



THE OUTLOOK

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Annual Fund Boasts Record Numbers



PHOTO COURTESY OF Jim Reme

The Employee Giving Campaign raised a record \$210,010 in 2007.

JACQUELINE KOLOSKI
EDITOR IN CHIEF

The Annual Fund's Employee Giving Campaign featured record numbers for 2007 earning \$201,010. The previous giving year raised \$126,628.

Anthony DelFranco, director of the Annual Fund, said that this fund is the foundation of the university's fund-raising. "Our job is to acquire new donors to come on board; those that have never made a gift," he said. "Once they do come on board we want to have them continue to move up and renew their gift."

The Annual Fund raises money through direct mail, face to face solicitation and the Phonathon. Direct mail, the cheapest yet least effective way, has raised approximately \$60,000 to \$70,000. Face to face solicitation is often aimed toward donors of the President's Society who make donations of \$1000 or more. The Phonathon, the most effective way to raise money, allows the students to reach out to the alumni as well as other donors.

"We have our own students do the Phonathon which is nice because it gives a job to students," said Jeff Mills, Vice President of University Advancement. "We think it is more effective when you call and say you are a student from Monmouth."

DelFranco said that, in regards to the Employee Giving Campaign, he has not seen success like they experienced recently. He believes one difference that contributed to this success is the switch from the

giving year being a fiscal year to a calendar year.

"Traditionally at the end of the calendar year is when most of the money comes in," said Mills. "We got more and more people involved across campus in their areas."

He added that with the implementation of payroll deduction, employees were able to donate straight from their paychecks. In addition to that change, the naming category of giving was revised.

Mills said that he was pleased with the amount of donors that participated in the year's Employee Giving Campaign. He said that 55% of the full-time employees at the university gave gifts. "We have already seen people increase their gifts for this year," said Mills. "We are trying to get across to people that fundraising isn't just the development advancement offices. It is everybody. Seeing the employees step up the way they have is a great sign of that."

The average gift of full-time employees was more than \$240 this past year.

DelFranco added that 29 departments had 100% participation, which is the most they have ever had. There has also been increasing numbers in the President's Society boasting 53 members currently.

"Another reason why this was important was because we are going to submit an application to the Kreski Foundation," said DelFranco. "One of the things they look at is the employee giving."

Employee participation has risen

from 19% to 55% over the years.

Mills said this number shows great leadership on campus.

On Thursday, January 31 a luncheon was held honoring the Annual Fund's record year in employee giving. Two hundred sixty people were in attendance including most of the university cabinet.

DelFranco believes one factor that sparked the increase from last year was the fact they had more captains to recruit more donors. "We had 30 captains," said DelFranco. "Because of the success we had last year with payroll deduction we could concentrate more on new donors and that was reflected in the fact that we acquired 115 new donors." He added that was a 22% increase from the previous year.

DelFranco credits the Annual Fund staff consisting of Irene Wall, Associate Director; Jennifer Lysen, Assistant Director; Delaine Sarraf, Administrative Assistant; and student worked Jennifer Pacetti for their efforts in contributing to making the campaign a success.

The Annual Fund is currently working on their goal for the 2008 giving year. "We are looking at people who made outright gifts," said DelFranco. "We're going to try to get them on payroll deduction."

Mills added that he is, as well, hoping that more employees partake in payroll deduction.

Other goals for 2008 include an increase in participation.

"With the overall annual fund, you always want to get more donors and alumni particularly giving to the institution because again it shows the pride and that they are invested in the institution," said Mills.

DelFranco added, "It all feeds off one another. It means our degree value will be as high as it has ever been." He explains that the pride of one's campus comes through when one gives and only improves the future of the university.

Mills echoed similar sentiments. "One of the things that fundraising does if you do it well is that it helps get a better spirit up on the campus about pride and tradition," he said. "I think there is a lot of that at the institution right now and I think it is symbolic of all the great things that are going on around the campus."

Students Take the Runway

Fourth Annual Charity Fashion Show raises money for local organization, Alyssa's Angels

JACQUELINE KOLOSKI
EDITOR IN CHIEF

Monmouth students and local designers showcased their "Creative Couture" at the fourth annual charity fashion show on Saturday, February 9 in Wilson Hall.

Proceeds went to Alyssa's Angels, a charity in West Long Branch aiding children with disabilities as well as their families. The event was sponsored by Hawk TV, WMCX, Comm Works, PRSSA, Student Government Association, and *The Outlook*.

According to senior Roberta Carlin, producer of the fashion show, \$2752 was raised for the charity.

Designers featured in the fashion show included Killbrand, Prise, Pyknic Wear, Proven Clothing, Liar Liar Jeans, Andrea G, as well as others. "The designers were selected on whether they

created or made their own clothing," said Carlin. "We preferred for them to be Monmouth students or local designers."

The plans for the fashion show began in November and took approximately four months to finalize. Carlin was assisted by co-producers Stephanie Fetchko and Nicole Reed. "Together we planned the whole show, from big details to little details," she said.

Carlin believes that this show has been the best yet in the energy and drive put forth by those involved this year. "It truly felt like a runway show," she said. "The stage was decorated, there were awesome prizes to win from the Chinese Auction, and designers could sell their own clothing."

"I enjoyed that everyone had a good time and that everything went so smoothly," said Carlin. "I also loved that we could raise a lot of money for such an amazing organization."

MU SIFE Goes Global

ALISON WASZMER
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

Since its inception this past fall, the Monmouth University chapter of Students In Free Enterprise (SIFE) has worked diligently to create and implement projects that aim to create real economic opportunities for members of the local and global communities.

These projects focus on one of the five criteria, set by the SIFE organization, which are: market economics, success skills, entrepreneurship, financial literacy, and business ethics.

Only four months after receiving official recognition by the University, SIFE has already

completed one project, a Business Ethics Program, and is currently working on seven others.

In many places around the world, the significance and principles of ethics have long been forgotten or devalued. SIFE has created a Business Ethics Program with the hope of restoring an ethical view of the world in these areas. The program uses 20 principles to create the foundation for an ethical life, both personally and professionally. Through this program students will learn the importance of value driven management and social responsibility.

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Wednesday 43°/27°

Rain



Thursday 40°/31°

Partly Cloudy



Friday 48°/29°

Partly Cloudy



Saturday 32°/26°

Partly Cloudy



Sunday 35°/32°

Light Wintry Mix



Monday 42°/28°

Partly Cloudy



Tuesday 37°/25°

Partly Cloudy

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Eight Students to Travel to Tanzania in May

KAITLYN KANZLER
STAFF WRITER

In May, eight students will embark on a trip that will take them from much of what they are used to. These students will travel to Tanzania, Africa, with Cross Cultural Solutions, a non-profit organization that focuses on sending people around the world to help women and children. These students will travel to Bagamoyo, which was founded at

wanted to go to Africa, but to learn about another culture and get to meet people and share who we are with one another. I feel that we are all blessed to get the opportunity to visit another country and embrace their culture, values, religious beliefs, and do whatever we can to help them.” According to Pfleger, the students currently do not know where they are being placed but she does know that they will be working in schools, day cares, medical facilities

said. “I realized that my benevolence was mediocre. I wanted to be involved in something that did not just leave an imprint on me, but on the lives and the areas of the locations I would come in contact with. . I recall Oprah saying once that when you teach and educate a girl, you will build and empower a nation. This is what I believe I am doing by participating in this once-of-a-lifetime experience. I cannot wait!” Despite the good deeds that

“I feel that we are all blessed to get the opportunity to visit another country and embrace their culture, values, religious beliefs, and do whatever we can to help them.”

SHATIERA PORTE'E
Graduate Student

the end of the eighteenth century and was the original capital of German East Africa as well as one of the most important trading posts on the East African coast. “I can say that traveling to Africa has always been a life long dream of mine,” said Sarah Pfleger, the head for the Monmouth University students’ involvement, “I think it’s going to be an amazing place and can not wait to meet the people and see the country.” Monmouth University graduate student, Shatiera Porte’e echoed Pfleger’s sentiments, saying, “Once I heard that the school was planning a trip to go to Africa I was ecstatic. Not only have I always

ties and anywhere else in the town where people need their help. They will also be working directly with some families because the area of Tanzania they are going to does not have orphanages. Sam McCutchen, a senior and History major at Monmouth was inspired by high school classmate, James “Jimmy” Mazza, who died in 2007 because of what he had done in his short time on the earth. “It dawned on me that life is not promised to anyone. Even though I have achieved much in my own life, I still felt like something was missing. Where was my service to others? Where was my part in changing the world?” McCutchen

these students hope to accomplish, everything comes at a cost. Everything costs money and that is the biggest problem that the group is having. “It is costing each of us \$1,500.00 for the flight and an additional \$2,740.75 for the trip cost each!! We are looking for any help students are willing to give,” said Pfleger. “Every little bite helps and we would love it if people could donate even \$1.” Visit www.my.crossculturalsolutions.org and with the username *spfleger* to make a donation. Each of the students has their names there where donations can be made.

McCain Visits New Jersey, Takes Lead

DANIEL J. WISNIEWSKI
STAFF WRITER

Pundits had lined up to jab Arizona Senator John McCain’s record until former Massachusetts Governor Mitt Romney dropped from the race on Thursday. Now it will be a test to conservatives if they can support the more moderate McCain. McCain visited the Great Garden State last Monday, before the “Super Duper Tuesday” primaries and before Romney’s announcement. The senator was joined by an all-star lineup: State Senator Bill Baroni, Florida Governor Charlie Crist, Former New York Mayor Rudy Giuliani, Connecticut Independent-Democratic Senator Joe Lieberman, and his 95 year old mother Roberta. Going forward, McCain will have to convince conservatives that he is their man, while at the same time appearing moderate enough to be viable in the general election. McCain was shunned by conservatives last summer after supporting a very moderate comprehensive immigration reform bill. The bill included a path to citizenship for current illegal residents, often called amnesty, which is highly disliked by the conservative base. McCain-Kennedy took the steam out of the straight talk express and the Senator almost out of the race. Many Republicans went to the camp of Mitt Romney, who positioned himself as the “true” conservative. But after Romney’s withdrawal announcement at the Conservative Political Action



PHOTO COURTESY of Daniel J. Wisniewski
(left to center) Florida Governor Charlie Crist, NJ State Senator Bill Baroni, Connecticut Senator Joe Lieberman and Arizona Senator John McCain.

Conference (CPAC) Thursday, conservative voters will have to reevaluate their options. With McCain growing stronger every day, conservatives will be left choosing between McCain, a liberal democratic candidate, or an unforeseen third party candidate. McCain’s return to being a front-runner is due in part to his support for the troop surge in Iraq. The slight improvements in Iraq have made people think harder about the decision to leave, and have instilled a new trust in McCain. McCain’s persistent campaigning and record as a public servant, as well as the time elapsed since McCain-Kennedy, also explains his return to the lead. Senator John McCain has be-

come the Republicans’ presumptive nominee, far ahead of the remaining candidates, former Arkansas Governor Mike Huckabee and Texas Representative Ron Paul. Even if Huckabee, the second-place candidate, were to win every primary remaining, it is unlikely for him to come close to McCain. Many of the winner-take-all primary states have already voted, and McCain would still pick up noticeable delegates in the coming primaries. Regardless, Huckabee is still running until a Republican candidate reaches “the magic number of 1,191” delegates. As of Friday, McCain has 714 delegates, Huckabee 181, and Ron Paul 16.

