



Middle-East Scholars Discuss Plan for Peace



Dr. Sami Adwan, Palestinian educator

Adwan were the first preference of the university given their peace building research and work under fire and their peace outreach locally, regionally, and internationally,” said Dr. Saliba Sarsar, associate vice president for Academic Program Initiatives. He applied for the competitive Fulbright Scholar-In-Residence grant on behalf of the university.

According to the Fulbright Program Web site, it is the largest U.S. international exchange program offering opportunities for students, scholars, and professionals to undertake study and teaching, and has awarded about six thousand grants last year, at a cost of more than \$235.

Adwan is a professor of education at Bethlehem University on the West Bank, focusing his research on Palestinian education, and the role of education in building peace. He received his bachelor of arts in elementary education from Jordan University, and did his master’s and doctorate work in educational administration at the University of San Francisco.

Bar-On works as a professor of psychology in the Department of Behavioral Science at Ben-Gurion University of the Negev. As also a psychologist, he has

been pioneering field research in Germany in 1985, studying the mental and moral after-effects of the Holocaust on the children of the perpetrators. He received his master’s degree in psychology in 1979, and received his Ph.D. at the Hebrew University of Jerusalem in 1981.

Both scholars began their in-residency teaching this past winter. Bar-On co-teaches “Comparative Politics of the Middle East” with Sarsar, and both will instruct their own perspective courses on global issues. Bar-On teaches “Transformation of Collective Identity in the Age of Globalization,” placing special attention to societies in which past and present collective identities clash. Adwan’s class deals closely with his area of study: “Education: Interculturalism, Conflict, and Peace Building,” which addresses the role of education in forming and shaping the individual and collective identity, interculturalism and globalization processes, and their role in conflicts.

The pair has also developed a history curriculum project that focuses on combining efforts amongst Israeli and Palestinian history teachers. The project employs a new approach to educa-

tion, by introducing a “dual-narrative” approach to teaching the history of the region through both perspectives.

They designed booklets for school children to introduce both Israeli and Palestinian perspectives of their particular history in two equal narratives. The text, titled Learning Each Other’s Historical Narrative: Palestinians and Israelis, has been translated into several languages, including Arabic, English, and Hebrew, and has circulated to curriculums worldwide. Adwan cited research that has shown that both sides only teach their own national narratives, leaving the other virtually non-existent.

“This booklet is actually to bring people from both sides, to learn something about their history, not from what they’re used to hear from their parents, from their teachers, or what they hear in the street in their own society, but also how it’s being told in the other society,” explained Bar-On.

He continued, stating that in many cases, their new curriculum exposes children to these narratives for the first time. From Bar-

Scholars continued on pg. 2

WESLEY CHIN
NEWS EDITOR

The co-directors of the Peace Research Institute in the Middle East spoke to local media outlets last Tuesday to discuss their shared outreach vision through education, and to outline their

thoughts on bringing peace to their respective homelands.

Monmouth University received a Fulbright Scholar-in-Residence grant, bringing Israeli psychologist Dan Bar-On and Palestinian educator Sami Adwan to the campus to teach and assist classes.

“Dr. Dan Bar-On and Dr. Sami

Athletic Community Loses One of Their Own

Rodney Herbert, Basketball Manager, Passes Away

ALEXANDER TRUNCALE
SPORTS EDITOR

The Monmouth Athletic Department and the University recently lost a valued member of its team. Rodney Herbert, who served as the men’s basketball team manager for five years, and who graduated in 2006, passed away as a result of a lifelong illness. He was 25-years-old.

Coaches and players alike remember Herbert for his positive attitude towards life. “He was super,” said men’s basketball head coach Dave Calloway. “I really enjoyed his company.”

Herbert was originally from Randolph, NJ and came to Monmouth as a sophomore transfer from Adelphi University. While a freshman at Adelphi, he served as the manager of the men’s basketball team dur-

ing the 2001-2002 season. Adelphi went 26-2 that year and won the East Coast Conference regular season championship before falling to Kentucky Wesleyan University in the ECC conference final.

In 2002, Rodney transferred to Monmouth where he began to pursue a degree in music. When he arrived, he took the job as the manager for the men’s basketball team and quickly made a name for himself as more than just a manager.

“I think he made each guy more ready for practice,” said Calloway. “He would always get on guys for not playing hard enough. He was a definite leader in the locker room.”

And it seems that Herbert’s enthusiasm and love for the game was contagious. Some might even

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Vandalism Defaces Residence Halls

SAMANTHA YOUNG
CO EDITOR IN CHIEF

The vandalism in Laurel Hall, featuring swastikas and references to the Klu Klux Klan, on Friday, March 30 was the most recent in a string of graffiti attacks on campus residence halls.

“At this time, the matter is still under investigation,” said MUPD Chief William McElrath.

Obscenities and anti-Semitic comments were first found written on dry erase boards and scribbled on the walls of the second and third west wing floors of Pinewood Hall on March 19. Five days later, similar profanities were found in Elmwood Hall.

Although racial epithets were a theme in at least two of the attacks, McElrath believes racism was not a motivation.

“We don’t think it was done to target any particular individual,” he said.

Detective Sgt. Kenneth Kennedy and Patrol Officer Frank Graham are leading the investigation.

Due to the nature of the vandalism, the Monmouth County Prosecutor’s Office has been notified. Meanwhile, the case remained active and the MUPD will continue to follow incoming tips.

The guilty suspect(s) face up to two charges. The first charge is criminal mischief, which is the writing on others’ property. Since the damage caused was less than \$500, it’s considered a disorderly person’s offense. It boasts a maximum \$1,000 fine and six months in jail. The second possible charge is bias intimidation. It is classified as a fourth degree crime and carries a maximum \$10,000 fine and 18 months in jail.

If one person is apprehended and convicted on both charges, he or she will receive both penalties. If more than one person is brought into custody, they will be interviewed to de-

termine culpability. Interrogations will take place at MUPD headquarters and subsequently, a complaint will be filed with West Long Branch Police to be forward to the court.

The University is also prepared to take action against the responsible parties. Shannon Killeen, Director of Judicial Affairs and Special Projects, outlined the repercussions.

“If students are identified they will be charged under the Student Code of Conduct and, if found responsible, would face a range of sanctions which could include up to a suspension or expulsion from the University.”

The MUPD is offering a \$1,000 reward for information leading to the arrest and conviction of the responsible person(s). Tips can be provided via email, calling the University police directly at 732 571 3472 or 732 571 3499, or in person at the police station. Any and all contact relating to this case will be kept confidential.

Wednesday 54°/37°
Rain/Thunder

Thursday 44°/32°
Few Showers/Wind

Friday 44°/31°
Mostly Sunny

Saturday 44°/29°
Partly Cloudy

Sunday 45°/31°
Partly Cloudy

Monday 48°/37°
Mostly Sunny

Tuesday 49°/38°
Few Showers

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Israeli and Palestinian Scholars: United for a Single Cause

Scholars continued from pg. 1

On's findings, most of the children will be told that alternate concepts from the other side are just propaganda, and not real legitimate histories like their own. "I think we need to expose the pupils to both narratives, to suggest to them that these stories from each point of views are true stories, and learn to respect the stories," he added.

Adwan outlined the positive progressions made in curriculums that have adopted their new education plan. Although fervent parents are not directly affected by classroom teachings, inter-family interaction aids in achieving the set goals.

"When growing up, children were always told things by parents and grandparents," he stated. "Instead, now children are bringing home new stories to the home to share, and by creating discussion within the family, we are partly achieving our goal. By teaching from both narratives to children, they create their own perspectives on the conflict."

"The plan recognizes that given the current polarized conflict, there is not enough common ground for Israelis and Palestinians to create a single integrative narrative," said Sarsar. "But that's at least the vision for the future."

be a much more guarantee for security, rather than to maintain the status quo, the conflict."

"There is a difference between peace builders and peace makers, and politicians usually work on a short time frame, limited by their voters and show immediate results that are measurable," added Bar-On, also touching upon the time it will take their curriculum to be successful.

"We are working on long-term social qualities that are difficult to measure. But we are at the beginning of the road."

The scholar's amenities on campus have been taken care of, including supplying the international visitors with their own office.

Along with their classroom teaching, Bar-On and Adwan will also be participating in this year's Global Understanding Project convention, sitting alongside Sarsar on a panel discussion and viewing the film "Searching for Peace in the Middle East." The event, titled "Bringing Israelis and Palestinians into Dialogue," will be held in Wilson Auditorium on April 9, at 4:30 p.m.

Adwan said the goals on campus for him and his colleague are to try and share their experiences with students and employ education as a peace bringing tool.

Additionally, allowing the students to learn much more about the conflict also works in part with

There is a difference between peace builders and peace makers, and politicians usually work on a short time frame, limited by their voters and show immediate results that are measurable. We are working on long-term social qualities that are difficult to measure.

DR. DAN BAR-ON
Israeli Psychologist

The ultimate goal as outlined by the two visiting scholars is to ensure a peaceful co-existence between Israel and Palestine, who both equally have suffered through the ensuing conflict. Adwan made criticisms of his view of a counterproductive role the media has in bringing the conflict to the public's attention.

"We want the media to play a positive role in this direction, and there are a lot of people like Dan and I who work in the field trying to create a positive change," he stated. "But unfortunately this does not come into the media. Their only focus is in bringing the negative things forward, the destructive conflict. We want the media to be part of the solution."

Adwan also called for the assistance of the United States and United Nations to help in ending tensions between Israel and Palestine.

Bar-On also agreed, stating that the both were in a position to provide the means to create peace.

"We want both sides' children to live in peace and co-existence, and to live their childhood in both societies with the potential for better future," commented Adwan. "By establishing a democratic Palestinian state, at this stage, it would

the goals set out in their semester here.

"I really enjoy being in the classroom with the students: they ask good questions, listen and engage in discussion," commented Adwan. "I would also consider myself a learner, because it's a process of understanding this international globe, we have to be learners and teachers at the same time."

Future cooperation between Bethlehem University and Monmouth, Adwan stated, is something they are looking to pursue.

Teacher training, student exchange programs, and development of research projects with other colleagues are all in the works as part of creating more space for both universities to engage in international dialog and understanding.

Adwan added that the two colleges' staffs plan to meet through video conferencing, in an effort to learn about each other and secure further cooperative measures.

"We should move our education to be part of the conflict, and part of the solution," he said. "We should teach our children to recognize each side's right to exist with dignity and honor."

Hillel Returns from Hiatus

Jewish Organization Strives to Enrich Students' Lives

SAMANTHA YOUNG
CO EDITOR IN CHIEF

After being inactive since Fall of 2003, students are trying to bring the Hillel Club back to campus.

"I think it is important for [Jewish students] to have a club in which to socialize, meet other students, and explore their own identities and concerns," said Dr. Liora Brush, lecturer in the English Department and former member of the NYU Hillel.

Sophomore Nicole Stevens, a history and secondary education major, agrees.

"Hillel will provide an opportunity for them to grow socially and spiritually and become better leaders."

Present at more than 500 colleges and universities, Hillel: The Foundation for Jewish Campus Life has been working since 1923 to provoke a celebration of students' religious and cultural identities.

Thus far, Hillel has yet to achieve the status of club at Monmouth

University.

"SGA generally looks for around 10 members to start a club

"Hillel will provide an opportunity for (students) to grow socially and spiritually..."

NICOLE STEVENS
Sophomore

but will consider less based on the club," said Amy Bellina, Director of Student Activities and Student Operations. "No recognized club or organization may fall below three members. They must have a faculty/staff adviser and they must write a constitution."

Hillel held the first of two approved general interest meetings

on Thursday, March 29; however, more meetings are expected in the future.

"I have helped revise the potential constitution that Hillel would use," said Stevens. "I am also working with Dr. Liora Brosh, who will be the club's adviser, to...attract more students to join."

If made an official club, members will gather to gain a better understanding of their background.

"It would be great if the Jewish students on campus could have Purim parties and other social events in which they could meet other students while celebrating their own holidays," said Brosh.

Working in tandem with the Jewish Culture Program at Monmouth, Dr. Robert Youdin, Director of the program, expects a positive reaction to Hillel.

"Both...are part of an ongoing effort to enrich the experience of Jewish students at Monmouth University and to expose non-Jewish students, faculty and employees to the wonderful aspects of Jewish culture."

