beat the Hawks by final score of 83-67.

With the loss, MU fell to 6-19 overall, with a 5-9 MAAC record, while Quinnipiac improved to 14-9 on the season, including a 9-4 record in the MAAC.

Senior forward Chevannah Paalvast led the way for the Hawks, as she tied her season high 23 points. Freshman guard Mia Hopkins contributed nine points and five rebounds, while junior forward Sara English had six points, and a game-high 11 rebounds.

Samantha Guastella led the Bobcats with a game-high 24 points, while Jasmine Martin scored 16 points. Brittany McQuain chipped in with a double-double of 15 points and 10 rebounds, and Gillian Abshire dished out a game-high 10 assists.

The game began with the Bobcats jumping ahead 6-0 after hitting back to back three’s. However, the blue and white scored the next seven points, five of them coming from Paalvast, take the lead. After a Quinnipiac basket kept the

game within a point at 17-16 the Hawks went on a 7-0 run to extend their lead to eight points with 9:31 remaining in the first half.

The Bobcats slowly decreased MU’s lead to go into halftime tied at 35 a piece off of a three-pointer from Adily Martucci from the corner with 29 seconds left.

The Hawks began the second half scoring eight of the first ten

points to retake the lead 43-37. The lead stayed steady at six up until the 15:05 mark when the Bobcats began to cut into it.

Quinnipiac took its first lead of the game since the five minute mark when Abshire hit a three with 11:52 remaining. The Hawks regained the lead when Paalvast converted a three-point lay in with 10:20 left to play.

But the Bobcats battled right back, and retook the lead on

Guastella’s three-pointer at the 7:50 mark and they would not trail again. That basket sparked a 14-2 run, right before the Hawks brought it back to within seven. The 25-5 run at the end of the game sealed it for Quinnipiac.

“I was really happy with our first half. I was not happy at all with the second half,” said Monmouth Head Coach Jenny Palmateer. “There were times

when we were just really disorganized and very undisciplined on both ends of the floor. We really weren’t communicating with each other on the defensive end and doing random things on the offensive end at critical times. That definitely wasn’t our best basketball in the second half. We’re a team that has to be a whole lot more disciplined on both ends of the floor if we’re going to win games.”

The blue and white outshot the Bobcats, 42.6 percent (29-68) to 40.3 percent (27-67) from the floor. MU also out-rebounded Quinnipiac, 44-37. The Bobcats held an edge of 35.3 percent (12-34) to 27.3 percent (3-11) edge from beyond the arc. Quinnipiac also had an advantage of 89.5 percent (17-19) to 60.0 percent (6-10) from the free-throw line. The Bobcats turned 16 Monmouth turnovers into a 17-6 edge in points off turnovers. Quinnipiac committed eight turnovers on the night.

The Hawks face a tough challenge when they return to action on Friday, Feb. 14, as they travel to Iona to take on the Gaels. Iona only has three losses the entire season (20-3) and has just one loss in MAAC conference play (13-1). In addition, the Gaels have lost just once at home, and are yet to lose to a MAAC opponent on their home court. The game is scheduled for 4:30pm, and is the first in a men’s and women’s double header between the two schools.



PHOTO COURTESY of Scott Narder

Chevannah Paalvast (above) tied her season high with 23 points despite the teams loss to Quinnipiac. Paalvast is the Hawks leading scorer on the season with an average of 13.4 points per game.

Pugliese Serves as MU's Tennis Addition

MAGGIE ZELINKA
SPORTS EDITOR

For many high school graduates, college means going a little further away from home. For Victor Pugliese, college meant going 5,681 miles away from home.

"I came to America to study, to learn English, and to play tennis," Pugliese said.

Originally from Paris, France, Pugliese began his journey as a tennis player thanks to a close family member. "What got me into tennis? My uncle, he was very good," the Monmouth Hawk said.

Now a junior studying finance and business at Monmouth University, Pugliese initially began his college career in San Diego.

"I wanted to go to California," he explained. During his time in San Diego, Pugliese faced high levels of competition including UCLA, USC, Alabama and Malibu.

While he felt comfortable on the tennis courts, Pugliese loved California for the climate as well. "In France, the coldest it gets is 35 degrees, 40 degrees. We play indoors [in NJ], but it's still pretty hard adjusting," he said.

