



SIFE Travels to Hungary During Spring Break



PHOTO COURTESY OF Bob Danhardt

Student Alex Abragamov and Professor Buzza talking to the students in their English language class about the U.S., Monmouth, and personal questions.

BOB DANHARDT
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

Most people look at Spring Break as a time to go out to some exotic island, soak in the rays of the sun, and perhaps come back with stories that you cannot believe you were ever a part of. So in that spirit the SIFE organization here on campus decided that

they were going to the beautiful country of...(drum roll please!)... Hungary! Now I know this does not seem like the number one hot spot for fun and excitement. However, I can tell it certainly was a place that gave us many stories to tell.

Naturally the first few questions from people are what does it look like? How are the prices

of things? How is the food? and lastly why?! Now I will quickly answer the first three, but it is the last question of WHY that really deserves the spotlight. To begin Hungary is a beautiful country. It has the old world charm and the battle wounds to prove it. They have a castle, a cathedral, an extravagant parliament building, home president, etc. What many people do not know is that Budapest (where we spent our first couple of days) is actually two separate cities; Buda and Pest! The river Danube separates them. Buda was for the rich people and Pest was for the poor. Now, however, that discrepancy is beginning to level out. The area outside of the capital reminds me a lot of the farmlands in Pennsylvania or South Jersey, just open space!

In regards to the price of souvenirs or other things, Hungary remains one of the cheapest European cities. This is not to say that certain are not expensive such as hotels, certain restaurants, or a number of other things. Overall, it is just generally cheaper and if you stay away from the main tourist areas you will find the prices to be even better. The last question is in regards to the food.

Hungary continued on pg. 2

Visiting Writers Series Begins

CHAD ESPOSITO
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

Poet Angela Ball presented her work as part of the Visiting Writers Series in the 800 Gallery on March 18. Ball received her PhD at the University of Denver. She teaches at the University of Southern Mississippi (USM) in Hattiesburg, Mississippi. She is also an editor for the *Mississippi Review* at USM's Center for Writing. She enjoys young children books and short stories and draws heavily on personal experiences but "writes her poems at a distance". She explained that this means putting herself in her poetry but looking at it from different points of view other than herself.

The reading began with an introduction by Michael Thomas, the Assistant Dean of the School of Humanities and Social Sciences and by Dr. Vetere, Assistant Professor of English, who went to school with Angela Ball. Ball said that a famous poet once said that "the purpose of art is to remember the dead and awaken the living". Her collection "Night Clerk at the Hotel of Both Worlds" won a Donald Hall Prize in Poetry in 2006.

"I'm having a lovely time here visiting, with yesterday's poetry workshop in Professor Evarts class, and today's reading here," said An-

gela Ball. The first poem she read is entitled "The Kiss" and it is written from the perspective of a Russian army officer. It is from her second book called "Possession". She described that this poem is about "a love affair except that this time things weren't easily forgotten".

In Ball's writing she talks about four different women. One of them is Ella Gwendolyn, also known as Gene Reese Williams. Williams was born in Dominica in the West Indies. She then went to the Royal Academy of Art. She toured as a chorus girl and then met this man named Lancelot High Smith who she fell in love with except that after a year the affair they had ended. This poem is from *Quartet*, her first novel, and the story takes place after WW2. Ball read "World's End" which was basically a biography about Williams. The poem speaks of her experience in Paris and Williams' affection for Lancelot.

Then, she read "What To Wear For Divorce" from her second book "Night Clerk at the Hotel of Both Worlds". Then she read "New Country" and a few other short poems.

Ball currently lives in Hattiesburg, Mississippi. She described Hattiesburg as the "Salvage Capital"

Poet continued on pg. 3

Journalism Panel Covers Tragedies

ASHLEY HARMON
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

A panel of journalists visited Monmouth University on March 18 to discuss covering tragedy in the news. Accompanying the reporters were family members of the victims of tragedies to share their heart breaking stories and their experiences with the journalists who covered them.

The panel of journalists included Ron Miskoff, a professor of journalism at Rutgers University; Ed Johnson, a reporter from the *Asbury Park Press*, and Susan Livio of the *Newark Star Ledger*.

The panel provided the listeners with valuable advice and insightful information, especially

for those attendees majoring in Journalism.

Reporters are often required to interview victims or members of a victim's family when covering tragedy in the news. These tragedies may include natural disasters, kidnappings, or murders. Reporters must be careful when covering these sensitive issues.

Ed Johnson shared the best ways to go about interviewing a victim or a member of a victim's family. Johnson, who has worked as both a news reporter and a FBI investigator, has an extensive background in interviewing victims. He has dealt with a wide range of people: cooperative and helpful to uncooperative and highly dramatic. "It is all in your approach" he said.

According to Johnson, the easiest way to get someone to talk to you is to "show concern and empathy." In many situations, a person may be not ready to talk about the tragic event. In this case, you must be patient and back off; otherwise they will never give you an interview.

It is also important to earn a reputation as a trustworthy reporter. If you say you are discussing something off the record, always keep your word (Yeah, Connie Chung...) The best way to conduct an interview is in person, not on the phone. "Personal contact is a great way to gain a person's trust" said Johnson.

Ron Miskoff, who was a reporter and columnist at *Home-news Tribune* before becoming

a professor at Rutgers, had some words of advice to share with the audience on what it takes to be a great reporter; "Know a lot of people and be a good writer." Nothing will help a reporter more than connections and good writing skills.

The panel also included members of victim's families whose tragedies spread their personal lives all over the front pages of newspapers. These victims have been through it all; news reporters always at their doors, their lives on the front page, and the frustrations of inaccurate reports. They shared their experiences and what news print has done for them.

The first victim to speak was Phyllis Matthey-Johnson. Her

son and daughter-in-law were imprisoned for causing the death of their seven year old adopted son, Viktor. He was born to alcoholic parents and spent the majority of his life living in a Russian orphanage. Viktor, along with his brothers, was adopted from Russia by Bob and Brenda Matthey just 10 months before his death. Viktor was seriously neglected and abused by his "highly religious" adoptive parents. This tragedy left Phyllis devastated and embarrassed. "I was the grandmother of a victim, but the mother of an abuser."

She shared what it was like to have her life and the life of her

Panel continued on pg. 2

Wednesday 58°/40°

Partly Cloudy/ Wind

Thursday 47°/42°

Showers

Friday 50°/39°

Rain

Saturday 46°/33°

Showers

Sunday 50°/36°

Sunny

Monday 51°/46°

Few Showers

Tuesday 54°/37°

Showers

INFORMATION PROVIDED BY weather.com

News	Entertainment	Features	Sports
<div></div> <div>Comedian Jen Kober performs at The Underground. ...2</div>	<div></div> <div>Find out how good (or bad) the new Owen Wilson movie is. ...10</div>	<div></div> <div>Find out how the Hawk's Nest compares to other convenience and grocery stores. ...12</div>	<div></div> <div>The outdoor track and field team opened their season this past weekend at the Shamrock Invitational. ...19</div>

SIFE Brings Workshop Abroad

Hungary continued from pg. 1

Let's just say some of it was tough to take, while other stuff was great. Their staple meat is pork and they are most definitely a wine culture, which happens to be pretty cheap!

The real focus of the trip, however, is not the great pictures we could take or the touristy things we could come home with. Rather this trip was something more. The reason the team went to Hungary was because of a tremendous networking opportunity. Dr. Donald Lombardi, a specialist professor and accomplished health-care consultant here at Monmouth, recommended that the SIFE team bring their program to Fenyi College in Hungary after I approached him about a project we could do that dealt with ethics. Upon further research it was learned that the school did not have any formal education in business or ethics. Consequently, it seemed that Fenyi (the place where SIFE instituted an ethics workshop that was completely student created) was the perfect place for the inaugural launch of the program.

Alex Abragamov, Professor John Buzza (of the business department) and traveled to the Fenyi College of Hungary in Miskolc, Hungary located about two hours outside of Budapest. Before our trip, we stopped in Budapest where Alex and I were able to meet the Corporate Governance chair of the American Chamber of Commerce thanks to Fr. Terrence Curry, a Jesuit priest who teaches architecture at the local University in Budapest who also doubled as our host while we were there. They both gave us some great pointers and materials to take the students of Fenyi. Our purpose for going was to give a three day seminar on business ethics. The idea of the program is to show how living an ethical life both personally and professionally can lead to tremendous success. Despite our purpose of teaching the students something, it was us who came away with the bigger lesson.

The main message of what we took away and the idea that we believe was left in the seminar room, is that ethics can mean many things to many people. In its simplest form ethics is "doing the right thing". However, the meaning of the right thing is merely a reflection of who we are as people as determined by a number of factors such as our culture, where we live, who our parents are, our socioeconomic status, what we have experienced in our life, etc. This illustrates



PHOTO COURTESY OF Bob Danhardt
Bob Danhardt teaching the ethics workshop to Hungarian students.

an important point because people from different parts of the world live different types of lives.

Naturally, this would lend itself to make our perspectives on life, on the world, and on ethics different. The beauty of the message is that one perspective is no more correct than the other. Ethics, this doing the right thing, is a problem that exists all over the world. Nothing can completely shield any country from the affects of people who choose a less than exemplary life. As a response we all have to deal with it in our way within our own environments.

From what we learned, the Hungarians have been known for their intelligence. After our time there I would have to agree. The level of understanding of all the people we came in contact with was impressive. The most amazing part about the children is not only were they well educated on the topics that affect their lives, but they also understood the roots of what can make positive changes to their country. The problem is that as of yet they have not been given the opportunity to make those changes.

The key to success in Hungary, as with any country, is education. The only thing we as people can do is expand our bounds of knowledge. We all have the responsibility to rid ourselves of the ignorance that comes from the refusal to learn about the world around us. This program we implemented at Fenyi is only the beginning of what is needed. There needs to be a constant

reinforcement of the idea any one can make a change and that confidence and trust in ones self and ones abilities looked at through an ethical lens is the beginning of success.

We would like to extend a big thank you to all the people that made this possible for SIFE. The Student Government Association for the funds and gifts for the kids, The admissions office for their donations to bring over and Mr. Rainey and the bookstore for always so graciously giving what they can to the students here to be successful. The point is that SIFE has a lot of projects created and even more waiting to be done, but without the support of the other student groups, the administration, and you the general student population we could not do what we do and that is attempt to change the lives of the people that we work with by helping to open doors for them that might have not otherwise been open to them.

In that spirit, if you are interested in finding out what else SIFE does, we have a "Meet SIFE day" this Saturday at 5pm in the Student Center or if you would simply like to join a club that can make a tremendous amount of difference both in your life and those you aim to help, then please join us at our meetings every Wednesday at 3pm in Bey Hall 229. All people are welcome.

Feel free to contact us at SIFE@monmouth.edu if you have any questions, comments, etc. Look forward to seeing you all!

MUPD Investigate Vandalism Cases in Residential Lots

PRESS RELEASE
MONMOUTH UNIVERSITY POLICE DEPT.

During the last week of February into the first week of March the Monmouth University Police Department investigated 9 (nine) cases of criminal mischief in the residential parking lots of the north side of campus. It seems likely that most of the damage occurred overnight on Monday February 25 into the early morning hours of Tuesday February 26. Nine vehicles belonging to resident students were damaged. The damaged ranged from broken side view mirrors to broken antennas and damaged emblems. The average repair cost to each vehicle was between \$250.00 to \$300.00.

In response to these crimes the University Police Department issued Hawk Safety Alert 2008-01 advising everyone of the crimes and offering a \$1,000.00 reward for information leading to the arrest and conviction of the person or persons involved. Additionally the University Police took a pro-active approach to the problem by formulating a comprehensive plan which included cameras, covert surveillance and enhanced night vision equipment. In the early morning hours of March 7th the police efforts paid off

as two Monmouth University students, one resident and one non resident, were arrested for damaging a resident student's vehicle. The students were observed jumping onto and crushing the hood of a vehicle parked in resident lot #3. It is believed to be a random act as the arrested students did not know the victim. The damage in that case is estimated to be approximately \$1,000.00. The arrested students were charged with the indictable crime of Criminal Mischief over \$500.00. They were both charged with Possession / Consumption of Alcohol while underage. One student was charged with Hindering Apprehension when he ran from the police at the scene.

Both students were scheduled for an initial court appearance on March 13. The case was then forwarded to Monmouth County Superior Court for action by the Grand Jury. Additionally, information has been forwarded to the Office of Judicial Affairs for action under the Student Code of Conduct.

The original nine cases of criminal mischief are still unsolved and police are asking that anyone with information please contact the University Police Department at 732-571-3472. Meanwhile, police have continued their efforts in the residential parking lots.

Journalism Panel at MU

Panel continued from pg. 1

family displayed all over the newspapers. At first she declined interviews with FOX News, but as she began to open up and share her much covered story, she became very close with a certain reporter and referred the reporter as a "therapist".

"The press was very good to me" said Phyllis, stating the papers provided her with details even she didn't know. Though the news reports were generally accurate, she described reading the stories in the paper as "upsetting" due to what the community would think.

Matthey-Johnson has since adopted Viktor's brothers. Despite the alienation of her son and the tragic loss of her grandson, Matthey Johnson has used her media attention to raise awareness and raise money for the orphanage Viktor once lived in.

Other victims of tragedy among the panel were sisters Diane Grusowski and Robin Turner. Grusowski's daughter, Danielle, a developmentally disabled woman, died 5

years ago due to abuse and neglect at an Edison group home. Her death was ultimately caused by the staff who hesitated to call 911 when Danielle suffered a prolonged high fever.

Danielle, who suffered from RETTS syndrome, was confined to a wheelchair and was non-verbal. Although she was unable to talk, Danielle's aunt, Robin Turner, believes she would have been able to dial 911 in that situation.

Unfortunately 911 was not called in time and Danielle was pronounced dead when she arrived at her doctor's office.