Campus Mourns Student's Passing

Herbert continued from pg. 1

say that he was a good luck charm. He was a member of three straight championship teams at Monmouth. In the 2003-2004 season, the Hawks completed a 24 win campaign en route to a Northeast Conference Tournament Championship and a trip to the NCAA Tournament against Mississippi State.

The next season saw the Hawks win the NEC regular season title, and then in his final year as a student at Monmouth, the team defeated Farleigh Dickenson in the NEC Final and traveled to Dayton, Ohio for the NCAA Tournament play-in game

against Hampton, which the Hawks prevailed 71-49, and advanced to take on Villanova.

In May of 2006, Herbert received his diploma in music. Despite graduating, Herbert still remained on the bench with the basketball team through the 2006-2007 season. This would be Herbert's last season with the team and coach Calloway knows he will be missed.

"Speaking at his funeral was probably the hardest thing I've had to do," he recalled.

Herbert's death is being felt by not just the basketball team, but the entire athletic community.

"He was always polite and respectful," said Marilyn McNeil, the

Monmouth University Athletic Director. "All of those qualities combined to produce a very admirable person. I was very sorry to lose Rodney."

When asked if the Athletic Department is planning on a special event for Herbert, McNeil said, "I am sure the basketball team and our student leadership group are planning something in Rodney's honor."

Although Herbert's life was cut short, his impact on the basketball team and on the campus of Monmouth University will always be remembered. Well liked by coaches, players and administrators, Herbert will remain a fixture in Monmouth athletics for years to come.

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Session B (6 weeks) May 21 — July 2


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Session D (4 weeks) June 13 — July 11

Session E (6 weeks) July 5 — August 15

Session F (4 weeks) July 30 — August 23

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National Student Employment Week to Recognize Great Achievements

JACQUELINE KOLOSKI
CO-EDITOR IN CHIEF

From April 8 to 14, Monmouth University will celebrate National Student Employment Week. In its 11th year, Assistant Director of Placement for Student Employment, Aimee Parks, said the event “was set aside by the Northeast Association of Student Employment Administrators.”

Parks was vice president as well as a representative of New Jersey for the organization. According to the Northeast Association of Student Employment Administrators, the purpose of the week is “to enhance awareness of student employment and its important role in higher education experience; to recognize students who perform outstanding work while attending college; to thank the employees, who hire students for part-time positions and make the student employment program such a success.”

Local businesses donated prizes for the Student Employment Week. They include Dunkin Donuts, Cask 591 Restaurant, Bagel Outlaws, and Park Avenue Day Spa.

“Nancy Gallo, Student Employee Assistant and I have been fundraising for the past two months.

We have over \$5,000 worth of gifts to give away and every student walks away from our prize table with a prize,” said Parks. Parks added student employers will also receive a coupon to the campus bookstore and the Windmill.

Each day during Student Employment Week will feature a different event. On Tuesday, 300 bags of Herr’s potato chips will be distributed on the residential side. Wednesday will feature a musical performance by Verdict from 2:30

distribution of prizes to student employees. “Thursday we will continue to give away unclaimed prizes and all raffle winners will be contacted [for candy guess winner, \$100 Gold’s gym membership, \$100 McLoone’s Pier House gift certificate],” said Parks.

Friday concludes the week’s festivities with the Student Employee of the Year Reception. There are 16 student nominees for this year’s award. “The Community Service Award, honorable mentions and

“Without them, Monmouth could not operate at the level it does.”

WILL HILL
Assistant Dean of Placement and Student Employment

to 4:30 p.m. on campus.

“Monmouth has never had a band before to help celebrate the day,” said Parks. “The band is sponsored by Student Activities Board, Student Employment and Student Government Association.”

Parks added that during intermission there will be performances by the Dance team and “step-pers” from a fraternity on campus. Avanti Salon and Chick-Fil-A will also be guests that day.

Thursday will continue the

the winner will all be announced during the gathering,” said Parks.

Will Hill, Assistant Dean of Placement and Student Employment, said that he thinks this program is a great way for student employees to be recognized for the work that they do.

“Without them, Monmouth could not operate at the level it does,” said Hill. “More than 1000 students work in dozens of offices across campus, helping faculty, staff and administrators perform their daily responsibilities and carry out their services to the Monmouth community.”

Parks echoed the same thoughts and said Student Employee Appreciation Day is her favorite day at work.

“I love surprising the students with our generous sponsors. Every year we try new things and this year I am extremely excited to offer the campus a live musical performance,” she said.

Summer Financial Aid Applications Now Available Online!

Once you have registered for classes,
please go to
www.monmouth.edu/summersessions
to submit a financial aid application.

For additional information, please call the Office of
Financial Aid at 732-571-3463, or stop by the office in
room 108 of Wilson Hall.

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WAR ZONE

Film and Discussion
Sponsored by Counseling & Psychological Services

In this short film Maggie Hadleigh-West
videos street harassment and
courageously confronts the behavior.
A MUST-SEE FILM FOR EVERYONE!!

April 11th
2:30 pm -4:00 pm
Young Auditorium – Bey Hall

For special accommodations, please contact us prior to the program
at 732-571-7517.

Hillel Club Interest Meeting

Where: Student Center, 2nd Floor Room 202A

When: Thursday April 5 @ 4:30 P.M.

Contacts: lbrosh@monmouth.edu,
s0612588@monmouth.edu

What is Hillel???

Hillel: The Foundation for Jewish Campus Life, is the largest Jewish campus organization in the world. It provides the opportunity for students to explore and celebrate their Jewish identity through its global network.

Hillel’s Mission:

Enrich the lives of Jewish undergraduate and graduate students so that they may enrich the Jewish people and the world.

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Spring Festival Looks to Form Strong Bonds with Community

University's Council for Exceptional Children Work with Students at West End Elementary School

SARAH ALYSE JAMIESON
STAFF WRITER

On Tuesday, March 27, the Council for Exceptional Children (CEC) hosted a Spring Festival for children from West End Elementary school. The children who participated in the festival ranged from third to fifth grade.

"We, the CEC, strive to keep a strong relationship with the local community, including the schools," said Monmouth junior Jeff Graziano, the VP of CEC.

At the Spring Fest, the CEC enjoyed many activities with the children from West End. The activities included planting flowers, relay races, pin the tail on the kite, pass the "chick" and the limbo.

The games were outgoing, which made the activities fun for the children, and they had tons of cheering from the staff to help

raise the children's confidence.

After the activities were completed, the CEC shared some treats and snacks with the children. Graziano stated how, "The CEC is a great opportunity for education majors to get a feeling of working with young children."

"Being the adviser of SCSC (Student Council for Exceptional Children) is one of the most rewarding parts of my job!" said Dr. Wendy Harriot, assistant professor in Educational Leadership and Special Education.

Junior Joe Mullan, a communication major, stated how "the Spring Event was a rewarding experience for not only the MU students, but also for the West End students."

"I think that it's great for the kids to come and enjoy the activities that CEC hosts, and it is also a great experience for the education

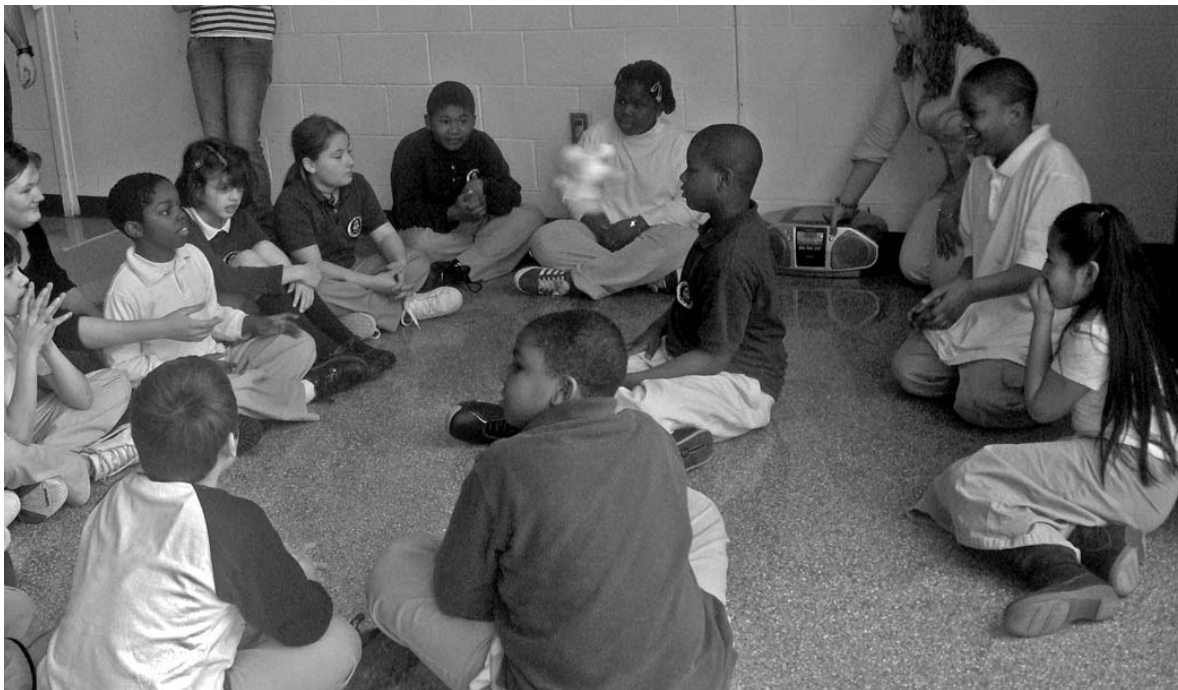
major students at MU," said Nicole Ciavattoni, a sophomore special education and English major.

"As a future special educator, it is a great experience to be a part of CEC and be involved in this year's Spring Fest! The children who attended had a blast; the event was tons of fun!" said Jenel Bramante, a junior special education major.

Grace Anastasia, a student at West End Elementary school, exclaimed, "I had fun today!"

"Today was fun because we played relay races!" pronounced Ricky Arenas, a student at West End Elementary school.

Miss Sciarappa, a self-contained Special Education teacher at West End Elementary school explained how, "As a Monmouth graduate, I think it's a good, hands on, practical experience for future teachers working with children who have special needs."



Zakāt

(Charity)

*Islam on Social Equity
and Social Justice*

Presenting:

Dr. M. Ali Chaudry

Co-founder and President of the Center for Understanding Islam &

Dr. Golam Mathbor

Associate Dean for School of Humanities and Social Sciences
Monmouth University

Zakat is one of the five central pillars of Islam. Often overlooked in mainstream media's portrayal of Islam, Zakat is concerned with social equity and social justice. This lecture not only presents Islam's answer to problems of society, but also addresses the relationship between individuals, society, and God.

Time: 2:30 pm

Date: April 9, 2007

Location: Wilson Auditorium

Sponsored by:

**Muslim Student Association
Monmouth University**

&

**Center for Understanding Islam
www.cuii.org**

A Letter From the President

Dear MU Student:

Dr. Mort Rozanski is a person I call a good friend. He is the President of our cross-state rival, Rider. Mort has had a tough week, perhaps his toughest ever at Rider. You see, he lost a student on Friday (3/30/07) to binge drinking.


It may or may not have had something to do with a fraternity. That is beside the point for me right now.

The point is that a student drank himself to death, in a social setting, in the company of his "so called" friends from college. The real point is: no friend, no fellow student, no peer cared enough to watch out for that Freshman in their midst.

Terrible things happen accidentally and terrible things happen from stupidity. I understand that. But, if we watch out for each other we can avoid catastrophe.

As I walk across our campus I sense a general feeling of success as we close in on the end of the academic year. And as the weather finally improves, Monmouth students will be tempted to celebrate. Please don't let happen what has just happened at Rider. Take care of each other. Help a classmate avoid losing a license; help a teammate avoid a summons for illegal behavior in a neighborhood nearby; help a roommate avoid dangerous drinking. Take care of each other. Take care of each other.

