



Sophomore Honored With Prominent Biology Award

Michael Slisz Becomes First University Student to Receive Major Research Recognition

DAN ROTH
EDITOR AT LARGE

Sophomore Michael Slisz became the first Monmouth recipient to win the Frank G. Brooks Award for best student oral research presentation at the 37th annual Conference of Beta Beta Beta Biological Honor Society Northeast District 2 Regional Convention.

This was the sixth time Monmouth has attended the conference, which took place on Saturday, March 24, at Elizabethtown College in Pennsylvania.

"This award represents all the hard work performed in the lab over the past two years by me, Dr. Hutter (Monmouth biology professor who supervised the research), and my lab-mates," said Slisz.

Hutter said one of the more unique aspects of Slisz winning the award is that he is just a sophomore. "It is unusual for a sophomore to win such a research award. Mike made this possible because he began his research early in his college career, and has consistently worked a lot of hours in the lab. Mike's experiments involve tissue culture and other cellular techniques that are not easy to learn.

"It usually takes a semester or two before students are competent in the basic laboratory skills to generate reliable results in the lab. This award reflects the fact that he has been able to perform a significant amount of research already, and that he has the ability to communicate this research

to the scientific community very effectively," she explained.

Slisz's research was focused on contact inhibition. According to Slisz, contact inhibition is when cells stop growing when they come into contact with other cells. Slisz looked at signaling pathways that are present in contact inhibited normal cells. These same pathways were not present in cancerous cells.

Map Kinase Phosphate (MKP) deactivate these signaling pathways also causing normal cells to overcome contact inhibition, this research can also make cancerous cells contact inhibited, or stop it from growing.

Professor and Biology Department Chair, Dr. Dennis Rhoads, said that winning the award is a big step for the biology department. "Awards like this from an external group provide added validation/recognition for our efforts in undergraduate biological research," he commented.

"It [the award] says that the faculty and administrators from other schools and sometimes from non-academic institutions recognize the quality of our undergraduate research program, of our students and the training they are receiving. It says that the students are competent in experimental design, understand the research process and are effective in communicating the specific objectives of the project and their results."

Junior chemistry major Aimee Babbins echoed these sentiments.

"As a Monmouth student I already know our science programs are really good. However, I believe that when one of our students wins a major award it puts our school in more of a national light where other people can see that Monmouth has a great science program," she said.

For Slisz, winning the award did not come without challenges. "It's hard to single out one part as the most difficult part of the project. This research in general is hard because it is unexplored territory; it's like driving across the country without a map.

"All research has the same rule – you take two steps forward and three steps back. There were many problems that occurred, as with all research, but we were able to troubleshoot and counter-act these problems," he said.

After arriving at the conference, Slisz presented his research before his fellow students as well as a panel of judges. "It is a reasonably large and diverse group of judges that gets assembled each year to judge these presentations," said Dr. Rhoads.

"Both Dr. Hutter and I have participated as judges so we have heard and seen first hand what goes into the deliberations and decisions. It is very difficult to satisfy enough of these judges to get the first place award. That's the backdrop for Mike's achievement and in order to win the award, his work and his presentation had to be nearly flawless."

For Dr. Rhoads, there was a lot of pride in Slisz's accomplishment.



PHOTO COURTESY of Michael Slisz
Michael Slisz (far left) receives Beta Beta Beta 07 award.

"I was there at the conference and although I am a pretty tough critic, I felt he absolutely nailed the presentation. So I was ecstatic to have the quality of his project and his presentation of his work recognized in this way by this external group of judges," he commented.

While Slisz was very humble about his award, commenting that the most rewarding part was having recognition for the hard work by him and his lab mates, he did place it as one of his prouder moments. "I am also an eagle scout so, this accomplishment ranks pretty close to obtaining the rank of eagle," said

Slisz.

Slisz, who works as an emergency room intern at Staten Island University Hospital when home in New York, hopes to be an ER doctor after Med School. For now he is content with his school work and running the Catholic Centre.

"Mike's potential is unlimited," said Dr. Hutter. "He doesn't take on a task unless he is going to give 100 % effort to complete it. This is the type of student that will succeed no matter what path his career takes. He would like to go to medical school, and I think he is going to be an excellent physician."

Dr. Parkin Receives Emily Toth Award for Book

JACQUELINE KOLOSKI
CO-EDITOR IN CHIEF

Katherine Parkin, assistant professor of history and anthropology, received the Emily Toth Award from the Popular Culture Association and the American Culture Association at a annual conference on April 6 for her book *Food is Love: Advertising and Gender Roles in Modern America*.

Emily Toth is a prominent writer in the area of gender issues and female empowerment.

"I met her at the conference and she said that she was really excited that I won because she said it embodied her life's work," said Parkin. "It is an award hon-

oring the best book in feminist popular culture."

Parkin was nominated for the award by her press affiliate, University of Pennsylvania Press. This is the first book authored by Parkin. She began writing the book in 1995 and completed it in 2005. It was released in 2006.

"I first started looking at Campbell's soups," said Parkin. "I started with smaller projects then covered the entire 20th century."

Food is Love: Advertising and Gender Roles in Modern America analyzes on the effects of food advertising in the past century, using women as the focus.

"I first tried to get at this question of who they thought was

consuming these products and how they crafted these ads," said Parkin.

"Then I explored a number of the themes that they use to persuade women to take on this unpaid work."

Her main question that she poses for readers in her book is why women are still targeted in food advertisements even though women are now working outside of the home.

"I was curious as to why that has held on when women and men are working equal numbers and women are taking on this additional work," she said.

The fact that men are being excluded in the advertisements is another point Parkin recognizes

in her book.

"I think I have always been interested in issues of equality and justice and this seemed like an injustice to me that women had this responsibility and it didn't seem inevitable to me in a way to have people say to me that it was natural for women to feed their families and they think there is some biological imperative," said Parkin of her inspiration for writing the book.

She noted that the message she wanted to convey was to have people question what they were seeing in regards to this topic. According to Parkin, there is an emotional investment present.

"That is really what I want people to think about and ques-

tion. The advertisers are the ones putting forward this message and their own embrace of it facilitates the work that I think women are doing more than their share of," she explained.

Parkin said that it was wonderful she could receive an award like this because it was one that her colleagues recognized her for. She noted that although academic writing is not one with a typically vast audience, the feedback from your peers is important.

"This was a review from my peers saying that I have the best book in feminist popular culture. That is a wonderful feeling to have -- that respect of your colleagues," she said.

Wednesday 50°/39°

Partly Cloudy

Thursday 41°/36°

Rain/ Thunder

Friday 50°/39°

Partly Cloudy/ Wind

Saturday 47°/44°

Few Showers

Sunday 50°/41°

Showers

Monday 47°/41°

Partly Cloudy

Tuesday 51°/42°

Mostly Cloudy

INFORMATION PROVIDED by weather.com

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Monmouth Hosts NJ Water Quality Forum

SARAH ALYSE JAMIESON
STAFF WRITER

On Wednesday, April 4 at 7 p.m. in Magill Commons Club Room, Monmouth University's Chapter of the New Jersey Community Water Watch hosted a community forum titled, "Water Quality: Suburban Sprawl, Scientific Studies & Community Action." The speakers, at this event, shared their research on bacteria contamination in local waterways, discussed the impact of New Jersey's overdevelopment on water quality and local community efforts.

The Monmouth University Chapter of the New Jersey Community Water Watch is proud to be in contact, for its second semester, with Monmouth University. The New Jersey Community Water Watch is a statewide student run organization dedicated to improving New Jersey surrounding waterways.

Water Watch has recently learned that over 75 percent of all New Jersey waterways cannot be swam or fished in because of the pollution in them. New Jersey, being a coastal state, relies on water for other things besides consumption a great deal.

NJ Community Water Watch is a joint project of the New Jersey Public Interest Research Group Law & Policy Center and AmeriCorps. Based on college campuses throughout New Jersey, Water Watch works to address, through education and service, serious water quality problems throughout the state. Organizers of Water Watch, work with students, interns and volunteers to mobilize communities near local waterways.

They also engage community members and students in stream and river cleanups, environmental education lessons in K-12 classrooms, stream monitoring assessments and community forums about local water quality issues.

The speakers for the Water Watch event included Professor

John Tiedemann of Monmouth University's Urban Coast Institute and Kari Martin of Clean Ocean Action. A representative from the Department of Environmental Protection was present for a Question & Answer session at the end of the presentation. The forum was free and opened to the public.

John Tiedemann is the assistant director of the Urban Coastal Institute, the associate dean of the School of Science, Technology and Engineering at Monmouth University, and he is a member of the Biology Department where he currently is a Professor of ecology.

Tiedemann and colleges, recently, have been involved in tracking bacteria sources. These studies have been designed to identify specific bacteria sources that create contamination in several coastal watersheds in Monmouth County. A variety of marine education programs and courses have been designed by Tiedemann, and he has conducted numerous public education and outreach programs dealing with New Jersey's coastal resource management and the quality of life on the coast.

Martin, who is the Outreach Director and Policy Communications Director for Clean Ocean, develops issue-action campaigns, implements citizen action activities, assists in public education initiatives, assists the staff scientist with outreach of technical documents and issues, coordinates volunteers and answers questions regarding citizen concern issues. In her program, Martin focused on environmental policy, public participation and community conflict resolution, in her program.

Amy Goldsmith, State Director of New Jersey Environmental Federation, a state chapter of the national organization Clean Water Action, oversees the New Jersey Environmental Federation's programs and operations. Goldsmith currently serves on the Board of the NJ Work Environment Council

and Earthshare -New Jersey, and she serves, as president of the Westside Community Group on the NJDEP Clean Water Council.

The night began with Professor Tiedemann's bacteria source tracking research of fecal coli form. As he explained the "scoop about poop," fecal coli form, is a type of bacteria contamination to the water from fecal matter. This particular bacterial is found in the gastrointestinal tracts of warm-blooded animals, humans, dogs, horses, and geese. Waste from animals among other wildlife, are carried with storm water runoff into local waterways causing the bacterial contamination.

Martin discussed her organization's campaign to clean up and protect all of the waterways around the New York/New Jersey Bright, an area from Cape May, NJ to Montauk Point, NY, and the edge of the outer continental shelf. Martin described the Clean Ocean Zone Bill (cleanoceanzone.org) that is a ten-point piece of legislation that includes the prohibition of strip-mining and harvesting non-renewable energy sources, such as drilling for gas and oil.

Goldsmith spoke about the impact of developing local water quality. Suburban sprawl creates more parking lots and roads, valuable freshwater from being absorbed into the ground and spreads the storm water into our streams which empty into the ocean. Goldsmith emphasized the importance of recycling water and capturing precipitation.

Goldsmith also made a point to talk about the problems of global warming. "We live in a coastal state," Goldsmith said. "The coast of New Jersey would be under water with the effects of global warming on rising tides." Therefore, emissions needed to be changed and the state needs to enforce regulation.

The speakers presented a number of solutions to the problems. There are things that even citizens

can do to make changes. Awareness is the key to avoiding the harms of fecal coli form contamination. "We have to make informed choices," said Goldsmith.

While waiting for corrections to take place, stay out of the water after the rain, avoid direct contact with water near outfall pipes and beware of waterways and beaches experiencing closings due to high bacteria levels. Voters can also choose to support clean water legislation such as the Clean Ocean Zone Bill.

The Monmouth University and Brookdale Community College chapters of the New Jersey Com-

munity Water Watch will be celebrating Earth Day on April 21 at

Poricy Park in Middletown, NJ. Teams will break out to clean up areas along the Swimming River and the Navesink River. There will be a free barbeque for all volunteers after the cleanup. Expected guests include Mike Fedosh of the Middletown Environmental Commission and NJ District 13 State Senator Kyrillos.

For more information regarding the Earth Day cleanup or any of the Water Watch events please contact Liz Glynn, campus organizer at (732) 263-5753 or e-mail at monmouth@njwaterwatch.org.

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Film Stirs Student Emotion

LEILANI CHIN
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

Counseling and Psychological Services presented the powerful film “American History X” in the Young Auditorium March 29, to address issues of hate and violence in society and the mainstream media.

According to Dr. Franca Mancini, director of counseling and psychological services, “difficult films” are chosen and processed by her counseling staff, which led to this film being selected. Although the film was not regarded as an “ideal film,” she states, “American History X” proved to be an effective tool for spreading awareness.

“It certainly is a film that brings to the foreground how the cycle of hate and violence begets more hate and violence,” she said. “It is, however, a movie that, albeit violent, captures students’ attention in a compelling way.”

The featured film displayed the life of a neo-Nazi skinhead named Derek Vinyard, played by Edward Norton. He is convicted and sentenced to three years of jail for murdering two black men. Vinyard is enlightened during his time in jail; learns the value of life and how everyone should be treated equally.

Meanwhile, his younger brother Danny, who is played by Edward Furlong, tried to become just as strong of a neo-Nazi as his brother while he waits for Derek to be released from jail. Once freed, Derek is a new man and tries to fix all of the bad influences he has caused to his friends and family. Unfortunately, Danny’s life was so consumed with being a dependent young man and stood strong with his beliefs and prejudices it was hard for Derek to convince him to stop being a skinhead.

Eventually, Danny was con-

vinced and trusted his brother in the decision to go back to living a life without discrimination. Sadly, it was too late, the damage had already been done and Danny’s beliefs and prejudices ultimately resulted in him being shot by a black peer.

A controversial portion to this event was in the advertising, with

“It certainly is a film that brings to the foreground how the cycle of hate and violence begets more hate and violence.”

DR. FRANCA MANCINI
Director of Counseling and Psychological Services

the protagonist Derek being shown brandishing a swastika tattoo. Students’ attentions were captured by the symbol, and influenced their decisions on the movie, themes, and the event itself. Mancini understood the offensive nature of the image, but hoped that it would not stop students from attending the event, and watching the film. She stated that those in attendance were affected by the film, and had participated in a very open conversation about their feelings and thoughts at the end of the movie.

“The fact is that there will always be a segment of the population who will react negatively to the presentation of such difficult

topics,” said Mancini. “Students were free to decide what to do, but I would hope that the people who were offended would choose not to stop at that perception, and instead to come to the presentation and discuss their point of view, which undoubtedly is valuable.”

“[Many students] found it to be worthwhile,” she added.

Approximately 20 students attended the event. Students expressed their overall feelings towards the film. Many students admitted to crying because the film was so stirring.

“The ending of this film was unexpected and overwhelming,” commented Shannon Connell, a sophomore psychology major. “It really helped me bring the existence of prejudice and discrimination into reality.”

The question of what we hate was brought up. Danny Vineyard states at the end of the film, “Well this is my conclusion: Hate is baggage. Life’s too short to be pissed off all the time. It’s just not worth it.” It was discussed that the use of “hate” does not have any positive outcome or worth, so we are confused of why there is still prejudices and discrimination still in today’s society.

Lina Jaramillo, sophomore psychology student, said, “In order to fight against judgment, I think that we must try to enlighten our friends and family so that we can spread the belief that hate is not beneficial to anyone.”

“People make their own choices about the ‘intent’ of a film, which is why we talk about it afterwards,” commented Mancini. “[In this movie’s case], social change doesn’t happen overnight, and Danny certain got caught in this crossfire. The events that occur after his death are probably even more important.”

Nick at Nite Comedian Performs at Java City

PAIGE SODANO
STAFF WRITER

Last Wednesday night comedian Louis Ramey made a stop at Monmouth in the student center’s Java City. With a small audience of about 15 students, Ramey went on to tell a variety of jokes and entertaining stories.