Danielle's mother and aunt have now become advocates for change, to become the voice and improve the lives of those with developmental disabilities. Like Matthey-Johnson, these sisters have turned tragedy to activism.

Since the death of Danielle, these powerful sisters have had several bills passed including Danielle's Law and the Medical Examiners Bill.

"Danielle's Law is a law that requires the staff serving those with disabilities to call 911 in the event of a life threatening health emergency" explained Turner.

In the process of passing these bills, these women have uncovered several group homes mistreating their patience.

"It is time to reveal the horrendous treatment our loved-ones receive. If people like you don't [educate the public], who will? That is why we rely on journalists to report the truth about abuse and neglect in New Jersey" said Turner in a one-on-one interview.

Turner and Grusowski continue with efforts to make Danielle's Law a national law, entitled Danielle's Act.

If you would like to learn more about these causes or if you would like to help please visit ViktorsPromise.com or urge sponsors to pass Danielle's Act. You can contact your local congressmen to urge the major sponsors to move the bill through the House and Senate.

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Angela Ball Opens Writing Series

Poet continued from pg. 1

of the world because everything that doesn't sell in stores seems to find its way to Hattiesburg. She described one time where she sorted through a shipment of designer dresses and she described the shipment as "starting from size 0 and going to size 5." She said that the dress was too small and she found that funny. She also wrote a poem called "Planet of Distraction" because she changes the subject a lot during conversation. An interesting quote she said during her talk was that "I lose myself in other's dreams" by John Ashbury. The last poem she read was "Musical Wish In Fulfillment".

Ball says that her greatest inspiration for writing is good poems by other people and she described poetry, using Walden Steven's words, "Poetry is another conversation between poets". Also she is inspired by having students who love poetry and by her dogs, friends and other things that I love.

"My greatest joy in writing is taking on the voices of others and making things up," said Ball.

Ball says that she also breaks up writing with taking walks, cycling, drinking coffee and other activities. She says that writing poetry can last anywhere between 15 minutes and 30 years because she tries to make every word perfect and have everything fit well. The most inspirational place she has been is the hilly Appalachian Mountains because it helps her feel "at one with nature".

"I try to write everyday and I would suggest that if anyone wants to be a poet then to be prepared to dedicate up to 10 years to perfect your poetry."

ANGELA BALL
Poet



PHOTO COURTESY OF www.monmouth.edu

Poet Angela Ball opened the Visiting Writers Series on March 18 in the 800 Gallery. suggest that if anyone wants to be a poet then to be prepared to dedicate up to 10 years to perfect your poetry," said Ball.

"I really enjoyed this presentation. Her poetry is very refreshing. She was really good and very passionate and real," said Jenn Adelstein.

Students Start 'Kylie's Cause'

ALLISON LACASKEY
STAFF WRITER

Eighteen-year-old Kylie Pinheiro was killed by a drunk driver on December 28, 2007. Surviving the accident are her cousins, Heather Pinheiro, a student at Rutgers University, and Monmouth University senior Melissa Pinheiro.

The family was driving home from a party late that night when a drunk driver ran a red light and broadsided the Pinheiros' car. The other driver's blood alcohol level was .159, almost twice the legal limit.

Melissa was hospitalized for approximately two weeks after the accident. She suffered countless injuries, including a broken leg, collarbone, arm, hip and tailbone, as well as a concussion.

Since the accident, the Pinheiro family has accumulated approximately \$80,000 in medical bills.

Melissa Pinheiro's roommates, seniors Liz Ricciardi and Lauren Philippe, are helping raise money to ease the burden of the medical bills. The students started "Kylie's Cause", a fundraiser to raise money for the Pinheiro family. Ricciardi and Philippi sold bracelets outside the Dining Hall and Student Center on the afternoons of Monday, March 17 and Monday, March 24.

Melissa Pinheiro pays for her own physical therapy every week.

The biggest burden on the family, obviously, is the loss of Kylie. According to Melissa, "Kylie was always in a good mood. Whenever someone was having a bad day, she was the one to make a joke and make people laugh." Kylie, an only child, graduated from South Brunswick High School in 2007 and had just completed her first semester at High Point University in North Carolina.

Ricciardi and Philippi are also holding a benefit on April 30 from 8 p.m.-11 p.m. in Anacon Hall. Through the benefit, Ricciardi and Philippi hope to raise money, as well as awareness about drinking and driving.

ing. "We're not about not drinking; we're about having a designated driver; calling a cab, knowing your limits. There are so many other options, it's never okay to drink and drive" they said.

The benefit will offer alcohol awareness to those who attend. Bands such as in.spite. of, who have opened for Incubus and played at Warped Tour, will also be featured at the event. Attendees will be able to experience "drunk goggles", which simulate the experience of being drunk. BAC cards will also be given out at the benefit.

Melissa Pinheiro will be speaking at the event. Suanne Schaad, a Substance Awareness coordinator on campus and Doug Pardon and Becky McClellon of the University's Athletic Department are co-sponsors of Kylie's Cause.

Tickets for the benefit are \$5 in advance and \$7 at the door, and can be purchased through Mike Patterson in the Student Activities Office on the second floor of the Student Center.

Comedian Jen Kober Performs at Underground

JAMIE KINARD
STAFF WRITER

Comedian Jen Kober, a Louisiana native, performed for a packed house at The Underground on March 19. Jen is a well-known comedian, who has performed at popular venues across the nation; she has also done numerous shows with Dane Cook and has opened shows for Hanson.

She has a one hour comedy special set to air on television soon and has some new television shows in the works, including "Big Dish" set to air in spring, along with her own cooking show that will go into production this fall. Jen has also created her own CD, called "Mind the Flap," showcasing her own routine, and has created her own website as well.

The Student Activities Board sponsored the event featuring Kober.

The comedy chair, Sarah Free-

man, is responsible for bringing in many of the comedians that perform on campus. She also goes to NACA to find other talent to perform on campus, and is able to bring in some acts that way. NACA is the National Association of Campus Activities, and is an annual convention that members of the Student Activities Board attend. It is at this convention that bands, comedians, and other talents perform to try and get booked at the various colleges across the nation.

"I am really happy that we booked her because she was a great comedian" said Freeman.

The crowd enjoyed Jen as she joked about everything from food to her skinny roommate. She even interacted with the crowd, picking on a few people and making hilarious jokes.

One of the crowd's favorite jokes was her routine about her skinny roommate. The crowd was rolling as Jen recounted numerous stories of how her roommate was too thin and is somewhat of a bubble head. She pointed out the funny quirks of her friends, and reflected on how she had lost her house in Hurricane Katrina – only to get a nice FEMA check.

Jessica Pino, a student at Monmouth, said, "She was hilarious!" Another student, Kyle Seiverd, said, "She was as funny as she was hungry."

Jen poked fun at her own weight, while making fun of her roommate. She also jested about her childhood in Louisiana and the long drive to California from her home state.

The majority of her jokes came from stories that she had to tell, and she made fun of things that everyone person does. Her personality and actions on stage made her appealing.

After the show, Jen showed her appreciation for being booked on campus and said that she had a great time performing here.

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Contact Marilyn Ward.

Migrant Education Program
Provide assistance as a teacher's aide in a six-week educational program beginning in July for the children of migrant workers in Manalapan and Long Branch. The children are recent immigrants to the U.S. and have limited English proficiency. Great for Education, Social Work, Psychology and Spanish majors.
Contact Marilyn Ward.

Radio Sales/Marketing Intern
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Contact Kathy Kennedy.

Museum Internship
This internship program in Newark, NJ will provide students with meaningful career development experiences while at the same time imparting practical knowledge of the museum profession. The program will take place from June 16th - August 8th. Ideal for Art, History, and Communication majors.
Contact Kathy Kennedy.

Marilyn Ward
732-571-4411
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kkennedy@monmouth.edu

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Violent Video Games: Danger On and Off the Screen

JESSICA SORIANO
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

In recent years video games in the U.S. have become increasingly violent because of destructive, excessively graphic images.

Upon witnessing a violent video game, one might notice wounded bodies with blood soaked clothes flashing across the television screen or speakers amplifying deafening gun shots. These intensified sights and sounds have made some games the subject of controversy.

"These games are simply played for enjoyment" says 15-year-old Michael Soriano of New Hampton, NY, adding that many teenagers and adults play video games to escape from the stress and tension of everyday life. But what happens when gamers start to duplicate what they see on the screen in real life?

For instance, on June 7, 2003 18-year-old Devin Moore from Alabama grabbed a pistol from an officer while in a police station. He then went on a shooting rampage, leaving two officers and a dispatcher dead on the scene.

According to Gamespot News, a video game network, Moore admitted at his trial that he had been inspired by *Grand Theft Auto*, a very gruesome and popular video game.

He even went as far as to compare life to a game, further stating that "everyone has to die sometime."

It was later discovered that Moore had been playing the game for two months straight on his Play Station II, where he practiced killing and mutilating virtual police officers. Moore's case is just one of many tragic killings sparked by video game violence.

Despite the belief that certain video games corrupt those who participate in them, especially teenagers, masses of people still choose to play them frequently. Some players become immune to the aggression and cruel behavior they're exposed to in popular games such as *Grand Theft*

Auto and *Mortal Kombat*.

Researchers at the Killology Research Group, who specialize in the study of destructive acts, point out that constant involvement in these games can initiate desensitization. This occurs when one recognizes malice as a way of life and begins to accept violence as a norm. It is this desensitization that usually causes people to commit malicious murders and theft crimes.

Some studies conducted by the Killology Group have proved that children who play violent video games have a tendency to act more

"Instead of playing sports and gaining vital social experiences, kids are just too occupied with trying to win battles on the screen."

MARIA ESCALANTE
Concerned parent

aggressively on the playground. Perhaps this could foreshadow the violent behavior that some children might show as teenagers.

On his website, researcher Kevin Szaflik confirms that by partaking in intense, explicit video games, a person's perception of violence becomes distorted.

Szaflik says that players start to find the violence humorous and customary. The gruesome images and carnage become part of their daily life.

Researchers at the American Psychological Association agree that first-person shooter games are the

most dangerous and influential video games. First-person shooter games test a player's skill to aim guns and shoot at enemies, which results in a negative representation of how to use a weapon.

The enhanced realism of the video games contributes to the growing indifference adolescence have toward crime and murder. In extreme cases, players become addicted to the games and lose the ability to separate fantasy from reality.

Concerned parent, Maria Escalante of Mahwah, NJ, claims that "Instead of playing sports and gaining vital social experiences, kids are just too occupied with trying to win battles on the screen." They become isolated from the outside world, concerning themselves only with the murder and destruction in the video games.

"Playing violent video games isn't a big deal," says 20-year-old gamer Eduardo Escalante of Newark, NJ, "as long as your life doesn't revolve around the game."

It is unfortunate that 21-year-old Shawn Woolley never received advice like Mr. Escalante's. The long time game-addict was found dead in his apartment in 2001 after committing suicide due to the computer game *Everquest*.

In response to many violent disasters, organized groups, including different religious associations, parent's groups, special interest groups and physiologists, have fought for harsher video game censorship by the Entertainment Software Rating Board (ESRB).

The ESRB is responsible for applying and enforcing ratings on computer and video games. This censorship limits the playing, distribution, purchase and sale of the games.

"Video games aren't harmful if the ratings are followed correctly and parents supervise their children while playing," says Judy Bucciarelli of Slate Hill, NY, parent of two teenagers.



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Monmouth University Practice Field

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As you may know, cancer affects millions of people across the globe and many people right here in our hometown. By being a part of Relay For Life, everyone has an opportunity to celebrate survivors, remember the people we've lost to cancer, and fight back against the disease. We will be joining millions of others to support the American Cancer Society and the lifesaving mission of eliminating cancer as a major health issue. Plus, we'll be helping fund the important services that the American Cancer Society provides right here in our own community.

We want you to join your friends and neighbors and be part of Relay For Life at Monmouth University! Sign up to participate, form a team, and raise money and awareness for this important fight. Don't worry if you couldn't attend the kickoff- it's not too late to be a part of Relay 2008!

If you want to learn more or discover what you can do to help, email us at kathleen.gelchion@cancer.org or call 1.800.ACS.2345. We need your help to spread hope for a future where cancer no longer threatens the lives of the people we love.

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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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Here's Your Chance

JACQUELINE KOLOSKI
EDITOR IN CHIEF

As the school weeks begin dwindling down, it is time to start looking ahead. I'm not talking about myself in this case, but rather *The Outlook*. It seems like it was just yesterday when I walked into the newsroom as a freshman ready to help in anyway I could. My initial goal from day one was to hopefully be Editor in Chief, and I'm proud that I attained that goal.

Being an editor not only is a great thing to put on a resume, but you learn so many skills that you can apply to anything you do in the future. I learned to manage a weekly newspaper, conduct meetings, give assignments, and manage a budget just to name a few. With six issues or so left, it's almost my time to say good-bye to a place I call a second home.

Right now on *The Outlook's*

horizon, we are currently looking for people to fill major roles to help make the newspaper the best it can be. Positions that can be filled shortly include Associate and Assistant Editorial positions for our sections that include News, Features, Opinion, and Sports. Responsibilities for those positions include assisting the editor in laying out the section, writing a story for that section each week, and copy-editing. Associate and Assistant editors are in the office with the editor on Mondays and Tuesdays during production hours. Editorial board meeting attendance is required, as well.

For next year, we will be looking for section editors, as well, as some of our current senior editors are graduating. Section editors are responsible for assigning stories for their section, communicating with their writers, overall design of their section, and writing stories each week.

Like I've mentioned in times past, the best part of *The Outlook* is the fact that we welcome people from all majors to join. I don't want to sound like a broken record but having a variety of majors only improves the quality of the paper as well as offers a variety of articles for the campus community to read. I've had held three editorial positions since being on *The Outlook* and while it is a great thing to put on my resume, the experience that I gained will help my go far in this field.