Paul Gaffney
President



Graduate Information Session

Business Administration (MBA) <i>New for Fall 2007: Accelerated MBA</i>	When: Wednesday, April 11, 2007, 7:00 p.m.
Computer Science	Where: Wilson Hall Auditorium
Corporate & Public Communication	
Criminal Justice	
Education (MAT, MEd, MSEd)	
English	
History	
Liberal Arts	
Nursing	
Professional Counseling	
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CLASS OF 2007

SENIOR WEEK

TICKETS WILL BE SOLD APRIL 4TH-27TH AT THE OFFICE OF STUDENT ACTIVITIES ON THE 2ND FLOOR OF THE STUDENT CENTER. ONLY GRADUATING SENIORS MAY BUY TICKETS THROUGH APRIL 17TH. TICKETS FOR SENIOR WEEK ARE NON-REFUNDABLE, AND CAN BE PURCHASED WITH CASH OR CHECK. TICKET PURCHASERS MUST SHOW PROPER ID. ALL TICKET PURCHASERS AND THEIR GUESTS MUST BE 21 OR OLDER TO ATTEND (UNLESS OTHERWISE NOTED). ONE GUEST PER STUDENT ID (UNLESS OTHERWISE NOTED). ONLY GRADUATING SENIORS MAY STAY IN THE RESIDENCE HALLS DURING SENIOR WEEK. A PORTION OF TICKET SALES WILL GO TOWARD THE SENIOR CLASS GIFT.

Tuesday, May 8th

Bar A: \$10

Spend time with friends, relax, and enjoy. All you can eat barbecue (8pm-11pm). Late night coffee and tea station. Shuttle to Bar A leaves starting at 7pm from the Student Center parking lot. Bar A will ID at the door.

Wednesday, May 9th

NYC Trip- \$10

Come and enjoy the sights and sounds of New York City. Bus leaves from the Student Center parking lot at 11:45am, and will leave New York City at 8pm. (Under 21 allowed)

Thursday, May 10th

Medieval Times- \$40

Step back in time for an evening of dinner and jousting fit for a king. Bus leaves at 4:15pm from the Student Center parking lot. Due to limited tickets, no guests will be allowed. (Under 21 allowed)

Friday, May 11th

Casino Night- \$10

Spend 6 hours in Atlantic City. The bus will leave for Atlantic City at 2pm from the Student Center parking lot. (Must be 21 to be on Casino bus)

Saturday, May 12th

Senior Reception hosted by President and Mrs. Gaffney Semi-formal - Free

6-8pm at the Doherty House (rain site TBA). Pre-registration required at the Office of Student Activities. No guests allowed, because space is limited to the first 100 people to sign up.

Saturday, May 12th

Stingers Night Club

Enjoy a night out with friends. Free shuttle service from the Student Center parking lot, and no charge at the door with MU ID from 10pm-2am. Must show proper ID at Stingers

Monday, May 14th

Bowling- \$5

Spend an afternoon bowling with friends. Bowling, shoes, pizza, and soda included. Shuttle to Memory Lanes in Shrewsbury leaves at 1:45pm from the Student Center parking lot and returns at 4pm. (Under 21 allowed)

Tuesday, May 15th

Jacks

Spend one last night at Jacks, where everybody knows your name! Shuttle bus will be available at the Student Center Parking lot from 9pm-2am. Jacks will ID at the door.

If You Have Any Questions Call: Student Activities (732) 571-3586

The Outlook

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Editorial

JACQUELINE KOLOSKI
CO EDITOR IN CHIEF

Three issues to go until the end of the semester. It is hard to believe that we are at that point in the year already. It feels as though it was just January and I was moving in all of my stuff to begin another semester at school.

Well, now I am approaching my final year at Monmouth and how sad am I going to be when that time next year comes. But, I will leave that for another time because I in this editorial I want to talk about something that I know probably has been on everyone's mind at some point in their college career here at Monmouth or if you are still an underclassmen maybe not yet. That subject happens to deal with the general education requirement for every student here at the university, Critical Discourse.

Some may hate it, some may love it. I am included in the group that enjoyed that class. There may be another category of you that may be on the fence about it. With all that aside, I wanted to touch on why this course is beneficial and should remain a requirement for students in college.

When I first came to college, I was not one who was too keen on the idea of public speaking. Just the thought of it made me nervous and I didn't understand how people could just get up onstage and speak in front of a whole group of people without wanting to run out of the room in a fit of anxiety.

I took it last semester and prior to that took Public Speaking because it is a requirement as a communication major. I figured it would be a good idea to ease myself into speaking in front of groups. I heard all about Criti-

cal Discourse through my friends who took it and they warned me about the fact that is very much a debate class and that that characteristic would be shown during the Lincoln Douglas Debates. Needless to say, I was scared out of mind, but after taking the class and actually doing the debates it changed my whole perspective about public speaking in general. I simply didn't think it was that scary anymore. In fact, I became more and more comfortable with it. I will probably always have that initial anxiety of anticipation before I present my speech, but that is understandable.

Those who believe that it's just a requirement, and not that important, are wrong. When it comes time to step into the professional world, whatever you plan on pursuing, at one time or another you will have to make a presentation and speak in public. There's no way around it. Taking this class also made my competitive side surface because as I was debating it made me want to research the topic to the best of my ability so I can cover all the possible bases to catch holes in my opponents' argument.

To back up my point, I spoke with Communication Chair, Dr. Don Swanson. He is very knowledgeable about the course and he has an extensive background in the area of debate. He gave me a statistic that greatly backs up my argument (see I'm applying some of my critical thinking skills I learned from the course right now) and proves my point of how essential this class is in the curriculum to better our skills when it comes time to head out into the real world. He said that approximately 80% of colleges have a course similar to critical discourse

in their curriculum. They find it is important that students develop their critical thinking skills and ability to debate a point in an organized fashion.

From my experience of taking the course I have learned how to develop points to support my argument as well as to make sure I do not commit any fallacies with my argument. That is a huge aspect of the course I remember. Looking back, I can say that the skills I have learned from this course helped me in my Media Law class that I am currently taking. Each week, we simulate mock trials from major cases involving the media. I find it easier to do this activity, especially the argument portion, which is what I was assigned to in my group, because of how I learned how to approach it through the class. And when I present my argument, I feel more confident in what I am conveying to those listening than before.

When talking to Dr. Swanson about the topic, he made a good point that I think should be brought to the forefront that goes hand in hand with what I have said. From his feedback from students, they have said that the class for them has been very beneficial. "They say they now understand what it means to take a stand, marshal the knowledge and evidence to support that position, and be prepared for the critical questions and objections of those who might disagree," said Dr. Swanson.

I personally agree with that because I feel as though this class has improved my public speaking skills greatly. You may agree, you may disagree. Regardless, it is important to recognize the advantages this type of course has not only now in your college career but also in the professional world.



Photo of the Week

Take Back The Night candlelit march
photo courtesy of University Photographer Jim Reme



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Paintball: A Grave Misconception

DANIEL J. WISNIEWSKI
STAFF WRITER

As an experienced tournament paintball player I have a great understanding of the sport in its entirety. Even though I have not played over the last year or so, I formerly played in the National Professional Paintball League (NPPL) in its second division. The sport of paintball has taught me many things about life. During my two years playing nationally I had a great deal of fun traveling and met many kinds of people; some of whom I have become dear friends with. Naturally it troubles me when the sport I love is under siege by those who have little understanding about it. The recent debate around campus regarding the formation of a paintball club has been rather narrow. The sport of paintball is not a societal ill or militaristic in nature and if anything it promotes teamwork, discipline, and exercise.

I do not desire to spend much time explaining my personal experiences relating to the sport. However, I feel it is important to provide my experience within the sport to legitimize my viewpoints. In addition to countless local tournaments, I have played five national tournaments in three different states. I have played in the following cities; Huntington Beach, San Diego, Denver, Tampa and Orlando. Not only have I played in the NPPL, I played in the NCPA (National Collegiate Paintball Association). In this league, my high school team (we played in the high

school division at the time) finished 3rd. First hand experience by far outweighs the written word or statistics.

I have heard the terms hunting, mock war games and killing all being associated with paintball. To this I declare with a firm shout: Nay!

College paintball is about teamwork and in the slightest degree resembles warfare. The markers, often called guns, are dangerous only if someone’s eye shielding is removed. It is clear that the paintball markers, when used properly, are incapable of seriously injuring or killing a person. From this simple realization, the violent aspect of the game is removed. The simple, most overused and misconceived association between a marker and deadly firearm is found in the aspect that they both have a trigger and a barrel.

A definition of trigger from the Merriam-Webster dictionary online is “a similar movable part by which a mechanism is actuated.” A firearm’s trigger, such as in the United States’ M-16A4, releases a hammer to strike the deadly bullet propelling it from the barrel at 3,110 feet per second (information from colt.com). On the other hand, a paintball marker’s trigger releases a burst of compressed air to the paintball, a gelatin capsule filled with water soluble paint, towards its opponent at only, and capped by fields, a mere 300 feet per second. So while it is true that both systems have barrels used for guiding a projectile, is it not also true that these projectiles have different intents?

My argument is that people consciously know this difference between a deadly intent and not. Therefore, wouldn’t one also recognize the difference between war and a team sport? In a world where many are easily influenced and susceptible to poor decision making, this concern must be evaluated.

Paintball is one of the safest sports to play, and the paintball community revels and acknowledges this statistic with open arms. Not for obvious reasons, but because it clearly counters

paintball.com), find themselves playing in open fields where air inflated plastic obstacles create a more arena-like feel to the sport. Camouflage is frowned upon by the players and even sometimes restricted by field owners. Having personally fired both a paintball marker and a high powered rifle, I can tell you the feel of the action is completely different. Firearms have strong kicks and deadly trajectories while paintball markers lob gelatin capsules at visibly slow speeds; it is definitely a game. Generally, those who do not play

world, anything even mistakenly related to violence, is viewed as politically incorrect, shameful and stigmatic. This is an issue clearly more broad than just a paintball club. Does the university want to be viewed as suppressing students who currently participate in an already popular and growing sport, or do they want to embrace another social group of students pursuing their own happiness?

I extend a warm acceptance to the call issued forth by Sean Quinn last week in supporting the Paintball Club, and recommend members of the Monmouth University community to do so as well. Whether you are a member of the faculty or student body, you will be protecting the interests of a free society; a society in which all ideas are accepted, those mainstream and those lesser known. I choose to take the road less traveled, and build a highway.

In closing, appropriate is this quote from Frederick Douglass, “Those who profess to favor freedom and yet depreciate agitation, are people who want crops without ploughing the ground; they want rain without thunder and lightning; they want the ocean without the roar of its many waters. The struggle may be a moral one, or it may be a physical one, or it may be both. But it must be a struggle. Power concedes nothing without a demand; it never has and it never will.”

For more information on the National Professional Paintball League, go to www.NPPL.tv and learn the facts about paintball.

...appropriate is this quote from Frederick Douglass, “Those who profess to favor freedom and yet depreciate agitation, are people who want crops without ploughing the ground...”

the stigma attached to their livelihood and beloved sport. In studies done by The National Injury Information Clearinghouse of the U. S. Consumer Product Safety Commission in Washington D. C., Paintball was placed last (26th) on the list of most dangerous/injurious sports beneath Football, Baseball, Basketball, Fishing, Golf, Bowling and many others.

Another aspect in regards to the current paintball question is that of the actual nature of the game. College teams, of which 342 exist across the nation (college-

the sport find little difference between paintball markers and firearms – while they have typically never handled either one. Also, very few readers could probably tell me what a uni-mount, lane or dorito is. What does it mean to be bunkered? Once you step on the field there is a clear distinction between violent combat and tournament paintball, the game which college team’s play.

I highly respect the faculty who spoke out in support of the club, and in turn are promoting diversity on campus. In an oversensitive

Where Have All the Students Gone?

SARAH ALYSE JAMIESON
STAFF WRITER

Why does everybody leave campus and go home on the weekends? That is not what is supposed to happen in college! In my two years living at Monmouth I have noticed, and this is a known fact, that not many students stay on campus on the weekends. I think that it is a

stick around on the weekends, and make life at Monmouth more fun.

There are many great events that Monmouth is hosting this and next weekend. For example, on Thursday at 4 p.m., there is a lacrosse game against St. Francis (PA) at home. On Friday afternoon, there is a softball game against St. Francis (PA) at home. On Saturday, both the lacrosse and softball teams

[By not staying the weekend] students are missing the full college experience.