Throughout his hour-long comedy act, he decided to categorize what we all looked like by whom was sitting with who. “We have the OC crew over here – or OCD crew, and the *Saved By the Bell* crew over there in the back.”

After that, he preceded to do a hilarious Barry White impression. “I liked his sense of humor, and had a really good time,” said sophomore Courtney Stetson.

Ramey went on to explain how being a comedian can be a tough career to make a living, especially at first, and then came up with his comical equivalent to what our school paid him for coming.

“You’re my rent, no, more like my rent without cable, yea, you’re my rent without cable.”

Junior Chris Reed remarked, “I think he was trying to shock people rather than make them laugh, but overall he was entertaining.” Ramey had a few sexual innuendos, but nothing too

extreme. He then mentioned that his new DVD is to be released soon.

Ramey is the host of the Nick at Nite Road Crew, which can be seen every Friday night on Nickelodeon. He had asked the audience if anyone had seen him on Nick at Nite, and after three people raised their hands, he said something along the lines of, “Oh ok, only three of you, you guys must not watch much TV.”

You might have seen him on a few shows on Comedy Central, including “Premium Blend,” “USO Tour,” “World Comedy Tour,” and on his own special, “Comedy Central Presents: Louis Ramey.”

He has performed on “The Tonight Show” with Jay Leno, “Last Call” with Carson Daly, NBC’s “Last Comic Standing” (Season II), and ABC’s “The View,” to name a few. He has also opened for many musical legends including Ray Charles, Whitney Houston, and Donna Summer.

He is currently on a three-month tour around the country, visiting colleges and a few comedy clubs. Ramey is a sharp-witted comedian who clearly takes a great deal of pride in performing standup. You can find more about him on his MySpace page at http://www.myspace.com/louis_ramey.

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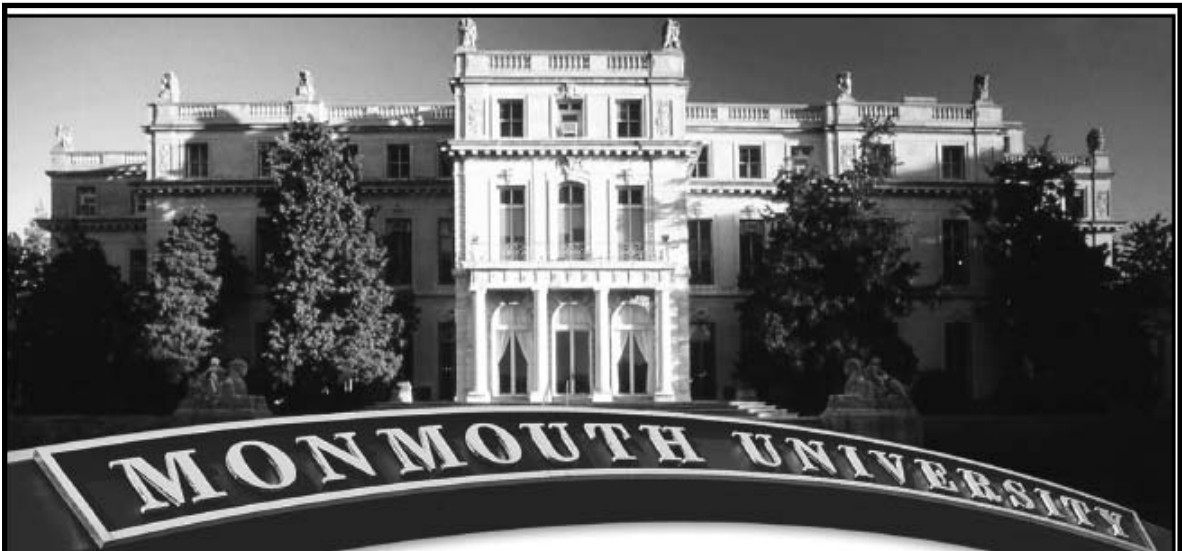
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Thursday, April 26 11:00 am Student Center Room 202B
Thursday, April 26 2:30 pm Student Center, 3rd floor, Afflito Conference Room



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STUDENT EMPLOYEE APPRECIATION WEEK

The Administrative Information Systems Department would like to thank Tricia Da Silva for all her help this past year. Thanks, we really appreciate you Tricia!

The Office of Admissions Processing would like to thank Kelly Meka, Anthony Colangelo and the Student Ambassadors for all their hard work during our very busy admissions’ season!

Thank You to Mary Ann Castagna, for her continued support and assistance in the **School of Business Accounting**. Since our Accounting Department’s Endeavour to get Accredited with the state, Mary Ann’s assistance has been invaluable. Mary Ann is always willing to do anything to assist us and it is greatly appreciated!

The Office of Alumni Affairs is proud to recognize Annette Resenhoeft and Jennifer Huey and thank them for their enthusiasm and hard work.

The Annual Fund Office is proud to recognize our student employees. A sincere “thank you” to Jenn, Dana, and Glenda for their hard work and dedication!

The Department of Art & Design would like to recognize all of the hard working students who have dedicated their time and efforts in helping the department maintain its excellence. A special thanks goes to: Alix, Rob, Kevin, Doug, Jamie, and Sue for their diligent efforts and dependability in the Photo Lab and to Christine and Rob for their outstanding and ongoing efforts assisting in the digitization of the department slide collection

The Athletic Department
To our student workers Meghan, Sade, Sara, and Joanna. Thank you for all your help. You are very much appreciated!

Athletics – Event Staff
To the “Yellow Jacket” team behind the teams, A job well done by the Event Staff. Thank you.

Athletics - Equipment Room
Sweat, blood, & grass stains. Thank you Saya, David, Rachel, Shannon, Brian, Lindsay, Mallorie, Jamie, Kelly and Michael; you keep Monmouth’s Athletes looking their best.

The Biology Department wishes to thank all our student employees for the 2006-2007 academic year; Samantha Cole, Jonathan Costello, Danielle DeVincenzo, Mary Dughi, Salma Fathalla, Michael Gerbino, Graham Heilweil, Candice Jones, Jenn Lehrer, Jess Lisa, Liz LoBuglio, Brett London, Karen Salazar, Christina Saraisan, Megan Shaw, Jillian Stokley, Tim Swartz, Dan Vernik. Your help is very much needed and appreciated. Thanks again and stop by the office Wed. for some goodies.

The Monmouth University Bookstore Would Like To Thank Our Students For Being The Best. The Bookstore Staff Appreciates All Of Our Students’ Hard Work And Dedication In Making The Bookstore A Great Place. Thank You Very Much. Alex Allman, Ashley Ay, Nicole Baldwin, Troy

Butler, Kristin Craner, Jessica Duda, Diane Giandolfo, Veronica Goresh, Mary Groody, Robina Kaira, Raeanne Kukulski, Kristina Lane, Jessica Lynch, Ashley Melici, Bilal Morris, Carianne Quirk, Taylor Porter, Jessica Sastoque, Alex Spruch, Sade` Stevens, Stephanie Valenti

The Bursar’s Office would like to thank Jessica Curtis for all her hard work and great disposition.

We extend our heartfelt thanks and sincere appreciation to Rosaly Rivera, our **Central Box Office** Student manager. We cannot thank you enough for your dedication, loyalty, and dependability. You have met every challenge thrown at you, and managed to keep your positive demeanor. You will never know how much we will miss your smiling face and “never say die” attitude. Vaya con Dios....Patti and Caitlin

Many thanks to Nina Jones, Natalie Rambone and Kate Gregory for helping out at the **Box Office** this year.....you kept smiling through it all! We truly appreciate your efforts....Patti

The Certification, Field Placements and School Partnerships Office would like to send out our many thanks and appreciation to our student workers Laura, Megan, and our Graduate Assistant Robin!

The Department of Chemistry, Med Tech & Physics gratefully acknowledges the hard work and valuable contributions of our dedicated student lab assistants: Aimee, Zenab, Katie, Alex, Sarah, Liz, Dan, Manasa and Saqalain, and also Ashleigh in our department office. A sincere THANK YOU – your help is greatly appreciated by all!

The College Skills Center would like to extend a sincere thank you to all our student employees: Alana, Alyce, Danielle, Dave, Fatima, Heather, Joe, Melissa, Mike, Ogechi, Sean and Siobhan

The Department of Communication would like to thank our student building managers for their service and dedication to the department. Jenny Roberts, Alyx Kostiuik, Jerri Sirotiak, Stephanie Fetchko, Roberta Carlin, Kahlil Thomas, Frankie Morales

THANK YOU to Glenda, Ashley and Nancy for all you do to support our office ~ from the staff of **Conference & Program Services**

The Criminal Justice Department wishes to thank our student helpers, Christian and Jenna, for their hard work and dedication. You are a special part of our department.

The Department of Curriculum and Instruction (School of Education) would like to thank the following graduate assistants and undergraduate office assistants for their dedication and hard work during the spring 2007 semester: Toni-Marie Planko, Radika Potla, Lynda Fiorenza, Christine Facer, Prathima Aravapelli, Katelyn Wolf, Krystal Sharon, Alexandra Bartlom, Erin Miller and Brittany Rivera. WE are lucky to have their assistance and be part of our team.

The Department of Educational Leadership and Special Education would like to fondly thank Andrew, Dana, and Katelyn for their skill, dedication, and outstanding performance. We manage to achieve what we do because of you!

The English Department would like to thank AnnaRita, Zack, James, Angela, and Caitlin to let them know how much they are appreciated.

The EOF Department would like to extend our sincere gratitude to our Student Employees - Malia Lyles, Julia Frith, Aaron Reevey,Eric Cocuzza and Natalie Rambone. Your abilities and dedication are tangible assets to our department. To our Graduating Seniors - Malia and Julia: You will be extremely missed. Best Wishes.

Facilities Management & Mailroom would like to thank all of our student employees for their hard work and enthusiasm.

The Office of Financial Aid would like to express our sincere appreciation to Alia Fabrico for her continuous reliability and dedication to our office as a Financial Aid Assistant. Alia you are truly an asset to our office and the University. We are proud to have you as part of our team.

Dear Anthony, Felicia, George, Heather, Jessica, and Lyndsay,
The First-Year Experience Office would like to thank you for all of your hard work, support, and dedication to our office and the First-Year Experience Students. We truly enjoy working with all of you. You have brought so much talent and enthusiasm into our program. We look forward to working with all of you in the future.

iGracias!Merci!Grazie!
.....Danke!
The Foreign Language Studies Department is proud to recognize the hard work and dedication of our student employees. Danielle, Justin and Diana – thank you for keeping our Foreign Language Lab on its feet! Thank you too, to Annarita DiMeo and Bryan Gonzales for their tutoring services for Italian and Spanish students.

Frank Antonides School
We love Nicole Giannopoulos, our after school homework monitor for 06-07. The administration and staff at the Frank Antonides School in West Long Branch, thanks Nicole Giannopoulos for her dedication on behalf of all of our students.

Health Services
Christine, Welcome Aboard!

Alex, We wish you:
Comfort on difficult days;
Smile when sadness intrudes;
Rainbows to follow the clouds;
Sunsets to warm your heart;
Gentle hugs when spirits sag;
Friendship to brighten your days;
Confidence when you have doubt;
Faith so that you believe
Best of Luck! We will miss you!
Your friends in **Health Services**

The History/Anthropology Department would like to thank Lindsay Harris for just being Lindsay. Lindsay never complains or whines. She does whatever she’s asked to and then some. From the Office Coordinator, Sandy Villa, a special thanks as Lindsay is always there when I need her and also congrats on her recent engagement.

The HONORS SCHOOL thanks Laura Bennett and Ashley Pappalardo for their valuable service and continued support of the Honors School. We appreciate all that you do for us and for the University.

The Office of Human Resources is proud to recognize our newest student employee...Alyssa Pizzo. We look forward to many more years of working together.

The Information Technology Program of the Department of Software Engineering is proud to recognize the hard work and dedication of the 2006-2007 Information Technology lab assistants and lab managers. You truly make the Monmouth University academic community so proud!

The Library would like to thank all of you for your hard work and dedication: Nicasia, Frank, Joy, Jessica, Denise, Christine, Jim, Brent, Mike, and Blake. We hope to see you all back for the Fall semester! Thank you.

The faculty and staff of the **Marjorie K. Unterberg School of Nursing and Health Studies** extend our sincere thanks to the following students. We couldn’t do it without you! Eleni Diotis, Christina Isaacs, Esther Quezada, Trinna Savage, Irene Serrano, Diana Vasquez.

Barbara Rupert of **Peer Tutoring Services** would like to say “Thank You” to all of the Peer Tutors for your hard work and enthusiasm during this past year. You are the most valuable part of our program. Your dedication to helping other Monmouth University students is greatly appreciated and is to be commended.

Performing Arts Series
Thanks to our students for a great year! Erin Candee, Jack Dunn,Harrison Green Dan Gregory, Kate Gregory,Bryan Gonzales,Ashley Husted,Srikanth Kandada,Desiree Kearney,Erik Keenan Chris Lampe,Ross Millstein,David Owens,Matt Stevens. The success of this season’s Performing Arts Series was the result of your hard work and dedication. You guys are the best! (And you too Rosaly, Nina & Natalie!) ~ Vaune Peck & Eileen Chapman

Lindsay Savage,
The members of the **Department of Political Science** greatly appreciate all your help during the year. You are AWESOME!!!!!!

The President’s Office wishes to thank Esmeira Paulino, for all of her efforts this year as our outstanding student office assistant.

The Office of Public Affairs would like to say thank you to Holly for her

hard work and great attitude! You’re the best; we’re going to miss you next year. Please don’t forget us when you’re rich and famous! We wish you all the best!

The Office of Purchasing is proud to recognize the hard work and dedication of our student employee Joy Marcus.

To David Beales, Thank you for taking on the job of student photographer. You brought a fresh eye, a zealous commitment to the art and technology of photography and the flexibility/ understanding to do some of the not-so-exciting events. It was a true pleasure to work along side you. Your conversation and observations were often as great as your pictures. Thanks for the commitment! From Jim Reme, Rochelle Ritacco & the rest of the **Public Affairs department**

A special thank you to Megan Mazza for your hard work and enthusiasm and all the past interns from Monmouth University who have worked at **Red Bank River Center**

The Office of Residential Life would like to thank its student workers, Lauren Goslin, Caitlin Cywinski, Anthony Esposito and Alesha Lazan for all their hard work and dedication in the office. Thank You!

The Office of Residential Life would like to thank our Desk Assistants and Desk Assistant Managers for their hard work and dedication. You all are an integral part of our department.

School for Children wants to recognize and thank all of our student employees who work so hard. You are a huge part of making each day so special for our students.

Service Learning & Community Programs
Many thanks to the following student employees for their gift of time and talent: Shannon Alston, Jessica Brown, Sue DePinho, Diana Kiselyuk, Latasha Leake, Nicole Jones, Nina Jones and Rob Sweeney. Thank you for making a difference on campus and in the community.

Kristen, Caitlin, Nicole, Tia, Vanessa, Jamie, Louis, Ricky, Greg, Mike and Libby, Kevin and Ben, Oh My!! Caring and doing and helping to the sky. Without you all, our program would crawl, but with you together we fly. On our thanks you can bank; we appreciate you -- no pranks. Forever your praises we cry!! **The Department of Seussical Social Work**

Thank you to all of the **Student Activities and Student Center Operations** Student Employees! Thanks to our office assistants for making us sane: Natalie, Amanda, Liz, Christine and Sara! Our set-up crew for all of their hard work: Brian, Marion, Mark and Tom. To our building managers in which we trust the building to: Mike, Upender, Pramod, Tiffany, Jermaine, Rickey, Alex and Sara! To our film series that run our movies: Matt, Dante and Sara! And to our Information Desk Team: Christine, Greg, Dante, Jude, Jenna, Jennifer and Samantha! Thanks to everyone for making student life a better place!