Pugliese would have liked to remain in California, but was forced to leave due to conflicts with coaching. Due to tennis regulations, he could not transfer into a university that plays in the same conference as San Diego leaving many top Californian tennis schools out of the equation.

Pugliese said that MU's head tennis coach, Cory Hubbard, had contacted him through a mutual friend; one of Pugliese's ex-teammates from San Diego who now plays at Fordham University in NY. Having coached at Fordham, Hubbard heard of Pugliese's story.

"Victor was thinking of transferring schools so I brought him



PHOTO COURTESY of Jim Remei

Victor Pugliese (above) plays tennis at the University along with studying finance and business.

in during the summer. He wanted to play number one for a school," Hubbard said. "He played for a top 20 program at San Diego. With our young team, he provides that experience and leadership."

While Pugliese brings a level of high competition to MU, he officially became a Hawk in July giving him little time to prepare for the upcoming fall season.

"[The hardest match was] the first tournament because I hadn't practiced the whole summer so that was difficult. I couldn't really practice because I was still looking for a school," Pugliese said.

Although he did not have much time to practice, Pugliese managed to lead the team in singles with a 6-3 record during the fall season. Due to injuries, he was forced to miss the the first two matches of the spring season. However, he did play in his first spring match on Saturday, Feb. 1

against Army.

Playing doubles with teammate Przemyslaw Filipek, Pugliese defeated Army's combination of Rommel Verano and Sam Lampman, 6-3. He also won his singles match against Sam Lampman, 6-5 and 6-2.

Pugliese also competed this past weekend against the Princeton Tigers and the Boston College Eagles. Although he and freshman teammate Przemyslaw Filipek fought valiantly, they lost in doubles to Princeton's combination of Bloom and Davies, 6-5. He also lost in singles to Princeton's Alex Day, 6-5, 6-4.

Despite a few recent losses, Pugliese has become MU's number one tennis player in both doubles and singles. Although he does play both well, he does have a preference.

While in France, he played mostly singles but he also participated in a different type of

competition. "The style of mine is different here," he continued. "Here, you play for your college. In France, I would play for myself. You can play ATP in both [America and France], but a lot of players from Europe come here."

Pugliese said that if it were not for tennis, many Europeans including himself would not have come to America to pursue an education. They most likely would still gain an education, but probably in France.

Even though Pugliese has played tennis for a majority of his life, he does not see himself on the courts ten years down the road. "I love to be in California working there with all my friends or in New York. I don't know," he said.

For the mean time, Pugliese will be preparing for MU's next match on Thursday, Feb. 13 in Jersey City, NJ to face conference rivals the Saint Peter's Peacocks.

Track and Field Continue Hot Streak

MIKE MORSE
STAFF WRITER

Despite the challenging weather over the past two weeks, MU's Indoor Track & Field squads have not floundered and have continued to produce impressive results. On Friday, Jan. 31 and Sunday, Feb. 1, the Hawks competed in a pair of meets: The Bison Open Invitational at Bucknell University and the Columbia Lion's Invitational. Both meets were not scored on a team basis, however, both the men and the women performed exceptionally well and broke some school records in the process.

At the Bison Invitational, the Hawks focused on jumping events as well as the pentathlon. Sophomore Michaela Read took first place amongst some of the top schools in the region with a score of 3,300 points. Her performance in the pentathlon included a time of 9:34 in the 60 meter hurdles, as well as jumps of 5 ft. ¾ inches and 17 ft. in the high jump and long jump respectively.

She also tossed the shot put to the 33 foot mark, the second furthest of the day. On the men's side, sophomore Liam Vogt jumped 22 ft. 2 ½ inches, leaping himself to a third place finish overall.

The following day, the Hawks competed in the Columbia Invitational. Freshman Dylan Capwell placed third overall in the 800 meter run with an unbelievable time of 1:50.81. His time counts as the second fastest 800 meter time ran

in school history. Capwell competed again later that day, teaming up with juniors Andrew Langille, Alex Leight, and Khari Bowen in the 4x800 meter relay. The four ran a time of 7:36.89, winning the event at the meet, as well as shattering another school record that has been upheld since 2005.