Students are missing the full college experience. During the weekends is the time where you can really meet people and have time to socialize. Believe it or not, there is a lot to do here at Monmouth University on the weekends! There are always events, games, movies playing, and if more people stayed there would be more people to hang out with! Therefore, more students should

ball teams will be in action, as both teams take on the Colonials of Robert Morris in their respective sports. Saturday night, there will be an Afro Semitic Performing Arts experience. Next weekend, there will be a leadership workshop, baseball games, Texas Hold’em tournaments, free movies, performing arts, and an International Festival. So, instead of packing up your bags when Thursday night rolls around, try staying around and experience all there is that Monmouth has to offer.



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Easter Baskets Bring Joy to Children

DAN ROTH
EDITOR AT LARGE

With fond thoughts of Easters past, students and visitors alike spent time putting together baskets of gifts for children Sunday, April 1 at Monmouth University's Catholic Centre.

"The Catholic Church has always had a strong teaching of social justice. That's why you see so many groups of Nuns and Brothers running programs like soup kitchens, hospices, and other programs such as that," said Ashley Hoppe, a Catholic Centre employee and Monmouth sophomore secondary education major with an emphasis in history and political science.

"So many parishes adopt several families at Christmas and Thanksgiving time to donate food and other gifts. This is just one more way for our community to give back to the Monmouth County community."

Incoming Catholic Centre President and Monmouth biology major, Michael Slisz, echoed these sentiments. "Easter is a season of giving, and is also a celebration of life. The Catholic Centre made Easter baskets for the children at the pediatric wing of Monmouth Medical Centre. This is so those children also can celebrate what they have, as we reflect and realize how lucky we all are."

For current Catholic Centre President and senior mathematics and education major, Megan Moratelli, these events have special significance.

"Being involved in events like these means a great deal to me. I love to help people more than anything, and when I have the opportunity to I take full advantage. I love to see other people help as well," she said.

While it is nice to donate, time and care need to be given to determine what gifts are acceptable. "The prep work required us getting a hold of Monmouth Medical Center to find out the age range (of the children), what was acceptable to give them, for example could we give them candy? Other than that everyone came to the Centre the day of the basket packing and we loaded the baskets up. They will be dropped off Wednesday by Megan (Moratelli) and myself," said Hoppe.

The event was attended by approximately 20-25 students and parents and began promptly after Sunday Mass at 8 p.m.

In the upcoming weeks you can expect more events from the Catholic Centre. On April 14, the Centre will be hosting the Day of Reflection, which is open to all faiths and everyone is welcome. On April 18, the Centre will be home to the interfaith social which is a chance for people of all faiths to come and intermingle.

Upcoming Events

4.14 Day of Reflection

4.18 Interfaith Social

Life Across the Pond Touring London: Weekend with Dad!

DANIELLE DECARLO
STAFF WRITER

Hello Monmouth! I hope you are all having a good week! I have two weekends to catch up on, so be prepared for an article packed with fun, London touristy stuff!

Last weekend my dad came to visit me, which was perfect timing since I was beginning to miss home a little bit. The past two months have gone by fast, but the home-sickness was just starting to set in since I didn't have another trip planned for two weeks until Easter Break. My dad was only here for three full days, so we had to pack everything into a weekend. It was very hectic, but I got to see more of London in three days than I have in the past two months!

The first night he was here, I took him for his first Tube ride and then showed him around Piccadilly Circus and Leicester Square. We didn't stay out late since he was tired from a full day of traveling, so we rested up to prepare for the remainder of the weekend. On Friday, we went to Buckingham Palace to see the Changing of the Guard and then went to the British Museum. The museum was incredible. We got to see the real Rosetta Stone and many other interesting exhibits. We spent most of the day there, then got dinner at a place called The Globe located right near Regent's. It was very nice and relaxed which was just what we were looking for after such a long day!

On Saturday we went to the Cabinet War Rooms where Winston Churchill led Great Britain through World War II. On the way there, we passed by some major attractions such as Westminster Abbey, Big Ben, The Houses of Parliament and The London Eye. The Cabinet War Rooms were by far the most interesting bit of history I've seen since studying abroad. I highly recommend it for future study abroad students! They have original artifacts and everything is phenomenally preserved and left exactly the way they left it the day the war ended. After the Cabinet War Rooms, we went to the Imperial War Museum, which was also fantastic. All of the exhibits have very hard-hitting material, but it is all very informative and thorough. That night, we went on the London Eye. It was so incredible, you really get to see the entire city at the top!

On Sunday we explored the Tower of London and walked across Tower Bridge. We saw the crowned jewels, which was simply unreal. Also, we went to the top of Beauchamp Tower where they held their prisoners. There is still graffiti carved in the walls from the prisoners dating back to the 1500s!

That night, we went out with my cousin who is also studying abroad in England. My aunt came to visit her,

so we all met up for dinner at the Hollywood Café, which was a lot of fun!

My dad left Monday morning, which in my opinion was way too soon. It went by very quickly, but we definitely had a blast!

Unfortunately, I got sick again during the week so I didn't do much else besides attend class and try to relax. Over the most recent weekend, I went back to the Imperial War Museum to see the exhibits that I had missed when I went with my dad. The weather got very nice on Saturday, so I spent the rest of the weekend lying out in the grass in the sun with some fellow Monmouth students and students from other American schools. It seems as if everyone here is getting sick now, so future study abroad students; stock up on your vitamins and take care of yourself so you are less prone to getting sick when you come abroad!

Over Easter Break, which starts at the end of this week, I am going with my roommate, Adina Faulkner to Palermo, Sicily to stay with her family. It will be a nice change to stay with a family rather than hunting for a hostel.

If anyone has any questions for me please feel free to e-mail me at s0612807@monmouth.edu.


PHOTO COURTESY OF Danielle Decarlo
Westminster Abbey, London
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Students who are interested should contact John Genovese as soon as possible at s0362317@monmouth.edu. Please include your phone number in the e-mail.

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The Fall Out

LISA PIKAARD
ENTERTAINMENT EDITOR

It isn't often that you find a celebrity that is willing to discuss their personal depression and battle with mental health issues, but as part of the Half of Us campaign, Pete Wentz, from Fall Out Boy, speaks out about his battle with mental health issues and suicidal thoughts.

The Half of Us campaign is set up through the Jed Foundation to remove the stigma that goes along with problems with mental health. The reason it is titled Half of Us is because nearly half of all college students have felt depressed to the point where they couldn't function.

Courtney Knowles is the Director of Communication at the Jed Foundation and explained a bit about the foundation: "The Jed Foundation is the leading nonprofit organization focused on preventing suicide and promoting mental health among college students. Our organization was started in 2000 by Phil and Donna Satow after they lost their 20-year-old son, Jed, to suicide." Pete Wentz and mtvU joined the mission to get the word out to college campuses.

Pete Wentz explained, "I feel like I am not much of an expert on anything from music history to questions about love. This is one thing I felt hit close to home. I felt like I could offer my side of a conversation, maybe not answer people, but at least let them know someone else felt similarly." Pete Wentz avoided his depression and secluded himself from everyone. He stopped talking to close friends in his downward spiral, but now he is confronting the issue.

A major problem with depression is that people don't know what to do when a loved one is suffering from it. Pete is a believer that the person suffering needs to reach out to you. He said, "I don't think you can really reach out to anyone. They need to reach out to you. The best thing is to let them know you are there for them. Not to be overbearing. I think what resonated with me was realizing that at some point I didn't want to glorify depression. I didn't want to make it something cool." Depression is a disease that can last years if it isn't treated. It is a chemical imbalance and halfofus.com points out that "Depres-

sion affects about 19 million people in the USA each year." Depression isn't something people like to admit. Knowles points out, "We don't think twice about seeking treatment when we are in physical pain, but most students are afraid to admit they are struggling emotionally. We need to realize that mental health problems aren't something we can always fix on our own."

Depression affects millions and college is something that is hard to accept because you are away from what you know and without the people you love. Wentz said what helped him with his struggle was, "Seeing myself in a mirror, reading articles about myself, probably, honestly, the Rolling Stone article and an Alternative Press one were just eye opening for me. I couldn't tread water anymore. It became sink or swim." With support he is holding on.

It is important to be supportive of people who are suffering. Pete says, "Be there for them. Let them know that. Try to engage them in outlets that seem cathartic for them- painting, running, and writing-whatever. Let them know that you are there but don't crowd them. If they seem like something is a bigger problem- get them help. Neither you or they

can fix certain problems on your own." If someone you know or you personally feel like you may be suffering, go to halfofus.com and learn a bit more about the disease.

The more people know, the easier it will be to remove the stigma associated with depression and the more help you can provide to loved ones or yourself.

MtvU and the Jed Foundation have joined together to raise awareness and remove the stigma attached to mental issues like depression, being bipolar, and suicidal thoughts. With the help of mtvU through Pete Wentz and other celebrities, the word about depression, what it does, and who it affects is finally being brought



PHOTO COURTESY of yahoo.com
Fall out Boy's Pete Wentz goes public with his battle with depression yo help raise awareness and acceptance of depression.

into light on college campuses. MtvU also has begun airing a series of half-an-hour mental health specials that profile different mental health issues.

If you or someone you know might possibly be suffering from depression, visit halfofus.com or talk to someone. Depression is a disease and it does not just go away or get better.

Life After Idol

PAIGE SODANO
STAFF WRITER

Being a huge Katharine McPhee fan, it's hard for me to criticize much of her self-titled album, which hit stores January 30th. The first single on the album is "Over It", which if you listen to the radio, has been playing frequently on the pop stations. With its mid-tempo and range of octaves, "Over It" is describing all the things she used to like about a guy and is now moving on. McPhee sings over a sultry beat with accompanying acoustic guitars. "Ordinary World" is probably the most alluring song, because of how powerful Katharine's voice is shown off in this track. "Dangerous" is definitely the catchiest song, with almost



PHOTO COURTESY of www.google.com
Season 5 *Idol* Runner Up is making it in the music world.

a mysterious kind of vibe you get from the song. I think it's meant to sound that way because the song is about warning other girls that a guy is dangerous and to stay away from him; "He's dangerous/He'll steal your heart away, then run and play".

In the third track, "Open Toes", the California native sings about how open toes are cute and a girl needs plenty of open-toed shoes. Although quite the catchy song, it gets a bit repetitive. "Better Off Alone" is a smooth ballad that again truly shows off Katharine's amazing range, and tells about how she's figured out that being alone is the best choice right now. Although somewhat depressing, it's one of the best songs on the album saying, "You didn't think, 'cause you didn't know/That I'd find the strength to let, let you go/I finally figured it out/I'm better off alone". Katharine McPhee sold 116,000 copies in its first week and debuted at #2 on the Billboard top 200 albums. This is by far one of the best albums, in my opinion, that has come out of a former *Idol*. So, if you're into pop, R&B, or soul, this album is definitely one worth buying.

Cliff's Notes: Blades of Glory

CLIFFORD BUGLE
STAFF WRITER

Blades of Glory could perhaps be the most unnecessary movie made so far this year – but that doesn't mean it's not funny. Will Ferrell and Jon Heder create a very funny couple – er, pair. Innuendo and homosexual humor is ubiquitous, but that's certainly understandable when making a movie about two men pair figure skating.

Chazz Michael Michaels (Ferrell) is a grubby drunk professional figure skater sitting on cloud 9 until Jimmy MacElroy (Heder), the bright new star destined for greatness, comes by and challenges him. After tying a men's singles Olympic figure skating competition, the two engage in a fight on national television that ultimately gets both of them banned from singles skating for life. Three and a half years later the two are brought back together by Jimmy's old coach, "Coach" (Craig T. Nelson). He convinces them to put aside their differences and compete in pair skating, in which there has been no other two male entry in history. That loophole allows them to compete for the gold yet again, which they're both hell bent on. Their pair skating rival arises in the brother-sister duo of Stranz and Fairchild Waldenberg (Will Arnett and Amy Poehler). Their other sibling, Katie (Jenna Fischer), becomes the romantic interest of Jimmy after she's assigned by her brother and

sister to spy on him and Chazz's routine practices.