THE STUDENT EMPLOYMENT AND PLACEMENT OFFICE is proud to recognize and thank Leilanni, Brittany, Tina, Greg, Toni, Anthony, Dino, Jill and George for all of your hard work and contributions. We hope you have enjoyed working with us as much as we have enjoyed working with you. Toni, we will especially miss you when you graduate in May. Good Luck!


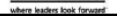
Office of Substance Awareness
Jonathon Gant is the best Graduate Assistant ever!!! You have done such a great job over the last two years. I truly appreciate all the work you have done for the Office of Substance Awareness. This department is lucky to have you.

Leslie,
Thank you for all your help this semester!!
SGA

Courtney Reddington,
The Writing Office staff thanks you for all your hard work this year. Enjoy the summer break!
~Stanley Blair, Dave Tietge, and Diana Smedes

The Writing Center Staff would like to recognize all of its student tutors for their continued dedication in assisting their peers to become better writers.
Anthony, Jackie, Susan, Jamie, Laura, Alena, Nicole, Ron, Rory, Becky, Kathleen, Stacie, Alex, Christina, Lauren, Nicole D., and Suzanne.
Thank you!

THANK YOU UNIVERSITY AMBASSADORS!
The Office of Undergraduate Admission would like to thank all university ambassadors for their hard work and continued dedication.
Alex Abragamov-Stephanie Asymkos-Courtney Ball-Lauren Behrens-Caitlin Carroll-Dana Colucci-Alexandra Corsillo-Justin Dickstein-Nicole DiSilvestro-Tasha Egalite-Norma Jean Garriton-Andrew Grosso-Tamvi Khurana-Courtney Killard-Lauren Kohan-Jacqueline Koloski-Jamie Krupka-Alison Maloney-Krystal Mathes-Kelly McCullough-Katelyn Mirabelli-Maria Mereos-Sarah Moravek-Kevin North-George Nvosu-Nicole Packo-Karen Painter-Dana Panzone-Jessica Peters-Alyssa Pizzo-Stephanie Ramos-Connie Rapuano-Abby Reese-Kelly Reynolds-Melissa Schulman-Emel Senman-Brandie Sica-Jordanna Spaulding-Nicole Stevens-Laria Terry-Chris Traum-Alina Ventriglia-Save Wendruff-Katherine Youngworth!

The talented and dedicated student employees of the Rapid Response Institute play a vital role in its success. Dr. Barbara T. Reagor, Director of the Institute, commends each of the following students for the valuable contributions they have made this past year:
Undergraduate Students: Carol Blecki, Alexander Karpodinis, Jason Marchalonis, Stefanie Martin, Michael McClelland, Thomas Murphy, Regina Mushrock, Victoria Tsang, and Mathew Weisfeld. Graduate Students: Jonathan Edralin, Lauren Landrigan, Robert Monto, Rachel Polmanteer, Michael Tarullo, Anni Tsai, and Matthew Vidovich.
“Thank you all for a job well done!”



Thank You to the 2006/2007 Student PHONATHON Associates


for making this an exciting year! Keep up the good work!
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thanks all the businesses that made our

11th Annual Student Employee Appreciation Week

such a success!

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CASA COMIDA LONG BRANCH				

THANK YOU! THANK YOU! THANK YOU! THANK YOU! THANK YOU! THANK YOU!

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Outlook masthead designed by Kimberly Lynn Mallen
Back page sports logo designed by Nick Hernandez

Editorial

SAMANTHA YOUNG
EDITOR IN CHIEF

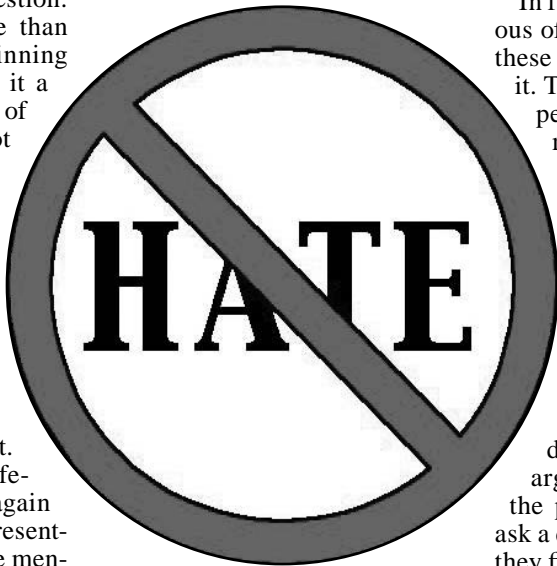
I come to you this week a bit more serious than in weeks past. This week, I pose a question: "Where is the love?" More than just a Grammy award-winning song, it also carries within it a message. The recent string of vandalism has prompted not only myself but others in the campus community to speak up.

It started in the beginning of March with words scribbled on dormitory walls and dry erase boards. Two more times it occurred, no suspects apprehended and the vicious, racist language still present. Mostly recently, a young female's car was vandalized, again with hateful language. In presenting my bias, it should also be mentioned that my car was broken into as well, but with no signs of hate. Could all of these instances be connected?

At this point, I don't know which would make me feel more at ease, knowing these crimes were perpetrated by the same person, or that hate has been instilled in many people. All I have to say to the person or people responsible is congratulations – you made your point. You made yourself heard in the worst possible way. What's worse is that you are too cowardly to accept responsibility for it. If these are your views and you truly believe the things you scrawled across others' property then stand by those opinions and let your identity be known. Afraid of the backlash? Maybe you should have thought about the before.

It is a lesson we have heard since we were infants. "If you don't have anything nice to say..." I don't even have to finish the statement and almost all of you know what I'm about to write. So why is it that

we accept this axiom with much greater ease when we're younger as compared to now, a time when we have the power and ability to show our tolerance.



Young children live without inhibition, sans self-censorship. They are the purest form of truth on this Earth. In the eyes of a child, everyone is the same. It is only until they are told who not to like and who to stay away from, do they realize the world is not as they once saw it. After the events of this past month, I think we would all be a little bit better recalling some of how we were when we were kids.

No one is asking you to make friends with those whom you don't like or those who have different beliefs than you. What I am saying and asking of you, my peers, is to at least have a reason for your beliefs. This country was built on freedom and of course you have the inherit decision to choose the way you live your life. Please give others that same courtesy – to live the life they choose for themselves.

Surviving in this world and achieving what you want for yourself are hard enough. Why make it harder for each other? Instead,

we should be helping each other, making sure everyone comes out the other side a little better, a bit more tolerant, and perhaps more educated than when we started.

In fact, I am actually a little jealous of those who decided to write these heinous things. Think about it. They have the ability to know people, without ever having met them. They can decide, just by looking at the color of their skin or their religious beliefs, that they will not like said person or that they fit the stereotypical mold of a particular group. In essence, they know the person without ever having spoken to them. If that's not talent, I don't know what is. But, for argument's sake, let's suppose the person did take the time to ask a question or two. What would they find out? Would they still find the same person who warrants hate?

Reflecting on my own thoughts, I was perhaps a little naïve. I thought Monmouth was different – that the hate seen in other schools and other parts of the country would not be seen here in our small community.

Unfortunately, this is not the first time intolerance has been witnessed on this campus and I'm sorry to say it probably won't be the last.

My hope for the future is that those who hate never have the misfortune of being the target of bias; they would not survive. For those who have been the subject of some crimes, may you bestow forgiveness upon the ignorant and know that, with growing acceptance and education, those who hate are slowly becoming the minority.

For now, I hope this streak of vandalism and hate found here at Monmouth has come to an end. It shall be a sad day if and when we have to revisit the subject.



Photo of the Week

courtesy of Sean Quinn



Crash Romeo performing during
WMCX's 24 Hr. Live Music Fest



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

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The Outlook

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Letters to the Editor: Vandalism

An open letter to the faculty:

I am happy to say that in my years as a student here at Monmouth, I have had some great professors. Let me take this opportunity to say thank you. I am still in awe of the vast amounts of knowledge and real world experience our faculty possesses, yet there is something that has been bothering me since my first class.

What has bugged me is that there are some professors who cannot keep their political views out of the classroom and off their office doors. It is bad enough that the faculty parking lots are filled with obviously left leaning bumper stickers, ones that have the letter “W” with a circle and line run through it, but to have that sort of nonsense spouted out during class is going too far. Incidentally, if I had posted someone’s picture with a circle and line run through it on Facebook or Myspace, I could be found in violation of the University’s “Civility Code” because it could be considered “threatening” but professors can “threaten” the President of the United States and it is considered free speech...go figure. Anyway, too often we are subjected to irrelevant and bias viewpoints that have little to do with the lesson but everything to do with a professor’s opinions of a topic. I do not begrudge professors having their own viewpoints or speaking out in places like *The Outlook*, but the classroom is not a place for indoctrination.

As a conservative on campus, my viewpoints are very much in the minority, and walking through departmental offices and having to see stickers on professor’s doors that say “Bush Lies” and other political propaganda, quite frankly makes me feel uncomfortable to say the least. Let me also make the point that if a professor starting talking about how much he loves George W. Bush and that the Democrats are ruining America I would have a problem with that too, as it is not the appropriate time or place for those views.

Before fingers start to point, every department has what I would call a “sticker problem”. In my tenure here at MU, I have yet to enter an area with faculty offices that do not have at least one example of what a thinking person would consider bias material on an office door. These are materials that a balanced and true academic should not display at an institution of education.

It is not their views that I have a problem with or the fact that they technically have a right to voice them (even though they should not be doing so) but the fact that at an institution that prides itself on educating students to look at both sides of a situation, would allow faculty to spread their own political beliefs in the classroom and in their offices that drives me nuts. As I wrote in my last article, as an education major we are taught that teachers are there to present the facts of both sides of an argument and then allow the students to make up their own minds, but I’m afraid that there are times when I don’t see that here, and that makes me very worried.

I hope that when folks read this article, which will be published during the Global Understanding Convention, that they remember one thing, Understanding and Peace cannot be achieved when only one side of an argument is being heard.

Sean K. Quinn

“Want your voice to be heard? Tune into Sean’s show on WMCX: The Political Watchdog with Sean Quinn, Wednesdays 1-2pm only on WMCX 88.9FM”

Dear Editor:

The story about anti-Semitic vandalism episodes in the dormitories raises a question about how well Monmouth University is teaching and living some of its core moral values. Included in the Monmouth University statement of Core Values is respect for persons. Monmouth also pledges to be a Caring Campus. In order to stand up for those values we need to repudiate the hate speech scrawled on the walls of campus buildings or sprinkled in casual conversations across campus.

Some people may suggest that we should not overact to this vandalism, that what happened was not so serious. References to the Ku Klux Klan might seem quaint – like something out of “Birth of a Nation” or a faded 1950’s newspaper photo. But the Ku Klux Klan has been active in New Jersey lately with a state office reported in Bloomsburg and a group based in Millville. Hate groups like the KKK are eager to recruit high school and college-age members. While the New Jersey KKK is undergoing internal difficulties at present, we should not be too quick to think that references to the Klan are merely historical or rhetorical.

Other people might say that the incident at Laurel Hall was not too alarming because anti-Semitism is just another aspect of the tragic past. The Holocaust is long over, and swastikas and anti-Jewish slurs have lost any serious meaning.

Destructive anti-Semitism is not over. It is on the rise across the globe, especially in Europe and the Middle East. In only one of a number of troubling episodes throughout Europe in 2006, someone threw a smoke bomb into a Jewish kindergarten in Berlin while school was in session. Fortunately, the bomb was badly made and did not go off; none of the children or the staff was hurt.

Anti-Semitism is a continuing threat in North America, too. In Montreal, Canada last year, a Jewish school was fired bombed. In 1999, a member of a white supremacist organization opened fire with an Uzi on children at a Los Angeles-area Jewish community center. Among others, the gunman wounded a five-year-old, two six-year-olds, and a sixteen-year-old day camp counselor. Last summer, another assailant attacked the offices of the Jewish Federation of Greater Seattle, killing one and injuring five others. One of the injured was a pregnant woman.

According to the Anti-Defamation League, last year New Jersey had the second highest number of reported acts of anti-Semitism among states in the US. While the number of anti-Semitic incidents was down nationwide and state-wide in 2006, the number of incidents in Monmouth County went up by 11.8% [from 51 to 57].

Anti-Semitism endures as a fatal strain of bigotry, hatred, and evil throughout the United States and here in Monmouth County today. The vandalism in Laurel Hall needs to be understood in the context of ongoing, violent bigotry. Aware of that context, all the members of the Monmouth University community need to reaffirm and seek ways to live out our core values of respect for persons and caring for one another.

Barbara Hilkert Andolsen
Helen Bennett McMurray Professor of Social Ethics

Dear Editor:

This is an open letter to the person or persons who vandalized my car on April 3rd while I was in class. Monmouth University, any university, should be a place of learning, of exchanging ideas, of tolerance, of hearing both sides and making informed decisions. The person who vandalized my car did so because they disagreed with the words of my bumper sticker. This person had no respect for my right to a different opinion than he/she has. This person didn’t have the courage to write me a note and put it on my windshield, identifying himself/herself or try to set up a meeting to discuss our differences of opinion. No, this person acted in an intolerant way and showed no respect for the property of one with whom she/he does not agree. This person obviously felt that I have no right to have an opinion that is different from his/her own. Because he/she believed I have no right to a different opinion, it must have made it seem acceptable to then vandalize my property. I expected better from a fellow student.

We are here to learn, to discuss, to disagree, but not to condemn. Tolerance is a big buzz word today, but only if one tolerates what is acceptable in someone else’s opinion. If someone has a different opinion on a topic, according to the person who vandalized my car, that is not to be tolerated. The vandalizer cannot tolerate my view on abortion rights. You see, my car has a bumper sticker that reads “Equal Rights for Unborn Women.” The person who vandalized my car obviously does not agree with my viewpoint and feels that it is, therefore, acceptable to take a magic marker and black out the “un” and leave the rest of the slogan. The irony is that, though the bumper sticker was made to read “Equal Rights for Born Women”, the person wielding the magic marker has violated my rights as a “born woman” to have a different opinion than he/she does.

So, dear vandalizer, this is an open invitation to you. I forgive you for marking up my car. I’ve fixed it with some rubbing alcohol and white out. It now reads as it did before. You see, I feel quite strongly about the rights of the unborn. I’d like to get together and have a reasoned discussion with you. Why do you feel so strongly for abortion? I really am interested to hear what you have to say. I would also like to have the chance to tell you why I feel so strongly about the rights for the unborn. Please feel free to reply to this letter with your own and send it to *The Outlook* at outlook@monmouth.edu or e-mail me personally and we can get together over coffee and discuss our different opinions and, hopefully, learn something from each other.

Peggy Cavallaro
s0240952@monmouth.edu

Yearbook Group Photo Days!

Don't Miss Out!
Schedule a time for your organization today with the office of Student Activities: 732-571-3586

Photo Days:
Wednesday April 18, 2007
Thursday April 19, 2007
Wednesday April 25, 2007

Shadows Yearbook – est. 1949

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Many Thanks!

to our student employees:
JR, Ross, Dustin, Mike and Dennis
for all of their great work at the Copy Center.

A special thanks to our seniors,
who we are going to miss dearly. . .
Bryan and Larry,
we wish you much success!

There Should Be No Next Time

ERIN STATTEL
STAFF WRITER

“Vandalism Defaces Residence Halls,” cried one of the headlines of last week’s edition of *The Outlook*. This is just another incident of “kids being kids”, right? I don’t think so.