Semester Fair Looks to Get Students Involved

ALLISON LACASKEY
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

Thunderous chatter and the smell of popcorn filled Anacon Hall on Wednesday, February 6, as students gathered to learn about the many different clubs available to them at Monmouth University. The Involvement Fair, which took place from 2:30 p.m. to 4:30 p.m., gave the university’s clubs the opportunity to get their name out there and recruit new members. Groups such as Hawk TV and PRSSA set up tables loaded with information for students who might be interested in joining, if they only knew they could. Along with more well-known clubs, the Involvement Fair was also host to a number of brand new groups. The Monmouth University Knitting and Crocheting Club is a first year club that makes blankets and hats for Project Linus and Caps for Kids. Also a brand new club, the Women’s Political Caucus of New Jersey is on a mission to get students involved in politics and voting. For these groups, the fair was their chance to let students know they exist. “I’m hoping that people come and sign up. People don’t know you’re out there if you don’t come to these things” Jessica Ball of the MU Knitting and Crocheting club said. The Student Activities Board (SAB) was responsible for successfully organizing the event. SAB’s booth, located at the entrance of the fair, gave students the chance to

have fun by making bobble heads and snow globes with their pictures inside. “The Involvement Fair will benefit students because they will get to see what clubs and organizations are on campus” SAB member Monica Beaumont said. Freshmen made up the majority of the Involvement Fair’s turnout. Monmouth freshmen Ashley Cheeseman, Kristen Duff, and Jen Puckett browsed the fair to find activities that interested them. “In high school I was always a part of a bunch of different activities, so I’m used to having things to do. I thought I would continue that here” said Cheeseman. Sororities and Fraternities made up a large part of the fair’s population. According to Duff, “It’s a really easy way to make a lot of friends all at once, and they (sororities) get involved in what they believe in.” The Involvement Fair is held twice a year, once each semester. If you missed out on Wednesday’s event, or need more information on a club that peaked your interest, check out Monmouth University’s handbook, which can be found in the bookstore, downstairs at the Student Center. Clubs are also listed on the university’s website, with details about each as well as contact information. If you have an idea for a club that does not currently exist, why not start it yourself? For information on how to start a new club, contact Amy Bellina at the Student Activities Office, on the second floor of the Student Center.

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Campus Police Participate in Training Sessions

JACQUELINE KOLOSKI
EDITOR IN CHIEF

During winter break, the Monmouth University Police Department participated in training sessions that occurred on campus. The purpose of each session was to practice measures in case of an emergency on campus.

Training began on January 2 when the Monmouth County Emergency response team toured the university. “MOCERT is the county ‘SWAT’ type team that would respond to assist the MUPD in any emergency situation on campus,” said Chief McElrath.

On January 12, two sessions were conducted by the MUPD and the West Long Branch Fire Department. The police department underwent active shooter training in Wilson Hall while officers were off duty. “Active shooter training was conducted in two three hour training sessions. Training

covered tactical formations, command and control, communications and entry into Wilson Hall,” said Chief McElrath. “The session ended with an after action review being conducted.”

The West Long Branch Fire Department worked with Residential Life for fire and rescue training. The session was three hours long. “One of the main purposes was to show firefighters the types of building designs and layouts they would face in responding to a fire emergency/ evacuation on campus,” said Chief McElrath.

In conjunction with the Center for Rapid Response, the MUPD completed a tabletop campus evacuation simulation on January 15 in the event of a Nor’easter. The purpose of the two hour session according to Chief McElrath was “to test our emergency policies and procedures in handling an incident of this magnitude, and to have the various offices on cam-

pus interact with each other in an emergency type situation.”

Police supervisors and firearms instructors underwent “simunitions training” in conjunction with the Long Branch Police Department from January 17 to January 25. The simunition weapons, according to Chief McElrath, are similar to paintball guns. During this exercise participants responded to an active shooter situation in a local, unused school. “In this type of training, officers must decide whether to fire upon “suspects” and to return fire if fired upon, all the while trying to rescue hostages or civilians being harmed,” he said.

Chief McElrath said that the importance of the training sessions is to ensure a safe campus. He added that by working closely with local agencies that can be achieved. “The ultimate goal of all of us is to have as safe a campus as is possible.”

SGA Begins ‘Party Smart’ Program

JUSTINE NAZARRO
STAFF WRITER

Do you party often? Or have you ever found yourself wishing that your after party plans were better prepared? Party Smart is a program that was developed by students to help other students party responsibly. The program is aimed at bringing common sense habits to students who decide to party and possibly have a few drinks.

“The program is neat because students came up with it,” says Vaughn Clay, the Director of Off-Campus and Commuter Services here at Monmouth. Since the program was developed by students, their peers can be effectively educated on how to ‘Party Smart’ as well as even help to prevent any arrests or alcohol related problems.

Party Smart gives out tips for planning a successful party, as well as tips for dealing with alcohol poisoning; mapping out the local noise, alcohol, and trash laws; and even a list of taxi numbers to call.

Party Smart’s pamphlet high-

lights more than just alcohol related solutions. It offers tips on how to be good neighbors to those around you, as well as food ideas to help your guests to better enjoy the party. It even supplies a list of ideas for activities that students can partake in when they are not in the mood to party, which range from camping to going to a movie to even taking a trip to NYC. The pamphlet covers all of the bases in terms of keeping college students interested and having fun.

Nicole Stevens, SGA Senator and Chairperson on the Committee on Human and Community Relations talks of the program and says, “It’s a solution to improve community relations response at a party.”

Since the project is aimed at keeping students safe, Party Smart kits were given out last Wednesday in the Student Center with many different items to help students make their party successful. Among these items were coupons for local food places, coupons for Watchung E-Z Delivery (to have food delivered directly to the students),

and even a coupon for a free taxi ride from Paramount Cab Corp.

“It helps that the program was created by students who can relate to the party scene,” says Suanne Schaad, the Substance Awareness Coordinator in Health Services.

Monmouth University Students should take advantage of the ‘Party Smart’ program, because it can do nothing but help to make any party situation go smoothly. All of the information is free to students who wish to take advantage of it, and geared toward helping students in a mature way.

The Party Smart program is a collaborative effort of the offices of Off-Campus and Commuter Services, the Student Government Association, and the Office of Substance Awareness.

If any students are interested in this free kit, they can contact the Office of Off-Campus and Commuter Services, the Office of Substance Awareness, or the Student Government Association. You can also access any information online at www.monmouth.edu/commuter.

SIFE Takes New Program Abroad

SIFE continued from pg. 1

With the help of Professor Buzza and Dr. Lombardi, both business professors here at Monmouth, SIFE will be taking this program abroad. The launch is set to take place at Fenyi College of Hungary in Miskolc, Hungary. The students range in age from 10-18 years old. In an effort to ensure maximum result, 4 students will be traveling to Hungary over spring break, at their own expense.

Once in Hungary, they will present the Business Ethics Program as a two day workshop. Hungary is only the first stop for this program; SIFE is already working on bringing this program to other parts of the globe.

One of the seven other projects SIFE has in the works is a system to empower the people of Nigeria. With the assistance of Father Iken-na, the headmaster of Xavier Memorial College in Nigeria, SIFE has

obtained land in Nigeria which will be used as to farm peanuts. When mixed with certain other ingredients, peanuts create a product that is an excellent source of nutrition and inexpensive to produce. The peanuts grown in Nigeria will also be used in a commercial product, creating a source of income. The nourishment provided by the peanut butter mixture that will be produced will go toward feeding the poorer people of the area, while the income and the knowledge gained by creating a commercial product will act as the groundwork for future economic successes.

In addition to the success of the projects, SIFE has also gained valuable alliances with major corporations such as Best Buy, Wal-Greens, and Magis-Shu. By working with these corporate and non-profit sponsors, SIFE has access to resources which are integral to the success of many projects. Individual members have also seen

the benefit of these relationships.

Most recently Best Buy has invited any interested member of SIFE to come spend a day job shadowing, allowing students to get a more detailed look into potential careers.

Over the past four months SIFE has made tremendous strides. The impact of their efforts is seen as far away as Hungary and Nigeria, but this is only the tip of the iceberg. The potential for SIFE is limitless, and it is never too late to join. The beauty of SIFE is that it is open to all students of all major. In the eyes of SIFE, diversity is an asset. The networking possibilities are phenomenal and “real world” experience is unmatched.

Any interested student is welcome to attend weekly meetings, which are held on Wednesdays at 3 pm in Bey Hall room 229 or if you are unable to attend SIFE can be reached at sife@monmouth.edu.

Corzine Holds Town Hall Meeting in Marlboro

DANIEL J. WISNIEWSKI
STAFF WRITER

Marlboro, N.J.: Monday February 4th, New Jersey Governor Jon Corzine held a town hall meeting in Marlboro High School to discuss his plan to restore fiscal responsibility in New Jersey. His plan included a toll raise on the turnpike and parkway, along with a freeze in state spending for the coming fiscal year. His plan has met strong opposition from both Republicans and Democrats.

The Governor was introduced by U.S. Congressman Rush Holt, hoping to galvanize support for the plan. Holt was summarily booed, a surprise to the congressman who is used to warm receptions. The audience seemed to be in no mood for politics, and called for the Governor.

Monmouth County residents erupted with jeers throughout the Governor’s proposal. Some common interruptions were “oink oink oink,” and “cut spending!” – in reference to the Governor’s comment about flying pigs over the statehouse before a spending cut in his State of the State address last month.

The Governors plan had been kept secret (the bill still is), un-

til recently. New Jerseyans are upset about the toll hikes. Tolls are planned to increase 50% every four years, beginning in 2010, and lasting until 2022, when the increase rate will be matched with inflation. Over the next decade, the average Turnpike trip will go from \$1.20 to \$5.85. Government waste and inefficiency is considered the main reason for budget deficits every year. Tax hikes are seen by many as another attempt by Trenton to take money from the pockets of normal Americans. Some are confident enough to call them a tax.

Corzine pleaded with the audience to understand that spending cuts could only come in education and healthcare, and that toll hikes are the only solution. Over the past few months Corzine has asked for alternative plans. Every alternative plan, usually including spending cuts by Republican opponents, has met disapproval from the Governor.

New Jersey is in a bad situation, with more of the same from political leaders. New Jersey residents are moving out of state in record numbers due to the high cost of living. New Jersey is the second most taxed state in the nation.

Catholic Center Celebrates Mardi Gras

SARAH ALYSE JAMIESON
ASSOCIATE OPINION EDITOR

On Tuesday, February 5, at 7:30 p.m., in the MU Catholic Center’s House, the center’s members hosted a “Mardi Gras,” “Fat Tuesday” dinner party for all of the Catholic Center’s members to and guests.

The party celebrated the next day was Ash Wednesday, the beginning of the 40 days of Lent, before Easter Sunday, the holiest day of the Catholic Faith. Ash Wednesday is a day of fasting, for the active Catholic followers, so “Fat Tuesday” is symbolic of a day for active Catholics to fill their tummies and be ready to fast the following day.

more, Mathematics and Secondary Education major, explained how the meal really hit the spot! “It was perfect; it was just what I need after a long day at school.”

AnnMarie Bond, a freshman, accounting major, stated, “The food here was awesome. I am so glad Jen invited the girls and me. The Catholic Center is the coolest place on campus; I’m sure I will be coming back here.”

“The chow at this party was incredible. This should seriously be the new Dining Hall! If I could, I would eat here everyday, for every meal.” Stephanie Dip, a freshman, Art and Elementary Education major, declared.

Anna Clemency, a junior, head of Outreach, Music Industry major explained, “We here, at the Catholic center, are the voice of tomorrow! Everyone should join; we welcome all who come!”

“To start with, there were under ten students celebrating, but to finish the night off, there were many more rejoicing together. What a successful night.” Ashley, President of the center, stated, at the end of the night.

“We are open to any new members, here at the center. We are a family.” Jennifer stated excitedly.

Most agreed that the night was an overall success and helped to promote the image and stature of the Catholic Center

Gabrielle happily explained, “Overall, everyone thought it was a great experience; great food and friendly faces at a very welcoming atmosphere. I feel so at home with members of the Catholic center; the center is my home away from home. Everyone should come and be a part of it!”

Gabrielle’s guest to the Catholic center, Brian Brzozowski, a sopho-

SAB's Weekly Perscription For Fun!!