The scene that makes this movie worth watching is the one where Ferrell and Heder compete in their first pair skating competition. While skating to a routine made to Aerosmith's "I Don't Wanna Miss a Thing," the two pull off stunts that are about as suggestive as the film's PG-13 rating will allow, and they're hilarious. Certainly, if you take offense to or just plain dislike homosexually suggestive humor then you will not enjoy this film. But if gay jokes with your friends make you laugh, then chances are you'll take to *BoG* like a skate to ice.

The big thing that keeps this movie from being worth mentioning with other Will Ferrell favorites like *Anchorman*, *Old School*, and *Talladega Nights* is the lack of genius behind it. While the jokes are funny for the most part, the writing doesn't possess the same level of charm or wit. *Anchorman* tackled the issue of sexism, *Old School* covered the mid-life crisis, and *Talladega Nights* took on the southern stereotype. *Blades of Glory* tries to satire the concept of homophobia, but isn't nearly as daring or successful with its execution as the others. Sure some things might make your jaw drop, but that reaction isn't created or even sought after for most of the film.

Ferrell and Heder's bickering as high profile celebrities is reminiscent of Ben Stiller and Owen Wilson's characters in *Zoolander* but isn't played out the same, which keeps it from becoming distracting. Both Ferrell and Heder have their moments in the spotlight and Ferrell has a few good one-liners now and again, but as far as chemistry and comedic timing is concerned the aforementioned films hold more weight. Jenna Fischer shows a great deal of talent when on screen, giving a change-up of dry humor that sticks out in the mostly slapstick plot. Her vivacious attributes are impossible to miss, and her overall performance will be a sweet surprise to those not familiar with her from TV's *The Office*. *BoG* also includes a slew of cameos which include the likes of Rob Corddry, Andy Richter, and Nick Swardson.

Blades of Glory generally entails all of the elements one can usually associate with other Will Ferrell films, including bathroom humor, slapstick, and crude language, but with a plot that has the depth of a sheet of ice and comedic concept that isn't as outrageous as it could have been, it simply fails to pull off a dismount. *Blades* is one of those movies that isn't worth paying full price at the theater but should merit a rental once out on video. It's funny, but just not really funny.

Cliff's Notes: The Lookout

CLIFFORD BUGLE
STAFF WRITER

The Lookout, written and directed by Scott Frank, will not titillate the mind but is enjoyable enough to merit a trip to the theater – as long as you're forgiving. With a plot that's more predictable than a nail and hammer, the performances by the cast are what make this film worth watching. As a strong supporter of Joseph Gordon-Levitt, it was nice to see him in a leading role, which he executed excellently.

Chris Pratt (Gordon-Levitt) has recently survived a severe car accident in which he sustained severe head trauma, leaving him with memory problems and an array of other disabilities. Taking notes upon completing normal daily tasks like brushing his teeth and taking a shower, ala *Memento*, Chris spends his days going to counseling where he tries to learn how to deal with his new disabilities. Once a promising young high school athlete, Chris now lives with a blind man he met at one of his meetings named Lewis (Jeff Daniels) and lives off of whatever money his parents afford him. One day he meets a man at a local bar named Gary (Mathew Goode) who befriends him and introduces him to a girl named Luvlee (Isla Fisher) who becomes Chris' romantic interest. Chris becomes attached to Gary and his

friends, who decide to offer him the position of the lookout during a robbery they plan on committing at a local bank where Chris works as a night janitor. From this point on is where the plot shows less ingenuity than an MTV rap video.

Gordon-Levitt and Jeff Daniels work very well together as best friends in this backwards study of two handicap lives. 'Levitt gives an especially sympathetic performance as a young man whose so-

all passable. Although Goode, as the antagonist, displays a sinister nature to his character, he fails to display a higher intelligence or craftiness usually associated with leaders of felonious groups. This leaves his character preserving only the minimum amount of depth to make the movie function. Fisher is mightily nice to look at but her femme fatale role is not entirely ironed out, as her character completely disappears near the end.

Scott Frank solidly directs a captivating film that will hold your attention all the way to the end. However, his writing efforts do not in any way arrest the intellect of the viewer. The cliché backstory of the main character, the two-faced aspect of the love interest, along with a paint-by-numbers ending make *The Lookout* one of the more predictable heist movies in recent memory. The fact that interest can be maintained throughout despite the high level of inexorableness can supposedly be accredited to Frank's directing talents, but when all is said and done the film's sense of worth suffers.

Ultimately, *The Lookout* accomplishes in being quality entertainment due to a solid cast and standout performances by Joseph Gordon-Levitt and Jeff Daniels. A noticeably formulaic plot eventually falls away out of memory as if each viewer takes on the disability of the main character. Is it *Memento*? No. Is it *The Score*? No. This film will not go down as one of the cleverest capers to ever grace the screen, but it will manage to entertain and intrigue.



PHOTO COURTESY of www.google.com
The Director of *The Lookout* talks with the actors as they prepare for their next scene.

cial life is ravaged by his inability to hold back his inner thoughts and rightfully absorb new memories. His emotional chronology is impressive, but it won't knock your socks off. *Brick* still remains the best example of his real talents. Daniels showcases a charm with rough edges that's both humorous and filled with wisdom. The mentor-like relationship he shows with 'Levitt is especially satisfying in comparison to the rest of the story, and should have garnered more screen time. The supporting cast of Goode, Isla Fisher (*Wedding Crashers*), and Sergio Di Zio are

Arctic Monkeys Going Cold?

WESLEY CHIN
NEWS EDITOR

It would appear that Arctic Monkeys have started believing ... in their own hype. Such is the case with the release of their new single "Brianstorm", made available for download this past Sunday. The fast-tempo, distorted bass-driven track off their new album *Favourite Worst Nightmare*, set for US release April 23 off Domino Records, leaves listeners wondering what direction the Sheffield, England four-piece is headed.

One key element of the usual winning formula of the band is Alex Turner's vocals: where are they in this song? His voice fails to ascend to its fullest potential, sauntering lightly, not matching or meshing well with the music itself.

Arctic Monkey's raw-energy in their instrumentation is still there, but the band certainly has capitalized on their new high-profile stardom in their production value. The guitars sound slightly tighter, the bass deeper, and drums much louder. Still, it doesn't completely mask the otherwise boring song. Despite dramatically built up intros

and breakdowns, "Brianstorm" remains 'meh' at best.

What's additionally disappointing is the departure from their trademark mini-drama music video. "When the Sun Goes Down",

lights, and (of course) dancing girls are thrown into a chaotic mix that induces confusion rather enjoyment.

Perhaps the Arctic Monkeys will once again surprise audiences beyond their previous perceptions. To their credit, *Whatever People Say I Am, That's What I'm Not* set an incredibly high bar for the band to climb over, as the debut album sent them sky rocketing amongst the ranks of Blur and Oasis as fastest selling band in the UK. In their follow up EP *Who the F**k Are Arctic Monkeys*, their music remained grounded in an aggressive britpop simplicity, coupled with imaginative lyrics and memorable hooks. As one of the leading British acts who has the formula down, one would imagine that Turner and the rest

would not fix an already spinning wheel. Embarking on a world tour starting this month may turn out to be a nightly uphill battle proving the album's worth. If this new single is any indication of their musical direction, listeners should proceed with caution.



PHOTO COURTESY of dominorecordco.com
The "Brianstorm" single available for CD and vinyl purchase April 16.

and previous single "Leave Before The Lights Come On" portrayed the band's songs in a memorable and unique presentation. Meanwhile, we have the new single, over-done audibly, and visually as well. Quick random cut-scenes, bright 70's-reminscent disco

The Countdown Is On

KRISTEN RENDA
ENTERTAINMENT EDITOR

In 107 days, the final installment of what might be known as one of the greatest book series of our time will come out--*Harry Potter and the Deathly Hollows*. On Wednesday, March 28th, the cover of the book was released, and *Potter* fans around the world are getting more and more excited for this much anticipated release.

J.K. Rowling has released three different covers, a US cover, a UK adult cover, and a UK children's cover. The US version shows Harry in some sort of arena (possibly the quidditch field?) What's neat about this cover is that when one opens the book completely they will see that the cover wraps around, and it shows Voldemort reaching his hands out to Harry as if trying to grab him, or putting a spell on him.

If the cover is any inkling to what the book is going to be like, I think it is going to be very scary and like always, filled with a lot of suspense. Rowling has given us some hints to what the book will be like, so if you do not

want to know anything about the book, stop reading now.

Apparently there will be a lot more deaths (which is to be expected), the final chapter is an epilogue depicting what is going on with the surviving characters after the story ends, and the last word will be "scar." She has also said that we will find out very important information about Harry's mother, Lily.

Many people are wondering if Harry or he who must not be named will be killed off, and some people think maybe it would be too obvious for either one of them to die. After reading the previous six books, and knowing that Rowling wanted to end this book in a way that no one will ever be able to write another Harry Potter book, killing the both of them is the only thing I can think of to happen. Maybe I'm wrong though, maybe she wants to keep the hero alive.

Apparently the man who does the voice for the books on tape was crying as he was reading the book, so I'm sure all of us Potter fans will have to have a box of tissues sitting next to us as we read.

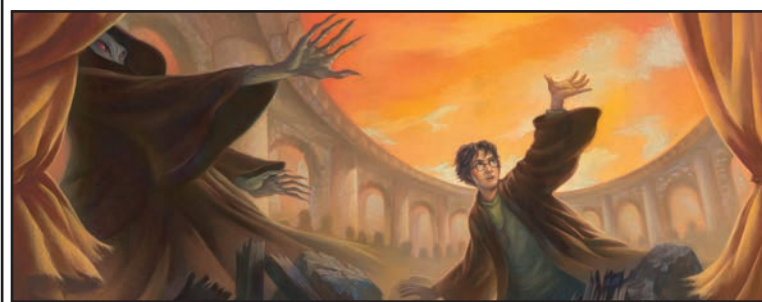


PHOTO COURTESY of google.com
The newest Harry Potter book cover and a few hints about what the final book is going to contain.

Band Alert

LISA PIKAARD
ENTERTAINMENT EDITOR

New Jersey is known for having great bands and the underground music scene reflects that greatly. Memoria is one of the up and coming Jersey bands who deserve some attention.

Memoria is a group of north Jersey boys who are following in the path of other successful Jersey bands. Doug Baumann explains, "We played a few original gigs, hung out at a few cover gigs, and saw the Benjamins and realized that the best way to get our originals out there was to learn covers and hit a larger audience and bigger venues." Well, this Thursday at Sound Garden in Lodi, New Jersey, Memoria is opening for The Benjamins. Check out the show or check back here next week for a review.

Memoria's sound is very difficult to compare to any artists

that are currently performing. They have very strong vocals and a powerful guitar, especially on their song, "See Ya." The most emotional and driving track they have available to check out online is "Down to Break." The drum appears to be the driving force of a very charged song but as the verses continue, the guitar takes the lead and eventually the vocals are the driving force.

The band is a ball of talent and is working their way up through the New Jersey music scene. They have a few shows coming up in New Jersey and they play covers and originals. This Thursday they're performing at 9:30 at the pre-album release party of the Benjamins and again Friday at the Junkyard at Rochelle Park. To hear some of their originals check out their myspace at www.myspace.com/memorianj.com.



PHOTO COURTESY of www.myspace.com/memorianj.com
Memoria is a New Jersey band that is gaining respect and fans throughout the state.



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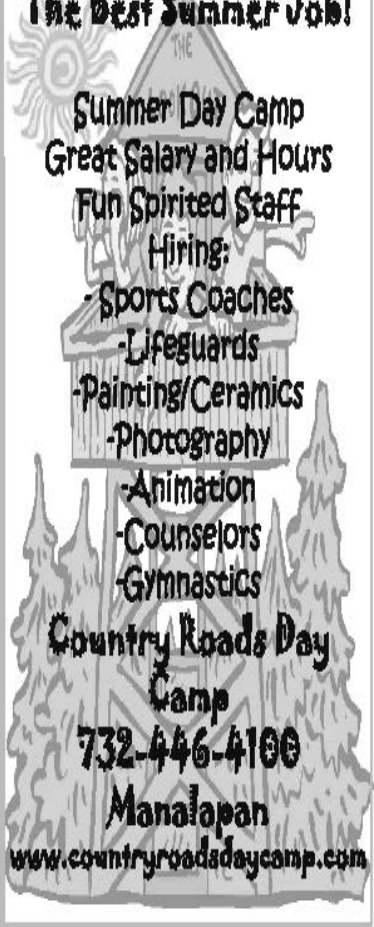
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HOROSCOPES

By Linda C. Black,
Tribune Media Services

Today's Birthday (April 4)

Do you have your financial future all planned so you'll be secure? Got enough set aside to live in luxury to 110? This year, you can do that. The planning, anyway.