For those of you who may not have read last week’s edition of our school newspaper, or heard about it from faculty or saw the actual remnants of hate on doors, Monmouth University has been plagued by a rash of swastikas and Ku Klux Klan references de-

honor of Black History Month” themes. These parties, while not limited to the Monmouth University community, promote a chilly, even hostile, climate on campus that accepts even the most menial forms of racism.

We call ourselves students, or at the least members of a higher learning community, here at Monmouth University. That’s what we tell people, that’s what we put on official forms and list as our occupations on our taxes, but what are we really students of? When we allow ourselves to accept hate inspired actions,

and ethnicity are not what separates us, but that the bigoted attitudes are what separate and draw lines.

As a community, Monmouth students should be outraged. We are paying considerable amounts of money to receive a degree that will allow us the rites of passage into the professional working world.

I sure don’t want mine to bear the mark of racism embedded in the Monmouth University seal. That is not what I stand for and I sure didn’t choose this school for its racist student population.

istration, remember what your actions say when vandalism and parties like these are simply chalked up to juvenile and immature antics. Legally, at the age of eighteen, we are all adults. There should be no tolerance for blatant racism and acts of hate here at Monmouth.

Monmouth University boasts itself as a fine learning institute and members of our community

should not be subjected to the learning impairments of racism. We all need to re-evaluate the atmosphere we are creating. It’s time to stand up to the racism that has managed to seep into our lives, here at Monmouth and onward.

There really shouldn’t be a “next time” for swastikas and KKK references here at MU. None of us should allow it.

These people are, at best, cowards. [It is not] skin color and ethnicity, but bigoted attitudes that separate us.

facing residence buildings.

The MU police claim that these slurs aren’t directed at anyone in particular, but how would you feel if you woke up one morning, or returned from class, to find a hate symbol emblazoned upon your door? I know I would be completely offended and angry. And I am not the only one who would feel like that.

Even if these vile actions are not aimed at any one individual or group, which I find hard to believe due to the nature of the

such as all the aforementioned, we have learned to be complicit, if we have actually learned anything at all.

The guilty individuals, who participated in the vandalism and threw the black-face parties, have committed their crimes and harmful acts in secret. After scrawling swastikas on doors and others’ property, they fled. After drinking to Aunt Jemima and her presence in America’s kitchens, they left and went home, never mentioning a guilty feeling over

Before you set out with an angry mob, remember some of the people who stood against racism and inequality with peaceful actions, not violent ones. Civil rights leaders, such as Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., and citizens, like Rosa Parks, got their message across without physical violence. Everything they did flew in the faces of their oppressors.

Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. had an impact on Monmouth University. If you don’t believe me, look on the walls of the second floor of the Student Center. When we allow these recent hateful acts to go unnoticed, we forget our tie to the Civil Rights movements and the fight against inequality.

There really shouldn’t be a “next time” for swastikas and KKK references here at MU.

slurs, they suggest a certain level of hate and ignorance present on the MU campus.

Recently, attention has been drawn to some of the parties laced with condescending African-American, or better yet, “in

mocking and trivializing a historically racist image.

These people are, at best, cowards. They limit themselves and other people when they act and speak in racist tones. They are afraid to realize that skin color

GLOBAL UNDERSTANDING PROJECT
PHOTO OF THE WEEK



PHOTO COURTESY of Suzanne Guarino

Camp Darfur Mock Refugee Camps located at Erlanger Gardens outside of Wilson Hall as part of the Global Understanding Project.

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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

Life Across the Pond

Venice, Rome, Frankfurt and Hiedelberg

LINDSAY PLESNIARSKI
STAFF WRITER

Yes, all of these destinations were covered in one amazing week that goes by the name of Spring Break!!! Italy and Germany, two absolutely gorgeous places! Most people go to 3 places on their Spring Break here, but Heidelberg is only an hour or so train ride from Frankfurt—which is where you will find the beauty of Germany.

Well, starting off with Venice---gorgeous!!! I couldn't get over how I was in the same place that The Italian Job was filmed (one of my favorite movies)!!! The city is breath-taking! From its gondola rides to its shops and cathedrals, it is amazing to say the least! Thankfully, most people knew how to speak English since, surprisingly, none of us 10 people knew Italian. However, they do understand most Spanish since some words are relative, and they appreciate the attempt.

Gondola rides are a bit expensive, so we didn't get to check that out. However, there is a 'water taxi' which is a free boat ride along the canal which did just fine for us! As far as the food goes, it's delicious! Bruschetta, lasagna, and wine!!! Not to mention THE GELATO!!! I actually upset my stomach because I ate waaaaaay toooo much gelato in one day! Hahaha! Also, I never saw wine 'on tap' before, so that was pretty interesting, haha!

It's realllly smart to have your friends all chip in for "Top Things to do in_____" books for every destination you go to, or at least look up information on the internet BEFORE arriving. Thankfully, one of us always had one of those books--so our itinerary was already planned out; it makes traveling a looot easier. In Venice, the first destination that we visited was the Piazza San Marco, or St. Mark's Square (Venice's most famous square). Here you will find massive groups of people, and I mean like thousands. There's tons of places to shop nearby, many little outside markets, and greaaaat food! Venice had these pizzas where 1 slice seriously is the size of half your arm!!! Of course, it is delicious! Other places we went to were the Basilica di San Marco and the Basilica di S. Maria Gloriosa. Both of these were absolutely breath-taking!

Next, we went to Rome, which was BY FAAAAAR one of the most AMAZING places I have ever visited!!! Rome was astonishing--to say the least. In contrast to many people's opinions here, I did not find Rome to be filthy. This place offers soooo much, including crazy night-life, which Venice failed to have. Everything in Rome will make you feel like the size of an insect, I have never been so amazed in my life before! The first attraction we went to was, of course, the Colosseum! Shockingly, it looks nothinggg like what it did in the movie Gladiator! Hahaha! None the less, it is greaaaat! I would suggest not to do the paid tour, since I decided to do the self-guided tour with a few people, as others paid for it, and they were slightly disappointed. Unless you are realllly interested in a history lesson with tons of people with you and moving around the Colosseum at 3 mph, I suggest you don't do it--save your money! I enjoy doing self-guided tours so much more!!!

We also went to Vatican City (which is actually considered A COUNTRY of its own---nicknamed a 'donut-hole country' because it's a country inside of a country)! Vatican City is another site that will blow you away! It is the home of the Pope and, on Wednesdays, he

comes outside and says a prayer! So, yes, we got to see and hear the Pope!

Prettty amazing! Another site we went to was the Sistine Chapel—where we were able to view the most famous piece of art-work by Michelangelo! We also visited the Pantheon—which is the temple of all the gods—and it's a spectacular dome! Piazza Campidoglio/Capitoline Hill and the Fontana di Trevi (Trevi fountains) were other gorgeous sites we checked out.

Basically, Rome is one of my favorite places so far because there is sooooo much to do--and NONE of it is boring! The spectacular views, larger-than-life monuments and buildings, food, and night-life is more than you can ask for!!! You might as well keep your camera around your wrist every minute you are in Rome (just be aware of the pick-pocketing) because there are endless amounts of pictures you can take!

Regarding night-life, which I previously have stated that Venice didn't really have, Rome has incredible pub-crawls. One of the best, and most popular, is the Spanish Step's pub crawl! At night, there will be around 30 people waiting on the Spanish Steps, waiting for the pub crawl's 'leaders' to guide you through numerous pubs. For the admission fee of 20 euro, you get a t-shirt (a nice one too), a few drinks, and chances to play a few games. That night made my whole Spring break---it was loads of fun!!! On top of everything, they own a website of which they have a photographer taking pictures all night long, so there is a good chance you'll get on it!

Given the amount of days we had for Venice and Rome, we pretty much covered ALL of the attractions worth seeing! Rome had the most to offer, so after that trip--we were more than exhausted. The next destination was Germany, which was very low-key. We went to Frankfurt (because it was a ridiculously cheap flight) but it wasn't great. It's a commercial district of Germany; no sight-seeing or anything. The only thing that was interesting was that every street has sex shops. Haha! In fact, our hostel (which was the cleanest and best hostel I have ever been in so far) was located RIGHT NEXT TO the 'Wos' (world of sex) store. Hahaha--I'm serious! The second day in Frankfurt we took an hour train ride to Heidelberg---here is where you'll find the beauty of Germany. There's an amazing castle, gorgeous views, and plenty of shops. This place took a whole day to cover and it was worth the train ticket over!

One of my favorite things about Germany was the food! The only thing is, just about every restaurant menu is in German. Thankfully, most people speak English. The schnitzel, frankfurters, and bratwursts were delicious!!! The Ger-



mans are very nice people and, overall, it was a nice trip. To an extent, we were relieved that there weren't many things to see in Germany (tourist-wise regarding the places we visited) because the amount of places we visited in Venice and Rome would have normally taken a week by itself!

I planned my Spring Break with a few friends around the 3rd week of arriving here. Now, I'm not saying that you have to plan THAT early, but Spring Break is crazy over here! You don't want to get stuck with paying a lot of money for flights. I definitely recommend booking it NO LATER than a month and a half prior. I hope all is well back at MU and I'll talk to ya's later!!!

PHOTO COURTESY OF LINDSAY PLESNIARSKI
Foreign correspondent in Rome, Italy.



Join faculty, students & guest speakers

Tuesday, April 17th, 11 a.m. - 2 p.m.

Rebecca Stafford Student Center

Bad weather location-Wilson Auditorium

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SWEATSHOPS AND SOCIAL JUSTICE

In their interactive multi-media presentation, "Behind the Swoosh: Sweatshops and Social Justice", EFJ Directors, Leslie Kretzu and Jim Keady detail their time spent living in an Indonesian factory workers' slum on \$1.25 a day, a typical wage paid to Nike's subcontracted workers. Along with personal accounts of living with Nike's workers, their presentation includes slide shows, role-playing, powerful video footage and the latest information on Nike's labor and environmental practices. With "Behind the Swoosh", Kretzu and Keady challenge their audience to deal in human terms with the women, men and sometimes children, who make the clothes and shoes that we buy and wear here in the United States.

Date: APRIL 12

Time: 4:30 P.M.

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Some Beginning's Never End

Semisonic drummer/author details music career and shines light on the music industry

WESLEY CHIN
NEWS EDITOR

Despite becoming subject of incidental misidentification over the course of his career as a rock and roll musician, Jake Slichter still smiles gratefully for the acknowledgement, and will assure you that, “No, I’m the drummer from Semisonic.”

So what does a multi-platinum record selling, US and world touring, and 100,000 fan Glastonbury Festival performer look like? Before entering the WMCX lounge, I took a deep breath, and strolled on in to meet with Professor Aaron Furgason, busy wrapping up the weekly Wednesday radio meeting, who would be my liaison to the now forth time guest to the campus.

“So, Furg, where are we doing this?” I asked, eager to shoot off my first batch of questions. “Is he waiting in your office?”

With a smile that jokingly poked fun at the situation, he simply pointed to the couch three feet behind where I stood: “He’s sitting right there.”

I turned, embarrassed, to find Slichter comfortably sitting and conversing with a student who had (contrary to my own mishap) recognized him. As far as my preconceived notions of how a star drummer is supposed to look were concerned, I was relieved to see that he appeared just like any other person in that room (and that he hadn’t heard my slip up just moments ago).

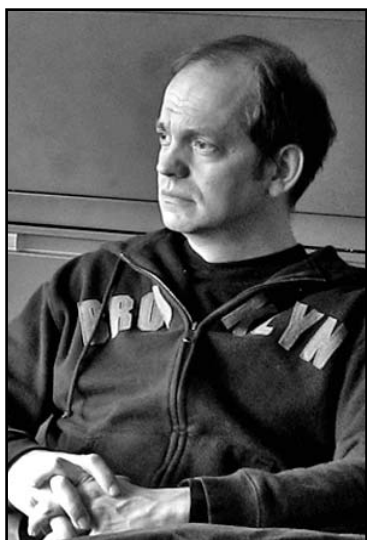
“Hi, I’m Jake,” he said politely, as we exchanged a quick shake of hands before leading him to the conference room of The Outlook office. He had arrived by train earlier that day from New York, dressed relaxed in a “Brooklyn” adorned navy blue hoodie and jeans, a brown messenger bag swaying lightly at his side, and hair much longer and less platinum blonde than his Semisonic hay-day photos would portray. It was hard to imagine that the person standing next to me had felt the welcoming warmth public spotlight for his role in Semisonic, while ultimately be burned at the same time.

For what it’s worth, his pseudo-resumé generated by fans and journalists alike have placed him amongst the ranks of other successful bands of the 1990s...accidentally. So, when mistaken for the drummer of Everclear, or asked how the success of Third Eye Blind’s “Semi Charmed Life” has affected him, he never takes misattribution to heart, even to this day.

“I was thrilled that anyone thought that I was anything,” Slichter humbly said. “This incredible last minute, amazing experience came along and transformed the whole contour of my music life.”

Slichter recalls such events with modest forgiveness in his book *So You Wanna Be A Rock & Roll Star*, a recollective narration detailing the inner workings of the music industry machine through his experiences with Semisonic.

Slichter, a Harvard graduate with a degree in Afro-American studies and history. At age 32, he was picked up by Dan Wilson, singer/guitarist, and John Munson, bassist/vocalist, who seemingly rescued him from the mundane work as an office temp in Minneapolis. Currently, Wilson’s solo album is a main concern amongst the three, which both his fellow band mates appear as guest musicians. He also has nearly finished producing the second album of Munson’s band *The New Standards*, which Slichter has performed with live in Minneapolis last November. Meanwhile, the drummer-turned-author has appeared in various drum magazines



Author and drummer Jack Slichter recounts his days in Semisonic.

and the New York Times in 2005, and focuses mainly on his writing. In the time covered within the book, Semisonic released two albums: *Great Divide*, and *Feeling Strangely Fine*. The band would claim the most success through their hit “Closing Time”, which Slichter gives significant credit to Nancy Levin, the MCA head of radio promotion at the time, who rallied for it’s promotion. *Feeling Strangely Fine* reached platinum status in 1999, selling a little over a million copies worldwide. However, while both albums were critically herald, Semisonic’s label MCA Records deemed them failures by music industry standards, and gave them less support then before. While the band never officially called it quits, the group remains on a hiatus, each member busy with their own endeavors.

Still, as many musicians who have felt the adrenaline rush of a live performance, Semisonic still remain close, and have since played live last summer in downtown Minneapolis.

“10,000 people came to see us play an outdoor show, and those shows are really fun,” recalled Slichter. However, as he dwelled deeper in his memory, a brief, but different, tone came about. A perfectionist of the sorts, his book detailed his painstaking obsession with chart positions, SoundScan sales, and listener feedback. Clearly, old habits die hard, as he continued:

“Hometown shows are always pressured, because it is your friends, and because you really want to blow them away. It’s really hard to play a show and have someone come up to afterwards and say, ‘wow, that was good.’ That’s not satisfactory, and that’s not what you want to hear. You just want people to be dazed, and reeling with the good feeling of watching the show. I’ve spent about 100 hours of drumming before I even got to Minneapolis. In the month leading up to the show, I was just working super super hard to just make sure I was on my game.”

His recollections in his book echo nothing short of what had existed before performances. Pre-show rituals usually remained the same for Slichter: cranberry juice to even out his blood sugar, Roloids to settle his panicked nerves, and lots of inner-monologue, detailing what to do and, in an apparent louder narrative, what not to do.