Camelback Ski Trip
Sat Feb 16th
Tickets \$5 in the Office of Student Activities



Battle of the Sexes
Thurs Feb 14th
Magill Dining Hall
8:30-11pm



Comedian Lynne Koplitz
Anacon Hall
9:00pm
Free to all MU students



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Campus Events This Week

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 13

Housing Deposits • 11:30 AM - 1:30 PM • Magill Dining Commons
Lenton Mass • 12:00 PM • Wilson Hall Chapel
Orientation Leader Information Session • 2:30 PM • Carol Afflitto Conf.
Artisan Workshop - Native Andean Craft • 2:30 - 6:20 PM • Art Building 601
Film Viewing - Danton • 6:00 PM • Wilson Auditorium
Exercise - Chest, Back and Arms • 7:00 PM • Fitness Center

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 14

Housing Deposits • 9:00 AM - 1:00 PM • Residential Life Office
Artisan Workshop - Native Andean Craft • 2:30 - 6:20 PM • Art Building 601
Valentine's Day Party • 7:30 PM • Catholic Centre
Battle of the Sexes • 8:30 - 11:30 PM • Magill Dining Commons

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 15

Blood Drive • 10:30 AM - 3:30 PM • Student Center Parking Lot
Resident Assistant Applications Due • 5:00 PM
Film - Soy Andina • 7:00 PM • Pollak Theatre
Yoga Class • 7:00 PM • Oakwood Lounge
Movie - Bee Movie • 7:00 PM & 11:00 PM • The Underground

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 16

Camelback Ski Trip - SOLD OUT • Departs @ 2:00 PM • Student Center
Movie - Enchanted • 7:00 PM & 11:00 PM • The Underground

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 17

NO EVENTS SCHEDULED

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 18

Exercise - Legs • 8:00 AM • Fitness Center
Film Screening - Dias de Santiago • 7:00 PM • Pollak Theatre

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 19

Orientation Leader Information Session • 6:00 PM • The Underground
Jewish Culture Composer Mark Zuckerman • 7:30 PM • Wilson Auditorium
Comedian Lynne Koplitz • 9:00 PM • Anacon Hall
Date Auction • 10:00 PM • Pollak Theatre

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 20

Break the Cycle, Be the Change • 10:00 AM • Wilson Auditorium
Info on Becoming a First Year Peer Advisor • 2:30 PM • Carol Afflitto Conf.
Time Management • 2:30 PM • Bey Hall 223
SGA Auction • 2:30 PM • Anacon Hall
Film - Hands of God • 7:00 PM • Wilson Auditorium
Exercise - Legs • 7:00 PM • Fitness Center

To have your campus-wide events included, send an e-mail to activities@monmouth.edu. We do not list club or program meeting times in this schedule.

YOGA CLASS

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 15
OAKWOOD LOUNGE, 7 PM

FREE TO PARTICIPATE!

LEARN A LITTLE ABOUT YOGA AND TECHNIQUES FOR PRACTICING YOGA

COME EARLY. LIMITED SPACE

WEEKEND FILM SERIES

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 15
7:00 PM & 11:00 PM
BEE MOVIE

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 16
7:00 PM & 11:00 PM
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TO MU STUDENTS
WITH ID**



F E B R U A R Y

6

7 p.m. FILM SCREENING: *Agouti's Peanut*
(Tropical Forest People)

Q & A: Prof. Bill Mitchell
Pollak Theatre

8

CENTERPIECE EVENTS

5:30 p.m. FOODS OF PERU DINNER

Tickets: \$35. Dinner and Show packages available

West Long Branch Community Center

8 p.m. PERFORMANCE: Peru Negro

Tickets: \$48 / \$36 / \$24 / Free to MU students with ID

Pollak Theatre

11

2:30 - 6:20 p.m. PERU CERAMIC WORKSHOP
Ceramics Studio 601

7 p.m. FILM SCREENING
Quilombo Country (Topic: Brazil)
Q & A: Prof. Sean Mitchell and
Prof. Hettie Williams
Pollak Theatre

12

2 - 4 p.m. PERU CERAMIC WORKSHOP
Ceramics Studio 601

13

2:30 - 6:20 p.m. PERU CERAMIC WORKSHOP
Ceramics Studio 601

14

2:30 - 6:20 p.m. PERU CERAMIC WORKSHOP
Ceramics Studio 601

15

7 p.m. FILM SCREENING
Soy Andina (Topic: Peru)
Q & A: Mitchell Teplitsky, Director
Pollak Theatre

18

7 p.m. FILM SCREENING
Dias de Santiago (Lima) (Topic: Peru)
Q & A: Prof. Bill Mitchell
Pollak Theatre

20

7 p.m. FILM SCREENING
Hands of God (Topic: Peru)
Q & A: Prof. Bill Mitchell
Pollak Theatre

22

6 p.m. WELCOME: Dean Stan Green
ILLUSTRATED CLOSING LECTURE: Prof. Bill
Mitchell: *If the World is Flat, Why Are
There So Many Bumps?: The Economic
Crisis in Peru and Latin America*

BOOK SIGNING: Prof. Bill Mitchell
Voices from the Global Margin

7 p.m. Prof. Rosemary Barbera and
Prof. Ken Mitchell: *Perspectives on
Latin America from Chile and Argentina*

7:30 p.m. FILM SCREENING
State of Fear (Topic: Peru)

Q & A: Prof. Rosemary Barbera,
Prof. Ken Mitchell, Prof. Aaron Ansell,
and Prof. Megwen Loveless
Pollak Theatre



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

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Time is of the Essence

JACQUELINE KOLOSKI
EDITOR IN CHIEF

As everyone will agree with me there are not enough hours in a day. If I could have a few extra hours here and there I would probably be a lot less stressed and frazzled than I am right at this very moment. Lately, people's phrase of choice to say to me is, "Calm down and take one thing at a time." I laugh and say I wish I had time to do that. I'm sure everyone is in the same predicament as me which is why I made this the subject of my editorial this week. Time is a precious thing especially in college when you have so much on your plate. Not only do you have to worry about homework, projects, papers but also figuring out what you want to do with your life.

I'm at that place in my col-

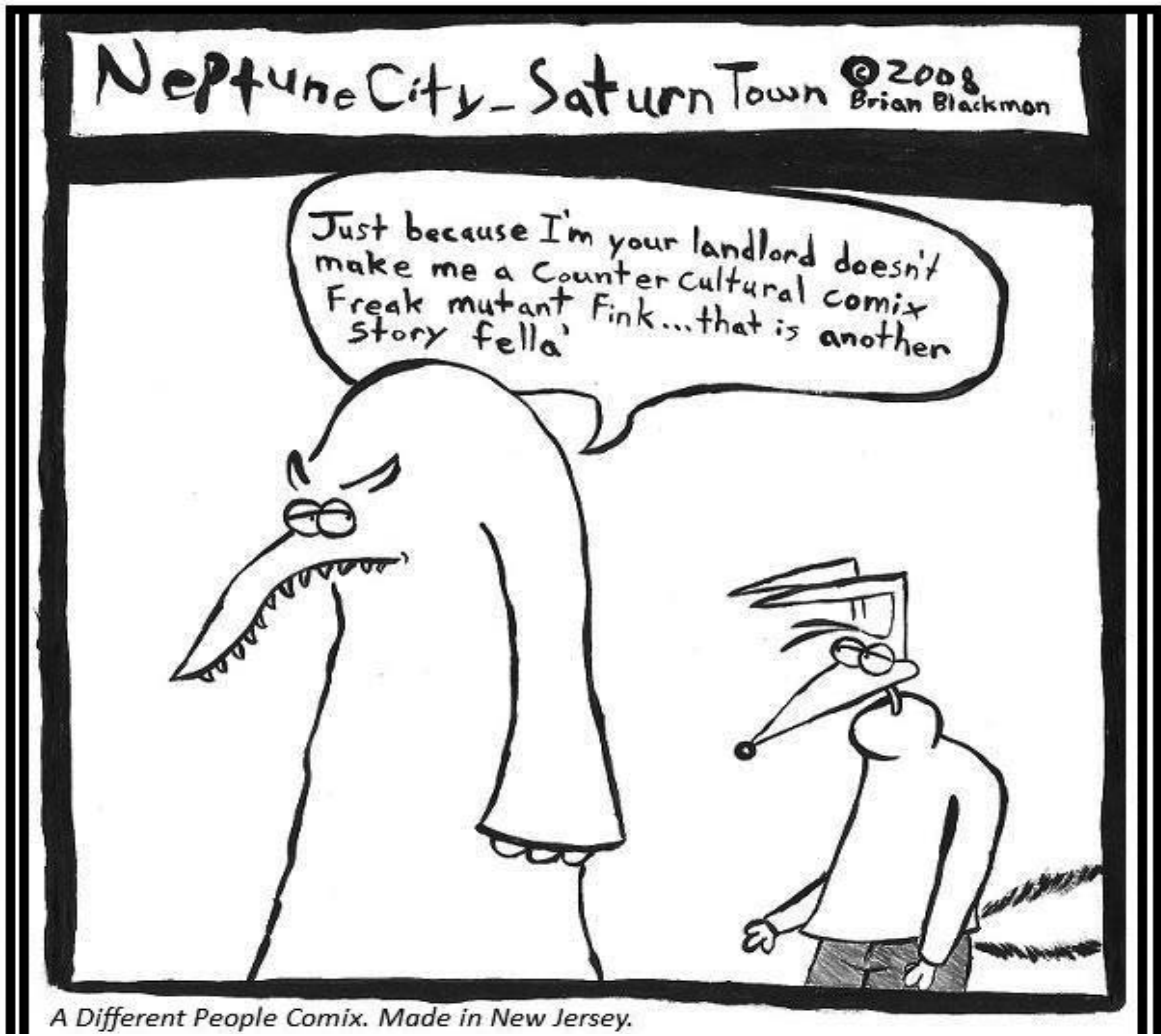
lege career right now as I know many of my fellow seniors are. May 20 will be here before we know it and the job hunt is on the brain of all seniors right now. I know I'm feeling that presently as I'm putting the finishing touches on my resume, getting my portfolio together, and at the same time trying to remain sane in the process as I begin interviewing for jobs. It is exciting yet scary at the same time thinking of the future and that in three short months my life is about to change in a big way. I will be out of the bubble that is college and into the real world. Going back to the subject of time, it goes by fast in college and real life is slowly creeping on all of us. It reminds me of one of my favorite quotes from the movie "Ferris Bueller's Day Off". The quote is, "Life goes by pretty fast. If you don't stop

and look around once in a while, you could miss it."

As much as I want to begin the next phase of my life, it's hard to believe that that time has already come. It seems as though it was just yesterday I was touring the Monmouth campus deciding if I wanted to make a life for myself here the next four years. Now I'm about ready to graduate and I'm wondering where the last four years went. Probably a majority of them was spent in The Outlook office writing articles and laying out sections, but nonetheless I know it was time well spent. As I mentioned in the beginning of this editorial about having more time, I wish I had more time to spend here. As the saying goes, time is of the essence. With that said, I have to make the most of the time I have as does everyone else.

The Outlook is currently looking to fill associate and assistant editorial positions. If you are interested, please attend Monday general meetings at 8 p.m. for additional information.

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Pardon my Mistake, I’m Only Human

BRIAN BLACKMON
STAFF WRITER

In last week’s *Article of Interest* “Comics: A Shared Language,” a few typographical errors materialized concerning some of the French words used within. Where mistakes originate (whether in this or any work) is beyond my knowledge, and I can only attribute them to the same unique forces which Marcel Duchamp and his fellow Dadaists would credit with further shaping their works. While the forces working upon the art of Duchamp included the accidental dropping of his artistic vision and its subsequent dust collection (as was the case with his 1915-23 *The Bride Stripped Bare by Her Bachelors*), in the technologic present, it is now the infinite fallibility and limited vocabulary of spell-check. Other mistakes are of the human variety of course, with those sneaky typos that pop up like so many Gremlins to blemish even the best work of journalism or literature (everyone from Hemingway to Capote has experienced them). Mistakes are part of being human, and the next time—faithful *Outlook* readers—that you come across mistakes in this or any other literature, remember that it is the beautiful mark of the human mind, the same source as the poetry of Shakespeare and the prose of Washington Irving. Even mistakes have beauty.