If you are interested in possibly filling an editorial position, please attend *The Outlook's* general meetings on Mondays at 8 pm in Room 260 of The Jules Plangere building or e-mail us at outlook@monmouth.edu.

Not many people can say they were an editor of their university newspaper. Well, here's your chance to say you had the opportunity.

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.

Interested in writing, editing, photography or layout & design? Join The Outlook! General meetings are Mondays at 8 p.m. in The Plangere Center Room 260.



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

DISCLAIMER: All articles appearing in the Op/Ed section of *The Outlook* are solely the opinions of the authors and do not reflect the views of *The Outlook's* editors (unless otherwise noted) or any and all advertisers. Opinion articles are run unedited and the content is the sole responsibility of their authors. All students and faculty are welcome to respond to any opinion piece that appears on these pages, and everyone is encouraged to submit an article for consideration. *The Outlook* reserves the right to withhold any articles deemed inappropriate or otherwise unfit to print in the Op/Ed section. Due to legalities, *The Outlook* will no longer print anonymous articles.

Alyssa’s Angels thanks Monmouth University

Dear President Gaffney,

On behalf of Alyssa’s Angels, I want to thank you for allowing the students in conjunction with Hawk TV, WMCX, The Outlook, COMM Work, and PRSSA to host a fashion show at Woodrow Wilson Hall. It was the perfect venue for a wonderful night filled with creativity and an outpouring of generosity. As the charitable organization selected as the recipient of the proceeds of the “Creative Couture” event, Alyssa’s Angels received \$2756.99 towards our present project of building a handicapped accessible playground located in West Long Branch in an area now known as Conway Park.

Our playground mission is to unite all children together regardless of their ability or disability and provide a safe environment for children who need assistance through therapeutic specialty equipment. Alyssa’s Angels playground will foster early childhood development and will enrich and educate children of all ages and all capabilities. Our anticipated start date of the playground is spring/summer2008.

Without the generous support from the community we would not be able to build our playground. The students of Monmouth University who worked feverishly to produce such a wonderful evening exemplified the spirit of community, which has been a backbone to our endeavor. The dedicated countless hours in preparation of their fashion show and produced a flawless evening.

We are certain that you already recognize how wonderful your students are, but it is important to emphasize just how their generour spirit touched us. Their contribution is crucial in helping us to achieve our goal, and their efforts will help to brighten young lives for years to come.

By copy of this letter, we are sharing our appreciation with the Mayor and Council of West Long Branch so they may be aware of the admirable dedication and creativity of your students.

Very truly yours,

Kelli-Ann Cantaffa
President, Alyssa’s Angels

This letter was presented to President Gaffney for Monmouth University’s work supporting Alyssa’s Angels. This year’s fashion show “Creative Coture”, raised money to support the cause of Alyssa’s Angels.

Alyssa Angels is a non-profit 501(c)(3) organization that seeks to assist children with disabilities and help their families to lead happy and productive lives. Based out of the greater Monmouth area, they assist in the financial aspect of a children’s disease by providing funding for therapeutic recreation and medical equipment.

Alyssa’s Angels hopes to be recognized as one of the most compassionate and caring organizations in providing assistance to children with disabilities and their families.

Why I Joined Relay for Life

SHEILA MCALLISTER-SPOONER
ASSISTANT PROFESSOR OF PUBLIC
RELATIONS AND JOURNALISM

On April 11 and 12 the American Cancer Society is holding a Relay For Life at Monmouth University. The American Cancer Society Relay For Life is a community event in every sense of the word. It is a chance for the community to come together to celebrate those who have faced cancer, remember those lost and empower everyone to fight back. Being a part of Relay For Life means being a part of a national grassroots movement to end cancer. Being a Relay For Life volunteer, means making life better for cancer survivors, patients and their families.

Although everyone joins for a common cause—to raise money for the American Cancer Society—we all have individual causes for joining.

I am actively involved with the Relay for professional reasons. As a member of the public relations faculty at Monmouth, I have integrated the fund-raising campaigns for the event into the coursework for fund-raising classes that I am teaching this semester. As the Faculty Advisor to Monmouth’s Public Relations Student Society of America (PRSSA), I am also assisting the chapter in creating and executing a fund-raising campaign (team name: PRSSA Beach Bums).

I also have a personal interest in this event. Since 1999, I lost my mother, my father, and Aunt to cancer. My sister Jeannine Nc-Nair and I formed the team Mac’s Dolly Sisters in memory of our

father John McAllister (Mac), our mother Catherine McAllister (one of the “original” dolly sisters), and our Aunt Patricia Nan-nery (the other “original” dolly sister). Throughout the years, we also lost many other loved ones to cancer. Our childhood memories are filled with get-togethers with family and friends, lots of laughter, and even more hugs. For all six children, we had one thing in common; our house was the house that all of our friends

“Although everyone joins for a common cause...we all have individual causes for joining”

wanted to hang out at. Yes, we were all blessed to be part of a big happy family. But, as strange as it may seem, being part of such

a happy family made the losses hurt that much more. How do we pick up the pieces? This relay is a start of the healing process. It is time for us to come to closure with our losses, to celebrate the love and happiness that we had, and to create family traditions and happy memories for our children and grandchildren.

Funds raised at Relay For Life will enable the American Cancer Society to support local services and resources for cancer patients and their families. Funds also support critical cancer research and community education programs designed to teach people how to reduce their risk of developing cancer. To sign up to participate or learn how you can volunteer for other patient services, Kathleen Gelchion, Director, Special Events Jersey Shore Region, The American Cancer Society, at 732-758-8259 x218 or via e-mail at Kathleen.gelchion@cancer.org.

Oscillations from a New Wave

BRIAN BLACKMON
STAFF WRITER

The translation of the late 1970’s into the early 1980’s lent itself as a backdrop for a whole new vibe in North American comic books. Projected into an era of splashy illustrated Arcade cabinets housing such coin-operated video games as Toru Iwatani’s *Pac-Man* (1980) and Shigeru Miyamoto’s *Donkey Kong* (1981);MTV’s music video panorama of college radio/New Wave offerings such as *Talking Heads*, *The B-52’s*, and *Devo*; and videocassette recorders transducing B-movie cult classics such as Marius Penczner’s 1982 *I Was A Zombie For the FBI*; the Alternative Comics movement utilized the direct market system of newly minted comic book shops, and successfully gave MARVEL and DC a run for their money.

Titles such as Dave Sim’s *Cerebus* (beginning in 1977), Wendy

and Richard Pini’s *Elfquest* (introduced in *Fantasy Quarterly* #1, 1978), Bob Burden’s *Flaming Carrot Comics* (first appearing in *Visions* #1, 1979), and Kevin Eastman and Peter Laird’s *Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles* (premiering in *Gobbledygook* #1, 1983) were independent efforts that set a benchmark as to what the medium could

offer—should offer, both artistically and in terms of the vast potential of success for creator owned books. Comics have never been the same.

If you, dear *Outlook* reader, ever find yourself browsing your neighborhood comic shop, searching for something truly excellent, don’t forget to be a patron of the independent press, and don’t forget to give one of the above titles a try. To quote Stan Lee from *Amazing Adult Fantasy* #15, 1962 “...with great power there must also come great responsibility.” What is more powerful than our freedom of choice?

“...with great power there must also come great responsibility.”

What is more powerful than our freedom of choice?”

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Political Debate: Should Affirmative Action be Continued? (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: “Negative Action”: Discrimination in Education

NICOLE KAVANAUGH
SENIOR, POLITICAL SCIENCE CLUB

As previously stated Affirmative Action draws its roots from Executive Order 10,925 signed by President John F. Kennedy in the 1960s as a means to make employers take “affirmative action” to promote and create equal treatment of applicants and employees “without regard to their race, creed, color, or national origin.” A research study done by students at Northwestern University put Affirmative Action to the test in regard to Law school admissions, which the United States Supreme Court has held is entitled to use race, creed, color, and national origin as determination points in their admission process. The students at Northwestern found that if Affirmative Action were not used in regard to Law school applications the minority population that graduates Law school would only drop by three hundred. They further found that law students that had below top 30 Law school credentials, but got into top 30 schools passed the bar at a lower rate, and on average got lower salaries for the same work as their “privileged white” counterparts.

The opposing side on Affirmative Action views the “privileged white majority” as an upper class of people, that are white, and implies further that minority peoples are never part of the upper class, and only get the opportunities that

are afforded to them in the inner city. This view is what thickens the racial lines that divide us. The majority of the “privileged white majority” are not as privileged as the opposing side pretends they are, because if they were, there would be no point in debating. The inner city schools across the United States have their fare share of this “privileged white majority” in attendance, however when it comes to admission to College, and especially to Law school the students who identify as Caucasian on their applications almost have a natural handicap. This is true because of the way Affirmative Action works. If an inner city Caucasian student, who was raised no better than an inner city minority with no better circumstances in life, education, or opportunity, and inner city minority student both apply for the same seat at a College or University, the inner city minority student is more likely to get admission, and scholarship money. While often times what comes to happen is the Caucasian student will be given admission as well, they will get far less scholarship, or none at all to attend the institution. For a student from a lower economical class, wether they are Caucasian, or a part of a minority group it is almost impossible to fund an education at private Colleges and Universities, and especially at Law schools, this I know from personal experience as a member of a so

called “privileged white” majority, which in my case, was not so privileged.

Reverse discrimination is something that really has no merit in what is being debated here. There is no reverse discrimination, there is discrimination in general. Affirmative Action never lived up to the challenge that President John F. Kennedy set out for it when he signed Executive Order 10, 925. Affirmative Action has not quelled discrimination against minorities, but has instead created new tension, and new boundaries between us. The dictionary definition that is used to define Affirmative Action by the opposing side as a type of reformation towards minorities and women is a definition written without the true sprit of Affirmative Action in mind. President John F. Kennedy had a good idea when he declared that employers would no longer be allowed to discriminate against peoples based on their “race, creed, color, or national origin”, however his ideology has been twisted in order to create legislation that allows discrimination against all people, not just the “privileged white majority”. The opposing side believes that without Affirmative Action there will be unchecked discrimination that will run rampant in our society, however I challenge that unchecked discrimination already runs rampant in society, and it is time to bring it to an end.

Side 2: Everyone Isn’t Born Equal

TRENNIA FIELD
PUBLIC RELATIONS, POLITICAL SCIENCE CLUB

“Freedom is not enough....You do not take a man who for years has been hobbled by chains, liberate him, bring him to the starting line of a race, saying “you are free to compete with all the others,” and still justly believe that you have been fair.” President Lyndon B. Johnson realized the need for an affirmative action program when the Civil Rights Act was developed. Putting an end to affirmative action and simply stating everyone has equal opportunities to education and occupations would leave the Nation in the same state it is in.

People in minority groups would not be hired as often and they would not have the same opportunity to get into college because schools at the earliest levels are not equal. Schools in the inner-cities are made up of mostly minority students. When the Supreme Court ruled against affirmative action and desegregating schools throughout the 1990’s, they made the decision to deepen the racial divide. Statistics show that schools in inner-cities are made up of more than 90 percent of Black and Hispanic students and these schools are often run down and are only given the basic programs rather than art and music as well. Even though Brown v. Board of Education (1955) ruled against segregation and reversed the Plessy v. Ferguson (1896) decision of “separate but equal”, the school system is still highly segregated, but people are able to blame it on poverty instead of realizing the circular connection between poverty, minority groups, and education.

The argument that calls affirmative action a policy of ending discrimination with discrimination is not a valid one. Instead, it includes minority groups as well as women in areas that would be closed to them based on their race, ethnicity or gender. Affirmative action’s goal is not to give a job or place in a university to an under qualified individual of a minority group, but rather give a person who

is equally qualified but often overlooked because of the fact that they were not given equal opportunity all along. It is not a practice of excluding certain majority groups, but giving minority groups the same options of climbing the ladder of social mobility.

Very few students who are getting into college because of affirmative action policies are attending the most elite universities in the country. According to Ellis Cose, the number of African American students and Chicano students are made up of 2/3 of each population are there because of affirmative action policies. However, 20 percent of the Caucasian student body is made up of students who come from poor backgrounds and benefited from the policy (Killing Affirmative Action). This shows that affirmative action benefits the so called “poverty stricken people in the privileged white majority”. If affirmative action policies were no longer instituted in education policies, students would be less likely to attend college and would be faced with the continuous cycle of schools that are segregated as a result of neighborhood locations and the nation would be on its way back to a time when segregation was legal.

Majority groups are threatened by affirmative action because it means that their privileges, the privileges that have been unfairly given to them throughout history, are being challenged. There is a huge difference between simply stating a belief on a particular issue and actually creating policies and enacting on the beliefs. People believe that everyone should have equal opportunities, however once affirmative action was put in place, it was immediately disputed. It is not enough to believe in giving everyone, people of all races, ethnicities, and genders, but policies, such as affirmative action must be accepted in order to make any real difference in the divide that is created because of discriminatory policies in the education system as well as the work force.

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!

An Economic Overview

MARGARET DEVICO
VICE PRESIDENT, POLITICAL SCIENCE CLUB

Tax season is an all-too familiar thing for most Americans. There’s a crunch to get everything filed on time, and then the waiting period for the checks to arrive. According to CNN.com, Americans usually spend between half and two-thirds of these rebate checks. However, this year has several twists that make the economic outlook more obscured than ever before.

First, on top of tax rebates, many Americans will also be receiving checks from the government as part of this year’s economic stimulus package. (If you’d like to know whether or not you will be receiving one of these checks, the information is available at <http://irs.gov/app/esp/>.) However, the country has never been in a state of such indebtedness, whether it be related to the mortgage crisis or what is being called the “credit crunch.”