Still, however neurotic and meticulous his approach to performing may seem, it is with good intentions; Slichter certainly appears to be mindful of others. It was only several weeks before this interview that he shared in the celebration of Wilson’s Grammy for his songwriting contributions on the Dixie Chick’s “Not Ready To Make Nice.” While Munson watched the



PHOTOS AND DESIGN by Christina Guarino

broadcast from his home in Minneapolis, he relayed the information over the phone to a cable-less Slichter. In fact, the current Park Slope, Brooklyn resident does not watch television, but owns a DVD and Netflix subscription when the mood strikes him.

“Even if it’s not our record, both of us known Dan so long, and seen him work so hard,” he spoke proudly. “We were both very gratified when he won the Grammy. I think getting his record out would be another thing like that, where all three of us take some gratification with him. Things like that make our relationship different than the stereotypical ‘bad feelings’ band mates sometimes develop, especially after their careers end.”

There’s an element of this symbiotic friendship between Slichter and his band mates that certainly sets them apart of musicians. Receiving the royalties as the main songwriter of their songs, Wilson still splits each check he receives from Semisonic’s work three equal ways, a pact that the group had made early in their career.

What makes his book an incredibly interesting read is not only the memories he celebrates and laments, but also the valuable information Slichter holds as a musician, formerly bound to the workings of music industry. Music curriculums across the nation have adopted the novel as a significant teaching tool, reaching university classes such as “Rockonomics: The Economics of Popular Music” taught at Princeton, and locally at Monmouth in the “Radio in the Music Industry” course. Slichter has guest lectured in Professor Ferguson’s class the past four years, speaking with students about all the relative areas of the music business. He’s also visited other universities across the United States, and has spoke at numerous music conferences, including the 2005 Motor City Music Conference in Detroit.

Outside academia, industry employees and artists alike have adopted the book as a reference, vocalizing the musician’s point of view. Before the book was written, Slichter’s road diaries were circulated through MCA Records, an action put in place by then president Jay Boberg.

“At Sony Records, somebody told me that the head of the publicity department made all the publicists read my book,” he said. “I think that was because that person number one enjoyed the book, but number two, perhaps though ‘I want to show you how the bands think.’ I sort of perhaps, in delusion, or maybe not, interpreted that as a rather humane gesture.”

This is not to suggest that the book’s intention was pro-industry or pro-artist. Written as a work of literature without any message in particular, Slichter claims that it was simply a recollection piece. Initially, he said, the book was going to be a memoir, but in an honest, yet humble, move, switched gears and became a textbook with a narrative.

“What I wanted to do was to give

the fullest inventory of the experience, and to give everybody all the details so that they would know what might have happened if they did it,” Slichter explains. “And I didn’t want it to be whining, or be a big litany of complaints.”

Which is true of the book, which goes into great details of the lavish life of a rock star, speaking of limousine rides, photo and music video shoots, and incredible hotel rooms. Least we forget, as Slichter puts it, the ridiculous life of going on stage every night and having people love what you do. There is that one element that countless garage bands and singer/songwriters can only dream to achieve once in their lives.

“If you had the experience that I had, there’s no way you could ever complain about,” he tells me. “Though, certain aspect of it were agonizing and frustrating.”

What Slichter alluded to was the lack of label support in the artistic endeavors of the band, disappointing record sales, and an accrued recoupable debt in the ballpark of 250 – 500 million dollars. One would imagine that a certain degree of complaint and frustration is clearly warranted in a case such as this. However, Slichter spoke contrarily to this point, and it shows in his writing, which is predominately a balanced account of his time in Semisonic.

“I ultimately did not try and reach a conclusion like ‘record companies are bad,’” he commented. “That’s just too simple a conclusion for any thinking person to reach. I just wanted to let people know how the machinery works, because ultimately everybody in the story is acting in restraints of the system. If you give people your honest experience, they connect with it, and also bring their own perspective to it, and offer and bring their own interpretations to it.”

“I will say this [about the music industry],” he added. “the big difference between now, compared to the late 90s: I think finally the major label folks understand the limits of the blockbuster mentality: i.e. – selling over a million copies of *Feeling Strangely Fine* was a disappointment. The record industry was a place where a record that sold a million copies could easily be viewed as a failure. And now I think they understand that they over did it.”

We continued talking on a variety of topics of shared similarities. I listened as he described his overt love for his vintage Ludwig kit, his current drum set he’s been playing on. The conversation discovered our fondness of Ringo Starr and George Harrison as key proponents and unspoken heroes that made the Beatles brilliant.

About the time when Slichter began praising “Something” as Harrison’s shining achievement, Professor Furgason enters the room, and our interview is over. Moments later, I find myself sitting amongst the class,

Slichter speaking about radio payola, his wishes that Oprah will pick up his story for her book of the month, and the amazing feeling he felt playing a headlining spot at a 40,000 fan festival. Afterwards, he’s done speaking, and contributed his thoughts on which video is more obscene: Marilyn Manson – “The Fight Song” or Dixie Chicks – “Goodbye Earl”. And, as much as he’ll tell you anyone barely knows who he is, Slichter is not one to turn down a fan an autograph, humbly appreciative while signing a few students’ textbooks.

“The book was not written for people who were really going to be terribly curious about me,” he had admitted earlier in the interview, not knowing that twenty pairs of eyes and ears would be zeroed in on his position at the front of the class, eagerly attentive and listening to his stories of rock and roll tragedy and triumph.

“But next time that I find myself writing something memoir-ish again, I’ll factor that into the equation.”

Jake’s Current Favorites

A selection of songs that show how a great piece of music can move a person as deeply on the hundredth hearing as on the first:

Stevie Wonder - Creepin’

“It sounds like music created in a far-off corner of the universe. The bridge is startling and unexpected, and I always feel the scales falling from my eyes when it comes around”

The Beatles - Strawberry Fields Forever

“The dreamy quality of the Beatles’ music, from John Lennon’s sleepy voice to the orchestral instruments that come and go at whim, which all start with Ringo’s lazy feel on the drums.”

Joni Mitchell - Free Man In Paris

“I love the exuberance of the vocals, especially the chorus harmonies.”

Bob Dylan - Oxford Town

“Simple and powerfully haunting, I never get over how Dylan’s melodies and lyrics, as whimsical as they sometimes are, seem to channel soem sort of universal truth.”

R.E.M. - Nightswimming

A beautifully confessional song with a lush, hypnotic arrangement.



Entourage Returns

KRISTEN RENDA
ENTERTAINMENT EDITOR

Sunday, April 8 marked the return of the television show *Entourage*. Since last year's cliffhanger episode, fans everywhere were wondering what was going to happen to Ari now that Vince fired

and his "entourage" is planning a party for him. With all the talk of the party and all the hype that Vince has in Hollywood, Ari realizes just how bad he wants Vince back as a client. He acts like he just got dumped and wants back in the relationship, which essentially is what happened, just professionally not romantically.

Ari eventually calls Vince, but hangs up when he hears him answer, so he tells Lloyd to call. They set up a "friends" trip for coffee, and you could cut the tension with a knife. It seemed really awkward -- them hanging out as just friends and not talking business at all. Vince realizes that he misses Ari's friendship as

well, and invites him to his birthday party.

In the meantime, Vince's new agent, Amanda (Carla Gugino) is less than thrilled about the news that one; Ari will be at the party, and two; Ari and Vince have been spending time together. She feels extremely threatened by him, because she knows Ari is trying to get Vince back.

As a birthday gift to Vince, Ari gave him a script to the movie he has been dying to make, *Medean*. Confused, Ari tells him that there is a chance he can still play Pablo Escobar, because Benicio del Toro may not play the role after all.

Will Vince trust Ari and go back to him? Will he stay with Amanda and do the movie she's got for him? Those answers and much more is what the rest of season three will have in store for us.



PHOTO COURTESY OF www.google.com

Ari, E, Turtle, and Drama, are all a part of Vincent Chase's entourage, on the hit HBO series *Entourage*.

him. Will Jeremy Piven return to his Emmy-winning role? That was the question fans were asking as they awaited the new season. Not to worry, though, after watching Sunday's episode, Ari Gold fans all around the world can relax because he is back, along with his always-entertaining assistant Lloyd.

The episode began with us realizing that Drama (Kevin Dillon) has finally landed what looks to be a successful role, and it will be coming out soon. We see him and Turtle (Jerry Ferrara) standing on a sidewalk in front of a giant billboard taking pictures. Drama refuses to leave until someone notices him, because ever since his show got cancelled over ten years ago, he's missed his fame.

Meanwhile, Vince's (Adrian Grenier) birthday is coming up,

New ABC Drama Traveler has Potential

SAMANTHA YOUNG
CO-EDITOR IN CHIEF

Think of your best friend. Now, how well do you know him or her? Sounds like a simple question. What if your life depended on it? Would you be as confident?

Jay Burchell, Tyler Fog and Will Traveler have just graduated from Yale University and are spending one last night in New York City before a cross country road trip. During an innocent museum prank, Jay, a law school graduate, and Tyler, a rich socialite, are named the main suspects in an explosion, destroying a priceless art exhibit. Pinned as terrorists and threats to national security, their only alibi is Will, but he is nowhere to be found.

Upon looking into the past two years of their friendship, questions arise as second thoughts are given to every conversation. Could it have all been a lie? Jay and Tyler's future lie in each other's hands. Can they survive long enough to prove their story and clear their names?

Set to air in the summer, *Traveler* should receive a decent following in primetime. The pace is steady and flashback sequences give it the feel of *Heroes* or *Lost*, if it were set in an urban setting. Matthew Bomer and Logan Marshall-Green play Jay and Tyler, respectively, and carry their roles well. They seem comfortable in front of the camera and play well off one another's energy. Bomer has a certain Tom Welling/Eddie Cahill quality, innocent and forever trusting in the legal system; Green is the guy you love to hate, spoiled and a constant feeling of entitlement; Aaron Stanford, who plays the mysterious Traveler, reminds me of a young Hal Sparks, playing an awkward, confused youth hiding behind his video-camera.

The supporting cast, mostly FBI agents, is also well put together, the most well-known being Will Sadler of *Roswell* fame played Mr. Fog, a man with a shady past. Each character has something to contribute, but the overall effect is strongest as an ensemble.



PHOTO COURTESY OF yahoo.com

ABC hopes its newest show to be released this summer, *Traveler*, can stand up to other FBI and mystery shows.

The storyline thus far seemed well-developed and cohesive, a risk run with any "flashback" sequences.

Director David Nutter (*The X-Files*, *Supernatural*) once again brings his signature style to the show, with cut aways and cliffhangers at every commercial break.

Much like *Supernatural*, a lot of the shots were outside and on the streets of the city, which would make sense since they are supposed to be fugitives. Usually, this would present problems with lighting and shaky camera work, but not here. The camera was smooth, very *NYPD Blue*, and the lighting and settings were realistic and believable.

All in all, I would have to say the latest effort by ABC is a green light. The most attractive quality is the cast of relative unknowns, under the direction of a veteran, coming together to create a show with "hit" potential.

The story of Will Traveler has just started. I can only hope Nutter continues to produce quality episodes and establish himself further as the man with the golden touch.



PHOTO COURTESY OF google.com

Matthew Bomer and Logan Marshall-Green star in the upcoming ABC drama *Traveler*.

Pixelated Dreamer

PETER TORLUCCI
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

Making what you love to do your job is a hard sale to come by, but 28-year-old cartoonist Richard Stevens has found it. Growing up reading and drawing comics and playing video games in seventh grade math class has finally allowed Stevens a chance to do what he loves, and that is Diesel Sweeties, a Web comic and syndicated newspaper strip. I sat down to get to know Stevens to discuss music, video games, and Web comics.

Q: What made you decide to begin a Web comic?

A: I had a day job and I kind of wanted to put sticks in my eyes because I was doing pages for the phone company. I realized I had enough money that I could publish a comic book if I wanted to. I just didn't know what I wanted to publish.

Q: And the answer was Diesel Sweeties?

A: Yes, basically the idea I had for the comic was a girl dating a robot.

Q: Your comic's look is out-of-ordinary, as it is pixelated. How did you come up with this drawing style?

A: I was drawing it out, and I was inking it with a brush and pen, and I was just fiddling around because I wasn't happy with how it looked, and I just started drawing robots at that scale [on my MAC] and blew it up and I just liked it. I thought it said more about the robots than just drawing it did.

Q: How have you taken your recent syndication status?

A: I wasn't actually supposed to be on the Internet, I was [Laugh] to be in print. But it worked out better this way I think. I always just thought I would go pay to make some self-published comic book, but instead by going through the

Internet I managed to get to lots and lots more people.

Q: What would you attribute to your success?

A: Oh, I don't think I have. I think that the only failure in a Web comic is when a cartoonist quits. We're not really dependant on audiences or anything. It's all about entertaining ourselves and hoping that other people like it. Do the best thing that you can do. Make yourself and your friends happy. I've seen a lot of people get really popular Web comics who didn't really set out to do that. And you know, they don't really want to do that everyday. I mean, this is what I like doing. When I was in seventh grade I did a daily comic in the middle of geometry class—I don't remember what I called it, but I remember doing it.

Q: Your drawing style seems out of an old NES (Nintendo Entertainment System), what would you say is your favorite game?

A: Tetris has been my love on every [gaming] system I have ever been able to get it on.

Q: Two of your characters are music based: Indie Rock Pete and Metal Steve. What type of music do you listen to?

A: I actually listen to music that's made on Game Boys more than I listen to music that has guitars in it just 'cause it's more appealing and soothing for me. I think that our whole generation, like when you hear music like that you're ready to concentrate because your whole childhood you were trained when the music starts up, and the boss is coming out, you had to be on task. During the SATs or something



PHOTO COURTESY OF google.com

Cartoonist Richard Stevens created an entirely original comic that is pixelated and is based on the idea of a girl dating a robot.

[if] they played boss music scores would go up a hundred points across the board.

The Web comic can be found at www.dieselsweeties.com and original syndicated strips run daily in The Star Ledger.

Cliff's Notes on: *Grindhouse*

CLIFFORD BUGLE
STAFF WRITER

The best word to describe *Grindhouse* would be “badass.” Directors Robert Rodriguez and Quentin Tarantino team up to make a tribute exploitation movie for the new millennium, and do so with flare, zest, and homages galore. Split into two separate movies accompanied by a handful of fake trailers, *Grindhouse* runs over a solid three-hour mark. But while this may be a drawback for some other films, here it’s assurance that you’ll be getting your money’s worth.

The exploitation genre to which *Grindhouse*’s *Planet Terror* and *Death Proof* pay tribute to originated during the 1960s, 70s, and 80s cult era in which movies such as *Suspiria*, *Vanishing Point*, and *Blacula* are “classic” members. Providing extreme violence, off-color themes and subjects, and a plethora of sex and nudity, exploitation drove the MPAA to stamp the X rating on hundreds of these kinds of films. Naturally, that rating has since become a double-edged sword for both the MPAA and filmmakers all over the globe by pushing away some audiences while attracting others. The Italian film *Cannibal Holocaust* raised the genre to a new level in 1980 by recording scenes of real animal slaughters and supposedly authentic rapes. The authenticity of the film propelled many to speak out against it, causing it to be banned in most countries. And because of its incredible brutality, audiences and authorities could not distinguish between what was real and what wasn’t, leading to the arrest of the film’s director, Ruggero Deodato, for the murders

of the film’s characters until he could prove they were alive and well. Tarantino and Rodriguez have worked together on such a film before (though fake and not nearly as vicious) with 1996’s *From Dusk Till Dawn*, which was intended to help extend the exploitation genre into the 90s (to little avail) by featuring bloodthirsty vampires and their huntsmen. *Grindhouse*, however, takes things a few steps further.