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Pit bull: Friend, Not Foe

CATHARINE CODY
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

When the topic of dog breeds inevitably comes up in casual conversation, many automatically feel that pit bulls are mean, untamable and ferocious. This, however, is simply not so.

Any animal can be bred to be nasty. Any animal can also be bred to be lovable. It all depends on how it is brought up.

Why do pit bulls have a bad reputation? Many ruthless owners breed their pit bulls to fight because they have very muscular bodies and extremely powerful jaws. Their bodies are often compared to a weightlifter’s. Even if one has a very muscular body, that does not mean that he or she is always ready to hurt another person.

Many pit bulls are bred to fight. At a very young age they are encouraged to fight each other and are brought up knowing no other lifestyle. The trainers of these dogs often abuse, malnourish and pester the pit bulls incessantly. They are taught to attack indiscriminately and often. One recent example in the news is the former NFL player, Michael Vick, who raised pit bulls solely to fight

If any animal is raised to fight, then naturally, it will be an aggressive animal.

Pit bulls are not inheritably mean. They actually have a very sweet demeanor and respond well to commands. This is why they are easily led astray by their masters to become guard dogs and fighters.

In the nineteenth century, pit bulls were actually used as nannies for young children. If brought up correctly and treated well, pit bulls will guard their masters and protect them.

On a personal note, my family owns a pit bull. He is the sweetest and smartest dog I have ever known. Not only is he unfailingly loyal, but he is also extremely smart and very lovable.

He can often be found snuggling with one of my family members. He is the biggest cuddler and always wants to be the center of attention. In the middle of the night, he’ll actually go under the covers of my parent’s bed and sleep in between them.

He knows when he is being talked about and in what context. If someone is crying or upset, he instantly comes to that person’s side and shows his support.

He not only knows if someone is approaching the house, he’ll sense immediately if they are friend or foe. If someone is delivering food to the front door, for example, he merely pokes his head out of the door and wags his tail. Thankfully, our house has never been robbed, but it is safe to say that our dog would scare off any person intending to do us harm.

Whenever we mention the word, “walk,” he immediately gets excited and knows that in a few minutes he will be put on his leash and taken outside for a nice, leisurely stroll around the neighborhood.

It is always hard to hear people say bad things about pit bulls. Yes, some are mean. But that is only because of the environment they have been raised in. I feel really sorry for those dogs that are abused and made to fight.

My family rescued our dog from an abusive home. At first he cowered in the corners whenever someone went to pet him. After a few days he realized that our family truly loved him and wanted to see him happy. Now he is the best dog ever.

Yes, sometimes he does chase our cat. But it is only in jest. He would never actually harm another living thing.

It is important for people to open their eyes and realize that it is not a dog’s fault if it is aggressive or mean. It is usually due to the fact that the owner has mistreated it or bred it to be vicious.

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Politics

national, state, school

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Political Debate: Should English be the National Language? (Week 2)

Here students debate political issues of the day. Week 1 students make their initial argument followed by Week 2 in which they respond to their opponent.

Side 1: Making English Official. No Esta Bien

MARGARET DEVICO
VICE PRESIDENT, POLITICAL SCIENCE CLUB

Last week, my opponent and I made our cases for whether or not English should be made the official national language of the United States. I made the case that implementing such a measure would be unnecessary, while my opponent argued that not doing so could prove disastrous for the country.

Making English the official language of the United States would not mean that everybody would be forced by statute or Constitutional Amendment to learn English, it simply means that the federal government and its bureaucracies would conduct business only in English. Therefore, the only unification that would occur would be in the realm of the conduction of governmental affairs. The by-product of this bureaucratic unity would be a rift between the citizens of the country; a rift that could easily be avoided.

My opponent asserts that it was a series of language barriers between the citizens of the ancient Roman Empire that led to the empire’s downfall. This may very well be true, and if we decided to conquer Mexico, it might make sense to try and get them to start conducting government affairs in English. Machiavelli would certainly agree. However, since

America is like Rome only in its power and not in dominion, this argument makes no sense. Even if America were to absorb Cuba and/or Puerto Rico as additional states in the Union, It would be more reasonable and far less incendiary for them to adopt statewide legislation regarding language than to leave it up to the federal government.

However, America is not attempting to conquer half the globe, and is not even likely to be absorbing any new states any time soon. So once again, why pick this time in our history to adopt an official national language? As I stated last week, the number of non-English speakers is almost 5 times less than it was a hundred years ago, so the novelty of the issue is not a viable reason. The number of bilingual Americans is increasing faster than the non-English-speaking immigrant population, so growing numbers can’t be the issue either. Making English the official language of the United States is largely counterintuitive to the argument that a single national language would bring unity to the country, since it would do nothing more than accentuate a problem that is, once again, fixing itself.

For argument’s sake, let’s say that things were not improving as they are. The number of non-Eng-

lish-speaking Americans was on the rise and citizens were crying out for a solution. Even in this scenario, 27 of the 50 states have already implemented English-only legislation of state Constitutional Amendments (one of which naming the state’s language as “American” as a snub to the British). If there was ever a perfect example for the reason we have a federalist system, this is it. Allowing the individual states to conduct their own business is one of the largest responsibilities of the federal government, and at least in this case, the states have been addressing the issue as they have seen fit. Whether or not the steady decline in non-English-speakers is a result of the states’ laws is debatable, but the fact that both the state government and citizens are taking steps to solve the problem is indisputable.

This side of the argument has not been “why we should not make English the official language” but rather “why should we?” A simple examination of the available data proves that this is not a new problem, a growing problem, nor a divisive problem. The only way to make it into a new, larger, or divisive problem, in fact, would probably be to make English the national language, so why not just let the problem continue to solve itself?

Side 2: English Should be the National Language

ASHLEY HOPPE
SOPHOMORE, POLITICAL SCIENCE CLUB

Setting a national language would be one of the most economical things we could do at this moment. Yes, as it has been pointed out twenty-five states have English Only legislation on the books, another four states have English-Plus Resolutions and the state of Hawai’i has a constitutional amendment declaring the state bilingual. Yet, with all of these states passing legislation in support of English as the official language, the government is still paying for translators at meetings, printing documents in multiple languages, and other such things. If we as a nation already have resolutions in 30 states regarding the language, then why should the federal government not take the next step and declare English as the national language? At least require English in the printing of federal documents and legislation. Think of the money that the government would save in printing everything in multiple languages, think of the trees and paper that would be saved (for all of those ‘Lets Go Green’ advocates). This is a viable way for the federal government to save some money and to unify the nation.

This argument is not to say that we should exclude people’s native cultures, or let bi-

lingual people lose their other language. Declaring English as the national language would be more of a unifying source for the government and schools. The school system would be expected to help students learn English at a rapid, efficient rate; this initiative would also allow for ESL (English as a Second Language) programs to be better funded, which would help train the teachers in the most efficient means. As for the government, declaring English as a national language would allow for new legislation to be published only in English, which would save money on translators and printing costs.

In short, English needs to be declared as the national language because it would be an efficient means of uniting the nation. We need to allow for people to retain their own culture and combine them with the traditional American culture to create American English. English is a multicultural language, and we live in the United States where English is already the language by de facto. It is time for the English language to receive its rightful place in the United States as our national language. We are a melting pot nation, but it is important for us to maintain the American identity as part of that melting pot, which is why we need to declare English as our national language.

Hello everyone! For those interested in writing for the Political News page of The Outlook, please contact Daniel Wisniewski, President of The Political Science Club to get started! You can contact him at daniel.j.wisniewski@monmouth.edu. All topics and viewpoints are welcome! Thank you!

The 2008 Election: The Young and the Restless

DR. JOSEPH N. PATTEN
ADVISOR, POLITICAL SCIENCE CLUB

While much has been written on gender and racial voting trends in 2008, the most important and underreported story is that college age students are now voting in record numbers. The youth vote in New Hampshire was twice as large as in 2004, and the youth vote in Iowa tripled. Election results from Super Tuesday reveal that this trend is now sweeping the nation. The youth voter turn-out rate doubled in Massachusetts, and tripled in Georgia and Missouri from just four years ago. The youth vote is also playing a decisive role in the electoral outcome of several key states.

The Super Tuesday primary established a clear front-runner in the Republican Party and delivered a split decision in the Democratic Party. Republican Senator John McCain won nine primary states on Tuesday, including the delegate rich states of California, New York, New Jersey, Illinois, and Missouri, making him the overwhelming

favorite to capture the Republican nomination. Democratic presidential candidates Barack Obama and Hillary Clinton can each declare victory after processing Tuesday’s results. Obama won 13 of the 22 primaries and caucuses, but Clinton won California, New Jersey, and her home state of New York, three of the most populated states voting on Tuesday.

The unfolding historic battle between Obama and Clinton mirrors the 1968 Democratic race between Robert F. Kennedy, Eugene McCarthy, and Hubert Humphrey in two important respects. Barack Obama, akin to Robert Kennedy, is running as the insurgency candidate, challenging Bill and Hillary Clinton’s nearly two decade old predominance over the Democratic Party. Obama emphasizes the need for “change” and a renewed sense of “hope”, while Clinton contrasts by accentuating her experience and reminding voters that she will be “ready on day one”. Another important similarity to the 1968 campaign is the extent to

which this campaign is enlisting college age students to the cause.

Barack Obama has been either the largest benefactor or cause of this youthful political resurgence. Early exit polls reveal that Obama won by large margins in the youth demographic, even in states won by Clinton. Obama won the youth vote 59 percent to 39 percent in New Jersey, while losing the state by 10 percentage points. Young voters, however, put Obama over the top in several key states, including Missouri, where Obama won by a razor thin margin after winning the youth vote 59 percent to 33 percent. Political focus groups reveal that young voters are making an emotional connection to Obama’s personal narrative and his campaign’s call for a new purpose driven politics that hopes to unify the nation from partisan gridlock.

Young people have largely disconnected from our political process since the 1968 election. A vicious cycle developed where presidential candidates

stopped targeting young voters in serious ways because the young stopped voting, prompting the young to claim that they were not voting because campaigns were not speaking to them. While political participation takes shape in many forms and can be expressed through many channels, the primary variable for measuring political participation has always been voter turn-out. The voter turn-out rate among 18-29 year olds since 1968 has been faint, slipping to an all time presidential election low of 43 percent in the 2000 presidential race.

Explanations for these disappointing voting trends largely focus on structural and societal factors. The structural explanation posits the young vote in lower percentages because of voter registration guidelines and rules governing voter access across states. Nearly one-third of the nation relocates every two years, mostly from the youth demographic. New Jersey’s rigid registration laws requiring voters to register weeks in advance of an election dis-

proportionately disenfranchises college-age voters because of their transient lifestyle. States allowing same day registration, such as Minnesota, Wisconsin, and Maine, can rightfully brag of significantly higher voter turn-out rates. Others argue that societal factors explain low voter turn-out rates. Research found that low voter turn-out in college-age students represents a lifestyle choice that rises in time with the strengthening of community ties, suggesting the young are simply preoccupied with more immediate concerns than voting, such as finding a suitable mate and/or career.

Efforts to reverse college-age voting trends are working. We caught a glimpse of this in the 2004 election. Over 20 million 18-29 year olds voted in the 2004 presidential election, up from 16.2 million in 2000. Young voters are now turning out in record numbers in almost every state across the nation. The young are turning their restlessness into political action, and that is a very good thing for American democracy.

THIS WEEK OVERSEAS...

PAIGE SODANO
NEWS EDITOR AND OVERSEAS CORRESPONDENT

Hey guys! So I'm writing this outside at the moment, because it's such a nice day and I'm looking out at the beautiful Regent's Park, which as I mentioned last week, surrounds Regent's College.

It's one of the Royal Parks of



PHOTO COURTESY of Paige Sodano
The beautiful statue of the Queen Victoria Memorial stands outside of Buckingham Palace.

London and I didn't realize how big it was until a bunch of us walked around it the other day. The park includes the home of the London Zoo, boating areas, and many open fields for playing sports.