The Federal Reserve is counting on Americans to spend the majority of these stimulus checks on consumer goods in order to stimulate the economy, but this may not be the case. A recently-released poll conducted by CNN and the Opinion Research Corporation found that 73% of check recipients do not plan on spending the money, but rather will put it into savings or towards paying off debt.

Of course, these statistics can certainly change once the checks get into the hands of Americans, and perhaps less will go into savings accounts than anticipated. The outlook is not as bleak as these figures project, though. The fact that the economy invariably moves in cycles is always fodder for optimism. Also, while house prices continue to decline, house sales have started to increase. While this is not necessarily means for celebration, it does show that the housing market has not completely stagnated.

Of course, the big question for economists and consumers is whether or not the country is in the midst of a recession. This would mean that the Gross Domestic Product (or GDP) has been in a state of decline for at least six months accompanied by lower income and higher unemployment. Recent statistics show that unemployment has decreased in the last quarter, and with the economic stimulus package on its way, the GDP could increase as much as a whole percentage point by the end of the year. So, if all goes according to the plans of the Federal Reserve, the economy will be able to climb out of its slowed state, and any perceived recession period will be over relatively shortly. The mechanism put into place by the government seems to be one that will work, and it is now up to the consumers to try to better manage their credit, mortgages, and savings in order to overcome this most recent lull in the economy.

Political Quote

“War compels men to be just and temperate, whereas the enjoyment of good fortune and the leisure which comes with peace tends to make them insolent”
-Aristotle

“While we are contending for our own liberty, we should be very cautious of violating the rights of conscience of others.”
-George Washington

All quotes from Quotationary by Lenoard Roy Frank

THIS WEEK OVERSEAS...

Greetings From The Land Down Under

LEILANI CHIN
OVERSEAS CORRESPONDENT

G'day mates! Sorry we haven't been keeping in touch, but we all have been so incredibly busy. We have been here for around 6 weeks and have already made millions of memories.

We have been exploring our new home by going to surf camp, exploring the city, bushwalking in the Blue Mountains, sunbathing at Manly beach, celebrating Mardi Gras and many other activities. We have quickly learned that the possibilities in Sydney are unlimited.

This past week has been by far my most favorite time in Sydney. I was so lucky to be visited by my friend from the states, Shannon Connell. I definitely wanted to show her how amazing this country is.

Before her arrival I booked a couple activities that would give her a taste of what Sydney is really like.

The other Monmouth students and I sometimes forget that we are on the other side of the world, but it is when we pass the Sydney Opera House or Darling Harbor that we realize we are in AUSTRALIA!

We always prefer to go to the Woolly's in the "MAC centre" since there are tons of shops and eateries to enjoy there as well.

We enjoyed a family dinner and then began to prepare for our typical Thursday night, theme night at uni-bar. This week's theme happened to be pirate night, so we all were very excited. Pirate night turned out to be a blast and everyone was appropriately dressed in their best pirate attire.

The next day I brought Shannon to Sydney Harbor to see the bridge and the Opera House. We took a million pictures, got ice cream at Copenhagen, watched the aborigines play their drums and didgeridoos, got some lunch, and then we went on our first REAL activity.



PHOTO COURTESY of Leilani Chin

As part of the Study Abroad Trip through Monmouth, students are able to participate in the Sydney Harbour Bridge Climb, which shows an amazing view of Sydney.

We thoroughly enjoyed the bridge climb, but were filled with excitement and anxiety for the next activity.

The next day, Shannon and I woke up at 6:30am for our second activity. Csilla also joined us as we got the bus to the city. We then walked to our meeting spot at the office of: Sydney Skydivers.

You also cannot come to Australia without going skydiving, right? I guess I can't speak for everyone, but Shannon, Csilla, and I thought it was something we just had to try.

We took a shuttle van to Picton, which is about an hour away from the city. Our names were called shortly after signing in and before we knew it we were being taught how to jump out of a plane. All three of us were filled with the most excitement physically possible as we got onto the plane along with 17 others. After 15 minutes of air flight we reached 14,000ft in the air! It was probably the longest 15 minutes of my life.

My 5 minute freak out session of nausea and sweating was quickly replaced with excitement as my instructor strapped me onto his front and we all headed for the back door.

Shannon was the first of us to go

and I watched her jump into the sky as if she got sucked out of the plane, of course only making me more scared. Then Csilla was next and then it was my turn.

Jumping out of a plane is the most liberating and crazy feeling you will ever get. Freefalling for about 50 seconds your cheeks flap with the wind and you experience the driest mouth you will ever get. It was unreal, that is really the only way to explain it.

Once the instructor deploys the parachute you get to cruise around in the air and enjoy the view, until your instructor decides to perform a "death spin" which is when they pull one side of the parachute and make you spin incredibly fast.

For some reason my instructor wanted to do a death spin for double the amount of time as Shannon's death spin. That was not cool at all (especially for someone like me who doesn't even ride roller coasters).

We then were informed to get into the position to land. I can remember when my instructor was teaching me this position he said, "Now don't forget this because you can break your legs if you don't do this properly". You better believe I had that position memorized and mastered before landing. Shannon, Csilla, and I finally met safely on land.

The funniest part of the day was on the way back to the city. We had a tire blow out while in the shuttle van! So basically, skydiving went fine, but we almost died on the drive home. Luck-

ily everything was fine and we got home safely.

That night everyone went to a bar in the city called 3 Wise Monkeys. It was a fun filled night of socializing and a live band. For the rest of Shannon's stay we enjoyed the nice warm weather and each other's company. She got to meet a bunch of crazy Aussies and other internationals.

We ended her trip with dinner in Darling Harbor with a bunch of friends and then celebrating St. Patrick's Day at The Rocks, which is another area in the city. Sometimes it gets hard living on the other side of the world away from your family and friends, but then I realize that I'm in Australia and that is so incredibly awesome.

Thanks to Shannon for visiting me, I definitely had one of the best weeks of my life. Love you girl!

As for future planning, most of us have booked our spring break trip to explore the east coast of Australia for two weeks.



PHOTO COURTESY of Leilani Chin

Students studying abroad learn to surf at Mojo's Surf Camp at Crescent Head Beach.

The first day of Shannon's arrival she settled in and joined my "flat mates" and I in some food shopping at Woolworth's (the local supermarket).

the 1,337 stairs to the summit of the bridge. Everything in life stops. Every stress, worry, and obligation dissipated as we stared at the beautiful view.



PHOTO COURTESY of Leilani Chin

The Sydney Opera House is just one of the many tourist attractions Australia has to offer.

This trip includes bungee jumping, minjin swinging, four wheel driving, snorkeling, skydiving, and many other activities. I will be sure to tell you guys all our crazy stories! Until then, cheers mates!

Amsterdam and Paris Offer New Exposure to Old History

PAIGE SODANO
NEWS EDITOR AND OVERSEAS CORRESPONDENT

It's so hard to believe it's already the middle of March, and only six more weeks until we're back home in the States! Throughout the past few weeks I've seen an abundance of things, I don't even know where to start.

I suppose I will start with the craziest place I've ever been - Amsterdam, Holland. I say it's the craziest place for various reasons. One, to those of you who aren't familiar with Amsterdam's laws, marijuana is legal, two, prostitution is legal, and three, people ride bikes more than they drive cars so everywhere you walk you have to be careful of getting plowed over by cyclists.

While in Amsterdam, my friends and I toured the Anne Frank house, which was a really cool experience, especially since the hiding place she and her family were in for so long, is much bigger than I originally thought.

Compared to other

cities, there are not a ton of things to do in Amsterdam, but we did go to the Van Gogh Museum, took a boat tour along the canals, which was a pleasant ride with some great views of the city, and ate dinner one of the nights at the Heineken restaurant, where the food was delicious.

All in all, Amsterdam was defi-

nately an enjoyable trip, especially because eight of us went together so we had a lot of fun.

After our return from Amsterdam, I got to see my mom, who came to visit me in London for a week. While she was here, we did a ton of things around the city. We visited a few museums including the Tate Modern and Tate Britain.

The Tate Modern is composed of works of art by modern artists, including such artists as Monet, Rothko, and Picasso. Going a bit further back in time is the Tate Britain, which is composed of historic, modern, and contemporary British art. It includes such artists such as J.M.W. Turner, William Blake, and David Hockney.

Visiting Shakespeare's Globe Theatre was a spectacle to see. Its open-aired view showed us just really what it was like to see a play back in the Elizabethan times, because with no ceiling, if it rained the audience in the front would just get wet and the play would still be on. We couldn't imagine something like that today.

Another great place to visit in London is Kensington Palace, where former royalty has (and still does live). The late Princess Diana used to live there, and now there is a beautiful memorial to commemorate her life.

The tour took us through the Victorian rooms, the state apart-

ments, and the orangey.

Next we visited the London Eye, which is the best view of London you will ever see. For those of you who don't know the London Eye



PHOTO COURTESY of Paige Sodano

Tourists are able to take an inside look at Shakespeare's Globe Theatre.

is basically a monster Ferris wheel that takes you hundreds of feet up in the air to capture an aerial view of central London.

Lastly, my mom and I went to the Science Museum, which had a ton of cool stuff, especially if you're into those kinds of things. While here we saw the history of art and medicine as well as some of the earliest contributions made to NASA.

The last trip I am going to write about this week is Paris, France which was an amazing trip I went

on with a bunch of other students from Regent's.

Paris is one of the most beautiful places I have seen so far studying abroad, with so many world-

renowned attractions to visit. Of course my friends I had went up in the Eiffel Tower on an elevator, which felt like forever getting up to the top, but the view was spectacular!

Another great sight I got to see was the Notre Dame Cathedral, which is one of the most famous churches in the world. We happened to walk in right as one of their services started, so it was a neat

experience to watch.

Last but not least, we got to see one of the most famous paintings in the world - Da Vinci's Mona Lisa, in one of the most famous museums in the world - The Louvre. Beside this masterpiece laid others from Da Vinci, and other artists of his time.

After a great weekend in Paris, we returned back home to London only for a few days - our spring break has started, so when you read this I'll be somewhere out at sea on a Mediterranean cruise!



PHOTO COURTESY of Paige Sodano

A spectacular aerial view of the Siene River can be seen from the Eiffel Tower.



Top 5 at the Box Office

- 1) **Horton Hears a Who** \$24.6 mill
- 2) **Tyler Perry’s Meet the Browns** \$20.1 mill
- 3) **Shutter** \$10.4 mill
- 4) **Drillbit Taylor** \$10.3 mill
- 5) **10,000 B.C.** \$8.9 mill



School is Back in Session with Miss Guided

TAYLOR CORVINO
ASSISTANT ENTERTAINMENT EDITOR

Ashton Kutcher is working behind the scenes these days as executive producer for ABC’s new comedy *Miss Guided* along with Todd Holland, Karey Burke, Mark Hudis, and Jason Goldberg. The series revolves around a high school guidance counselor named Becky Freeley, played by Judy Greer, working at the school she once attended. Greer has appeared in movies such as *27 Dresses*, *The Village*, and *13 Going on 30*.

Years after attending Glen Ellen High School, Becky is far from the same awkward and unattractive girl that went unnoticed by her classmates. Loving her job and impacting her students’ high school experiences, one would say that Becky is living vicariously through her students. Freeley gives them the advice she wishes she would have gotten, giving reference to her own unfortunate high school days.

Finally when everything seemed to be falling into place for the bubbly guidance counselor, a new English teacher played by Brooke Burns is hired. Burns has been on television shows such as *Baywatch* and *Ally McBeal*. Burns’ character named Lisa

Germain is also an alum of Glen Ellen High and was the stereotypical popular girl that girls wanted to be and boys wanted to be with. Not much has changed; she is still very attractive



PHOTO COURTESY of www.abc.com
Becky counsels some students.

and thinks the world revolves around her. Becky is forced to relive her unpleasant high school memories and is constantly feeling inferior to Lisa. Becky soon finds herself dueling it out with Lisa for the affection of Tim, the ex-mechanic turned Spanish teacher, played by Kristoffer Polaha.

It is not until episode two that Becky finally gets satisfaction. Ashton Kutcher makes a cameo as a substitute Spanish teacher that all of the students and faculty members instantly fall in love with. With his model good looks and suave persona Lisa immediately sets

her eye on him. It is not until Kutcher’s character, Beaux, pursues Freeley that she finally can boast that she beat out the infamous Lisa Germain.

Another surprising cameo in episode two was that of Jamie Lynn Spears. Spears plays the role of Mandy, a provocative and boy crazy student. The first time viewers get a glimpse of Spears is while she is making out with her boyfriend in a parked car, which may not have been the best role for the pregnant 16 year old to portray.

The latest episode takes its own comedic spin on gossip bloggers such as Perez Hilton. This time around the website’s name is Lindsay Lopez and attention is brought to the site’s “Do-able” teacher list. All of the teachers log on to the site to see where they fall on the list including Becky who finds herself at #18. Determined to bump herself up Becky comes into work adorning a new sexy outfit in hopes of gaining attention.

Whether you were more of a Lisa Germain or a Becky Freeley, girls everywhere can relate to what it was like to walk through the halls of high school everyday. To catch up on past episodes you can visit ABC.com to watch them online and be sure to tune in next Thursday for back to back episodes at 8 and 8:30 p.m. on ABC.

Drillbit Taylor Takes a Beating

GREGORY EGAN
STAFF WRITER

Lots of punching, name calling, and mildly funny jokes is what *Drillbit Taylor* is all about. It debuted in theaters this weekend, and if you enjoy films that have many plot holes and don’t mind not caring about the characters, then *Drillbit Taylor* is the movie for you.

The film starts off with three geeky kids: Wade, Ryan, and Emmitt, who enter their freshmen year of high school. Not before long they meet the two bullies from hell who do everything from shoving the nerds into their lockers, to chasing them down with a car.

The kids’ lives are miserable until they decide to hire a bodyguard to protect them named Drillbit Taylor (Owen Wilson). Taylor is actually a homeless person who will do whatever it takes to make a quick buck, he even poses as a teacher to help out the kids.