The first feature, *Planet Terror*, was written and directed by Rodriguez and is certainly not a show for the squeamish. Presented throughout as a scratchy, low-budget, thrill-a-minute movie about zombies taking over due to an exposure to a secret government biochemical weapon, *PT* is gory, bloody, disgusting, absurd, but above all fun. Military affiliates Abby (Naveen Andrews) and Lt. Muldoon (Bruce Willis) quarrel over the ownership of the biochemical zombie gas, originating the weapon’s mistreatment and zombie epidemic. Meanwhile, the sexy Rose McGowan plays Cherry, an ex-stripper turned striving standup comedian who has a past with a young gun slinger named Wray (Freddy Rodriguez). Cherry later has one of her legs severed by a group of zombies, but has it eventually replaced by a high-tech automatic machine gun. At the same time, Dr. Dakota Block (Marley Shelton) is a wife and mother who fears her husband’s rage-filled hands. Her and her husband William (Josh Brolin) both work at a hospital where they encounter patient after patient complaining of bite wounds and strange sores. All three of these stories eventually con-

verge and in the process exhibit both intense action and comedy. Along with these angles are a handful of subplots and slew of minor characters that are peppered throughout. Some stars make cameo appearances, such as the popular pop singer Fergie and the famous zombie/violence FX guru Tom Savini. Grizzly, blood-splattering deaths are ever-present from start to finish, which should satisfy even the largest appetite for zombie carnage. *PT*’s far-fetched mayhem is as entertaining to watch as anything else that’s attributed to its genre, and will leave you revolted and riveted.

The second of the double feature, *Death Proof*, is written and directed by Quentin Tarantino. A blatant and heavy tribute to *Vanishing Point* as well as strikingly similar to Steven Spielberg’s *Duel*, *DP* is an exciting story about a man named Stuntman Mike (Kurt Russell) who owns an old black Dodge charger equipped with an internal roll cage and other reinforcements that allow him to survive any kind of car crash. He first follows a girl posse to a secluded bar where he meets and greets them, eventually offering to give a ride home to one of their acquaintances. Her journey, along with the girls in the posse, turns out to not be anything like what was expected. Later on, another group of girls that includes the likes of Tracie Thoms (*Rent*), Mary Elizabeth Winstead (*Black Christmas*, *Final Destination 3*), and Rosario Dawson (*Clerks 2*, *Sin City*) are Hollywood workers who attempt to test drive a white 1970 Dodge challenger while pulling off a dangerous high speed stunt. They soon find themselves face to face with Stuntman Mike as well, and do everything in their power to fend off his harassments.

Death Proof has far less blood than *Planet Terror*, and also moves at a much slower pace. This does not mean, however, that it incorporates

a lesser quality of entertainment. In place of high quality makeup effects and gigantic explosions are absolutely top notch car chases and a copious amount of legitimate tension. It also does well to provide a very unconventional conclusion, which many audiences will find most welcome.

The secret to enjoying *Grindhouse* is appreciating, or at least accepting, its novelty. The whole film is an experience that is completely determined on this factor. That being said, *Grindhouse* is not for everybody. The whole project was basically produced for enjoying Tarantino’s and Rodriguez’s appreciation for exploitation cinema, and unless you appreciate that medium yourself on one level or another you will not understand what it is that the in-crowd finds so entertaining. Included in both features are novelties that helped characterize exploitation films, such as messages that say “MISSING REEL: We apologize for the inconvenience – Theater Management” that were once legitimate screw-ups but are used here to bypass scenes and moments of extremely lurid material. The fake trailers are also a big part of the novel presentation. They set up the right mood before the features and sustain it in between them. The trailers themselves were created by contributing directors Eli Roth, Rob Zombie, and Edgar Wright. The same kind of presentation is also incorporated into *Planet Terror*, as the entire movie contains what appear to be scratches, lines, and burns on reel film that jerks around the frame for the entire duration. Details such as these, though, do not create an overwhelming effect that should easily distract or annoy. It merely adds to the feel of the film. *Death Proof* also has some of these elements, but Tarantino elected to make them far more subtle. So those who discover a hatred for Rodriguez’s presentation

should take delight in its mitigation in the second feature.

When watching films such as these, things like poor acting and ridiculous plots are to be considered trite. If you’ve ever heard of movies that were “so bad they’re good,” this is what they were talking about. Part of enjoying *Grindhouse* is understanding the type of fulfillment and comedy that’s created from it. If you’ve ever laughed at a movie because of how bad it was (Nicolas Cage’s *The Wicker Man* comes to mind) then you can consider yourself ahead of the game when watching *Planet Terror*. 2006’s *Snakes on a Plane* also capitalized on this same concept. This is not to say that *Grindhouse* is a spoof (though there are many satirical elements) or poorly made, but in regards to its atmosphere and tone there’s a lot that you can connect back to “so bad they’re good” movies. *Death Proof* takes a more serious approach, contending to become a genuine addition to the exploitation genre. So if you’re successfully immersed into the grindhouse tradition by the end of the first feature, you’ll be ready to take on a different kind of animal in the second.

Ultimately, this film is an intelligently made, enjoyable, and engaging homage to exploitation cinema which should open the eyes of a greater audience. Doing so was part of the directors’ mission, and only time will tell if they succeeded. *Grindhouse* will peak your interest and satisfy the cravings for all of those who seek mindless and perverted entertainment in all of its glory.

Jersey Rock Live

LISA PIKAARD
ENTERTAINMENT EDITOR

Jersey boys with talent are everywhere; but Jersey boys with talent, drive, and the willingness to take a risk and put themselves out there, that’s not so common. As promised, here is a bit more about the Jersey rock and cover band Memoria.

Thursday night, Memoria took the stage as an opening act at an album release party for labelmate,



PHOTO COURTESY of Lisa Pikaard
Lead Singer Doug Baumann wowed the audience Thursday with his vocal ability.

The Benjamins, but they usually are not the opening band. Memoria is doing a great job standing alone in the Jersey bar scene. The band has been playing together for about three years. The latest addition, Vito, joined the band a year and half ago. They are starting to establish themselves in the world of cover music and that is helping to open up a wide audience to the band’s original sound.

Memoria’s sound astounded me live. The band was awesome because they were put together well and all are very talented. Even the few covers they played showed hints of originality. The band even did a cover of Gloria Gainer’s “I Will Survive.” Not often is there a group of men who are willing to attempt to turn a song like that into a modern rock song, but it worked. Doug explains, “When we do stuff like a hard-rock rewrite of a song like ‘I Will Survive,’ we take it on as a challenge to show that we can take something TOTALLY outside the realm of Memoria’s sound and make it rock just as hard.” And make it rock, they certainly did.

If “I Will Survive” isn’t your type of music, don’t worry, it’s not the only genre they cover. Doug says, “When it comes to on-stage energy and outright

performance, the four of us get off on covering ANYTHING by Rage Against the Machine.” They are influenced by many sounds and it all comes out in their live show.

As the band started their set, I was a bit hesitant and the crowd was all really waiting for the main event. But I, along with others, was slowly drawn closer to the stage. With the exception of Doug’s very white belt with a strange (and very large) buckle, I liked what I saw and heard. An interesting thing about Memoria is that even the drummer sings, which is rare.

Their best song is definitely, “See Ya on the Outside.” It went over as well as the covers and it is something the band wrote. The song is available on their MySpace in an acoustic live version. The band says they are working on getting a full band version of that song available as soon as possible.

Another interesting aspect to Memoria is the style of bassist Gavin Moore. His strumming style is by far one of the most peculiar things I have ever seen. Then again, you couldn’t tell the difference just listening to the band.

At each show, the band makes sure to integrate at least two and sometimes three originals. Though their set was shorter than usual Thursday, they still did so.

The best part of their originals is the fact that they are written together

by all four men. Doug explains their process as collaborative. If a member has a riff or chorus or any aspect of a song that is catchy or appeals to them, the band works to write around it.

“Everything is considered to be a completely equal effort,” Doug explains. “It definitely leads to some headbutts to have four captains steering the ship. But, ultimately, the final product is the best it can be because it came from four different schools of thought as opposed to one guy’s sound for every song like a lot of rock albums today.” It isn’t easy to get four men to all agree that a song works. But at least when the song is put out, the listener knows it is something all of the men worked on and are proud of.

With an original sound, an original look, and great original songs, Memoria is certainly a band to check out. Although their songs are on their MySpace (myspace.com/memorianj), they are really much better than those songs give them credit for, and the recorded songs are quite good.

Their musical influences range from everything from Velvet Revolver, Pantera, and the harder rock as well as jazz, funk, modern and 90s rock, and even 70s disco so there is certainly elements that would appeal to anyone.

Live, the band rocks hard and plays great covers, but their originals really stand out more than any-

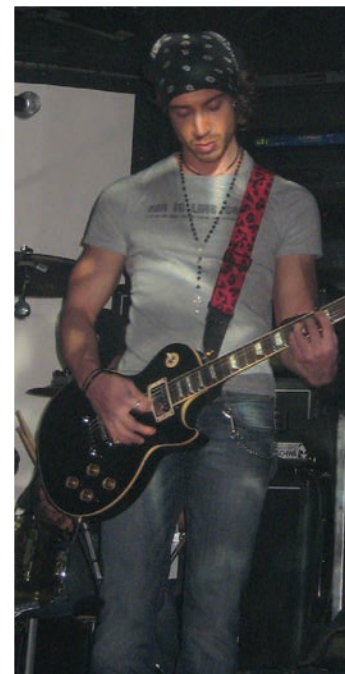


PHOTO COURTESY of Lisa Pikaard
Memoria may be a cover band but they are also an original band with a great sound.

thing. Memoria is definitely a band on my list of New Jersey rock bands that can and deserve to make it and they should be on your list too. Keep an eye on their MySpace (myspace.com/memorianj) for upcoming shows throughout New Jersey.



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HOROSCOPES

By Linda C. Black,
Tribune Media Services

Today's Birthday (April 11th)

Take two steps forward and one step back, over and over this year. You will make progress, eventually. Be patient, and enjoy yourself. Your life is a dance.

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 an 8
You can listen to everybody, but you shouldn't believe them all. Just because you're honest and trustworthy doesn't mean everyone is.

♉

Taurus • (April 20 - May 20) - Today is a 6
Figure out what you want to accomplish. Pick an exciting goal, one that's slightly beyond your present ability to reach. But don't get wild; take it one step at a time.

♊

Gemini • (May 21 - June 21) - Today is a 10
You like to go along with what other people want. Every once in a while, however, you have to do what works for you. Like now.

♋

Cancer • (June 22 - July 22) - Today is an 6
Don't make the mistake of thinking your input isn't needed. Without your contribution, the whole scheme will fall through.

♌

Leo • (July 23- Aug. 22) - Today is a 8
You're more of a leader than a follower. Remember that now. Listen to all the advice but make your decision on your own..

♍

Virgo • (Aug 23 - Sept. 22) - Today is a 5
New complications arise, causing delays and confusion. You can fix the problem fast. This is why you get the big bucks.

♎

Libra • (Sept. 23 - Oct. 23) - Today is a 10
You want to jump the fence, to see what's on the other side. Restrain yourself; it could be a pen for something large and mean.

♏

Scorpio • (Oct. 23 - Nov. 21) - Today is an 5
Figure out which of the other people's goals match yours. Instead of an argument, you can have a working team.

♐

Sagittarius • (Nov. 22 - Dec. 21) Today is a 7
Stay calm, if at all possible. Let somebody else represent your position to those who need to be convinced. Be confident, and you'll ride out this storm.

♑

Capricorn • (Dec. 22 - Jan. 19) - Today is a 6
Speculation is running rampant, because nobody knows exactly what will happen. You're trying something different, so it's perfectly natural. But be careful.

♒

Aquarius • (Jan. 20 - Feb. 18) Today is a 10
It's OK if you haven't discovered all of the answers by now. It's more likely that new questions have been raised. Keep up the investigation.

♓

Pisces • (Feb. 19 - Mar. 20) Today is a 5
Controversy breaks out, as the group tries to decide what's important and what's not. Tell them if they all pitch in, they can have it all.

Crossword

ACROSS

1 Wall covering

6 Baby's bed

10 Stable youngster

14 Sneeringly derogatory

15 Part of ADC

16 Far from terra firma

17 Commit theft

18 Part to play

19 Ananias, e.g.

20 Conclude

22 Odor

23 Old hand

24 Utters suddenly

25 Formed

29 Wall covering

31 Polished

32 Umpire's pocketful

36 Pint drinks

37 Procrastinator's word

38 Abound

39 Propped up

41 "The Count of _ Cristo"

42 Presses

43 Tongue-lash

44 Kind of cold?

47 Mare's morsel

48 Steer clear of

49 Infuriating

55 Expressions of disapproval

56 Beyond risque

57 Scoundrel

58 Coagulate

59 Organic compound

60 Conjure

61 Towel word

62 As expected

63 Takes the plunge

DOWN

1 Attention getter

2 Game starter

3 Landing place

4 Cheese from Holland

5 Experienced again

6 Jeweler's weight

7 Wild profusion

8 Without work

9 Speller's contest

10 Common adder

11 Basketry material

12 Emulated Pisa's tower

13 Small open pies

21 Actor Beatty

22 Thick piece

24 Fox's title

25 Medicinal applicator

26 Aura

27 Skater's leap

28 Doomsayers

29 Spouses

30 Played for a sap

32 Farm outbuilding

33 Horne or Olin

34 Riga resident

35 Hook's underling

37 A Spinks

40 Trampled

41 Gauged

43 Spoiled

44 Nab

45 Botanic structure

46 Word before oil or mouth

47 Curiously

49 List of dishes

50 Mil. truant

51 PBS series

52 Composer Stravinsky

53 Heat in the microwave

54 Launch forces

56 Set the pace

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4/11/07

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For the Love of the Game?

REX DAVID S. GIDO
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

At first glance, I might seem more interested in physics problems than sports. Certainly, no one would ever confuse me with Michael Jordan (I suppose my average height might have something to do with that). But if there's one thing that both Jordan and I have in common, it's the will to play hard every time, to give 100 percent. This was my mantra when I signed up for recreational basketball last month. It was an opportunity for me to dust off my high tops, engage in some competitive spirit, and maybe even make some new friends.

When I played my first game, I was there to have fun. I shook people's hands. I smiled. Most importantly, I wanted to play injury-free. I'm sure a lot of the other guys, too, had that in mind. At least that's what I thought, until I saw someone get poked in the eye. Sure, the game was intense and people were playing roughly, yet inadvertent or not, the transgressor didn't look too apologetic. I blamed it on the adrenaline rush. One of the next games, however, culminated in one player getting in the face of another, hoping to

exchange more than just basketball tips. Fortunately, only words were dealt, but that really got me to thinking: What happened to sportsmanship?

What concerns me is the overwhelming desire for victory at any cost...

Webster's dictionary defines sportsmanship as "conduct (as fairness, respect for one's opponent, and graciousness in winning or losing) becoming to one participating in a sport." Wikipedia adds that "sportsmanship expresses an aspiration or ethos that the activity will be enjoyed for its own sake, with proper consideration for fairness, ethics, respect, and a sense of fellowship with one's competitors." Most professional athletes follow these tenets. Unfortunately, not enough is said about them. It seems like every time you turn on ESPN, there's a story about play-

ers starting fights, getting suspended for drugs, or engaging in criminal activity. I'm sure everyone remembers the Pacers-Pistons fight of three years ago and if you don't, just search for it on YouTube. Enough incidents exist that it makes you wonder just what effect it has on players of all levels, even recreational athletes. If million dollar athletes can act that way, what's to stop the average Joe from following their negative examples?