The Hawks came close to breaking one more school record at the meet when sophomore Domenick D'Agostino ran the second fastest time in school history for the 3,000 meter run. He crossed the finish line in 8:22.62. Wrapping up the highlights for the men was senior Errol Jeffrey, who placed second overall with a career best throw in the shot put of 63 ft. 9 ¾ inches.

The women's side saw freshmen Tionna Garner and Zoya Naumov place third and fourth respectively in the 800 meter run with times of 2:14.8 and 2:15.94. Both times were qualifiers for the ECAC's. Garner and Naumov teamed up later in the day with fellow freshmen Jessica Ball and Jenna Cupp in the 4x800 meter relay. Their time of 9:08.43 won them the event and created a new MU freshman record.

In the sprints, two women came extremely close to school records as well in the 60 meter hurdles and the 200 meter dash. Graduate student Lachelle Wallace finished just one hundredth of a second off the 60 meter hurdles record, crossing the line in 7.69 seconds, while senior Mariah Toussaint came just

six hundredths of a second off the 200 meter dash record, finishing in 24.67.

The Hawks kept the winning streak alive as they competed in the Armory Collegiate Invitational on Friday, Feb. 7. Junior Jalen Walker steered the Hawks to victory as he broke the school record in the 60 meter hurdles. Sophomore teammate Geordan Ferguson also competed in the 60 meter hurdles and advanced to the semifinals.

The women's side featured senior Mariah Toussaint in the 200 meter dash and placed seventh in the event at 25.09. Junior Kate Frye and senior Laura Williams competed in the college women's 400 where they finished second

and sixth in the preliminaries respectively.

As a result of their recent victories, head coach Joe Compagni believes his team can win the Indoor Conference Championship on Friday, Feb. 21 at the New York City Armory.

"Our men and women both won the last 5 straight NEC Outdoor Track Championships and the last 2 NEC Indoor Championships," Compagni continued. "We are hoping to now make some noise in the MAAC starting this year."

The Indoor Track and Field teams' next race will be the Lafayette/Rider Winter Games on Fri, Feb 14 at New York Armory-New York, NY. The event will begin at 11 am.



PHOTO COURTESY of Jim Remei

Kate Frye (above) placed second in the college women's 400 at the Armory Collegiate Invitational this past weekend. Her time was 55.85.

SIDE LINES



The women's bowling team placed ninth out of twelve teams this past weekend at the Wildcat Invitational. They were led by junior Valerie Bermudez who finished eighth overall individually.



The men's lacrosse team was recently ranked seventh in the MAAC preseason poll. The lacrosse team enters their inaugural season under head coach Brian Fisher.



The baseball team was picked to finish second behind Canisius College in the MAAC by the league's coaches in a preseason poll.

The Hawks are returning 22 letterwinners from last years 30-win team as they look forward to their inaugural season in the MAAC conference.

Senior second baseman Jake Gronsky was also selected to the Preseason All-MAAC team. Gronsky started 54 games last season and hit .302 on the year.

The team will open up their season with a double-header this Friday when they travel to Cary, N.C. They will play Michigan State and UMass Lowell.