Soon the bunch of nerds are taught by Taylor on how to defend themselves which proves to be a monumental task. Amongst all the chaos, Taylor has a love affair with another naive teacher which everyone seems to be oblivious to.

Drillbit Taylor doesn’t work mainly because of its obvious plot holes. You would expect a low caliber film like *Drillbit Taylor* to have plot holes but there are simply

so many that the movie sometimes lost all logic. The funniest of these plot holes had to be when Taylor was making out with another teacher in a classroom. The incident goes unnoticed, despite there being windows surrounding the room and sun shining through them nonetheless.

It was difficult to care about the characters in the film especially the three nerds. This was mostly due to the fact that the characters were having more fun than we were in the audience. Also, since the three main characters are such misfits you feel like it’s their own fault for being tormented.

Wilson’s character, Drillbit Taylor, was the only character that was genuinely funny. He was able pull off playing three different characters: homeless man, bodyguard, and teacher and still managed to deliver the laughs.

The littlest of the three kids, Emmitt, was the most amusing. He was the epitome of what a geek should be: short, wears braces, and has a squeaky voice. Emmitt makes McLovin from *Superbad* look like a stud in comparison, if that is possible.

If you’re a huge Owen Wilson fan see it in theaters, otherwise check out *Drillbit Taylor* on television in a few years.

The Dude is Coming to Red Bank

KRISTEN RENDA
ENTERTAINMENT EDITOR

The Big Lebowski is a film that many people our age love, but what most of you probably don’t know is that “the dude” in the film is based off of a real person...Jeff Dowd.

Dowd grew up loving movies, and began helping friends to promote and market films in the 1970s. From there his work in the industry blossomed. He has produced some Hollywood films and even helped Robert Redford start the Sundance Film Festival.

They wanted Sundance to be for independant filmmakers what spring training is for baseball players. It is a chance for them to show off their film, get feedback, work with professionals, and rework the film.

He said the idea of Sundance was, “What if we can bring them up to Sundance, give them a sony camera, and give them a pristine chance.”

When Academy Award winners Joel and Ethan Coen called Dowd up and said they want to make a movie, and one of the characters is inspired by him, he knew it would be good. He said, “I knew the story wasn’t about me, but it was Joel

and Ethan, and the choices they make will be funny.”

Dowd visited the set a lot while the Coen brothers were making the movie, and he was even in one scene. Jeff Bridges played the part of “the dude” and Dowd praised his performance. He said, “It’s not



PHOTO COURTESY of Jeff Dowd
Jeff Bridges and Jeff Dowd are two dudes hanging out.

my story, but the body language is 100% me. Jeff Bridges nailed it.”

Every once in a while people will meet him and know he’s the dude, and they treat him like a life long friend. This is completely different from when a typical fan meets a celebrity and gets speechless, nervous, and overly excited.

His message for college students is that we are going to find out when we go to work, that we really only use about five percent of our mind everyday.

“I feel very privileged to be in the film business,” he said, but besides working in Hollywood,

Dowd also has a book due to come out next fall entitled *The Dude Abides! Classic Tales and Revel Rants*. It is basically a book about his own classic stories from over the years. There are funny stories interlaced with inspirational stories and about 25 percent of them have something to do with the film industry.

“For me, [the dude] is kind of a great gift that they’ve given me; this iconic status,” Dowd said of the Coen brothers.

Dowd will be coming to the Count Basie Theatre in Red Bank on the night of Saturday, April 19 for a special screening of *The Big Lebowski*. He will also read excerpts from his book, and answer some questions people may have for him.

To purchase tickets for the event go to www.countbasietheatre.org



This Season on Idol



VERONIQUE BLOSTEIN
STAFF WRITER

Welcome back, *Idol* fans! While some of you were soaking up the sun in Mexico or the Caribbean, *American Idol* has been dishing out some killer performances—and making some interesting cuts.

An exciting '80s themed week gave the top 16 contestants a final chance to sing their hearts out in hopes to advance to the top 12 semi-finals. We saw great performances from David Cook, Jason Castro, David Archuleta, Carly Smithson, Asia'h Epperson, and Brooke White. For the first time, Archuleta received a little bit of criticism from judge Simon Cowell. "It's all getting a little bit gloomy," he said in reference to Archuleta's choice of songs the past few weeks. He suggested he try a more upbeat song the next time around.

Regarding Jason Castro's performance of "Hallelujah" by Leonard Cohen, Cowell said, "I thought it was absolutely brilliant what you did." He also raved about Cook's rock rendition of Lionel Ritchie's "Hello." "David, that was a very brave thing to do and I loved it." He did not, however, enjoy Epperson and Smithson's performances. He critiqued Epperson's performance as "second rate Whitney (Houston)" and still didn't think Smithson chose the right song. "It doesn't give you what you deserve," he said.

The results show that week had some level of predictability—but also had its surprising moments. Before the results were announced, season six runner-up Blake Lewis took the stage, performing a song from his album. (It sounded like something was wrong with the sound system because his

voice kept going in and out. It would have been a great performance, had there not been technical issues.)

Luke Menard and Kady Malloy were both voted off in the first half of the show (thank Heaven). The final two girls were Epperson and Kristy Lee Cook. It seemed that Cook may be sent home, even though Cowell thought Epperson was going home—and he was right. (I was FURIOUS with this decision! I yelled at the TV like a sports fanatic. Well, I guess my previous predictions have been shot down.)

Chikezie and Danny Noriega were the last two guys that remained. After some of the judges' comments, host Ryan Seacrest announced that Chikezie would be the final contestant to move on to the top 12, and Noriega was sent home.

Last week, the top 12 took the stage together for the first time, singing the tunes of John Lennon and Paul McCartney on the brand new set designed for the show. Syesha Mercado opened up the show with her rendition of "Got to Get You into My Life," which judge Paula Abdul commented as pitchy, but found her "zone" halfway through the song. Chikezie's bluegrass version of "She's a Woman" got the crowd on their feet and got Seacrest a bit fired up. Judge Randy Jackson said, "I was thoroughly entertained."

The judges were then brought down by Ramiele Malubay's boring rendition of "In My Life." She easily could have made it more exciting if she used a little more power in her vocals. Cowell said he was "bored to tears." The energy returned with "Come Together," sung by Carly Smithson. Cowell FINALLY commended her on a perfect song choice. Everyone was wowed again

with David Cook's "Eleanor Rigby." His rock edge and strong vocals have won over the judges. Jackson said, "You can rock out on *Idol*," and Cowell said that so long as the competition remains based on talent and not popularity, that Cook has potential to win.

Brooke White took the stage on the piano and performed an exquisite version of "Let it be." Jackson loved her conviction and Abdul said, "This is your niche." The next few contestants were mediocre in comparison to performances earlier in the night. Then Kristy Lee Cook completely butchered "Eight Days a Week," attempting to pull a full-on country twist on it, changing the arrangement and everything. The fact that the tempo of the band was quicker than her vocals didn't help either. For once, Abdul came right out and said, "I didn't enjoy it" and "I didn't get it." Although Simon gave her previous advice that he likes her country style, he did not want her to change the entire song the way that she did. "I thought it was horrendous," he said. He called her move "brave, but foolish."

Teen cutie David Archuleta was the last to take the stage, singing "We Can Work it out." To the judges' dismay, he sang the Stevie Wonder version of the song. Archuleta had admitted to being nervous about this week, as he is not familiar with the songs of this era. Unfortunately, he slipped up and forgot the words—twice. Jackson said



PHOTO COURTESY OF www.americanidol.com

The Top 12 finalists wait to find out who will continue on in the competition.

it "felt very forced," Abdul admitted, "This wasn't your best week," and Cowell called the performance "a mess." Would this disaster cost him his chance at the title?

The results show opened up with a cameo appearance by Jim Carey dressed as the Dr. Seuss character Horton to promote his new movie *Horton Hears a Who!* The top 12 then took the stage at once for a medley tribute to Lennon and McCartney. The contestants' first Ford music video "The Distance" also appeared, presenting a political theme. Also, for the first time on *American Idol*, viewers at home are able to call in and talk to the contestants, Seacrest, or the judges.

Famous music composer and producer David Foster appeared on the show with season five runner-up Kat McPhee. Foster played on the baby grand, while McPhee sang the lyrics to the song "Something." (I personally don't see the big deal about her. Her vocals have no power to them, and she's

way too in love with the camera. My mom even said that the people on this season have so much more talent than she could ever have.)

As for the results themselves, the bottom three included Mercado, K. Cook, and David Hernandez. Another new first on *Idol*, contestants announced as the bottom three sang their song from the week one more time. (This seems to be a plan to avoid a potential future Alaina Whitaker situation, where the contestant voted off the show may be too upset to sing

his or her exit.) In the end, it was Hernandez who was ultimately sent home. While he did not vocally deserve to leave the competition this early, his bad press probably didn't help him. (For those of you who haven't heard, Hernandez is a former stripper, who served male clientele.) He said positively, "Things happen for a reason. This isn't it."

Hernandez may be right. News stations such as FOX (the station that airs *Idol*) have reported that music executives have already started looking at the top contestants, which they normally don't do this early in the competition. They are also saying that Hernandez was one of the contestants the execs have had their eyes on. (I guess we'll see what happens.)

Be sure to watch *Idol* to find out who will continue the dream of becoming the next American Idol. And tune into *The Outlook* next week to find out how everything unravels.

Look Out for Ant Stone

SHAH AL-AMIN
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

"Nobody can rep TBO the way I rep TBO" said up and coming hip hop artist Ant Stone. As he went through his vast collection of True Religion and Rock and Republic jeans, preparing for his big 25th birthday celebration at Jay-Z's exclusive Forty Forty Club in Atlantic City. Stone peers out of the window of his 37th floor hotel room at the Borgata, he reminisces over how he has gotten so far and how much further he plans to go with his dreams to make it big in the rap industry.

It is 10:30pm and Ant Stone along with his entourage are sitting around the dinner table at "Bobby Flay Steak". Anticipating an exciting night, while waiting on his entrée Stone uses the time to expound upon what he is trying to do with his music. "I'm too grown for a nickname" said Stone. Anthony Stone also known as "Ant Stone" prefers to use his government name as his quote on quote stage name. This is rare in itself, for the simple fact that a lot of rappers use alternate names to be known as within the industry. As a result, Stone is staunch as categorizing himself as being different than the rest. He feels that it is imperative for him to be real, and that alone sets him aside from other rappers. "I believe I'm true, I don't have to front for nothing, if I didn't do it I can't say it, I believe that trueness is gone in the game" said Stone. It is

not a surprise that Stone expressed a somewhat disappointment in the rap game, he metaphorically compared it to the selling of drugs and explained how in the beginning drug dealing was something that a few people did and now it has turned into an epidemic. Much like the rap game, not everyone could say they were an MC (master of ceremony, microphone controller), now anyone can say that they rap. Nine out of 10 this was not the intentions of DJ Cool Herc and Afrika Bambata, when they started the hip hop movement. "In today's game it's not about telling the truth, but what sounds good; you're emulating someone else's lifestyle and getting paid for it" said Stone. After that being said, Stone went on to explain how he is different and has done things outside of the realms of hip hop. Believe it or not, Ant Stone was part of a rock band called "TGB's"! Stone pretty much summed up his limits as having none. He ensures that he touches everyone, which is why he has tracks that appeal to the hustlers Ant also is on what he likes to call his "love tip". Ant definitely expresses remnants of Robert Frost ideologies by taking the road less traveled by, as he suggests that his music goes all over and does not just focus on one path.

Inspiration for stone came from three things, the state of hip hop, rapper Mase, and Sean Carter also known as Jay-Z. Stone described the state of hip hop as being fragile. He explained how if someone could

rhyme, then rap is the thing to do. Although Stone always found the business side of hip hop to be intriguing and after his artist did not meet his expectations, he took control of both the business and talent aspect. 1996 was a big year for hip hop. While rappers like Nas and The Notorious B.I.G. were climbing the charts, Bad Boy Entertainment introduced a new artist by the name of Mase. The baby face, young and flashy soft spoken rapper from Harlem had emerged in the rap game. His smooth persona was caught by the eyes of teens and young adults everywhere who listened to rap. Ant Stone was no different than other 13 year olds at the time and became caught up in the lifestyle and lyrics of Mase. Not only did Mase intrigue Stone, but Jay-Z was the main artist that Stone looked up to. He expressed how the whole idea of Jay-Z being a step ahead of the rest, even if it was wearing platinum when everyone thought it was silver. "I can't compare myself to anybody, there are things I would say that I believe Jay would, and not as Jordan like as Jay. Never the less, Stone finds the connection between him and Jay-Z to be uncanny and saying that he can relate to "Jigga" is an understatement.

Ten years later around 2006, Stone started to write serious lyrically. Empowered by a strong TBO (The Best Out) movement which Stone described as being a dream that originated in Harlem and trickled down to New Jersey, Ant is confident that

he will be successful. "The best out regardless of what I'm doing TBO is a way of life" said Stone. Now there is TBO Entertainment, which is the backbone of Ant Stone's quest.

Fast Forwarding two years, Stone is two years strong in the game and feels confident about releasing his first mix tape. Previously Stone had been featured on "TBO Good Fellas" and "Veterans Day vol. 11", but now he is setting his sights on his debut mix tape entitled "I Got It", which is also Stone's slogan. He describes the mix tape as being an introduction and something that listeners will enjoy. "Make the music regardless of how it sounds, as long as it's your style. I speak from the heart and that's what makes the best music, some of the fastest songs I wrote came from the heart. I'm going to give you true stories, pain, struggle, glamour, and glitz" said Stone. Stone is utilizing his mix tape to build a bigger fan base. He also expressed that before he would make an album he needs to improve and wants to take time on it. The Red Bank, New Jersey native feels that his mix tape will create a strong enough buzz that will be the starting point in bringing New jersey back into the hip hop scene. "They can't deny it, I'm bringing Jersey back, I feel like Joe Budden was our hope and they took that away from us" said Stone.