I am by no means criticizing players for playing hard and wanting to win. That's part of the game. But so is sportsmanship. Along with that comes camaraderie, teamwork, and patience. What concerns me is the overwhelming desire for victory at any cost, when players forget that it's a game, when trash talk gets too personal or when unnecessary roughness produces injury. When any of those things occur, people stop having fun. But it's important not to lose sight of what sports are really meant for: entertainment.

Without that realization, we could all become geniuses. Who would want that? As Jordan said: "Just play. Have fun. Enjoy the game."

Last Chance to Share Your Thoughts!

There are only two issues of The Outlook left in this semester. If you have been thinking of writing an Op/Ed article or Letter to the Editor, this is your last chance to make that a reality before the year is up.

How can you do this?

Send in your articles, letters, cartoons, and/or pictures to outlook@monmouth.edu with a subject line "Opinion" and your thoughts will be heard!

Office of Student Activities and Student Center Operations

732-571-3586 • 2nd Floor, Rebecca Stafford Student Center • activities@monmouth.edu

This Weeks Campus Events

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 11, 2007

Camp Darfur
Erlanger Gardens, 10:00 AM - 6:00 PM

War Zone
Young Auditorium, 2:30 PM

Softball vs. St. Peter's
Softball Field, 3:00 PM

Women's Tennis vs. NJIT
Tennis Courts, 3:00 PM

Diversity Stride
Wilson Hall Steps, 4:30 PM

THURSDAY, APRIL 12, 2007
International Food Bazaar
Student Center Lobby, 12:00 - 2:00 PM

Sweatshops and Social Justice
Wilson Auditorium, 4:30 PM

Thursday Night Alternative
The Underground, 10:00 PM

FRIDAY, APRIL 13, 2007
Baseball vs. Long Island University
Baseball Field, 3:00 PM

Movie - Monsieur Ibrahim
Young Auditorium, 4:30 PM

Texas Hold'Em Tournament
RSSC Fireplace Lounge, 5:00 PM

Movie - Letters from Iwo Jima
Young Auditorium, 8:00 PM
(Repeats Sat. @ 3PM)

Performing Arts - Lura
Pollak Theatre, 8:00 PM

SATURDAY, APRIL 14, 2007
Baseball vs. Long Island University
Baseball Field, 12:00 PM

Softball vs. Fairleigh Dickinson University
Softball Field, 1:00 PM

International Festival
Anacon Hall, 7:00 PM

Movie - The Messengers
The Underground, 9:00 PM
(Repeats Sun. @ 3PM)

SUNDAY, APRIL 15, 2007
Bronx Zoo Trip - SOLD OUT
Student Center, Departs @ 10:00 AM

Men's and Womens Tennis vs. St. Francis
Tennis Courts, 11:00 AM

Softball vs. Sacred Heart
Softball Field, 12:00 PM

MONDAY, APRIL 16, 2007
Women's Tennis vs. St. Francis College (NY)
Tennis Courts, 3:30 PM

TUESDAY, APRIL 17, 2007
Baseball vs. Rider University
Baseball Field, 3:00 PM

A BIG THANKS TO THE STUDENT WORKERS
IN THE OFFICE OF STUDENT ACTIVITIES &
STUDENT CENTER OPERATIONS FOR YOUR
HARD WORK AND DEDICATION!

Dante Barry
Tiffany Douglas
Thomas Fagan
Pranod Jonnala
Upender Kamar Sarapelli
Greg Montagnino
Natalie Morrissey
Alex Ramos
Christine Schumann
Jenna Uszenski
Mark Williams, Jr.
Matt Zorner

Mike Detullio
Marion Easley
Jermaine High
Rickey Kalicharan
Liz LoBuglio
Sara Morrison
Amanda Painter
Jude Rene
Brian Sohn
Jennifer Vaughan
Samantha Young


HIP HOP 101
SATURDAY, APRIL 21
THE UNDERGROUND
7:30 PM



Letters from Iwo Jima
Friday, 4/13 @ 8PM
Saturday, 4/14 @ 3PM
Young Auditorium @ Bey Hall

Weekend Movie Series

The Messengers
Saturday, 4/14 @ 9PM
Sunday, 4/15 @ 3PM
The Underground @ Elmwood Hall



INTERNATIONAL FESTIVAL 2007

SATURDAY, APRIL 14TH

TIME & PLACE:

MONMOUTH UNIVERSITY
STUDENT CENTER - ANACON HALL
7:30 PM - 1:00 AM
(DOORS OPEN AT 7:00 PM)

TICKETS:

\$3 - MONMOUTH STUDENTS
\$7 - ALL OTHERS
ON SALE AT STUDENT CENTER
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Writing Proficiency Examination (WPE)

The Writing Proficiency Examination will be offered next on
Thursday, May 3, from 9:45 a.m. to 12 noon
Friday, May 4, from 5:15 to 7:30 p.m.

Students who have used eCampus to check in for the typed exam should report directly to their assigned classrooms during the hour before the exam starting time.

All other students should report to Pollak Theatre's lobby during the hour before the exam starting time for check in for the handwritten or typed exam.

Eligibility Requirements for the Exam

In general, you are eligible to take the May 2007 WPE if and only if you meet all three of the following conditions:

1. you are a current Monmouth University student at the time of the exam (that is, you have a start date that falls before the date of the exam); and
2. you have EN 101 and EN 102 or their equivalents (such as transfer equivalencies or Credit by Examination); and
3. you have not previously attempted the WPE.

Requirements for Attempting the Exam

The required reading set for the WPE will be available at the University Bookstore for a minimal fee beginning Wednesday, April 18, 2007. Students must purchase and read the reading set before the exam, and must bring the reading set to the exam.

In order to be admitted to the WPE, students must present a Monmouth University Student Identification Card. If you do not have an ID, you may obtain one at the ID Center, located in the Student Center.

Resources for Preparing for the Exam

To prepare for the examination, students should pick up and read the Writing Proficiency Requirement Preparation Manual, available for no charge at the Writing Office or online at <http://www.monmouth.edu/writingoffice/WPRPreparationManual2006-2007.pdf>.

The Writing Office will offer three information sessions about the WPE at which the format and expectations of the exam are explained and at which you can ask questions in person.

The information sessions will be held on the following dates:

Thursday, April 19, from 4:30 to 6 p.m. in Student Center 202A
Wednesday, April 25, from 2:30 to 4 p.m. in Student Center 202A
Monday, April 30, from 6 to 7:30 p.m. in the Carol Afflitto Conference Room,
Student Center, 3rd Floor.

A FACE IN THE CROWD:

Track team captain Nick Williams journey as an unheralded champion

DANIEL ROTH
EDITOR AT LARGE

With an impeccable work ethic, outstanding leadership, an attitude second to none, and complete modesty, Monmouth senior Nick Williams is more than likely the best athlete you have never heard about at Monmouth.

Standing 6-foot-1 and 225 pounds, Williams has strawberry blond hair, blue-green eyes, and a friendly smile. When you walk into his apartment he automatically offers you a drink and will do whatever he can to make you comfortable.

When you sit down to talk, he will tell you he is on the track team but that is as far as he will go. The part he neglects to inform you about is that he is a six time track and field champion in his home state of Maryland – where he currently holds the state record for the discus. He’s also medaled in the Junior Olympics and Junior Nationals, captain of the Monmouth track team and holds the school record in the power clean.

“One of the reasons I never played football in high school was the success I had in track and field and Olympic weightlifting. I figured I had more of a chance to get a scholarship in that,” Williams commented.

But it took Williams a while to

find track and field. “I was probably in second or third grade when I first started in sports. Growing up I was pretty good at baseball. I pretty much stuck with that until I found track, which I figured out I would be good at when our gym class had a tack and field unit and I always seemed to throw further than everyone else,” commented Williams.

Interestingly enough, Williams never played football despite it seemingly being a perfect fit. “Still to this day everybody always asks me why I never played football. Growing up, our high school football team won four straight state championships and went 50-0, which makes it even more ironic that I did not play,” Williams explained.

Once in high school, Williams took off, winning the state championship in both discus and shotput in three of his four years. It was during this time that a fateful article led to Williams getting involved in Olympic weightlifting.

“I got into Olympic weightlifting after my mom read an article in our local newspaper about a local high schooler who was very good on a national scale. He said that he used Olympic weightlifting to develop fast twitch muscles which are key to throwing far. So I began in 10th grade,” he said.

In the beginning, the weightlift-

ing was simply a different exercise to help him improve his throwing. “At first, I was training primarily for track. I was using the Olympic weightlifting as a training platform. Eventually, my lifting coach entered me in competitions. It wasn’t long before I was beating kids my own age and grown men,” Williams recalled.

Olympic weightlifting consists of two lifts, the snatch, which is one movement from the floor to overhead without stopping momentum, and the clean and jerk, which has you lift the bar from the floor to your collar bone and then over your head in one movement.

Within the next two years Williams had traveled across the United States, competing in Pennsylvania, Virginia, Maryland, Tennessee, and Los Angeles. By the time he stopped the Olympic lifting in the winter of his senior year, Williams had won a massive amount of awards.

Williams said he’s most proud of his sixth place finish at the 2002 Junior Nationals, and his third place finish in the 2002 Junior Olympics in Knoxville, Tennessee. In the Junior Nationals, Williams competed in the 187-pound weight class. In the Junior Olympics, he competed in the 205-pound class age 16-19.

Even with all the lifting, Williams’ first love – and what would eventually lead him to college

– was track. Williams came to Monmouth on something of a whim. “Monmouth was a last minute decision to be honest. I was looking out in Arizona and Maryland for schools to go to and none of them sparked any interest, or I didn’t get accepted. It wasn’t until May of my senior year that I was contacted by Monmouth. I then visited and really loved the campus,” said Williams.

When it comes to Williams, it is about more than just his marks during the track meets. “His work ethic is tremendous, and he is a real student of the sport,” said Assistant Track and Field coach Abraham Flores. “He is always trying to get better. He has high aspirations, and all of the hard work he has put in will pay off for him.

“He brings leadership and experience. He is always there to help his fellow throwers when they need some help. That is why his teammates voted him team captain this year,” said Flores.

One teammate believes that Williams is a big part in making the track team one of the more successful athletic programs at Monmouth.

“Williams is one of the main reasons why the track team has

shown it can be one of the strongest teams at the school. He is probably pound for pound the strongest guy at our school. He is a great leader and gets everyone pumped,” said Christian Keller, a junior finance major.

Off the field, Williams is hesitant to mention his accomplishments. “I knew him the entire year and Williams would never mention anything unless you directly asked him,” said John Grimm, a former roommate and criminal justice major.

Williams said bragging has never been his style. “I’ve never been one to gloat or brag about anything I’ve done,” said Williams. “I prefer to let my actions speak.”

Unfortunately, this May marks the end of Williams’ tenure in track and field. “I’m probably going to stop throwing for good. I have done it for a while now, and I would like to coach,” he said.

“I do plan on going back into Olympic weightlifting. This fall, I broke the school record in the power clean at 365 pounds. Based on my current weight and statistics, I could become extremely competitive on a national scale. I only did the sport for a couple of years and I feel I have potential to excel in it.”

Life Across the Pond

DANIELLE DECARLO
STAFF WRITER

Ciao Monmouth University! Happy Easter, or “Buono Pasqua” as they say in Italy, which is where I spent my Easter Break!

This past weekend I had the great pleasure to stay with my roommate, Adina Faulkner, and her family the Macalusos in Palermo, Sicily. I have to say, this was definitely the most amazing trip I have had since starting my study abroad experience. It was so wonderful to stay with such a loving, caring family during a holiday and they really showed us all of Palermo the real, Italian way! This was the best taste of another culture I have gotten out of all of the trips I have taken thus far. You see, only two out of the five people in this family spoke English, only one of them fluently. Although the language barrier was a bit of a struggle at first, by the end of the weekend I felt as if they were my family as well.

Claudia, the oldest of the three daughters of the family, is 19 years old and she speaks English quite fluently. She was basically our tour guide and translator throughout the trip, and she was certainly a great help. She took us around Palermo, which is a very historical city. She showed us all of the old cathedrals, palaces and the Parliament of Palermo while telling us in-depth the history of the city. At one point, Palermo was under Arabian control, so there are many Arabian holy places around the city that she showed us. Also, since Palermo is a very religious city, it was very interesting to be there around such a holy holiday as Easter. The churches and cathedrals were magnificent, with everyone preparing for the holy days.

I have to say, it was also fabulous to have a home-cooked meal again. Maria, who is Adina’s mother’s cousin,

is a magnificent cook and she made sure we ate very well during our stay in Palermo! She made very fine Italian dishes, and it was easily the best food I have ever eaten. One thing I’d like to mention at this point is that Italians have their meals quite differently than we do in America. Their biggest meal of the day is lunch, which they eat normally around three o’clock. Dinner is not served until nine or ten at night, and is not usually as big as lunch.

Sicily is surrounded by the Mediterranean Sea, so we took a few trips to the beach. The water was so warm there, even though the temperature of the air wasn’t any more than 60 to 65 degrees. When I touched the water, it almost felt like warm bath water, I couldn’t believe it! The water is so clear and blue, and Palermo also has lots of mountains, so the mix of the mountains and the sea was definitely a breathtaking sight.

On Saturday, the Macalusos took us to a small town about an hour outside of Palermo called Petrolia. This is where Adina’s mother was born, so needless to say she and I were very excited to go see this! We met up with Maria’s parents there in Petrolia, which is an absolutely quaint, beautiful little city. It is the epitome of what you think of when you think of Italy. We walked around the markets there a bit, and ate with the family there, and we also found Adina’s mother’s house that she was born in. The family currently living there is actually her mother’s cousin, so they were more than willing to let us come in and have a look around. They were so nice to us, and it was truly amazing to be in such a place. After that, we took the scenic view home, which is more scenic than you could imagine! We took a drive through the mountainside and saw so many views of

Petrolia and Palermo, each with its own distinct beauty.

On Easter Sunday, we went to church, which obviously we couldn’t understand all too well. But it was beautiful nonetheless. After church, we ate quite a bit and took another trip to the beach where there were lots of festivities going on. We strolled along and got some gelati, which is always nice! After that, we all relaxed together and of course ate more later on. It was such a relaxing day, at that point I didn’t think I’d ever want to return to London!

On Monday, our flight wasn’t until late at night, so they took us to their Spring Festival which is held on one of the mountainsides in Palermo. There were people everywhere! They had horses pulling carriages with the most elaborate decorations I have ever seen, free food which was absolutely amazing, and all kinds of other festivities. The weather also could not have been more perfect for a Spring festival, there was not a cloud in the sky as we enjoyed the Macalusos in Palermo, overlooking the city from the top of a mountain!

I have to say Adina and I were very reluctant to return to London after this weekend, even though I now consider London to be my second home. Adina’s family was so great to us, and I couldn’t be more thankful to them or Adina herself for inviting me! I definitely plan on going back to Palermo and even Petrolia, they are such beautiful cities with amazing people and so much culture to be absorbed.

I have to say I am amazed with how quickly the time is passing here...I only have less than a month left here in London, and my last trip will be Paris, which is going to be in two weeks. If anyone has any questions for me at all, please feel free to e-mail me at s0612807@monmouth.edu. Ciao!