To get the advantage, check the day's rating: 10 is the easiest day, 0 the most challenging.

Aries • (Mar. 21 - April 19) - Today is a 7

Now that you have the resources, how will you allocate them? This is a test question, and you'll get to pay, however you choose. So think it over.

Taurus • (April 20 - May 20) - Today is a 7

You're charming but so is your adversary. Which one will persuade the other? Ask for more than you need so you can give something minor away.

Gemini • (May 21 - June 21) - Today is a 8

Important people are impressed by your efforts, and also by your results. This appreciation hasn't turned into more cash in your pocket, yet.

Cancer • (June 22 - July 22) - Today is a 8

It's not easy to concentrate on your work, and maybe you won't have to, much. Looks like the routine is running smoothly for the most part.

Leo • (July 23- Aug. 22) - Today is a 7

Keep studying and practicing new skills. You're getting better. Keep at this routine for twenty years or so, and you'll become a master.

Virgo • (Aug 23 - Sept. 22) - Today is a 7

You're smart enough now to find the error in your own reasoning. Don't keep doing something that doesn't work. Do something different..

Libra • (Sept. 23 - Oct. 23) - Today is a 8

You don't have to explain everything, so don't even try. Spend your energy more usefully by going shopping.

Scorpio • (Oct. 23 - Nov. 21) - Today is a 8

You can afford to get yourself something you've always wanted. This is certainly not an impulsive purchase; give yourself permission.

Sagittarius • (Nov. 22 - Dec. 21) Today is an 6

Don't walk away and leave a mess. Clean it up and toss it out. You'll be amazed at how much better you feel once that trash is out.

Capricorn • (Dec. 22 - Jan. 19) - Today is an 6

Relax with your friends and celebrate your recent victory. Then get ahead with making the plans for your next strategic maneuver.\

Aquarius • (Jan. 20 - Feb. 18) Today is a 7

An older person, impressed with your diligence, offers you more money. This prediction only works if you're doing what that person wants.

Pisces • (Feb. 19 - Mar. 20) Today is a 8

You're gathering information from nearby and from far away. Unfortunately, it doesn't agree. Not always, anyway. Whom should you trust? Nobody. Learn how to verify.

Crossword

ACROSS

1 Inflatable floaters

6 Renown

10 Annapolis inst.

14 George who was Mary

15 Related

16 Hired muscle

17 River's end, often

18 Pusher's pursuer

19 Fabricate

20 Black mark

22 Jostled

24 La-la leader

25 Accomplishes

26 Unfounded

31 Jupiter neighbor

35 Knowing

36 Pooped

38 Dundee denial

39 Great review

40 Proximity bombs

41 Houston school

42 ___ out (scrape by)

43 Soccer passes

44 Cloyed

45 Family cars

47 Aggressive drivers

49 Supervisor

51 Have debts

52 Stretchy

55 Mosquito barrier

60 Flat charge

61 Alan or Cheryl

63 Miserable dwelling

64 Picture on a PC

65 Canal of song

66 Expunge

67 Retained

68 Transmit

69 Intuit

DOWN

1 Funnyman Foxx

2 Away from the wind

3 Movie

4 Carryall bag

5 Take by surprise

6 Outstanding!

7 Alias acronym

8 Stuck in the mud

9 Fences off

10 Maximum

11 "Rich Man, Poor Man" writer

12 Reheat in the microwave, slangily

13 Ripened

21 Wrath

23 Rosary unit

26 Exposes

27 Not sleeping

28 Kept for later

29 Before, once

30 Goes under

32 Join forces

33 Fast-moving serpent

34 Requisites

37 Answered

40 Projectiles

41 Way cool!

43 Windsor or granny

44 Is agitated

46 AWOL word

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4/4/07

Solutions

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48 Lamb's mama

50 Kind of crow?

52 Satie or Estrada

53 Lingerie trim

54 On the summit of

56 Barreled along

57 Terrible ruler?

58 Loch in the Highlands

59 Elation

62 Cacophony

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PAUL

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WOW. I'M IMPRESSED!

POW!

HA! GOT HIM.

NOW THAT —

WAIT, IT'S NOT OVER.

DOINK!

I'LL GET YOU GOOD—OH GOD!

BY BILLY O'KEEFE MRBILLY.COM/PAUL

A College Girl Named Joe

THINGS YOU NEVER WANT TO HEAR IN COLLEGE:

JUST THOUGHT I'D TELL YOU THAT I'VE NOTICED LATELY YOUR LECTURES HAVE BEEN TOO SHORT AND WITHOUT ENOUGH NOTES.

by Aaron Warner

cartoonstudios@msn.com

CLUB and GREEK

Phi Sigma Sigma

Congratulations Alpha Iotas! Love you Phi Sigs- glamour I love you AIs and BIG and GBIG and AUNTIE ~ANG~ I love my family tree! Congrats Little!- MaLibu PhiCycle is in love with everything Phi Sig! Congrats AIs Love you big, gbig, and ggbig <3 Carolyn um bif, you're a nut love Curious This week Blannixx turns 22, goes into NYC and doesn't get thrown out of the bar! Don't worry there's always formal! Phi Sigs make a big splash on Saturday, literally. Swimfan selects her next victim. "Hey Divine, did you see who's hooking up in the basement?" April Fools!! Lunabelle, Mr Sanchez called he wants his move back. Castlewall's new slogan: clothing optional. Congrats Alpha Iotas! So proud of you all! Love my beautiful little! – GrazieLLa Some ATs had an interesting Saturday- HyPnóTic stayed composed, Primabella found a new "man", Perfexxxion went MIA, Charisma got it in the face from her little, and Luminous set a personal record for most pics in the night!

Alpha Xi Delta

Hey everyone! Alpha Xi Delta has been very busy and we are asking everyone to shop at Five Below on April 10th. Say you are shopping for Alpha Xi Delta if you do so because they will donate a portion of their profits to charity for us. Thank you all so much! Be sure to check this section weekly for the happenings of Alpha Xi Delta! We hope everyone has a great week. Much Xi love to all!

Delta Phi Epsilon

Bombshells, I am so proud of you! I love you. My little aphroDiTy, you make me so happy. Love TriniDy. My little UToPia...so happy! Can't wait for all the sister fun we'll be having. – Your PerfeCT Big, haha. Congratulations Litletler aka dELIGHT. You are a perfect addition to our family! Love my Littles, love your Biglett – DESTiNi. Congrats Bombshells & little you're fabulous...The jungle was redic haha <3 SunSet. Congratulations Bombshells!! Love you little, perfect addition to the Dynasty <3 HARMONi. I am so excited for you girls...Bombshells are so darn hott! Hope you girls had fun in the jungle! Xoxo –dolce. Twin you are such a dELIGHT to have in the family! Jewelz, you are my adorable little secret! Love you, GLISSAdE. Bombshells, I'm so proud of you! Welcome to D Phi E! Momma loves you! mAhalo, I love you! <3 always Big (Aloha). VOGUE, you are so CALIENTE, your biggie is so proud of you. I LOVE YOU!!! Utopia, you're Perfect, congrats psued. Xoxo Tony you got rocked by my dance moves, you love it. –CALIENTE. My little DesiRe, I am so proud of you & completely in love with you <3! Xoxo Love, Your Big, De-VianSe. Congrats little one! J'Adore Jewelz! Congrats Bombshells! Love Trixie! Congrats Alpha Omicron <3 G- lil!! Congrats little on VP!! So proud <3 Roxie. Congrats A-O! Love you girls esp gee-gee, secret, and Delta Diamond! <3 Riggs! Dazzle, shopping is so much fun with you & so is lunch with your daddy. – Essence. Thank you for helping me out with the mixer – Thank you to all the girls who came and made it so much fun. I <3 you girls. Congrats to our Bombshells- HOLLYWOOD! Congrats Bombshells! <3 cieLo. Congrats AO's! So proud of you girls! Love you little and secret! Welcome to DPhiE <3 XsTAsY. I love you MoJiT0! Congrats AO's! Love you secret! – MargAriTa. My little Star-duSt *, congrats. I love you mucho amounts and we are going to make so many memories and I can't wait! Congrats Alpha Omicrons, so proud of you girls xoxo Love sParkles *. Congrats Bombshells. So much fun fab 4. Love you! <3 VEGAS. Congrats little – glitz and DaZZle a perfect addition to our family tree! <3

NJ Community Water Watch

COMMUNITY FORUM: Wednesday, April 4, 2007 at 7 p.m
“Water Quality: Suburban Sprawl, Scientific Studies, and Community Action”
Come learn about water quality in Monmouth County or voice your opinions and concerns! **Magill Commons Club Building - Monmouth University**
Please contact Liz Glynn at (732) 263-5753 for more information.

Disaster Can Happen Anywhere...Anytime!

As part of Monmouth University’s continuing effort to help those across the globe, we are asking all employees and students to contribute (individual or group) themed gift baskets to a silent auction that will be held in the Student Center during Global Understanding Week, April 9th-13th. Proceeds from this event will be used to sponsor a box containing survival items from ShelterBox USA, an international rotary club project.



Baskets can be dropped off in the Office of Student Activities on the Second Floor of the Student Center by April 6th. Please notify contact person of participation in our silent auction and basket theme

Contact People:
Katie Field- 609-709-7103 email: s0558522@monmouth.edu
Kathleen Smith Wenning- 232-996-0497 email: kcsmith@monmouth.edu

* This should be considered a donation and not procured or funded by departmental or student group monies

Alpha Sigma Tau

We would like to Congratulate our new member class, the Alpha Sigmas! We are so proud of you girls! Welcome to AST! There will be a Spring Candy sale on Wednesday outside of the Student Center, come visit! Jail and Bail will be taking place on Wednesday as well all day in the pit! Good Luck AST and STG! <3Serenity Congrats grandlittle faith and the rest of the Alpha Sigmas! Love you guyz! <3 Paradise. Congrats! Alpha Sigmas Little (stardust) I am so proud of you! Welcome to AST! Love, LuckyStar. Aplha Sigmas you all rock! Athena - thanks for playing pottery with me! Radiance - you rock with that deoderant stick! Secret - can we play soon? <3 Euphoria. Kaprice and Matey are happy Saturday night didnt happen on Sunday night or else they may have brought thir pillows to class...to sleep...<3 Matey. Congrats Alpha Sigma Class! You ladies make amazing sisters! Tau <3 - Riff. Matey – thank you so much for all your help. you really went above and beyonf your position. I hope we find our little friends...to all my amazing sisters, thanks for all your support in helping the AS's into our Awesome sorority! Tau <3 - Riff. Congrats Alpha Sigmas! Relay for Life is coming up and I'm syked to spend time with the NYU sisters! Tau <3 Arielle. I love my Smalls and G-Smalls! <3 Gia. My sisters mean the world to me - i may not show it all the time but i do - I hope you all know this <3 Gia. <3 Tink

START

The next meetings are on April 10 and April 24 at 5:15 pm in the Carol Aflito Conference Room in 202C. The newest peace club on campus, START, an acronym for Students Taking Action and Responsibility Today. Practing peace beyond any political or religious borders, START strives to create a more secure and livable world, starting with our local community. We are dedicated to taking responsibility by improving ourselves, our school, and communities through positive and peaceful action. We that as individual, as families, as schools, as a community, and as a world, we can learn to embrace the five aspects of peace: pro-environment, pro-opportunity, pro-tolerance, pro-self, and pro-humanity. If you disagree with poverty, discrimination and inequality, negligence, genocide, violence and war, inadequacy, or other social injustices of the world, then this new club is for you. We will create CHANGE. Come see what we are about, email us at start@monmouth.edu

Sigma Tau Gamma

What Up Monmouth,
Jail and Bail! Stop by the Student Center to help bail out your fellow Hawks, all of the money goes to the national philanthropies of Sigma Tau Gamma and Alpha Sigma Tau. Be sure to check out the action, and if you want to be arrested then just come by and be sure to tell your friends to bail you out! Also congratulations to Brian, Jimmy, and Antonio of Epsilon Class, we're proud to call you guys brothers. Hope everyone enjoys their Easter weekends and has a nice Passover.