After dinner Stone along with the rest of his crew went back to their rooms for last minute preparations. As the stretched Hummer dropped

off Stone and his entourage in front of the club, Stone was rightly the last one out. Stone wore Gucci sneakers, Rock and Republic jeans, a 30 carrot vvs stone "TBO" charm and D&G shades that covered his eyes. Ironically, it was not the expensive outfit and chain he wore, nor the pink "Ace of Spades Rose" or limousine, or the money he threw around in the party and casino that made him a star that night. But it was his inner drive and will to be the best and a success. His outlook on what success really is and what his music should do for his listeners show a moral an intellectual vision that maybe dismissed because of his appearance. As he says in his song entitled "You Not like Me" "Rock and Republics cover my thighs, a mean dark pair of shades cover my eyes". "I believe the ultimate satisfaction is to uplift somebody, Jay-Z said that a girl met him and began to cry because of how much he meant to her, when you reach someone to that extent, that is the ultimate satisfaction with music" said Stone. Stone said "In five years I will be a multi-platinum selling artist, Grammy award winning, working with a new artist paying back what someone else did for me".

There is no doubt that dreams and ambitions such as the ones of Ant Stone are the same components that have created hip hop's greatest stars. So in the summer of 2008 listen to his first mix tape "I Got It" and there will be no doubt that Ant Stone definitely does!

Dippification

KEVIN CUNEO
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

I was recently confronted by a sourdough bread dip. It looked at me and I looked at it. In its eyes I saw my reflection. For the first time my image was not one of youth, but of a young man accelerating toward adulthood. That dip forever shattered my notion of everlasting youth. It represented a shift in my party going life. If I didn't act quickly I risked being swept up, and allowing my peers to be swept up, by adulthood. For only in adulthood is bread dip served amongst peers at a party.

I moved swiftly with ninja-like stealth, grabbed the sourdough and tossed it out the window. Where it landed I can not say, but at least, I thought, the youth of the party was preserved. Yet, as I turned from the window I realized that my actions were futile. To my dismay, across the room I saw an awful sight, bread dip's first cousin, cheese cubes. Later that night I had a soul saving, 7-11 inspired, revelation: if one limits his/her pre-party patronage to only those items sold at a convenience store, it is possible to prevent the bread dippification of youth.

My mission was clear and my method was now established. Wherever there was a party comprised of young people I would ensure that it abided by my new convenience store rule. A problem,

the markup, he did claim that it was minute saying, "It's not as much as you might think." Savoie used a disposable camera as an example of the markup. He claimed that if a camera cost \$6 he would probably sell it for \$6.50. He said, "There is no food service in the Universe that intends to operate at a loss," and that the markup is in place to cover operational costs such as employee payroll and organizational obligations. According to Savoie, the *Hawk's Nest*, grosses between \$8,000-9,000 a week. He went on to say, "It's not as though we are in Fargo or Iowa, if we were grossly overpriced I don't think anyone would bother coming."

Savoie also explained his process for ensuring that the prices stay "inline" with local shops. Once a year he sends an *Aramark* employee to local convenience stores to gather prices. He then compiles the data and adjusts *Hawks Nest* prices accordingly. He is limited, however, because he must work within the constraints of both *Aramark* and the "branded" items available at the *Hawks Nest*.

In an attempt to avoid high convenience store prices I suggest buying certain convenience store items at a grocery store. For in-



PHOTO COURTESY of google.com

The Hawk's Nest is located in the Rebecca Stafford Student Center on campus. Sometimes it's not worth it to take a drive and risk losing your parking space, and sometimes this convenient store really is convenient depending on what you have to buy.



PHOTO COURTESY of google.com

It's possible that taking the trip to the grocery store may save you some money, but in other cases sometimes the short walk to the Hawk's Nest is much more convenient.

however, became immediately apparent. It is expensive to shop at convenience stores and the store I frequented most often, Monmouth University's *Hawks Nest*, seemed outrageously expensive. Lindsey Rutter, a senior education major, agreed: "I normally only buy gum or *Pop Tarts*, however, I have noticed that the other things seem to be a bit pricey." Know-

stance, instead of buying *Tyson's Anytisers* at the *Hawk's Nest* for \$5.19 buy them at *Foodtown* for \$3.99. Convenience stores are by nature more expensive than grocery stores and one truly does pay for the convenience. After conducting a crude price analysis of 72 items that both the *Hawk's Nest* and *Foodtown* (Long Branch) carry, I came

For those students unable to travel to a supermarket there are a few deals at the *Hawks Nest*. Currently *Kellogg's* cereals are on sale for \$2.99. At food town *Kellogg's* cereals cost between \$3.99 and \$4.39. Paper plates, plastic bowls, *Banquet* chicken nuggets, *David's* sunflower seeds, individual 20oz sodas, and a 1/2 gallon of milk can also be purchased for a lower price at the *Nest* than *Foodtown*. There are also quite a few novelty items for sale at the *Nest*.

One can, for example, at a combined price of \$5.68, buy what amounts to a beer pong starter kit (a 6 pack of ping pong balls and a 24 pack of party cups). For those with a Mexican food craving, the *Hawk's*

Nest offers, *Don Miguel's Bean and Cheese Burrito* and although the burrito isn't up my ally, I imagine that in certain "conditions" it might seem, to some, quite irresistible.

The perception that the *Hawks Nest* is extremely overpriced might very well be driven by a few specific items that do seem a bit unreasonable. *Town House Original* crackers, for instance, cost \$5.59 at the *Nest*. One can buy the same crackers on sale at *Foodtown* for \$1.89 (regular price: \$3.79). The *Hawks Nest* charges \$2.00 for a 1.5 liter of *Poland Spring* water. *Foodtown* charges \$1.29 for the same product and \$1.39 for the bigger, one gallon, version. Coffee

drinkers beware: *Folgers Classic Roast* runs \$4.89 at the *Nest* and only 3.99 at *Foodtown*.

Without food, eventually, people perish, but it is not necessary to sacrifice an arm and a leg for nourishment. Convenience stores, in my mind, exist for two reasons. They exist because, very simply, they are convenient, and they exist to provide a guide. The best way to stay young is not skin cream, face lifts, or magic pills. No, the best way to avoid getting old is to avoid all items not sold at convenience stores. Sure you might gain a few pounds, but at least you will avoid bread dip, and in the end that's what really matters.

...the Hawks Nest prices are pretty much "inline" with other local convenience stores such as 7-11 and Quick Check...

According to Eric Savoie, head of *Aramark* at Monmouth

ing that perception is not always congruent with reality, I met with Eric Savoie (Head of *Aramark* at Monmouth University), to clarify the situation.

Savoie made it clear that the *Hawks Nest* prices are pretty much "inline" with other local convenience stores such as 7-11 and *Quick Check*, but acknowledged that there is a slight markup. Though he would not disclose

to the following conclusion: If one were to buy each of the 72 items from the *Hawk's Nest* he/she would spend \$195.60. If one were to buy each of the 72 items from *Food Town* he/she would spend \$163.04. The difference is staggering and a similar comparison between *Foodtown* and 7-11 or *Quick Check* would also show a similar price differential (although not quite as large).

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Marketing and Management Association, SIFE to Host 1st Annual Future Fair

Alison Waszmer

On April 1st, SIFE and The Marketing and Management Association will be hosting the 1st annual Future Fair. The Future Fair is designed to be a supplement to the Spring Career Fair. The focus will be on topic necessary for making successful contacts at the Career Fair and making the most of every job opportunity. The Future Fair will begin with a brief introduction by Will Hill, the Assistant Dean of Placement and Student Employment. Following the introduction by Mr. Hill, students have the opportunity to visit specialized stations.

The stations will cover topics including Dressing for Success, Professional Dining Etiquette, and Interview Skills. At each of the stations professors and university faculty will briefly discuss the important aspect of their topic and will field questions any student may have. In addition, there will be a resume writing station, where students can bring their resume and get on the spot help from members of the Writing Center. The members of the Writing Center will be available to answer general resume writing questions for those who don't have a resume as well.

On top of the vital information students will get at the Future Fair, all students who attend will be entered into a raffle for an iPod Shuffle. Refreshment will be served as well.

For those planning to go the Spring Career Fair, the Future Fair is a must. Even if you think you already know about the topics being covered, it is always a good idea to brush up on these skills and even get a few new tips. Students who are not planning to go to the Spring Career Fair are encouraged to attend as well. The information being presented does not apply solely to the Career Fair, but to all job opportunities. Whether it be job interview, an internship, or any other chance to make a professional contact, these skills will help ensure a strong professional image that is essential to making those connections.

The Future Fair will be held on Tuesday April 1st, from 4-7 pm in the basement of Wilson Hall. Refreshments will be provided and each student who attends will be entered into a raffle to win an iPod Shuffle. Students interested in getting on the spot resume help should bring a copy of their resume. The Future Fair is a great chance to learn a little something that could make a big difference in your career. So come join SIFE and The Marketing and Management Association from 4-7 pm on April 1st and bring your friends too!

FUTURE FAIR

In preparation for the Spring Career Fair...

INTERVIEW SKILLS

WHAT NOT TO WEAR

BUSINESS LUNCH ETIQUETTE

ON SITE RESUME HELP

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Tuesday, April 1st
4 PM – 7 PM - WILSON HALL

Hosted by The Marketing and Management Association & Students in Free Enterprise of Monmouth University
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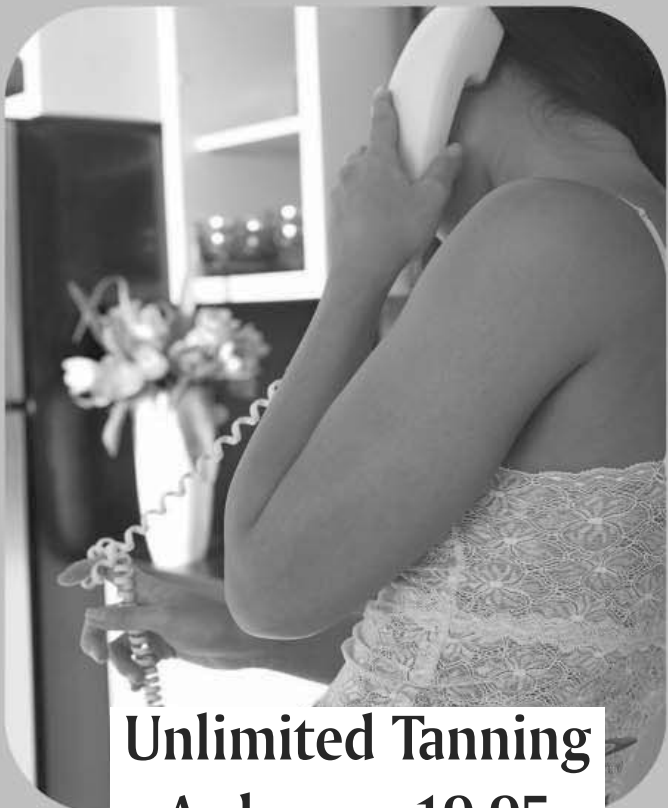
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Craft Night
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CLUB and GREEK

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 Xi Delta

The ladies of Alpha Xi Delta hope everyone had an awesome spring break. We will be working with a fellow sorority Theta Phi Alpha to raise money for the National Parkinson’s Foundation. We hope that everyone can contribute it is such a great cause! The sisters are also getting ready and set for Greek Week. We hope to make it even better than last year. For any other news or information you can check out this spot or you can check out our Facebook Group Interested in Joining Alpha Xi Delta. Much Xi Love to All!

Student Alumni Association

The Student Alumni Association will be holding a fundraiser on Monday March 31st in the Plangere Center from 12p.m. to 4p.m. We will be selling chocolate lollipops. We will also be holding a Membership Drive for anyone who would like to join the Student Alumni Association. Please come out and help support the Student Alumni Association! We would love to meet you !

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.

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 writefor 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.

ATTENTION GRADUATING SENIORS

Each year Monmouth University offers the Elvin R. Simmell Memorial Award to the graduating senior with the highest grade point average WHO HAS BEEN ACCEPTED

TO AND WILL BE ATTENDING LAW SCHOOL THE FOLLOWING FALL. If you believe you qualify for this cash award, please notify Dr. Enoch Nappen, Department of Political Science by Thursday, March 27, 2008. Dr. Nappen is in Bey Hall, room 245 (732-571-4475). Along with your name and grade point average, please submit a copy of your letter of acceptance.

VOLUNTEER CORNER

Ronald McDonald House. www.rmhc-nj.orgThe Ronald McDonald House provides a home away from home for families of seriously ill children receiving treatment at local hospitals. RMHC in Long Branch is looking for volunteers to help with day shifts during the week. Volunteers will staff the front desk and may also receive training in answering phones and taking reservations, accepting donations, registering and checking out families, providing tours to families and visitors and assisting with office work. For information, contact Camitha Whipple, LB House Manager at 732-222-8755

Many other volunteer opportunities are available. Search “Volunteer Directory” on the MU website for a complete listing. Questions? E-mail volunteer@monmouth.edu or stop by the Office of Service Learning and Community Programs, Room 301c in the RSSC.