We stopped to watch all the people playing soccer, or football as they call it here, which was fun to see how intense they get. The weather has been awesome here - you know it's nice out when you see people eating lunch outside in the beginning of February.

Regent's broadcasted the primary for us to watch on a big screen, so it was cool seeing live footage from Boston, New York, and a few other cities around the U.S., and getting filled in on what's going on with our politics back at home.

It's really surprising to me how so many people over here are interested in our politics.

Last week I had mentioned that I went to Camden Markets, the huge open-air market, but unfortunately it caught fire on Saturday, so that has been big news here.

Starting off the weekend, my friends and I decided to do something different, so we went salsa dancing! Even though we weren't near experienced as the majority of people there, we still had a really good time.

Just walking through London with no destination can be so much fun, because you always end up finding so many things to see and do.

On Saturday, we attempted to visit the London Aquarium, but the line was ridiculously long, so we decided to just do it another day when it won't be as crowded. Another thing that I want to try and do again is the Changing of the Guards ceremony at Buckingham Palace.

After standing outside the Queen's residence for about an hour, we were finally told that the

ceremony wouldn't take place until the next day - oh well, I still got some great pictures.

After walking around some more, we ended up finding guards standing on horses, which are called no other than Horse Guards. They remain as the official entrance to Buckingham Palace and St. James's Palace. This entrance then continues to lead into Green Park, another one of the Royal Parks of London.

Later on, we ended up at the Churchill Museum and Cabinet

War Rooms. The museum part of it is dedicated to the life and work of Sir Winston Churchill, the former British politician who served as Prime Minister of the United Kingdom.

This museum included everything from documents he had signed, to clothes he had worn at important events. Also included in the exhibit is an electronic, computerized timeline of Churchill's life, divided into certain time periods, which can be moved with just a

touch of a finger.

The War Rooms portions of the exhibits are the actual rooms in which the prime minister, his secretaries, and everyone else working for him, would stay in as shelter from possible bombs. It was really neat seeing the actual things that came straight out of the World War II era.

I'm off to Dublin, Ireland on Thursday, so I'll be writing as soon as I can back from there!

Cheers.

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PHOTO COURTESY of Paige Sodano
Sir Winston Churchill's kitchen is part of the underground War Room exhibits found in the Museum.

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Sounds Like A Simple Plan

ALEXANDRA JOHNSON
STAFF WRITER

Just when you thought the air-waves were finally safe, Simple Plan broke the silence of their two year hiatus. The French Canadian quintet released their self-titled album on Tuesday, in hopes that their latest musical production will follow the lead of their prior two Platinum selling releases.

Jam packed with highly predictable lyrics and a washed up sound, this album unsurprisingly lacks any creativity and originality. With a growing demand for the ‘pop punk’ genre over the past couple of years, more commercial bands, who are not exactly oozing with talent, have hit the scene.

With their Converse pre-ailing as the most ‘punk’ thing about them, Simple Plan puts most of their musical focus on the pop end of the spectrum.

While barely being able to sit through all 11 tracks, it became increasingly apparent that each one was pretty similar. None of them stood out, and each was just as irritating as the one that followed.

The opening track, “When I’m Gone”, which is currently the band’s first single off the new album, was somehow the most tolerable of the bunch. This upbeat, motivating anthem comes clad with a lyrical credo about seizing the moment and going after your dreams.

“Your Love Is a Lie”, perhaps the most aggravating track on the entire CD, is a whiney rant about a cheating significant other. The lyrics, repetitive and mundane, consist,

almost exclusively, of front man Pierre Bouvier calling his adulterous girlfriend “nothing but a lie” over and over again. Even when he is not repeating himself, Pierre continues to get to the bottom of the shady behavior by singing, “I found a note with another name; you blow a kiss, but it just don’t feel the same”. These lyrics are perhaps the most uninventive since Paris Hilton graced us with her mess of a musical contribution to the industry.

“Time to Say Goodbye” is about a love that is better off left behind. Pierre sings about all of the lies and letdowns that acted as catalysts in bringing this bond to a screeching halt. It basically presents itself as follow up to “Your Love Is a Lie”, exposing, once again, the burdens of an unfaithful lover. At this point, it was unclear of what was more nauseating, Pierre’s vocals or hearing about this relationship for the second time.

“Holding On” is about how depressing the world can be, but there is that certain someone that continues to keep him from letting go. In short, it is a typical love song with the same idea that has been reiterated an uncountable amount of times.

After having two years to lay low, Simple Plan managed to put forth an album that shows no musical or creative growth since their emergence. With the occasional addition of synthesized beats and vocals, their music continues to sound like recycled versions of what they have previously thrown together. The only notable difference apparent to me is Pierre’s new and improved haircut, which is coincidentally nothing too swank either.



PHOTO COURTESY OF www.amazon.com
Simple Plan
Atlantic Records
© 2008

Top 5 on the Billboard

- 1) Alicia Keys -- *As I Am*
- 2) Juno Soundtrack
- 3) The Mars Volta--*The Bedlam In Goliath*
- 4) Bullet For My Valentine--*Scream Aim Fire*
- 5) 2008 Grammy Nominees



VERONIQUE BLOSTEIN
STAFF WRITER

Hey *Idol* lovers! On last Tuesday’s episode of *American Idol*, the show hit its final stop on the audition tour in Atlanta, Georgia. Joshua Jones opened up the auditions with his Queen rendition. While his vocals were fairly decent, Simon expressed concern about Jones’ “demonic” eyes. They were so bad that the judges actually made him turn around and sing for his audition! Nevertheless, he received his golden ticket, with advice from the judges to work on keeping his eyes normal.

Every season features contestants who have auditioned in the past. However, 99% of the time, there is a reason why they did not receive a golden ticket in the first place. J.P. Tjelmeland is proof of this theory. He appeared in season four, and said he sat two persons away from Carrie Underwood and expressed his regret for not talking to her more and keeping in touch (like he would have had a shot). He came back for season seven, hoping to have a better audition, yet unfortunately, butchered his Rascal Flatts song. Let’s just hope he doesn’t come back again.

One of the most heartfelt stories this season combined with an amazing performance goes to Asia’h Epperson. On her way to Atlanta for the auditions, she was on the phone with her

This Season on Idol



dad to tell him about her upcoming audition and how much she loved him. A half hour later, she received news from her brother that her dad was killed in a car accident. In his memory, she sang LeAnn Rimes’ “How Do I Live?” for her audition. She knocked it out of the ballpark, bringing herself and Paula to tears, and Simon told her, “I think your dad would be very proud of you.” Expect great things to come from this girl over the course of the season. (One of my roommates has already picked her to win, and I would have to agree.) We’ll hopefully be seeing her in the finale this year.

Last Wednesday night, *American Idol* provided us with the best of the best, and worst of the worst episode (although I’m surprised that Epperson wasn’t saved for this episode). As much as I love *Idol*, this was the most disappointing best/worst episodes of the series. It felt as if we were just merely watching another city’s audition. The whole point of the episode is to show the very best and the very worst, which the producers did not present very well.

Regardless, there were still some interesting performances—both good and bad. Tiffany McCambell proclaimed that her voice was a gift from God, and as Simon put it, was a gift that needed to be returned. Her rendition of “Hallelujah” was horrendous, and

she screamed the whole thing. (If I was a non-Christian, it certainly wouldn’t make me want to become one.)

Plus-size model JoAnne Borgella from Hoboken, N.J., who has sung at Madison Square Garden, wowed the judges with her Celine Dion performance. Represent Jersey well, JoAnne!

This episode surprisingly showed two exceptions to the “don’t ever re-audition again” theory. Chikezie Eze auditioned last year for *Idol* but did not make it through. This time around, his Luther Vandross rendition impressed the judges, especially Randy, who didn’t “feel him” last year, and finally received his golden ticket. Seventeen-year-old Danny Noriega also auditioned last year and was eliminated. His performance of “Proud Mary” surprised the judges and was one of the best they have seen this year. He was more confident, which Simon noticed, and Noriega agreed that he was more himself this year, which helped him access the doors to Hollywood.

Out of over 100,000 people who came out to audition throughout the nation, 164 received golden tickets. Be sure to watch *American Idol* this week, and don’t forget to tune into *The Outlook* next week to find out what drama unfolds this year in Hollywood.

NBC’s Newest Guilty Pleasure: Lipstick Jungle

TAYLOR CORVINO
STAFF WRITER

For those of you who cannot wait for the *Sex and the City Movie* this spring, there may be relief for you, in *Lipstick Jungle*.

Based on the book written by *Sex and the City* writer, Kristen Bushnell, *Lipstick Jungle* is NBC’s newest guilty pleasure. The hour long drama follows three successful women working in New York City, who just so happen to be best friends.

Wendy Healy, played by Brooke Shields, is a movie executive at Parador Pictures, who leads a high profile life full of celebrities and premieres. Wendy is also a wife and mother of two, trying her best to balance her home life with her demanding career.

Nico Reilly, played by Kim Raver, is the editor-in-chief of a trendy fashion magazine called Bonfire, where she is aggressively working her way up the corporate ladder. Although Nico is married, she has chosen to put a family on hold and hopes her business savvy skills take her straight to CEO.

Lastly there is Victory Ford, played by Lindsay Price. Victory is a flashy young fashion designer who is still looking for her knight in shining armor.

All three women were named among “New York’s 50 Most Pow-

erful Women,” according to the New York Post, clearly outshining their male competitors. These



PHOTO COURTESY OF www.google.com
Wendy, Victory, and Nico are three powerful women in New York City.

women send a noble message to young girls today, that hard work earns respect. Wendy, Nico, and Victory are always a step ahead of their competitors and are not scared to take risks. They are confident in what they do and it shows in their work.

This show, although not very original in its storyline, appeals to the masses. As more women attain executive positions in the dog-eat-dog world of corporate America, many will relate to the successful women featured on the show each week.

Nico, like so many women today, struggles with the demands of a high profile career coupled with the pressure of making the

decision of when to have children. For now she remains focused on her career but as a result, is often scrutinized and at times judged by colleagues, family and friends.

Wendy is determined to balance her career and family life, however, quickly realizes it is much harder than she thought. Her husband takes charge when it comes to caring for their children after school and must reconcile the fact that he often lives in his successful wife’s shadow.

Lastly, all women probably see a little bit of themselves in Victory, a single woman hoping to find Mr. Right. Victory faces criticism for her latest fashion show that is getting less than rave reviews.

Although the trio seems to have it all; expensive clothes, designer shoes, and killer handbags, at the end of the day they still need each other. Whether it is a major fashion show flop or an unstable marriage, these women band together and console one another in times of need. Sometimes money and success is not everything, sometimes all you need is a night in with a few good friends.

To watch how Wendy, Nico, and Victory’s lives unfold, make sure to tune into next week’s episode Thursday night at 10pm on NBC.

Do You Really Want to Be the Next American Idol?

A first hand look at the American Idol Audition Process

ANTHONY ESPOSITO
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

Every single person on the planet can say that they in some way shape or form has come in contact with anything American Idol. You may have seen a commercial, heard one of the six winners songs, or, you may be like me and have been a fan since the days of Kelly Clarkson. You may think the show is completely glamorous, and you probably have heard people say that the judging process is somewhat unfair, but you have no idea.

For the sake of getting to the bottom of the rumors (and to support my best friend and actually see if I had some shot at fame) I decided to go the distance and audition for Season seven of American Idol.

My weekend started off on Friday, August 24th. After making the almost three hour drive from North Shore Staten Island, all the way down to the tip of South Jersey, I made it to my friend Krista's house around dinner time. After I got settled in, we decided to do a drive by of the Wachovia Center in Philadelphia, where the auditions would be the following day. People were lining up already! Krista and I got nervous, but decided we would do as we were told, and arrive when we were told. We ended up passing out at around 10pm considering we needed to line up at 5am the next day.

Here is the itinerary as follows for the weekend. Saturday 5am - Monday before 9am you can go to the Wachovia Center to register for your spot to audition. Monday, auditions are set to start (haha, they said start) at 10am.