Monsieur Ibrahim

Two Generations
Two Religions
Two Unlikeliest Friendships



Staring:
Omar Sharif
Pierre Boulanger

April 13, 2007
4:30 pm
Young Auditorium

Muslim Student Association
Monmouth University

The Hawk File: Tom Corrie

ERIC M. WALSH
ASSISTANT SPORTS EDITOR

Listening to him talk, you know he must not be from around here. In case you were wondering, men's tennis athlete Tom Corrie was born and raised in Harpenden, England. Traveling many miles from his hometown, his ability to play tennis has brought him to West Long Branch, New Jersey to play for the Blue and White.

About three and a half years ago, Corrie made the decision to leave his home in Harpenden to receive an education and play tennis in America. Having been touted as the number one high school tennis athlete of the junior class in his hometown, Corrie felt he could come to the U.S. and play for a well-respected college. Before arriving at Monmouth, Corrie attended Abraham Baldwin Agricultural College in Tifton, Georgia to play for the third best junior college tennis program in

the nation. Playing there for two years, Corrie had the chance to compete at the Junior College National Championships and helped ABAC finish in the top three for two straight years.

After his sophomore year at ABAC, Corrie felt that it was time to move on to a program where he felt he could continue to improve and be an integral part of the team's success. He found Monmouth to be just that place. Finding many similarities between New Jersey and England, Corrie fit right in at MU. "England and NJ are pretty similar," says Corrie. He did not see any difference in the style of tennis played, either. "It's no big deal playing tennis in another country," comments Corrie. "A tennis court is a tennis court anywhere in the world. When I step on the court, I forget where I am and try and put everything into playing."

With this attitude, Corrie has received many accolades from his coaches and teammates for his performance on the court, and was

recently named the Prince/NEC Men's Tennis Player of the Week. Corrie explains his work ethic on and off the court and his love for the game saying, "I would say I am a committed player and student. I love practicing and training. I wish I was good enough to just play tennis for the rest of my life so I am trying to make the most of it while I can." The second singles player has enjoyed playing in West Long Branch and will play an important role in the Hawks' run at an NEC title this spring.

Although he is comfortable with being away from Harpenden, Corrie does have some things from home that he misses. "Sometimes I miss the small things at home. I miss the some of the food, TV programs, music and little things like that," he notes.

Enjoying his time in the U.S, for the time being, the business management major plans on graduating in the spring of 2008 and using his degree to possibly return to England and pursue a career in sports marketing.

However, before he returns to England, Corrie would like to remain in the U.S. for one year to work, after receiving his degree. "As an international student, I can apply for a one year work visa, which I will do and probably stay in the U.S.A. for that year and work," explains Corrie.

Looking to the future, Corrie is optimistic about returning to the place where he grew up to make a living there. "I will go home to England and work in London," states Corrie. "I love music and sport so I will hopefully develop a career in either."

As for that accent, he says that it annoys his opponents. Hopefully he can use it, along with his considerable talent on the court, to help bring the Blue and White an NEC title for the first time since 1996.



PHOTO COURTESY of Monmouth Sports Information

Tom Corrie was named the NEC Player of the Week for his performance in the Hawks win over Mount St. Mary's.

Tom Corrie's 2007 Highlights

Def. Will Haight (Rider) 6-1, 6-3

Def. Stefano Salvatore (Quinnipiac) 6-1, 7-5

Def. Jeff Lamberton (Mount St. Mary's) 6-4, 6-7, 6-4

Def. Chris McDonnell (Sacred Heart) 6-2, 6-1

Def. Ryan Berthod (Fairfield) 7-6 (5), 7-6 (6)

Name: Tom Corrie

Hometown: Harpenden, England. "It's a small town 20 miles north of London."

Major: Business Administration, Marketing

Sport: Tennis

Favorite Teammate: "I don't really have a favorite teammate. We have a good mix of guys that all bring different things to the court and too the van."

Biggest Rival: "Quinnipiac University!"

Most Memorable Moment at MU: "When we beat conference leaders FDU last fall. My doubles partner and I clinched the doubles point in a tie break. Great moment!"

Did you know?: Corrie was the number one ranked tennis player at his high school in England.

Hawks Split Four Game NEC Opening Series with Mount St. Mary's Mountaineers

CRAIG D'AMICO
ASSOCIATE SPORTS EDITOR

The Monmouth Hawks traveled down to Emmitsburg, MD to open up their 2007 Northeast Conference schedule, and were able to come up with a split of their four game series with the Mount St. Mary's Mountaineers.

The series was a match-up between the two schools that tied for fourth place in this year's NEC pre-season coaches' poll. Last season, the Blue and White swept a three game series between the two schools in West Long Branch with the Hawks shutting the Mount out in all three meetings.

Thursday afternoon, Hawks starter Brad Brach pitched a complete game gem. He threw 145 pitches, struck out a career-high 11 batters, scattered 12 hits, and gave up four runs.

Kyle Messineo led off the game with a solo home run to put the Hawks in the driver's seat right out of the chute. That was followed up with a two-run shot in the Hawks' third, as Mike Casale went deep for the second time this season to give Monmouth an early 3-0 edge.

With the Hawks clinging to a 5-4 lead in the top of the eighth, Rick Niederhaus delivered a two run double to give the Hawks

some insurance and a 7-4 lead.

The Mount had one final threat in the bottom of the ninth with the bases loaded, when a wild sequence ended their hopes. With one out, centerfielder Shawn

who made a tag as the Mount runner tried to take second. The umpires ruled that the Mount runner didn't retouch on the catch and no runs were allowed.

The elder Brach improved to



PHOTO COURTESY of Monmouth Sports Information

Ryan Murray's game-ending three run homer gave the Hawks a 9-8 win.

Teters caught a fly ball and then dropped the ball on the transfer. As the Mount runners on second and third tagged up, Teters threw the ball to shortstop Kyle Higgins,

3-1 on the season, getting the Hawks started on the right foot in NEC play.

On Saturday, the conference rivals returned to the diamond for a

doubleheader, with the first game going into extra innings. Ryan Buch took the hill for the Hawks in game one looking to improve to 5-0 on the season.

Monmouth jumped out to a 5-0 lead after four and a half as Meyers and Chris Collazo powered in three more runs in the top of the fifth inning. The Mount would battle back with two in the bottom half of the fifth, two in the sixth, and then tied the game in the bottom of the seventh as Ryan Murray came through in the clutch with a one out homer.

In extra innings, the Hawks quickly loaded the bases, and were able to capitalize with an RBI single by Teters and an RBI groundout by Niederhaus. Matt Frazier came in for Monmouth in the bottom of the eighth and quickly retired the side to earn the 7-5 victory.

In the second game, Brett Brach had a rough outing, giving up eight runs on 10 hits as the Mountaineers offense exploded for a 10-3 win.

Saturday afternoon, the Hawks would drop a heartbreaker to the Mount 9-8. Monmouth scored their runs in bunches, piling up three runs in the fourth and four runs in the seventh in support of starter Matt Coulson.

With Frazier trying to protect an 8-5 Hawks lead headed into the

bottom of the ninth, the Mountaineers started to rally. They loaded the bases with one out and were able to drive in a run on a sacrifice fly to cut the deficit to 8-6.

Down to their final out Mount junior Ryan Murray, who sent the game into extra innings with a late home run the day before, drilled a 2-1 pitch over the right field fence for a three run walk-off home run.

Meyers leads the Hawks with a .398 batting average and 27 RBIs. Messineo leads Monmouth with five home runs. On the pitching side, Buch continues to lead the Blue and White with a 4-0 record and a 2.18 ERA.

The loss dropped Monmouth to 14-10-1 overall and 2-2 in conference play. Following non-conference road trips to Princeton and Lafayette this week, the Hawks will look to get back on the right track with a four-game NEC series at the MU Baseball Field against the Long Island Blackbirds.

Notes: Messineo was named the NEC Player of the Week, as he helped the Hawks go 3-1 last week. It was the first time he earned the award.

Messineo collected six hits and drove in eight runs. The senior lead off hitter also batted .400 during the week.

Sawlsville’s No-Hitter Highlights Softball Sweeps

ALEXANDER TRUNCALE
SPORTS EDITOR

After winning five of their last six games last week, the Monmouth softball team continued to roll, gathering four more wins this week with doubleheader sweeps of St. Francis (Pa.) and Robert Morris.

The tone for the weekend’s games was set in game one of Friday’s doubleheader against St. Francis (Pa.) when pitcher Kristine Sawlsville baffled the Red Flash for seven innings en route to a no-hitter. Sawlsville struck out eight, and allowed just one walk, earn-



PHOTO COURTESY of Monmouth Sports Information
Heather Gordon went 2-4 with an RBI in the Hawks 5-0 shutout of St. Francis.

grabbed on RBI of her in the fifth inning, singling in Dawn Gilchrist. Lisa DiLeo and Caitlin Tighe would score the other Hawk runs, providing more than enough offense to support Sawlsville.

Game two was much of the same, as the Monmouth got another big pitching performance -- this time from Angela Rand, who improved to 4-1 this season. Rand went the distance, allowing two runs on seven hits.

Two stellar defensive plays highlighted the game for the Hawks. In the third inning, Nicola, playing catcher, made a sliding catch behind home plate. Nichole Alvarez had a defensive gem of her own, making a diving catch with two outs in the fourth, with two Red Flash runners in scoring position.

Lee Simonetti led the offensive charge with three runs batted in while Gilchrist collected a pair of RBIs. The Hawks recorded twelve hits, with five different players collecting at least two in the game.

On Saturday, the Hawks welcomed another NEC opponent to West Long Branch. This time it was the Colonials of Robert Morris. In a pair of tight games, the Hawks prevailed 3-1 and 10-9.

In the first tilt, Sawlsville went the distance, allowing one earned run on four hits while striking out eight on her way to her ninth victory of the season.

Down 1-0 in the fourth, Nicola ripped a two-run shot over the

fence to put the Hawks ahead. Gordon would add another run to the Monmouth lead with an RBI triple in the home half of the fifth.

The second game featured more offense, as the Hawks jumped out to an early 6-0 lead in the second inning. Gina Mignogna opened the scoring for Monmouth with a two-run double. This was followed by Simonetti’s center field single which scored Mignogna. Gordon would conclude the scoring in the six-run second inning with single down the right, scoring Alvarez.

The Hawks found themselves with a five run cushion in the fourth, up 9-4. But the Colonials stormed back. Spurred on by a three run double by Ashley Smith, Robert Morris came back to tie the score at 9 in the seventh. But Monmouth’s all-time leader in career RBIs would again come through for the Hawks in the bottom of the 7th, as Gordon singled in Simonetti to give the Blue and White the victory. Pitching in relief, Sawlsville picked up her second victory of the day and tenth on the year, scattering four hits and allowing an unearned run while striking out one.

Gordon earned the NEC Player of the Week for the second time this season. In addition to being the offensive leader for the Hawks, Gordon made plays in the field, including a diving catch and throwing out a runner at home from left field.

With the wins, Monmouth improves to 7-1 in conference play and 19-8 overall. The Hawks will take on non-conference opponent St. Peter’s in a doubleheader Wednesday before they return to NEC competition over the weekend when they host doubleheaders against Fairleigh Dickinson and Sacred Heart.

Lacrosse Win Extends Streak to Six

ALEXANDER TRUNCALE
SPORTS EDITOR

The Monmouth lacrosse team’s offense exploded last week, twice topping the twenty goal mark and scoring a total of 59 goals in a three game span. Lafayette, St. Francis (Pa.) and Robert Morris were all casualties of the soaring Hawks.

The team began its incredible week with a non-conference tilt against Patriot League opponent Lafayette at Kessler Field. After falling behind 1-0 three minutes into the game on a goal by Lafayette’s Maddy Booth, the Hawks went on a 5-0 run over the next ten minutes. Ashley Waldman and Ali Pollock would add goals to increase the Monmouth lead to 8-2.

Lafayette would score to cut the lead to five, but Megan Brennan would add two and Katie Degen would add one to give the Hawks an 11-3 lead. Monmouth took a 13-3 advantage into halftime after consecutive goals from Brittney McLaughlin.

The second half was no different, as the Hawks continued their offensive barrage. Waldman, Pollock and Carolyn Raveia would each score two goals apiece in Monmouth’s 21-6 thumping of the Leopards. Monica Johnson got the win in goal as she and Becca Ozl combined for seven saves.

The Blue and White returned to Northeast Conference competition on Thursday, as they played host to the St. Francis (Pa.) Red Flash. The Hawks offense continued to click, as Monmouth embarrassed the Red Flash, 20-1. Degen led the way, scoring three goals while notching three assists. Waldman added three goals of her own and McLaughlin, Brennan, Kristie Sosnowski and Brittany Scott each account for two goals.

Monmouth went up 13-1 at halftime, as McLaughlin scored two, and Scott and Kaitlyn Robinson each had a goal just before halftime.

The lead was extended to 17-1 in the second half, as Shawn Evans scored at the 15:54 mark. Megan Nutter, Amy Hanson and Jessica Picciuto closed out the scoring for the Hawks.

Johnson, once again splitting time in net with Ozl, earned the victory as the Hawks outshot St. Francis 34-3.

On Saturday, the Hawks were back in action against the Colonials of Robert Morris. Much like the previous two games, the Hawks’ offense was the story. Led by Nutter, who netted seven goals and was also credited with an assist, the Hawks dropped the Colonials 18-7.

The Hawks went into halftime with a 6-4 lead after picking up three straight tallies at the end of the half. Monmouth then went on a 9-1 run to start the second half, including eight unanswered goals, putting the game away. Nutter scored five times during the second half, with Raveia also picking up two goals and Pollock adding one.

With the victories, the Hawks now stand at 11-3 overall and are riding a six game winning streak. The also own a 5-0 conference record, and are unbeaten in their last 14 regular season NEC games. They will look to extend both streaks on Friday when they travel to Emmitsburg, Maryland to take on Mount St. Mary’s.

Notes: McLaughlin was named the NEC Rookie of the Week following last week’s 11 point effort. ... Monmouth’s last regular season conference loss came at the hands of Mount St. Mary’s on April 24, 2005 in Emmitsburg, MD.

Despite Cold, Track Remains Hot

MIKE TIEDEMANN
STAFF WRITER

The weather was a factor if you ventured outside this weekend. If you did brave the elements, you came to the quick realization that this is not the weather usually associated with spring.

Still, the cold temperatures couldn’t prevent the Monmouth Track & Field teams from putting together another productive weekend.

Deanna Paulson in the 100m, Latasha Dickson in the 400m hurdles, and Michelle Losey in the 400m.

On top of that, Meredith Malloy gained a spot in the ECAC Division I Championships with her performance in the 10,000m. In doing so, her time of 37:37.06, also set a new freshman record.

With the women doing so well, the men did not want to disappoint. They didn’t.

Marion Easley took first in the javelin for the second time in as

“I am very pleased with the outcome today especially with the team battling the weather conditions.”

JOE COMPAGNI
Track and Field Head Coach

Both the men and women represented Monmouth well at the Sam Howell Invitational at Princeton University.

“I am very pleased with the outcome today especially with the team battling the weather conditions,” said head coach Joe Compagni. “We had some really great performances today by our upper classman and our younger athletes.”



For the women, some of those great performances included a handful of first place finishes:

many weeks. Bryan Fill, Matt Mizereck, and Tim Raywood all finished in the top eight in the same event.

The 4x400 relay team, consisting of Darrin Chandler, David Gaines, Joe Quintano, and Derrick Keich, posted the fastest time on the weekend on its way to a first place finish.

The weekend also saw Ryan Connell qualify for the NCAA Division I Championships in the hammer throw. Easley also qualified with his result in the javelin.

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Scorching the Nets



**Katie Degen
scored three
goals against
St. Francis.**

Lacrosse outscores opponents 59-14 in last three games. Story on page 23