Alpha Sigma Tau

WELCOME BACK!!! Insiders: Moxi.. your new name is “SNACKS!” <3 Vogue Happy Birthday Precious! Stardust & Tuki – Are you Smarter than a 5th Grader? <3 you both so much – Vogue so excited to have a new buddy lol! Oh & Matey you know you love me and how I dub your convos lol! Love you-Lucky Star Happy Birthday Radianc Live It Up Miss 21! <3 Scarlet Stardust “Why are you looking @ me like that?” Tuki: “Im trying to give you with my BRAIN!” Astrid and Matey- I love being sexy stalker with you <3 Matey..Matey- crazy times crazy times haha- p.s. LOVE ALL MY SISTERS... I am sad to be dobe this year <3 Astrid.. Seriously- During the worst time of my life my sisters have been here to catch me and build me back up. I LOVE my Alpha Sig Sisters <3 Gia Happy Birthday Radianc! This will be the beginning of an amazing year- Summer Nicole?, Tortoise <3 Spryte...Spryte- <3 our Thursdays together! Don’t go BP Amaco! Giant Tortoise! NaNaNa Notorious! Do we get extra credit if we go to the PALE-FACE? –Star Dust..Happy 21 Radianc –Welcome to the club! GSec... Happy Birthday too!! Muse, you are my mom but not in the Claire Ann Way! I heart you- Euphoria...Littleface- Congrats on your fantastic math grade!!! Love Biggieface P.S. Radianc, I’m sooooo excited for Wednesday night! <3 muse...Roomz- RIP Gansta’s Paradise- it was fun while it lasted! Little- lets hang out in my new apartment after Spring Break! Alpha Pi’s- 57 days and counting <3 Kaprice...Moxi- well we’re in a school zone...where’s the school? <3 Twin...Twin, the Backstreet Boys solve everything <3 Twin

Green Expectations

JAMIE KINARD
STAFF WRITER

Now that you know where the garden goes, what happens when we actually build it? Construction is the most important part of this process, but starting without any idea of the end result is not a good idea. Last week, we visited the rain garden in Freehold, New Jersey. The garden consisted of some native plants and other decorative items, and was in the shape of a lima bean. Since it had just been built, the garden was not specifically in bloom, and was mostly dirt. It did, however, contain puddles from the previous day’s rain, and we could see the puddles going draining as into the soil.

Building the garden can be tricky, but with plenty of planning it is possible. First, is important that know that where you are digging is not near any

major utility lines, so it is important to call your local utility company before digging. Also, it is important to know that the soil into which you dig is able to absorb water. To do so, a small hole, about six inches deep, should be dug into the soil. Then water should be placed into the hole. If the water drains within a few hours, the soil is ready; if not, the problem must be identified or a new spot should be chosen. When construction actually begins, one thing is crucial- volunteers. Without volunteers, the garden is simply an unexplored idea that cannot be put into practice. Each volunteer can be provided the equipment they need, and can be actively involved in the garden building process.

During construction, precautions should be taken to reduce the amount of soil loss. This can include fences and other materials. When building, it is impor-

tant to be precise about all of your measurements. Make sure each calculation is revised and checked before digging. This is because one small miscalculation can ruin the entire garden. While building, it is also important to not disturb too much of the land around the garden; although the garden is intended to help the environment, destroying the area around it can reverse the effects. Another thing that should be taken into consideration is the type of plants and soil used in your garden. Each plant may require a different amount of water and sunlight in order to properly grow, and these needs should be reflected in your garden. After construction, place down about 2-3 inches of mulch. This will allow for conservation of water for the plants, as well as preventing frost from hurting the plants in winter.

HAWK 12 TV

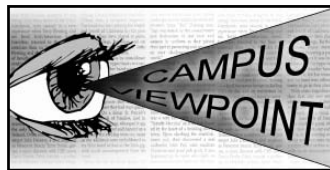
Original Programming:

What’s The Dish?	3:00
Issues & Insights	3:15
Proper Reality	3:30
M Squared	4:00
M Squared Live	5:00
News	6:00
Extra Point	6:30

Movies @ 12 on 12 (and throughout the day)

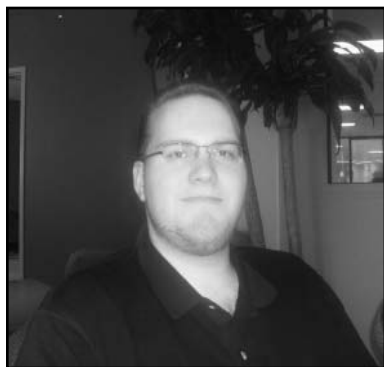
Across The Universe	
The Birds	Rush Hour 3
Shrek The Third	
Coach Carter	Born Into Brothels
Dirty Dancing	Oceans 13

Check Out Our New Website for more Information!!
Hawktv.monmouth.edu



How were your Midterm exams?

COMPILED BY: SARAH ALYSE JAMIESON



**Nick
Junior**

"My Midterm exams were fine."



**Lauren
sophomore**

"Mine went were."



**Suzanne
Grad**

"I didn't have any!"



**Amanda
Super Senior**

"It's funny how you can study all week and know the material, but as soon as the test begins, the material somehow becomes non-existent!"



**Stefanie
sophomore**

"I am an art major, so I didn't really have any, but the ones which I did have went well."



**Mia
sophomore**

"They weren't as hard as I thought. I did well."



**Noelle
junior**

"I play on my laptop, in the Student Center, all day long."



**Sam
freshman**

"They were good, and I did well!"



**Chris
sophomore**

"They were alright. I had many papers to write."



**Courtney
senior**

"They weren't hard at all, especially the time that I beat Rich!"

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Campus Events This Week

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 26

Becoming a Freshman Seminar Peer Advisor • 2:30 PM • Affitto Conf. Rm
Bias Incidents & Hate Crimes • 2:30 PM • Young Auditorium Bey Hall
Baseball vs. Temple • 3:00 PM • Baseball Field
American Museum of History Trip • Contact x5738 for Details
Big Man on Campus • 10:00 PM • Pollak Theatre

THURSDAY, MARCH 27

Late Night Lounge • 10:00 PM • The Underground

FRIDAY, MARCH 28

Senior Reality Check • 2:45 PM • Anacon Hall
Baseball vs. NJIT • 3:00 PM • Baseball Field
Lacrosse vs. CCSU • 4:00 PM • Kessler Field
Masquerade Party • 8:00 PM • Anacon Hall
Movie - P.S. I Love You • 7:00 PM & 11:00 PM • The Underground

SATURDAY, MARCH 29

Men's & Women's Outdoor Track Meet • 9:45 AM • Kessler Field
New York City Trip • Departs 10:00 AM • \$5 at OSA Office, Student Center
Bowl-A-Thon • 8:00 PM • Bradley Beach Lanes
Movie - Walk Hard • 7:00 PM & 11:00 PM • The Underground
Cirque Odyssey • 9:00 PM • Pollak Theatre
Up Til' Dawn Meeting • 9:00 PM • Anacon Hall

SUNDAY, MARCH 30

Jackson Outlets • Depart 12:00 PM • Birch Loo • E-mail Activities by 3/28
Lacrosse vs. Iona • 1:00 PM • Kessler Field
Baseball vs. NJIT • 1:00 PM • Baseball Field

TUESDAY, APRIL 1

Baseball vs. Princeton • 3:30 PM • Baseball Field
Backstage Tour - La Boheme Trip • Depart @ 1:00 PM • Call x 5738
Battle of the Bands • 9:00 PM • Anacon Hall

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 2

Festa Italiana • 11:30 AM • Anacon Hall
Baseball vs. Rutgers • 3:00 PM • Baseball Field
Comedian Ronnie Jordan • 9:00 PM • The Underground

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. •

JACKSON OUTLET TRIPS

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 3 & MARCH 30
DEPART BIRCH HALL LOOP

DEPARTING AT:
FROM THE BIRCH HALL LOOP
12:00 PM

RETURNING AT:
FROM THE OUTLETS
FOOD COURT ENTRANCE
5:00 PM

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E-MAIL ACTIVITIES@MONMOUTH.EDU
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- EMERGENCY CONTACT AND PHONE NUMBER

TRIPS ARE FREE. ADVANCE SIGN-UP IS REQUIRED. SPACE IS LIMITED.



WEEKEND FILM SERIES

FRIDAY, MARCH 28
7:00 PM & 11:00 PM
P.S. I LOVE YOU

SATURDAY, MARCH 29
7:00 PM & 11:00 PM
WALK HARD



THE UNDERGROUND

Baseball Team Tries to Find Its Swing

NEC preseason favorite starts season 3-8, drops games to nationally ranked teams East Carolina, Central Florida

ERIC WALSH
SPORTS EDITOR

The baseball team has had plenty of time to think about the first eleven games of the season. Having not played a game in almost 10 days, the Blue and White have been able to carefully look at what went wrong in their eight defeats already this year.

With several trips down south, the team has faced some of the top teams in America. But with each game, the team has gotten stronger, and the tough competition has provided a challenge that will help ready the Hawks for the grueling NEC season.

In their season opening series, the NEC preseason favorite traveled to Greenville, North Carolina, to take on the No. 24 East Carolina Pirates in a three-game stint. Monmouth came in as the underdog, but scratched out four runs to defeat the Pirates 4-3 in the opening game.

Monmouth was able to pull out an opening day win for the second straight year due in large part to junior Rick Niederhaus' two-run home run in the top of the ninth inning that gave the Blue and White a 4-2 lead. The visiting team scored three runs in the bottom of the ninth to overtake the 24th ranked Pirates.

Brad Brach worked six strong innings allowing just one run on five hits, before handing the ball over to his brother Brett, who earned the victory.

The next day the teams matched up once again, with the home team pulling out a victory this time. East Carolina scored 11 runs in the second game of the series, beating Monmouth 11-2. Ryan Buch was given the loss, as he was only able to work 1.0 inning, allowing four earned runs on five walks.

The final game of the series

proved to be the rubber match, as the teams split the opening two games. The contest ended up being fairly one-sided, as ECU came away with a 6-0 win, taking the series. ECU junior Justin Bristow pitched a complete game two-hit shutout, striking out six in the game. Senior Matt Marc-Aurele was saddled with the loss for MU.

For his effort against ECU in the first game of the season, Brad Brach was named Akadema/NEC

face another ranked opponent.

The series, which was played in Orlando, Florida, on the campus of UCF, was disrupted by rain. The first game played on March 7, was called in the fifth inning due to rain fall. The score was 3-2 in favor of the Golden Knights, and would have to be completed the next day, with the second game of the series to follow.

On Saturday, UCF was sparked by two, two-out home runs that led

outs, in the bottom of the eighth inning with the score knotted at 4-4, LSU transfer Robert Lara blasted a grand slam to seal the win for the home team, 8-4.

The final game of the series proved to be the closest. In a five hour and twenty-eight minute marathon of a game, UCF once again came away victorious to earn their eleventh win of the year. The game, which lasted 16 innings, was the longest game that MU had played in since 2006, when they lost to Columbia in 14 innings.

UCF's 5-4 win was throttled by their pitching. The team registered 17 strikeouts, only one shy of the school record. Monmouth was led by Niederhaus and Kyle Higgins, who each had three hits apiece. In his first appearance in the Blue and White, Nick Pulsonetti went 2-for-2 with two RBI, including the game-tying two-run homerun that sent the game to extra innings.

The team stayed in Florida for one another contest against the Penn State Nittany Lions. Enroute to their second win of the season, the Hawks registered 15 hits, highlighted by freshman Tim McEndy's pinch-hit three-run double in the eighth inning, scoring nine runs to defeat the Big Ten foe 9-7. Kyle Breese recorded the victory for the Blue and White.

In the final game of their Sunshine State series, Monmouth took on Florida Atlantic University in Boca Raton on March 12. The Hawks, who came back to tie the game from an 11-7 deficit in the eighth inning, were defeated in the bottom of the ninth inning on a solo home run off the bat of FAU's Alex Silversmith.

Traveling north, the Hawks stopped in Annapolis, Maryland, to take on the Navy Midshipmen

on March 14. For the fifth time out of nine games this season, MU out hit their opponent, but could not pull out the win.

The Blue and White out hit Navy 12-7, but could not put up more than three runs in the game, losing 6-3. The loss dropped Monmouth to 2-7 on the season, but had ace Brad Brach set to pitch against Duquesne in the next match up.

On March 15, MU took on the Dukes with their number one pitcher on the mound. However, Brach only lasted 3.2 innings, registering his first loss of the year, as MU lost 11-7. A late rally by the Hawks came up short as they could not bridge the four-run gap.

The Blue and White were able to earn their third win of the season on Sunday, March 16, against Maine.

In the twelfth inning, with the score knotted up 4-4, junior Chris Collazo singled to center field to bring home Mike Casale. The run proved to be the winning one, as Monmouth pulled out the 7-4 victory.

Ryan Buch earned the victory, coming in for starter Aurele, who pitched seven strong shut out innings.

The Hawks improved to 3-8 on the season with the victory over Maine, and will play next against Temple on March 26th at 3:30 p.m. The game will be Monmouth's home opener, as they have played their first 11 games away from West Long Branch.

The team has been off since March 16 due to a decision to reschedule the March 20th St. Peter's game because of bad field conditions.

The Hawks also had a two-game series scheduled for March 22nd with Vermont cancelled due to poor field conditions and the threatening upcoming weather forecast.



PHOTO COURTESY of MU Sports Information

The Hawks started off the season strong, winning their opening game against No. 24 East Carolina, 4-3. However, the team then fell into a slump losing five games in a row, all in the Sunshine State.

Pitcher of the Week. The reigning NEC and New Jersey Pitcher of the Year came away with a no-decision in his first start of the year, but put the Hawks in good position to win, which they did 4-3.

The next series for Monmouth came against No. 25 University of Central Florida.

The Golden Knights opened the season 7-0 and climbed in the rankings, as MU would have to

to commanding victories over the visiting Hawks.

In the continuation of the first game, UCF had runners on first and third with two-outs in the bottom of the fifth inning. A three-run home run to dead center field got the Golden Knights going and they never looked back, winning 10-2.

In the second game of the series it was UCF once again that went deep to spark their victory. With two

Softball Splits Weekend Series with Penn

The Hawks lose first game 5-2, rally late in second game, winning 6-4

ANDREW SCHETTER
STAFF WRITER

The Hawks were predicted to finish third in the North East Conference this season and hope to prove that the prognosticators fell short two spots in their preseason predictions.