3:30am Saturday the 25th. Alarms go off, time to shower, get all dolled up, and hit the road for the grueling day ahead. Oh, but wait, not until we make sure we have our signed release form, which basically meant American Idol owned our lives and could use anything about us that they find out or film, in any form they want. They could even turn something positive, into a negative for national television, and there is nothing we could do about it.

Krista and I arrived at the Wachovia Center around 4:30. We followed two women (who we later referred to as our adopted moms) to the end of the line, and the beginning of our slow and painful weekend. Did I mention there were about 3 thousand people in line in front of us at this point already? The sun had not come up at this point yet, so the heat was still bearable.

However, hours passed, we had not yet moved, and the sun was up and at full force. For those of you who don't know me, I know I'm sexy and all, but I don't look good when I sweat.

So now it's almost 1pm, and we finally start moving. We make our way all the way to the front of the line, flash out ID and release form, and are handed a bracelet and ticket. Best part, we can't get the bracelet wet, and it is now Saturday, and the auditions aren't until Monday (cue showering with a plastic baggie). Krista and I go back to her house, and practically sleep until Monday morning.

We were told we needed to arrive at the Wachovia center at 6am on the day of the audition, so we assume that we will be arriving and going right in...wrong! They make us wait outside on a line again until about 11am. At 11, the doors opened and we began to let our nerves surface, as we made our way into the arena.

We made it inside and headed to our pre-assigned seats. It takes about an hour for the place to finally fill, and for the auditions to start (or so we thought). So were sitting there, and some guy gets on a microphone, trying to get us pumped up. Basically he tells us how the day is going to work, and what the rules are. Then he makes us sing "I Love Rock and Roll", for about a half hour. Snore fest, shouldn't we be saving our voices? He then tells us that a special "guest" is going to be joining us, and that when that guest gives us the cue, we need to shout "First stop, Philadelphia!" and then cheer like a proud dad at a little league game. Gee, I wonder who that guest could be?! (For all of you people confused, it's Ryan Seacrest, who is the shortest man I've ever seen in my entire life).

Ok, I'll fast forward, Ryan comes, we cheer, and get all excited. Now they start setting up for the audition process. They set up about 14 stations on the arena, all separated by a large black curtain. In each station there is a table, a few chairs, and one or two "judges". These judges range from pro-

ducers from fox and Idol, to other employees of the show. That's right kids, Randy, Simon and Paula do not audition everyone. It would be impossible for them to do that.

They start wrangling us up, starting from one section of the arena, and going all the way around until each person has the chance to audition. The order in which you registered, is the order in which you audition. So basically, first in line on Saturday went first, last in line had to wait until the very end. Krista and I got lucky in that out of the 13,000 people in the arena auditioning, there were only about 3,000 people ahead of us.

How the audition process works is as follows. You make your way down

let cut off, and walk to the right to exit the arena. If it's a yes, you stay behind, get handed a piece of paper, and must walk to the left.

So since Krista and I had a few hours before we auditioned, we were able to see (and hear) some of the other people. Let me tell you, this show is so unfair. We started to notice a trend; great people weren't getting put through, average people stood a better chance, and if you wore a costume, let's just say you had the best chances of making it through. It was insanely unfair. One girl even told us that some guy in her group took off his shirt and danced, and he made it through to the next round. She said he didn't even sing one note! Naturally, after that, our nerves



PHOTO COURTESY of Anthony Esposito
Thousands of people try their luck at being the next American Idol.

to the arena floor, and you are placed in a group of four. Then, employees of the show gather you together and place you in front of one of the stations.

When it's your group's turn, one at a time starting from the right, you step forward and start singing. When the judge puts their hand up, you step back and the next person goes, and so on, until all four sing. Your audition song can last anywhere from five seconds to 30 seconds. And yes, they actually stopped some people after five seconds. You are not allowed to say anything, not even your name or what it is that you're singing.

After the four audition, you step forward to the table, and the judge tells you yes or no. If it's a no, you walk behind the table, get your brace-

grew even more, but neither one of us were going to turn away after investing this much time in it.

At this point it's about 5pm, and it's almost our turn. We head down toward the tables, holding hands, trying not to let our nerves get the best of us. Before we know it, we are standing face to face with one of the judges. I was standing in the third spot, Krista in the fourth. The guy who sang first, was not good. Next was this girl who sang an up beat song that sounded like it was from a musical. As she's singing, all I can think of is "Ok Anthony, you're next, just do your best and don't throw up!" The judge puts up her hand, the girl stops, and I step forward. I decided on a song by Idina Menzel, called "Come Rain or Come Shine".

I chose that because it best shows my vocal range. It's kind of jazzy and kind of sultry, and to my surprise, the judge let me sing for the full 30 seconds. So she put up her hand, and I proudly stepped back and gave the floor to Krista, who sang a beautiful rendition of an Alanis Morissette song called "Your House". She also let Krista sing for the full 30 seconds. So now, the next few seconds seemed like an eternity.

All day I had been saying that I was only there in support of my friend, and if I didn't make it, I really wouldn't care, but in the back of mind I was thinking, "How cool would it be if I made it past round one?". Then all of a sudden the judge opened her mouth. She politely told us that we were all great, but not what the show was looking for. All I could do was look at Krista and see how upset she was. She really wanted this and you could tell it hurt for her to hear those words.

After getting our bracelets cut, and heading out the doors of the arena, all we could do was talk about how unfair this whole thing was, and that we would never go through it again. Don't get me wrong, the experience was something I'll never forget, but it was a long, draining weekend. After the day was over, they narrowed down 13,000 contestants to a mere 250. Those 250 then came back a few weeks later to audition in front of Randy, Simon, and Paula. A friend of mine also auditioned and made it through to Hollywood. She said that that out of the 250 that made it past the first round, only about half of them actually deserved to be there.

To make a long story short, if you ever plan on trying out for future seasons of American Idol, make sure you are fully prepared for all that goes into it. Be prepared to wait in long lines in the sweltering heat for hours. Be prepared to be compared to people who are not good at all (and lose to them). And be prepared to get your dreams shot in a matter of seconds.

I hope all of this didn't change your views on the show. In the end, American Idol always ends up finding great talent, and the show still is a great success. I just hope this brings you some understanding in how the whole process works. So, with that being said, I wish the best of luck to all those on season seven of American Idol, and for all you readers out there who plan on trying out for future seasons.

In the famous words of Ryan Seacrest; Esposito, out!

The Strike is Finally Over

KRISTEN RENDA
ENTERTAINMENT EDITOR

As I first reported back in November, there was a strike within the Writer's Guild of America. Since then, America has seen what actual reality television is like, because those were the only television shows that were still able to be in production.

Walking down the streets of New York or Los Angeles every day during normal working hours, the writers were picketing outside a different corporation. They handed out fliers to people passing by asking them to help in the strike.

People may think they can't do anything, but all they have to do is write a letter to all the big guys at these corporations and tell them to give the writers what they deserve because we want our shows back.

Without the writers at work, there were no new scripts, and shows (and movies) couldn't even film the scripts they had because filmmakers didn't have the rights to tweak the script at all.

Some shows couldn't even film because the actors in the show are members of the WGA. Those actors couldn't cross the picket lines and had to support the cause they they are a part of.

The strike was so serious that it caused the cancellation of the Golden Globe Awards due to the fact that no actors or writers were going to cross the picket line.

In hopes to reach an agreement with the bigwigs at the major media corporations before Oscar night so a Golden Globe repeat wouldn't happen, the writers have succeeded and will be back to work on Wednesday, February 13th.

There was a meeting with the head of the WGA and the heads of the media corporations on Saturday February 9th, and now writers will be receiving a nice share of royalties from their work when it is broadcast over the Internet. This was the main concern the writers had. Whenever their work is broadcast on television or sold through DVDs, the writers get a percentage of money that can help take care of their life and family. This past holiday season was very rough for some of them that live from paycheck to paycheck. Having Internet royalties will especially help all of the struggling writers big time.



PHOTO COURTESY of Kristen Renda
Writers picketing outside of Viacom in Times Square.

Former CEO of the Walt Disney Company, Michael Eisner said, "It's over. They made the deal, they shook hands on the deal.... It's possible they will turn it down, but it would be insane if

they [did]."

Details of the deal made between the corporations and the writers haven't been announced yet, but I'm sure they will soon.

The past three and a half months have been hard on Hollywood as well as America, and now we can all get on with the rest of the television season.

I for one am happy for the writers who are getting what they deserve. Without them, all of the lines that we constantly repeat, and episodes that we know by heart wouldn't have been there without the brilliant writers inventing them.

I'm very excited to have my shows back, and continue to laugh every Thursday night while watching new episodes of *The Office*.

Happy Valentine's Day MU!

DANIELLE DECARLO
FEATURES EDITOR

Valentine's Day is right around the corner, and for a lot of people, this is good news. However, it may not be for others! Either way, it should be a day to be enjoyed, whether you're single or attached. There's no need to mope around simply because you don't have a date...you can still have fun with it anyway! Here are some ideas (including last minute!) for your significant other if you're attached, or some neat little party or gathering ideas for you and your friends if you're single!

Valentine's Day is all about love...and chocolate of course! Here are some fun chocolaty ideas to give to your partner or your friends!

- Chocolate covered strawberries

- Brownies - use a cookie cutter to shape them as hearts

- White chocolate raspberry cheesecake

There are tons of recipes you can look up using many different types of chocolate. There is bitter-sweet, semisweet, milk and white. You can mix and match or create something yourself using one or all of them!

Of course, if you are waiting until the last minute, there is always the conventional box of chocolates that you can pick up at almost any store!



IMAGE COURTESY of google.com

Valentine's Day crepes!

Crepes can be a great idea since they are easy and don't take long at all to make. Here is a recipe for some Valentine's Day Crepes!

- 1/2 cup whole milk
- 1/2 cup flour
- A pinch of salt
- 1 tbsp butter
- 1 egg
- 1 to 2 tbsp sugar

Melt butter and allow to cool a little bit. While that is cooling, mix in milk and eggs with a whisk. Add butter and whisk well. Add a little bit of sugar while whisking. Apply thinly to a nonstick pan (or use Pam). Separate crepes with a paper towel so they don't stick. You can add

getting your honey the perfect Valentine's Day gift...but here's a simple idea that he or she will love!

Pick out your favorite picture of the two of you together. You can get a picture frame at a Dollar Store, and pick up some decorating supplies at AC Moore, Michael's, or anything like that. Customize the picture frame to how you think your significant other might like it! It's thoughtful, inexpensive, and guaranteed to get the right reaction!

Single? It's Party Time!

If you're single, there's no reason to stay in and mope around! Have a little get together with friends. Here are some party favor ideas to make your friends' Valentine's Day fun too!

- Fill a basket with red, white and pink carnations, each tied with ribbon. Have corsage pins on hand if guests choose to pin on flowers as they arrive.

- Cover your front door with fun decorations like red gift wrap and cut out red and pink hearts.

- Place red and pink candles around the house and in the bathroom for a more romantic feel!

- Make a mixed CD of a few love songs (or songs completely against love, if you prefer!)

- For take-home party favors, fill red glass votive candle holders with candies. Set each in the middle of a square of tissue paper, twist to close and tie at the twist with ribbon.

- Bake some heart-shaped sugar cookies and leave out decorations for your guests to decorate on their own!

- Have a bowl of red punch. A great recipe for punch is simple: Equal parts cranberry juice, cherry juice and lemon-lime soda with crushed ice to keep it chilled.

Leave candy hearts (the ones with the little sayings on them) around the kitchen or dining room table (if you have one) for decoration.

As you can see, you don't have to be attached to someone to enjoy Valentine's Day! There's great ideas for all of your loved ones, including your friends and family! Happy Valentine's Day!

Information courtesy of allrecipes.com.