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If you were elected the next president, what would be the first thing you would change?

BY: SUZANNE GUARINO



Bill
junior

"I would put more money into the education system in all states."



Angela & Carly
freshmen

"We would end the war because it's been long enough."



Krista
senior

"I would make everyone recycle and not litter because we need to protect the environment."



Tim
freshman

"I would focus on the problems in our own country that we've been overlooking because of the war in Iraq."



Janhvi
junior

"I would find the best way to end the war and bring our troops home. These are people our age that shouldn't be fighting; they should be taking care of themselves. And I would have universal healthcare."



Lauren & Ashley
junior & senior

"Encourage people to make love, not war. Also, legalize marijuana and lower the drinking age because people are doing it anyway."



Hackett, Sue, Ashley & Amanda
seniors & sophomore

"We would change the drinking age so our friends could come out with us and we'd make Fridays 'Fun Day' and not allow anyone to work."



Dan & Nikki
juniors

"We would apologize to other countries for being such a jackass country."



James
freshman

"I would legalize gay marriage and instead call it Mardi Gras so it's better than regular marriage."



Candace
grad student

"I would probably step down because it would be too much of a mess to clean up. We probably need a team of presidents, not just one."

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Weighing In: Pachuta and Powerlifting

SAMANTHA YOUNG
CO EDITOR IN CHIEF

Name a sport, any sport. Typical responses would be baseball, basketball and football, right? These are America’s pastimes. To travel the world, however, would garner a much different response. While cricket dominates India and soccer reigns supreme over most of Europe, powerlifting has begun to carve a niche in the international spectrum. Monmouth’s own Richard Pachuta is working to bridge the gap between the familiar and the unknown.

He lives a double life of sorts. On the outside, he is a regular college student. A junior criminal justice major, he spends his days at class, studying and doing homework.

When he enters a powerlifting competition – he’s a celebrity. Ranked number two in the country, 21-year-old Pachuta carries a heavy load on his shoulders, pun intended.

Let’s be honest. If someone were to tell you they were a powerlifter, what would you imagine? For me, a man with limbs slightly larger than tree trunks, a cocky attitude and a vocabulary of words totaling less than the number of teeth he still has left. After sitting down with Pachuta, my view has forever changed.

A 6-foot stature is the base for his muscular, 230 pound, well-defined physique. He blends in with others in his age group with short, dark hair, olive skin, and to my surprise, teeth worthy of a Crest commercial. Dressed in a polo shirt and jeans, his demeanor is shy with his hands constantly fidgeting as he recounts stories of his private love.

“I was always a small kid,” he begins. “I always wanted to get bigger and stronger. It was probably about freshman year in high school [when I started powerlifting]. The more I lifted, I realized I was really strong for my size...The first time I deadlifted was in high school. I was probably about 175 pounds and I deadlifted 505 [pounds] without a belt.”

To speak to Pachuta, one would never know of his accomplishments. Thus far, he has been named second in the nation in 2005 and 2006; NJ State Champ from 2004 to 2007; American Open Champ in 2005; Pennsylvania State Champ in 2006; and holds teenage collegiate national and American bench records, the teenage American deadlift record and all New Jersey and Pennsylvania state records in the 220 Collegiate and Junior divisions. Regarding his successes, he states, “I don’t talk about it unless someone asks,” he says. “And usually when I try to explain it, they aren’t interested.”

Luckily, I was intrigued. There are three classifications for powerlifting recognized by the International Powerlifting Federation: teenage (up to 19), junior (20 to 23) and men. The two best lifters are taken from each junior and men’s national competition to represent America in the world championships. Competitions generally last between one and seven days. Lifters’ scores are based on three events - squatting, benching and deadlifting. Three attempts are given at each with the best weights from each event comprising the total score. If you fail to complete an event, the lifter is automatically disqualified from the competition, colloquially called “bombing out.”

Within each group, junior’s and men’s, are weight classes, dividing the competitors into smaller groups. Pachuta now competes in the junior 220 pound weight class. With his best lifts to date for squatting, benching and dead lift totaling 633, 441, and 633, respectively, the word “strong” doesn’t seem to do him justice.

After almost six years of competing, one would think it has become routine, but being one of the nation’s best doesn’t stop Pachuta from getting nervous.

“You’re shaking for the minutes before you lift. I still do. They call your name and you know you have to go out. It’s a mind game. You have to know you can do it or else you’re done.”

Training twice a day, four days a week, Pachuta has time for little else.

“I have about one hour of free time a day,” he says. “On the weekends I sometimes have a little more and I try to hang out with my friends and listen to music. It’s hard, but it’s what I want to do.”

Relatively young in the sport, it is Pachuta’s strong sense of will and determination that keeps him working hard.

“No matter who you are or where you are there is always someone better than you,” said Andrew Watkins, Pachuta’s coach for the past two years and ex-powerlifter. “That is something [Rich] believes very strongly in and to this day that’s why he’s a great powerlifter. That is something that most powerlifters can never understand.”

Unfortunately, Pachuta’s choice of extracurricular activity leads his loving family to worry about the ever-present risks involved with such a sport.

“My parents hate it,” Pachuta says. “They just don’t want to see me get hurt.” Pachuta’s sister Katie, agrees stating, “He truly loves [it] but the injuries can be a little excessive.”

Enduring injuries and risking his health are aspects Pachuta has accepted. He recalls one of his first competitions when he was 17. Upset because he bombed out in the first attempt, he would later realize he was sick with mono. “I couldn’t understand what happened. I didn’t realize what was wrong until I came home,” he said.

Most recently, he sustained an injury to his left foot when he dropped a 660 pound weight on it, breaking his pinkie toe.

According to Pachuta, it’s all been worth it. His main motivation now – the reason for his diehard perseverance – is a Wisconsin lifter named Jim Steele, currently the only seat above him in the junior rankings.

“He and I go back and forth,” he says. “We’re neck and neck with each other, so every time I see him it motivates me. [It keeps me focused], having somebody close to me.”

Pachuta uses his fortitude to excel in



PHOTO COURTESY of Richard Pachuta
Junior Richard Pachuta competes in a powerlifting competition. Pictured above: 633 pound deadlift.

the classroom as well, staying at the top of his studies.

“His physical abilities are matched with an intellectual curiosity that will take him very far in life,” said political science Professor Joe Patten, who taught him in an American Government course last semester. “His intellectual abilities are also matched with a charismatic personality that combined makes him a natural leader both in and beyond the classroom.”

After graduation, Pachuta hopes to fulfill a childhood dream of becoming a state trooper, trading a weight belt for a badge, for at least a little while.

“It will be tough for the first two years after I graduate. I won’t be involved,” he says. “It’s seven months in the police academy where I won’t be able to train, so I’ll lose a lot of weight. But I’ll have a career in the end so it will be worth it.”

In June, Pachuta competes at ju-

nior nationals where he will once again face his Midwestern rival for the title. Gaining more popularity with each year, powerlifting enthusiasts are hoping to make it an Olympic event in 2009. The process has been slow going though, due to the inconsistencies in equipment restrictions and regulations.

Powerlifting has taken Pachuta around the world, from California and Florida to South America and Russia. He’s sponsored by nutrition and fitness companies, Quest and Inzer Advanced Designs, and has been featured in numerous articles for USA Powerlifting magazine. Out of the limelight, this Middletown native finds happiness planning for a future after his time in powerlifting is up.

“He knows when it’s his time to leave and go pursue a career to go and do it,” says Watkins. “[But] I think he will always be involved with it in some aspect or another.”



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Early Spring Heat Wave

Softball Wins Five of its Last Six Games, Tops Quinnipiac in Northeast Conference Opener

ALEXANDER TRUNCALE
SPORTS EDITOR

After splitting a home series with La Salle University, the Monmouth softball team has won five of its last six games, including three out of four on the road against Northeast Conference opponents. With the victories, the Hawks improved to 15-8 overall and 3-1 in the conference.

In the first game against La Salle, the Hawks won 9-2. Monmouth used a balanced offense -- eight different players recorded hits and seven different players scored runs. The Hawks opened the game with six runs in the first inning. Lee Simonetti, Candice Palumbo, Heather Gordon, and Nichole Alvarez each knocked in two runs to spur the Hawks' offense.

In the second game, Monmouth fell behind early. Although they tried to make a comeback, they fell short, losing 7-5. Simonetti had another solid offensive game, going 2-4, while Gordon went 3-4 with two RBIs. She also took the loss, giving up four runs on five hits in 2 2/3 innings.

The Blue and White's hot streak began on Wednesday when the Hawks hosted the Seton Hall Pirates. Seton Hall had won two consecutive Big East Championships in 2004 and 2005, and still put out a formidable squad despite the graduation of many key players from those teams.

In the first game, Monmouth, behind the pitching of Kristine Sawlsville, shut out Seton Hall 4-0. Sawlsville pitched a complete game in which she only allowed three hits.

"I was very impressed with our pitching," said Carol Sullivan, in her sixth season as head coach of the Monmouth softball team.

Offensively, seven different Hawks recorded hits. The attack began with Jessica Nicola, who doubled to start the second inning. Teammate Alexa Ferrara followed up with a single to left field. Then, Gina Mignogna ripped a two-run double to the fence, opening the scoring for Monmouth, which took a 2-0 lead. Palumbo would single in a run to cap a three-run second inning. In the fifth, Monmouth extended its lead as Dawn Gilchrist hit her first home run of the year,



PHOTO COURTESY of Monmouth Sports Information
Gina Mignogna ripped a two-run double to left field in the Hawks' 4-0 win over the Seton Hall Pirates.

capping the offense.

In the second game, the Hawks were led by Monmouth's all-time leader in career RBIs, Gordon, who went 3-3 with two RBIs and a two runs scored in the Hawks' 10-2 win. Kara O'Dell added two hits and two RBIs. Danielle Ellement allowed just one earned run and scattered six hits in the victory.

With the Pirates out of the way, Sullivan's team turned their attention to NEC competition. They traveled to Connecticut for a pair of games against both Quinnipiac and Central Connecticut State.

In a ten inning thriller, the Hawks opened their set against Quinnipiac with a 4-2 win. Sawlsville again went the distance, giving up seven hits and striking out nine batters. For the second time in ten days, the Hawks were led by Gordon's offensive heroics. In

mances. Simonelli had two hits and three RBIs while Alvarez added three RBIs of her own.

Ellement earned the win as she gave up two hits and pitched four scoreless innings in relief of Angela Rand, who pitched the first three innings and gave up five runs. The win improves Ellement's record to 5-0.

After winning their first two conference games, Coach Sullivan was happy with her team's performance.

"There was a high quality of play from our team," she said. "That ten inning game could have gone either way. It was about gut-check time, and we prevailed."

After taking two from Quinnipiac, and riding a four-game winning streak, the Hawks traveled to New Britain for their double dip with the CCSU Blue Devils. The first game saw an offensive explosion from the Hawks, as they blew out CCSU, 11-2. The Hawks were up 11-0 in the first game before the Blue Devils tallied two runs in the sixth.

O'Dell led the way for Monmouth offensively. She went 3-4 and knocked in five runs, including a three-run home run in the first. Gordon, Nicola, Simonetti, and Lisa DiLeo each added two RBIs.

Sawlsville went the distance, pitching six innings and giving up three hits, two runs, and striking out four. The Blue Devils pitchers were rocked for 14 hits, as Jaclyn Logan gave up six runs on seven hits, and her reliever, Caylee Johanson, did not fare much better, giving up five runs on five hits.

The second game was a different story, as Monmouth fell 7-4.

"I was disappointed," remarked Sullivan. "There were many undisciplined swings and at-bats."

The Hawks' offense was paced by Nicola and Alvarez, who each

had two hits. The Hawks fell behind 5-0 in the second. Karen Costes singled in two in the second, followed by a three-run third for the Blue Devils. The Hawks committed two errors in the inning, which paved the way for Blue Devils to jump out to a 6-1 advantage by the third. Ellement started the game, but only went three innings as Rand came on in relief. Ellement and Rand combined to give up 11 hits and seven earned runs.