UPCOMING GAMES

Thursday, February 13
MTEN vs St. Peter's*
Jersey City, NJ 3:00 pm

Friday, February 14
Bowl vs Track Kat Klash
Houston, Texas TBA

TRCK at Lafayette/Rider
New York Armory, NY 11:00 am

BSB at Michigan State
Cary, NC 12:00 pm

BSB at UMass Lowell
Cary, NC 3:30 pm

WBB at Iona*
New Rochelle, NY 4:30 pm
Hynes Center

MBB at Iona
New Rochelle, NY 7:00 pm
Hynes Center

Saturday, February 15
BSB at Wright State
Cary, NC 12:00 pm

WLAX vs Fresno State
W. Long Branch, NJ 2:00 pm

TRCK at Milrose Games
New York Armory, NY 4:00 pm

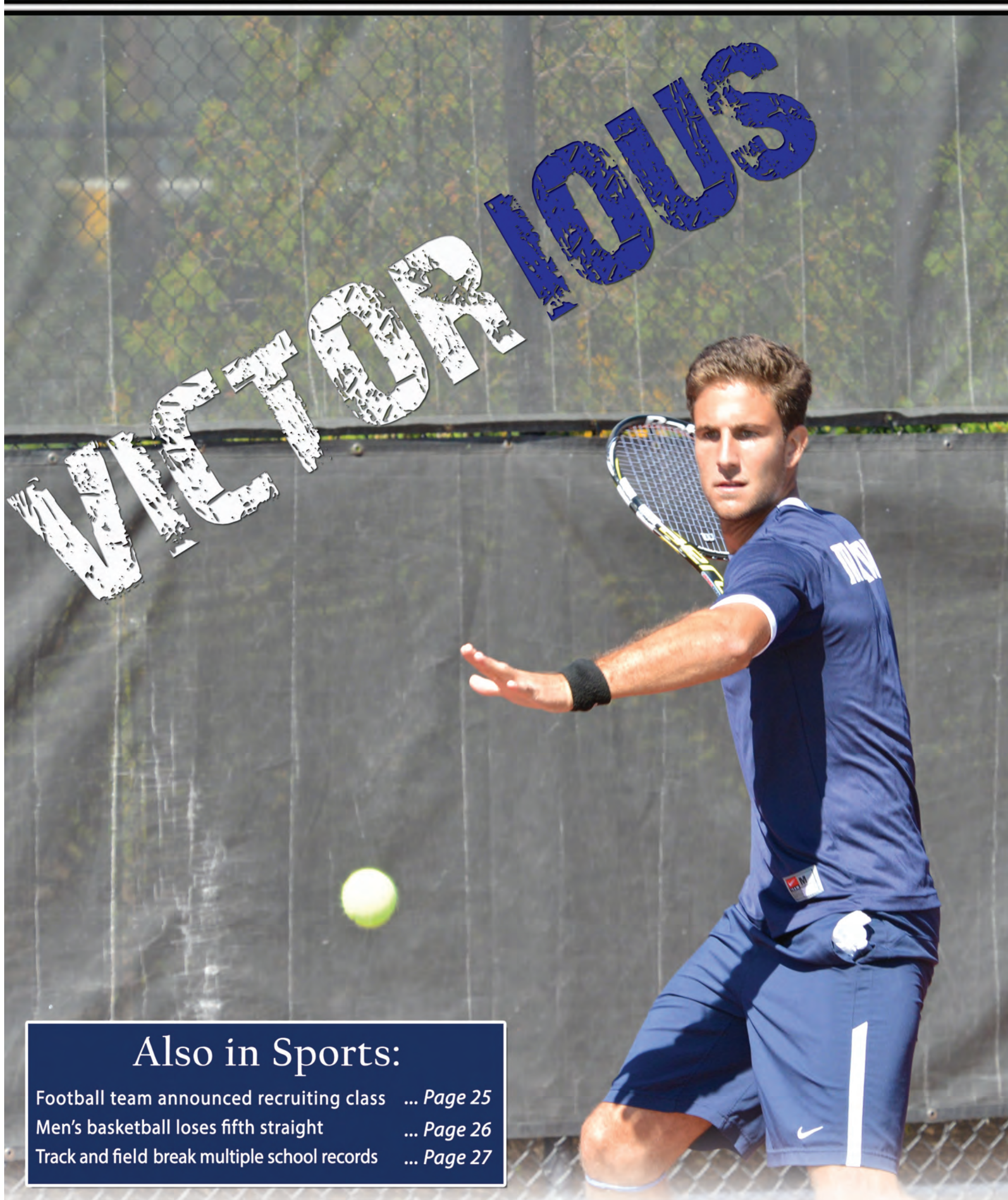
Sunday, February 16
BSB at Albany
Cary, NC 10:00 am

WBB at Quinnipiac*
Hamden, CT 1:00 pm
TD Bank Sports Center

MBB vs Marist*
W. Long Branch, NJ 2:00 pm

Wednesday, February 19
WLAX at Stony Brook
Stony Brook, NY 1:00 pm

MBB vs Manhattan*
W. Long Branch, NJ 7:00 pm
**conference games*



Also in Sports:

- Football team announced recruiting class ... [Page 25](#)
- Men's basketball loses fifth straight ... [Page 26](#)
- Track and field break multiple school records ... [Page 27](#)

Junior Victor Pugliese reigns as Monmouth's number one tennis player as he plays both singles and doubles. Originally from Paris, France, this is his first year as a Monmouth University Hawk.

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