Recipe for sugar cookies:

7 cups flour

2 cups white sugar

2 tsp salt

2 tsp baking powder

1 1/2 cups shortening

3 tsp almond extract

1 cup milk

3 eggs

Preheat oven to 375 degrees

In a large mixing bowl, mix together flour, sugar, salt, and baking powder. / Mix in shortening. Once the shortening is well blended, stir almond flavoring and milk into the dough at the same time, followed by eggs. Roll out dough onto a floured surface, using a floured rolling pin. Roll the dough thick. Cut out cookies and arrange them on a cookie sheet. Use a heart shaped cookie cutter for shape.

Bake at 375 degrees F (190 degrees C) for 8 to 10 minutes, or just until bottom is golden.

PHOTO COURTESY of google.com



IMAGES COURTESY of google.com

As you can see, there are many different ideas that you can either make yourself or pick up at the store for your sweetheart or friends for Valentine's Day!

Valentines Day Breakfast in Bed

If you are really feeling ambitious, you could go all out for your loved one, roommate, or friends by serving them a really awesome breakfast in bed! You can make this extra special just by decorating the tray with the little Valentine's Day heart candies, red and pink napkins and plates, or if you really want to get fancy a few rose petals. You can bake them something extra sweet the night before if you wish.



PHOTO COURTESY of google.com

You can prepare Valentine's Day breakfast in bed for your sweetheart, parents, or friends to make their day extra special! Prepare some of it the night before if you or your significant other has work in the morning.

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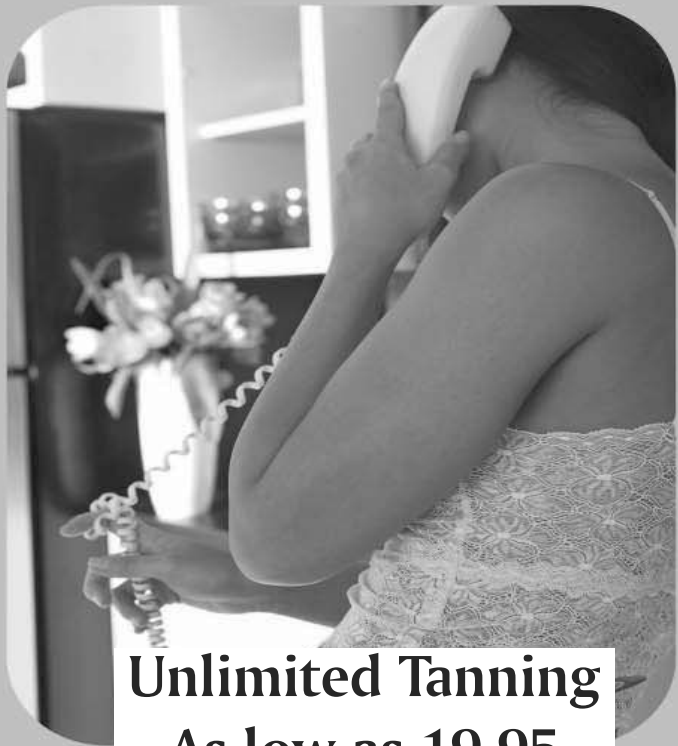
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Editor Note: This page contains articles written by the student members of these organizations. The Outlook is not responsible for the content of these articles. Send articles to outlook@monmouth.edu. Deadline is Mondays at 2:30 p.m. Otherwise, publication may not occur.

Alpha Sigma Tau

Alpha Sigma Tau will be hosting the first annual “Beauty and the Greek” on Monday, Februaruy 25, 2008. “Beauty and the Greek” is a chance for Greek and non-Greek students to be partnered up and compete for fabulous prizes. The format to the event is similar to the show “Beauty and the Geek”. The proceeds of the event will go our many philanthropies such as Suicide Awareness. Mark your calendars and please come to support the sisters of Alpha Sigma Tau!!! If you have any questions or are interested to participating as a contestant please contact Jenna DeLozier (s0620281@monmouth.edu) or Nicole Russo (s0583809).

Political Science Club

The Political Science Club is planning an exciting spring semester! If you're interested in writing about politics or recent news events write-for the politics page of the outlook. Interested in debate? The club is beginning a debate team this semester. The club is also planning a Support the Troops event as well as a trip to Washington, D.C. If you're interested in having a lot of fun with the Political Science Club, stop by a meeting every Tuesday in Bey Hall room 228 at 3:45.

Women’s Political Caucus of NJ, MU Chapter

The Women’s Political Caucus of NJ Monmouth University Chapter wants YOU! If you missed us at the involvement fair, and are interested in politics please contact Nicole Kavanaugh at s0664922@monmouth.edu for more information on this multi-partisan organization. The WPCNJ MU Chapter will be the second WPC chapter at a University in the country, and second only to Rutgers.

RHA/Winterball

RHA meetings are every Tuesday at 9pm in the Oakwood Lounge. Residents and commuters welcome! RHA is also the proud host of Monmouth’s Annual Winterball in Wilson Hall. This year our theme is *A Hollywood Affair* and it will take place on Saturday, February 23, 2008 at 7 p.m. Tickets are on sale now in both the dining hall and in the information booth in the student center. Prices are: 1 for \$30; 2 for \$45; 3 for \$60; 4 for \$75 . We look forward to seeing you at this red carpet event!

Student Activities Board *SAB*

Come help organize and plan fun activities and events on campus. We want your suggestions and ideas, and we want to hear what you have to say. SAB is open to all students on campus so stop by our meeting this Thursday at 4pm, 3rd floor student center. Have a 4:30? Stop by for 15 minutes! Every minute makes a difference! Can’t make it to the meeting? No problem, email us at sab@monmouth.edu or stop by our event in the dining hall this Thursday at 8:30pm. We invite everyone to attend this free event on Valentines Day

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COMPILED BY: JACQUELYN BODMER



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"NOTHING!!!"



**Bob
Senior**
"It's a suprise!"



**Sarah
Freshman**
"Going to SAB event in the DH to win a Wii."



**Megan
Freshman**
"Going out with friends"



**Grace
Senior**
"Going out to dinner and then going to sleep."



**Jackie
Sophmore**
"Working, it's just another day."



**Sam
Sophmore**
"Trying to win a Wii at the Dining Hall."



**Kait
Freshman**
"Going to dinner with my best friend"



**Cori
Senior**
"Hopefully someone supprises me with some roses and something romantic...hint hint."



**Roxann
Junior**
"I hope I have a date!"

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Hawks Go ‘Oh’ and Two

Men drop two more NEC games to Sacred Heart and Mount St. Mary’s

ERIC WALSH
SPORTS EDITOR

The Monmouth men’s basketball team has played hard all season, making almost every game a close contest. However, the Hawks have found themselves on the losing end of 17 of the 22 total games they have played this season. This remained true for the team’s two games this past week, as Monmouth played hard, but lost both games by a close margin. On Thursday, the Hawks came out flat at Sacred Heart, going down by double digits in the open-

es, MU drops to 5-19 overall, and 2-10 in the NEC. Against Sacred Heart, the Blue and White took an early lead as Whitney Coleman hit a three-pointer from the wing. The Pioneers came right back as Chauncey Hardy hit back-to-back threes to start an 11-0 run for SHU, who went up 13-5 with 14:41 remaining in the first half. The Pioneers kept coming at the Hawks, increasing the score to 23-8, as the run swelled to 21-3 in 8:23. With 5:24 remaining in the first stanza, Sacred Heart led 32-13 after another pair of threes

baskets. However, MU went on a 14-point run to make the score 44-38 with 14:09 remaining in the contest. Yaniv Simpson’s two three-point baskets got the Hawks going, as they were able to chip into the Pioneers’ large lead. Simpson hit another three to make the score 46-41 with 12:39 to go, but MU could only manage two free-throws over the next 2:50, allowing SHU to build the lead to 55-43 with just over nine minutes remaining in the game. Monmouth answered back with two long distance threes from Simpson, and added another from R.J. Rutledge to cut the Sacred Heart lead to 57-52, but the Pioneers went on another scoring run to expand their lead to 68-52 with three minutes left. Monmouth was able to pull within 10, but could not get any closer, losing 74-62. Simpson led Monmouth with 20 points, off his career-high six three-pointers. Coleman contributed 10 points in the losing effort. In their second televised game in three weeks, the Hawks looked to get a victory the second time around. But the Mountaineers of Mount St. Mary’s had other ideas as they pulled out the victory, 76-66. Coleman scored the game’s first six points as the Hawks took an early 6-2 lead, and held an 11-8 advantage after a low-post move by Nick DelTufo was successful. After the Mountaineers took a 12-11 lead at the 14:11 mark in the first half, the squad went on a 10-0 scoring run that was capped by a three-pointer by Will Holland in a transition set. Monmouth finally got a basket from Coleman, after going scoreless for 5:29 to cut the lead to 22-15. The Blue and White went on a 6-0 scoring spurt behind a cutting lay-up from James Hett, to cut the score to 22-19. But Mount St. Mary’s answered right back with a 6-0 scoring run of their own to inflate their lead to 28-19 with 4:24 left in the half. The Hawks cut the lead to just four as the teams took a break for

halftime, with the Mountaineers holding on to a 34-30 advantage. Monmouth evened the score within the first two minutes of the second half, with a three-pointer from Rutledge and a free-throw from Coleman. Monmouth used their momentum to go up 41-36, with Rutledge scoring the first eight points of the second half for the Blue and White. Monmouth held onto the lead until the 6:05 mark, after a bevy of Mount free-throws and a three-pointer that gave Mount St. Mary’s the 55-52 lead. After the Mount took a 56-52 lead, Coleman ended a four-minute scoreless drought for the Hawks with a pair of free-throws. The visiting squad extended their lead to 60-54 after another three from Holland. After an exchange of threes from Coleman and Chris Vann, Vann’s second three gave the Mountaineers a 66-57 lead that they never conceded, going on to win 76-66. Coleman led all scorers with 18 points, and pulled down eight rebounds. Rutledge scored all of his 14 points in the second half, and Hett added 11 points on 4-of-5 shooting. Monmouth is now in 10th place in the NEC standings, but is still just one game out of a tie for eighth place with Fairleigh Dickinson and St. Francis (Pa.). With only six games left in the regular season, all of which come against teams in the top eight in the NEC, the blue and white have a tough road ahead of them. The top eight teams in the conference earn a berth into the NEC Tournament, with the winner going on to play in the NCAA Tournament in March. Northeast Conference leaders Sacred Heart and Robert Morris have already clinched NEC Tournament berths, with each only totaling 2 losses in conference play thus far. The Hawks will play their next three games away, with their first game coming on Saturday, February 16, at Wagner. Tip-off is set for 7 p.m.



PHOTO COURTESY OF MU Sports Information

Yaniv Simpson hit a career-high six three-pointers and led the team with 20 points against Sacred Heart, but the Hawks could not pull out a victory.

ing half. The team clawed back valiantly in the second half, only to lose by 12 in the end, 74-62. On Saturday night, in a game that was televised on MSG, the Blue and White once again dropped a hard-fought game, this time to Mount St. Mary’s, 76-66. With the loss-

from Hardy and Luke Granato. The Blue and White put together a few successful offensive sets, but found themselves down 40-24 at the halftime intermission. The second half opened in an ugly fashion for Monmouth, as Sacred Heart scored the first two

NEC Men’s Basketball Standings

1. Sacred Heart (11-2)
2. Robert Morris (10-2)
3. Wagner (9-2)
4. Quinnipiac (8-3)
5. CCSU (8-5)
6. Mount St. Mary’s (7-6)
7. Long Island (4-8)
8. Fairleigh Dickinson (3-9)
- St. Francis (PA) (3-9)
10. Monmouth (2-10)
11. St. Francis (NY) (2-11)

Late Season Slump

Women defeated by Mount St. Mary’s 78-72, outlasted by Sacred Heart 64-55

ANDREW SCHETTER
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

The Monmouth University Women’s basketball team fell to Mount St. Mary’s 78-72, Saturday afternoon at Boylan Gym. The loss came despite an outstanding effort on the glass, as the Hawks out rebounded the Mountaineers 49-26. Mount St. Mary’s shot an outstanding 50 percent as a team and was led by guard Tiffany Green who scored 23 points on 8-11 shooting including 3 buckets from beyond the arc. The Hawks were led by Forward Jennifer Bender who recorded her 7th double-double of the season notching 21 points and 14 rebounds in the loss. The game was close throughout as the Hawks headed into halftime with 39-37 deficit. There were 5 lead changes in the first half but the Blue and White failed to gain the lead once in the second half. They cut the lead to 1 on 3 separate occasions but, each time Mount St. Mary’s was able

to connect on their next offensive possession. The story of the game was the field goal percentage of the Mountaineers as they overcame Monmouth, outscoring them 30-14 in the paint. The Mountaineers had all 5 starters with double digit scoring efforts. The defensive effort of Monmouth just failed to produce enough stops when it mattered. The Hawks also failed to win the points off turnovers battle in the contest as the Mountaineers capitalized with 18 points off of Hawks miscues. The day did bring about some positive things for the Women’s basketball team as they were apart of National Girls and Women in Sports Day. The University celebrated National Girls and Women in Sports Day with a “think pink” theme Saturday afternoon at Boylan Gym against Mount St. Mary’s. The “think pink” theme of the day was referring to the pink wrist bands worn my many in attendance to promote awareness of the disease.