The Hawks return to action this week when they host three two-game sets. They will first look to avenge last year's two-game sweep at the hands of non-conference foe Manhattan on Wednesday. The Blue and White then shifts their focus back to the NEC when St. Francis (Pa.) visits the MU Softball Park on Friday, and Robert Morris arrives on Saturday.

Notes: Kristine Sawlsville and Jessica Nicola were honored this week by the Northeast Conference.

Sawlsville was honored as the NEC Pitcher of the week. She went 3-0 this past week, highlighted by a 4-0 shutout at home against Seton Hall. In the three games this week, she pitched to a 1.14 ERA. Against Quinnipiac, Sawlsville went the distance in a ten inning game in which the Hawks were victorious, 4-2.

Nicola was awarded with the NEC Rookie of Week, continuing her standout freshman season. She led the Hawks this week with a batting average of .480.

Her stellar offensive production this week was highlighted by her 2-3 performance in the Hawks' 11-2 romp over the Central Connecticut State Blue Devils. She hit the second home run of her collegiate career in the blowout.



The Hawk File:

John Castro

ERIC M. WALSH
ASSISTANT SPORTS EDITOR

It is an honor to represent your country in any way you can. For men's soccer athlete John Castro, this honor has been fulfilled several times over.

Before landing at MU, Castro enjoyed a great high school soccer career. As a junior, Castro was named to the Youth Soccer All-American team in 2003. Additionally, he was selected to represent America on the U-15, U-16 and U-17 U.S. National Teams. He also played with the U-16 U.S. National Team on its Holland tour. When asked about his experience playing with such talented players on the highest level of competitive soccer, Castro said, "It was a great feeling to represent the country, and to be able to play at [this] level."

Having just transferred to Monmouth this past fall, Castro has already become a major part of the team's success. "He was an integral part of our success in winning the NEC and making the NCAA [Tournament] last year," says head soccer coach Robert McCourt. "He represents everything we are about as a program on and off the field." Castro has made immediate contributions to

the squad and says that the people around him have been the biggest reason for this. "I feel that I have met a great group of guys and my coach is by far the best coach that



PHOTO COURTESY of MU Sports Information
John Castro will look to make an impact in the 2007 season.

I have had," says Castro. "His love to the game and dedication to the team is what makes this team so special."

In addition to his success on the pitch, Castro also makes it a prior-

ity to excel in the classroom. He has been deemed a conscientious student by his coach and says, "I feel as if I am a very well-rounded person with a lot of goals both on the field and in the classroom."

Being a part of the Monmouth community for just about two semesters, the sophomore communications major from Piscataway, NJ feels that MU was the right place for him because of the interest they exhibited and because of the close proximity between his home and MU. With Monmouth being so close to his home, Castro feels that his parents and friends can come out and support him in his athletic accomplishments. "It is an awesome feeling to know that my family and friends are close to me and are able to watch me play."

As for the future, Castro hopes he can continue playing the sport he loves so much. "I hope to continue playing soccer," says Castro. In ten years, Castro would like to have settled down with a family and kids, enjoying life to the fullest. For now, he continues to keep his focus on soccer, looking forward to next season. "I think that we are going to have another great year, win the NEC, and get as far as we can in the NCAA tournament."

Name: John Castro

Hometown: Piscataway, NJ

Major: Communication

Sport: Soccer

Favorite Teammate: "Damon Wilson, besides him being my best friend, I feel like his tricks and flicks make him the person he is."

Biggest Rival: FDU

Most Memorable Moment at MU: "Winning the regular season and NECs, and also watching coach do the hawk after the victory against Central Connecticut."

Did you know?: Castro was a member of the United States U-15, U-16, and U-17 National Teams, and was named an All-American in his junior year of high school.

Blue and White Take Two of Three from Liberty

CRAIG D'AMICO
ASSOCIATE SPORTS EDITOR

Following a 17-1 offensive onslaught against Iona last Wednesday afternoon where the Monmouth Hawks exploded for 17 runs and 19 hits, the Blue and White took their show on the road to Lynchburg, VA where they took two out of three in a weekend series with Liberty.



PHOTO COURTESY of Jim Reme
Ryan Buch tossed four scoreless innings against the Liberty Flames.

In the Saturday doubleheader, the two squads waited out a two-hour rain delay before finally taking the field. Once the action got going, the Hawks handed the ball to Ryan Buch, who shut out the Flames for the game's first four innings.

In the second inning, the Hawks struck first on an RBI groundout by second baseman Chris Col-lazo. The attack continued in the top of the fourth inning, when the Hawks piled on four runs as Justin Braun laced a RBI single and Kyle Messineo delivered a three-run triple.

The bottom of the fifth would see Liberty get on the scoreboard with a two-run home run to trim the Hawks' lead to 5-2. Finally, in the bottom of the ninth with two outs and the bases full of Flames, Justin Esposito came in and got a game ending pop-out to earn the save and a 5-2 victory for the Blue and White.

Buch pitched 8.2 innings, giving up four hits and only two runs, walking six and striking out three. The freshman earned the victory, improving to a perfect 4-0 on the season. The save was Esposito's second of the year.

The second game would prove to be another one run nailbiter for the Hawks. Monmouth plated two runs right out of the gate as Kyle Higgins blasted a one out double. After Andy Meyers drew a walk, Shawn Teters drove in both baserunners with a single.

After drawing within one run by scoring an unearned run off Hawks' starter Brett Brach in the bottom of the first, the Flames tied the score with one out in the bottom of the ninth on an RBI double. With the bases loaded and two outs, Liberty grounded out to third, sending the 2-2 game into extra innings.

Monmouth had a chance in the top of the tenth with two on and two out, but pinch hitter John Elia grounded out into a fielder's choice to end the threat. After the Flames went in order in the bottom of the tenth, the Hawks finally broke through in the top of the 11th.

Catcher John Dennis led off the inning with a double into right field, and then advanced to third on a groundout. Higgins drove Dennis in with a RBI single, putting Monmouth on top 3-2. The Hawks managed to once again retire the

side in the home half to clinch the bonus baseball victory.

Matt Frazier earned the victory, pitching five innings in relief of Brach, allowing four hits and striking out two. After allowing the tying run in the bottom of the ninth, Frazier retired the last eight batters he faced. Higgins delivered the game-winning hit in the top of the 11th, giving Monmouth the victory in the three-hour and twenty-three minute marathon.

The two teams came back on Sunday for another high-scoring affair, as the Hawks dropped the finale 11-6.

Five Monmouth pitchers got into the game. Starter Nick Val-lillo only went 4.1 innings, giving up six hits and four runs.

With the Hawks protecting a 6-4 lead at the seventh inning stretch, the Flames burst for six runs on three hits, three walks, and two hit by pitches to blow the game open, 10-6. Liberty would tack on an insurance run in the bottom of the eighth to extend their lead to 11-6.

Despite getting outscored by five runs, the Hawks outhit the Flames 13-10. Messineo reached base all five times up at the dish, going 3-3 and drawing two free passes from the leadoff spot. Meyers went 4-4 with a walk and a RBI.

Higgins continues to pace the Blue and White offensively with a .420 batting average, while Meyers leads the team with four home runs and 23 runs batted in.

On the season, Monmouth stands at 11-8-1 overall, with their first Northeast Conference series of the season on the horizon this weekend. The Hawks are set to travel to Emmitsburg, MD for a four-game series against the Mount St. Mary's Mountaineers. The Hawks swept the Mount in three meetings last season in West Long Branch, holding their opponents scoreless in each game.

Hawks Hang on to Defeat Pioneers

ALEXANDER TRUNCALE
SPORTS EDITOR

In their conference home opener at Kessler Field on Friday, the Monmouth Hawks defeated the Sacred Heart Pioneers 11-8 in a rematch of last year's Northeast Conference championship game after holding off a late charge by the Pioneers. The victory moves the Hawks to 3-0 in conference play this season, and to 8-3 overall. The win also extends Monmouth's NEC regular season winning streak to 12 games, dating back to the 2005 season.



PHOTO COURTESY of David Beales
Carolyn Raveia led the way with six goals against the Pioneers.

Carolyn Raveia led the way for the Hawks, scoring the first of her six goals just three minutes into the game. Ashley Waldman then scored on a free position goal, which was followed by Megan Nutter's wrap around score that would put the Hawks up 3-0.

The Pioneers would answer though, as Brianna Bubeck would trim the Monmouth lead to 3-1. But Waldman would score a minute later, again on a free position shot, to go up 4-1. The Hawks

would add to their lead with less than a minute to go before half-time, as Kaitlyn Robinson scored on an assist from Katie Degen to expand the Monmouth lead to 5-1 at the break.

The Hawks continued to keep their foot on the gas pedal, as their offensive domination continued. Waldman scored her third goal of the day on an assist from Degen, and 12 seconds later, Nutter scored. Just one minute later, Waldman would tack on another goal, giving the Blue and White an 8-1 cushion.

But the Monmouth defense, which had been stingy all day, began to let up. Bubeck scored on a free position goal which was followed by Liz Ottey tallying her own score, cutting the Hawk lead to five. Nutter answered again with another score, re-extending the Monmouth lead to six, 9-3.

With twelve minutes left to go in the game, the Pioneers offense went into gear. Alyssa Harris and Carissa Hauser each scored for Sacred Heart to cut the lead to 9-5. Megan Brennan ended the 4-1 Pioneer run with a goal, but the Pioneers would not go away, as Bubeck and Hauser each scored to cut the lead to 10-7.

With 3:30 left to go in the game, Katie Salamone scored for Sacred Heart to pull the Pioneers to within two. But the SHU rally was not enough, as Brennan scored with just under two minutes and thirty seconds left in the contest, reestablishing the Monmouth lead at three.

Offensively, the Hawks were led by Waldman, who scored four goals, two off of free position chances. Monica Johnson stopped 13 shots for the Hawks for her eighth victory of the year. The Hawks will take on Lafayette at home before returning to NEC competition and hosting St. Francis (Pa.) on Thursday.

Track Teams Compete Along East Coast

PRESS RELEASE
MU SPORTS INFORMATION

Monmouth University's men's track and field team competed at three separate invitationals on Saturday, including one at UNC-Charlotte, the University of Maryland and Wagner College.

At Charlotte, MU's throwers stepped up once again, with Marion Easley and Nick Williams taking first and second in the javelin. Easley smashed the competition with a throw of 204'11" with Williams' throw of 178'04" coming in as the next best toss. Ed Skowronski's throw of 201'02" won the hammer and teammate Kyle Hirschklau took fifth with a distance of 149'0". Skowronski and Williams finished two-three in the discus, with throws of 141'07" and 139'06", respectively. The Blue & White finished off the throwing events strong, with Williams, Hirschklau and Skowronski finishing in third, fourth and fifth place. The trio earned marks of 54'4", 51' 2 1/4" and 48'11 3/4" in the event.

The throwing squad at Maryland also had a fine outing, with Ryan Connell taking first in the hammer with a throw of 168'11". Larry Lundy was second in the event with a toss of 165'09" and finished second in the discus with a throw of 149'05". Lundy rounded out his day with a sixth place

showing in the shot put with a distance of 49'3 1/2".

Monmouth's 4x100 relay team of Jerome St. Bernard, Dave Martell, Chris Taiwo and Darrin Chandler took fifth place with a time of 43.08. Matt Caporaso's time of 9:51.58 earned him seventh in the steeple chase while Craig Segal finished eighth in the 1500m with a time of 4:00.24.



Former MU All-American Bobby Smith won the javelin, with current Hawks Bryan Fill, Tim Raywood and Matt Mizerek taking third, fourth and seventh, respectively.

Down at UNC-Charlotte Latasha Dickson's time of 101.54 was tops in the 400m hurdles. Senior Tisifenee Taylor had the team's other top finish, winning the long jump with a leap of 20'0 1/4", qualifying her for the NCAA Regionals. Junior Nikki Zwartjes was third in the pole vault, clearing 10'11 3/4".

The women's javelin throwers were the highlight for the Hawks at Maryland, with sophomore Rachel Ferdinand taking second with a toss of 126'10". Tiffany Hahn was fourth in the event with a distance of 123'10". Rachel Cassata was sixth in the pole vault, clearing 10'6", with Christine Fatale coming in seventh with a height of 10'0".

The full team is set to compete next weekend at the Sam Howell Invitational.

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