This past week the girls started with a tough loss at Stony Brook 8-5 in this first of two and then battled for a tie in the second contest of the double header.

On Saturday the Hawks split with Pennsylvania losing the first game 5-2, but bounced back to take the second contest by a margin of 6-4.

In the loss against Stony Brook centerfielder Nicole Alvarez provided a bright spot for the Hawks celebrating her 21st birthday by connecting on back to back home runs in consecutive at bats for the Blue and White.

Alvarez gave the team a 5-2 advantage in the early going against Stony Brook.

However, Pitcher Kristine Sawlsville allowed 3 earned runs and 6 runs overall in 4.1 innings of work.

In relief freshman Melissa Mehrer gave up another 2 earned runs and 3 overall for the Hawks as they fell 8-5.

The Hawks and Stony Brook only made it through 5 innings of play in the second contest as the game was called on account of darkness. Melissa Mehrer got the start and pitched all 5

innings only allowing two runs and keeping her Hawks in the game.

Coming off of a 2-2 tie the Hawks took the Quakers best shot early in their first contest of the day as Penn's Taylor Tie-man ordered a jack over the wall in the third inning, putting her team up 3-0 early. They also

tacked on a run in the 5th and 6th inning respectively. The Hawks tried to muster a rally late but could only come up with 2 runs in the 5-2 defeat.

The Hawks used that late inning mini rally in the first contest to push them to a victory in the second contest of the afternoon.

The MU Softball Complex witnessed some late inning drama as the Hawks rallied from a 4-0 deficit in the 6th inning to pull out the 6-4 victory.

The hero for the Hawks was catcher Jessica Nicola who went 4-4 and knocked in 4 runs during the game. She improved her batting average to .326 on the season and has the Hawks looking forward to carrying the momentum of their latest victory to St. John's for a double header on Wednesday afternoon.

The latest win lifts Monmouth to a disappointing 3-10-1 on the season. There is still plenty of time left to regroup and as the younger Hawks gain experience they will only get better throughout the year.



PHOTO COURTESY of MU Sports Information

Jessica Nicola provided the Hawks with some offense as she doubled in the winning run in the Hawks' 6-4 game two victory over Penn.

Softball Upcoming Schedule

3/26 at
St. John's
3:00 & 5:00

3/29 at FDU
1:00 & 3:00

3/30 at
Sacred Heart
12:00 & 2:00

4/2 at
Seton Hall
3:30 & 5:30

4/5
Mount St. Mary's
1:00 & 3:00

A Word on Sports

That Loud "Crash" You Heard Was My Bracket Collapsing

ALEXANDER TRUNCALE
STAFF WRITER

I have never professed to be college basketball expert; the only games I actually am good at picking are NFL games, which is evidenced by the fact that I have now won The Outlook Football Pool three years in a row. Like 90% of America, I only started following college basketball during the conference tournaments. Since picking teams based on logic and reasoning never seems to work, I decided this year I was going to try something different, and pick teams based solely on famous alumni. This would have been effective, had my good friend Lauren not asked me to pick her bracket in her office pool based on this method. Once money was wagered, my method was doomed for failure.

But that's life. The college basketball deities really don't want anyone to be successful when it comes to predicting March Madness. Otherwise, CBS's Seth Davis and Clark Kellogg would be fulltime Oracles, instead of so-called "experts" that only seem to appear four weeks out of the year. In fact, of the 3,250,000 brackets on ESPN.com, not one was completely correct after the first round. If professional gamblers, psychics, and mathematical geniuses can't figure out how to pick these games, then what chance do I have?

Because the aforementioned college basketball gods like to play tricks on us mortals, I was

lured into a false sense of security on the first day and thought my system of picking famous alumni was working. I had UCLA (Kareem Abdul-Jabbar) over Mississippi Valley State (Jerry Rice), Duke (Presidential candidate Ron Paul) over Belmont (Minnie Pearl...who?), Marquette (actor Chris Farley) over Kentucky (NFL draft bust Tim Couch), and Stanford (John Elway) over Cornell (former Attorney General Janet Reno). After day one, I was 15 of 16, with my only loss coming from BYU (Steve Young) who fell to Texas A&M (Bolivian President Jorge Quiroga Ramirez).

But, on Day 2, things began to change, and my system of picking teams based on famous alumni was beginning to let me down. Siena (Mariska Hargitay's character on Law and Order: SVU) inexplicably defeated Vanderbilt (former presidential candidate Fred Dalton Thompson), Western Kentucky (Browns coach Romeo Crenel) beat Drake (2007 Master's Champion Zach Johnson), and San Diego (Red Sox GM Theo Epstein) knocked off UConn (Ray Allen). But, on the plus side, I did have Arkansas (all-time great football announcer Pat Summerall) beating Indiana (Isiah Thomas). Admittedly, that was an easy one.

But the biggest blow had to come on Saturday afternoon, as I watched Duke (Ron Paul), one of my final four teams (this may be a more than subtle indicator of who I supported in the Presidential race) lose to West

Virginia, and resident strip club addict Pacman Jones. And that was it. Done by Day Three, which for me, is about average.

So, with my bracket shredded, torn-up and burned, I have nothing left to do but sit back, relax and enjoy the rest of March Madness, and to evaluate CBS's announcers. While I'm normally slow to criticize a fellow Colts Neck, NJ native, Jim Nantz calling a game is about as exciting as watching a snail race. Contrast that with the great Gus Johnson, who has become a YouTube legend thanks to his genuine, unbridled excitement during close games, and his famous "HA-HA!" cackle that was once described as "maniacal."

The difference between Gus Johnson and Jim Nantz is that Gus actually enjoys basketball, and that enjoyment is translated to his call of the games, which makes it even more exciting. He has become such an Internet phenomenon that YouTube has been flooded with Gus Johnson clips and there is a website on which you can download his famous catchphrases to your cell phone.

So, even though I can't pick NCAA Tournament games, at least I can enjoy the excitement of March Madness, as well as the excitement of Gus Johnson Madness. And the next time Gus's alma matter, Howard University, makes it to the Tournament, I will be picking them to go all the way.

Men's Golf Tees Off for '08 Season

Hawks finish 18th overall at George Washington Invitational

PRESS RELEASE

The Monmouth University men's golf team finished in 18th place at the 10th annual George Washington Invitational men's golf tournament on the Delaware Shore.

The two-day, 45-hole event was played Friday and Saturday on the par 72, 6,834-yard Bear Trap Dunes Golf Club. The tournament,

7 a.m., on Saturday to finish day one's action. Maryland won the tournament with a 738 (306-293-139), while the host Colonials were 10 strokes off the pace with a 748 (301-297-150). Maryland's Chris Gould won the individual title with a total 180 (72-72-34).

Monmouth, which did finish its second day with a 298, had its score reduced to a nine-hole score of 147 due to darkness forcing the remaining team to be unable to finish the competition.

Monmouth senior Anthony Campanile was the Hawks' top finisher, claiming 52nd place overall with a 196 (81-78-37), which included a second round 78. Freshman Taylor Krug (84-80-36) was Monmouth's next finisher, claiming 65th place, while sophomore Michael McComb (85-85-35=205) finished in 80th place.

Campanile and McComb each finished with a one under par 71 in the third round, while Krug carded a two-over 74.

Junior Chanse Regier claimed 95th place with his 213 (88-84-41), while Ryan Beck rounded out the Hawks' scor-

ers with a 215 (92-84-39). Monmouth returns to action April 12 and 13, when the Hawks compete at the Lafayette Invitational at the Center Valley Club, in Center Valley, Pa.



PHOTO COURTESY of MU Sports Information

Freshman Taylor Krug finished in 65th place overall at the George Washington Invitational, the second highest finish by a Monmouth golfer.

originally scheduled as a 54-hole event, was shortened to 45 holes due to darkness. Both rounds were 27-hole rounds, and the teams that did not complete their first day rounds, returned to the course at

Track and Field Begins Outdoor Season

Blue and White travel to South Carolina to compete at the Shamrock Invitational in first meet of the spring season

ERIC WALSH
SPORTS EDITOR

As the seasons change, so do the sports. In the spring semester outdoor sports become the focal point of the college sports world. So as the spring season is upon us, the indoor track and field season has moved outdoors, with many of the same athletes who competed during the indoor track and field season continuing to compete in the outdoor season.

The 2008 Monmouth outdoor track season began with the Shamrock Invitational, hosted by Coastal Carolina University, in Conway, South Carolina. The meet, scheduled for Friday, March 21, and Saturday, March 22, was a success for Hawk athletes, as several finished highly in their respective competitions.

On Friday, Sophomore Chris Taiwo's 100m time was the high-

light of the first day of competition. The sprinter crossed the finish line in 11.05 seconds, good enough to send him through to the finals on day 2 of the meet. Also on day 1, sophomore Pete Forgach ran a time of 8:53 for the 3000m

lighted the day with his performances. In the final of the 100m, the sprinter finished in a time of 11.02, good enough for 12th overall. The sophomore also competed in the 200m finals, crossing the tape in a time of 21.92. "I thought I ran well," says Taiwo. "I have definitely improved from this time last year, already surpassing my 100m time this early in the spring season."

Sophomore Jenn Tarsan recorded a distance of 35'3" in the triple jump, while also clearing 5'1" in the high jump. Senior Latasha Leake joined Tarsan with a high jump of 5'1", rounding out the top performances by Monmouth athletes in South Carolina.

The Hawks will host the Monmouth Season Opener next weekend, beginning on Friday, March 28, and concluding on Saturday, March 29.



PHOTO COURTESY of MU Sports Information

Chris Taiwo competed in two events, making it to the finals in both the 100m and 200m competitions.

competition, good enough to put him in eighth.

On the second day of competition, it was Taiwo again who high-

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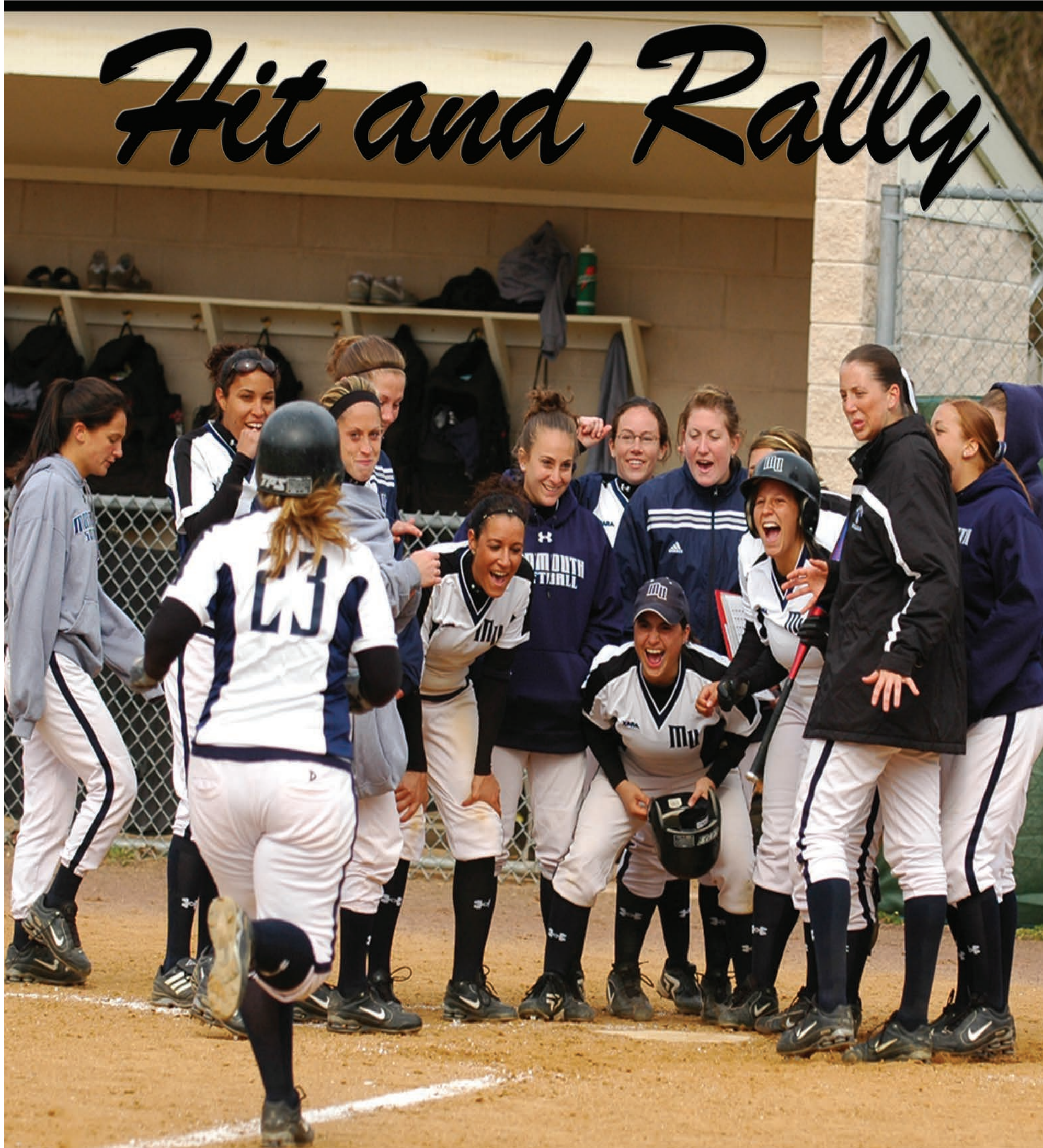
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Hit and Rally



The softball team rallied from four runs down to defeat the University of Pennsylvania 6-4, splitting their two-game weekend series with the Quakers.

Full Story on Page 18