Monmouth University hosted a brunch before the game against Mount St. Mary’s which included community. The brunch focused on issues like leadership and building up confidence in both yourself and your team. Over 800 schools including Monmouth participated in a raffle during the game with all proceeds going towards breast cancer research. After the game Mount improved to 7-17 overall and 5-8 in conference play while dropping Monmouth to 7-15 overall and a disheartening 4-7 in Conference play. On Monday evening, the Hawks traveled to Fairleigh Dickinson to take on the Sacred Heart Colonials, who came into the contest second in



PHOTO COURTESY OF MU Sports Information

LaKia Barber had ten points, going 6-6 from the charity stripe, but could not help Monmouth get by Sacred Heart on Monday night. The Hawks lost the game 64-55.

the Sacred Heart Colonials, who came into the contest second in

the NEC at 15-8 overall, and 10-2 in the conference. Although the Blue and White battled hard, the game never fell into place for the visiting team, as they were defeated 64-55. The game was tied with just over nine minutes to play when Sacred Heart when on a run scoring 10 unanswered points, making the score 57-47 with 4:45 left in the game. The Hawks never really threatened after that point, eventually losing by nine, 64-55. The Blue and White were led by three players who each had 10 points. Bender, Veronica Randolph, and LaKia Barber each scored in double figures in the losing effort, with Bender adding eight rebounds. Although the Hawks dropped three conference games last week they still have a chance at a bid in the NEC tournament where anything can happen. They also gave back to their community for a much greater cause. Their next tip off is scheduled for Saturday, February 16, at 4 p.m., when they take on Wagner in Staten Island, N.Y.

A Word on Sports

Why College Football Doesn't Need a Playoff

ALEXANDER TRUNCALE
STAFF WRITER

The 2007 college football season was one like no other, although, it ended much the same way it did in 2006, with my Ohio State Buckeyes getting steamrolled in the National Championship game by yet another SEC school, while I sat and watched the disaster, and once again, died a little inside.

All that aside, the calls for a playoff system in Division 1-A college football (er, excuse me, Football Bowl Subdivision) only got louder this year, with multiple teams getting hot at the right time, and feeling short-changed by the so-called BC Mess system. The most vocal opposition to the BCS and in favor of a playoff system came from Athens, Georgia, and southern California, with college football pundits arguing for Georgia and USC's shot at the prize. There were proponents of Kansas, who felt the one-loss team from the Big 12 deserved to play in New Orleans, and there were some who thought that Hawaii was in the right city, but playing in the wrong bowl on the wrong day.

So, with all this unrest in College Football Bowl Subdivision, an article entitled, "Why College Football Doesn't Need a Playoff," might in fact turn some heads and garner some attention. Hey, you've already read all the way up to this point, haven't you?

What I'm about to say may sound like a paradox, but it is true: the reason college football doesn't need a playoff, is because it already has one.

I'll give you a minute to digest that. Fact is, every week is like a playoff in college football and there is no sport in America in which the regular season means so much. It's not just about what your team is doing, but what other teams are doing as well.

Here is the best example I give for what I'm trying to illustrate. Let's say you're a fan of an NFL team that is on the brink of making or missing the playoffs. It's the last two or three weeks of the season, and your team, in order to get in, needs help from other teams. Some need to win, some need to lose. Well, it's like that every week in college football's battle for the National Championship.

Case in point: both LSU and Ohio State needed help to get to the National Championship Game. After their loss to Illinois, the Buckeyes fell from number one all the way to number to number seven. Here is what the BCS standings looked like on November 11th:

1. LSU
2. Oregon
3. Kansas
4. Oklahoma
5. Missouri
6. West Virginia
7. Ohio State

Two weeks later, after Kansas fell to Missouri, Oregon lost two in a row, and their starting quarterback, and LSU lost to the Arkansas Darren McFadens in triple OT, here is how the BCS looked:

1. Missouri
2. West Virginia
3. Ohio State
4. Georgia
5. Kansas
6. Virginia Tech

7. LSU
And lo and behold, Missouri loses to Oklahoma in the Big 12 title game, West Virginia inexplicably falls at home to Pittsburg, and LSU beats Tennessee in the SEC Championship, and your BCS National Championship is Ohio State vs. LSU.

The point is the regular season in college football matters, more so than in any other sport, college or pro, and there is no such thing as a meaningless game. While the system in major college football in no where near perfect, a playoff in which eight or sixteen teams would square off in a tournament-style would destroy the excitement the college football regular season brings every week.

Although I am in favor of the BCS, I think it needs to encourage teams to schedule more competitive out-of-conference match-ups, in order to bolster each team's strength of schedule. For example, this year, Ohio State is playing at USC, defending champions LSU is taking on Texas, and Hawaii, probably because they want to actually be taken seriously, will travel all the way to Gainesville, Florida to play the Gators. Props to the Rainbow Warriors.

I know it's early, but here are my five teams that will challenge for the National Championship in 2008: LSU, Georgia, Ohio State, USC, and Oklahoma. BCS title game prediction: Georgia over Ohio State, as the revolving door of SEC teams beating the Buckeyes will continue, at least for one more year.

Keller, Losey Recognized for Performances

PRESS RELEASE

Last week, Monmouth senior Christian Keller was named NEC Field Athlete of the Week for the third time this season after throw-

personal best and stands more than a half-meter better than the conference's second-ranked performance.

Keller didn't disappoint as the favorite in the shot put, winning the event with a throw of 56' 4", while helping the Hawks take second at the NEC Indoor Championships.

This week, sophomore track and field athlete Michele Losey has been named the Monmouth University/WindMill "Top Dog of the Week" after helping the Hawk's women's team to the 2008 Northeast Conference Indoor Championship this past weekend.

Losey won the 400m race in a time of 56.81, then helped the 4X400m relay team claim first. Losey, along with Illiana Blackshear, Brittany Gibbs and Crystal Stein, finished the relay in 3:53.94 to claim first place.

This was the women's team's third NEC Indoor crown, and first since 2003-04.



PHOTO COURTESY of MU Sports Information
Michele Losey won the 400m race and helped the 4X400m relay team take first at the NEC Indoor Championships.

ing a personal best in the shot put at the Delaware Thomson Invite last Saturday.

As the NEC Indoor Championships loomed, Keller appeared poised to keep the shot put title in Hawk hands. Last year's third-place finisher has shown the ability to capture the title that teammate Nick Williams held a year ago. Keller hit the biggest throw in the NEC this season at the Delaware's Thomson Invite en route to claiming his third NEC Field Athlete of the Week award of 2008. His mark of 17.10m (56' 1.25") is a new

Monmouth First Team All-NEC Performers

Bill Doherty (800m)

Michelle Losey (400m)

Christian Keller (shot put)

Ed Skowronski (weight throw)

Women's 4x400 Relay Team

Women Take First, Men Second at NEC Indoor Championships

PRESS RELEASE

A total team effort sparked the Monmouth University's women's track & field team to a win at the 2008 Northeast Conference Indoor Championships on Sunday in Landover, Maryland. The men's team saw their three-year run as defending champions snapped but still managed a solid second place finish on the day.

Heading into the second day of competition the women were in third, 11 points behind the leader St. Francis (Pa.) but rallied to finish in first 11.5 points ahead of rival LIU. 2008 marks the third time in school history that the Monmouth's women's team has won the Northeast Conference title.

"The women were tremendous all weekend Very tough, together and determined," said head coach Joe Compagni. " We had a lot of people compete in multiple events. They certainly won the title as a team."

The 400m dash found sophomore Michelle Losey come away with a first place finish, crossing the line in 56.81. Hawks Illiana Blackshear and Brittany Gibbs took the third and four place spots, earning valuable points in the winning effort. Crystal Stein's time of 1:16.30 in the 500m dash was fast enough for second place and All-NEC honors.

Monmouth captured three of the scoring spots in the mile, led by Cailin Lynam's second place finish (5:02.45). Freshman Christine Altland and sophomore Laura Embrey placed fifth and sixth, re-

spectively. Losey took second in the 200m dash finals (25.40), with Stein coming in fifth with her time of 26.04.

Once again the relay teams came up big for the Hawks, with Monmouth winning the 4x400 and taking fourth in the distance medley relay. The 4x400 squad of Blackshear, Losey, Gibbs and Stein won the event with a time of 3:53.94, edging out LIU. The DMR relay team consisted of Tiffany McKenna, Mary Wilks, Aracelis Lantigua and Embrey.

Latasha Leake took third in the high jump (5' 2 1/4") while Jenn Tarsan came in fifth in the same event, clearing the same height. Tarsan was also seventh in the triples jump to earn points for the Hawks, an event in which Gibbs placed fourth in with her mark of 37' 8". Leake earned a fifth place finish in the 60m hurdles. Losey also earned a sixth place finish in the 60m dash, placing in her fourth event of the day. Lantigua's time of 2:22.32 in the 800m earned a seventh place spot for the sophomore. Altland finished in eighth place in the 5000m. Compagni took home NEC Coach of the Year honors for the women.

The men fell just 13.5 points short of winning their fourth straight title after leading going into the second day of competition.

"The men had a very strong second day but didn't make the most of their chances on day one to win their fourth straight title," said Compagni.

The Hawk throwers took four of the top six spots in the shot put, with favorite Christian Keller winning the event with his throw

of 56' 4". Freshman Tom Ciccoli was second in the event (54' 6 3/4"), while Larry Lundy and Ed Skowronski took fifth and sixth, respectively.

Senior Bill Doherty picked up a win for Monmouth over an impressive field in the 800m, crossing the tape in 1:56.25. Junior Ryan Madrid earned Second Team All-NEC honors with his second place finish in the mile, clocking in at 4:19.94. Monmouth sophomore Pete Forgach earned Second Team All-NEC honors with his second place finish in the 5000m (15:17.28). Randy Hadzor also tallied team points with an eighth place finish in the distance event.

The 4x400 relay team consisting of three freshmen and a senior (Kelsey, McLeod, Vuono and McCarney) tallied eight team points for the Hawks with their second place effort, crossing the line in 3:19.86. The DMR squad consisting of Yasser Barr, Derrik Keich, Doherty and freshman Ben Hutterer took home fourth place for the Hawks.

Freshman Reggie McLeod was fourth in the 400m dash with his time of 50.12. Chris Vuono and Patrick McCarney earned fourth and fifth place in the 500m, picking up points for the Hawks. Vuono also placed seventh in the 200m dash with his time of 22.68. Alex Bowers took seventh in the triple jump with a distance of 42' 4", while junior Chris Tanzola was also seventh in the 60m hurdles. Chris Taiwo also picked up a seventh place finish in the 60m.

As a team the Hawks had five First Team All-Conference performances and 10 Second Team All-NEC performances on the day.

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Michele Losey and the Monmouth University women's Track and Field Team sprint their way to the NEC Indoor Championship.

Full Story on Page 19