



THE OUTLOOK

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NEW PHYSICIANS ASSISTANT PROGRAM UNDERWAY

SAGE FONSECA
STAFF WRITER

A new Master's of Science Physician Assistant Program will be launched since approval by the University's Graduate Studies Committee was granted last month. The hope for the program is for it to be launched in the fall of 2014, said Janet Mahoney, Dean of Nursing and Health Studies.

Physician assistants are trained to aid doctors in

varied health and preventative care services. With a master's degree in this field, students can work in internal and emergency medicine, as well as gynecology, orthopedics and pediatrics among others.

"There is increasing interest among pre-health students in pursuing a career as a P.A.," said Dr. James Mack, Director of the University's Pre-Professional Health Advisory Committee. "The job market for a P.A. position is growing explosively."

The new program would offer

students a chance to study for a master's degree in this field on campus as opposed to the current agreement with Seton Hall University in which six seats are saved each year for University students. Currently, University students must apply before or during their first or second year to be considered for this program.

Even though the program has already been approved, it is still too early for exact details on

Program continued on pg. 2



IMAGE TAKEN from becomingaphysicianassistant.org

International Guest Speakers Hit the Keynote on Global Issues

JOANNA ZIETARA
CO-NEWS EDITOR

The 11th Annual Global Understanding Convention's keynote address took place in Wilson Hall on Tuesday, April 3. The speech focused on this year's theme of Freedom, Sustainability and Security: International Criminal Law and Human Rights.

The event attracted over 400 attendees, including faculty, students and administrators. As the audience was being seated, junior Meredith Calcagno and sophomore Michael Rosas performed a musical prelude along with Laura DuBois, a professor in the Music and Theatre Department.

The keynote speech welcomed two speakers, Raymond Brown and Wanda Akin, who are the co-founders of the International Justice Project. The two speakers are also married to each other.

During their keynote address, the speakers touched upon the current situation in Darfur, the implications caused by blood diamonds in Sierra Leone, the KONY movement, the work of the International Criminal Court (ICC) and the struggles that women face in war-torn regions of the world.

Their non-profit organization was established in 2004 with the purpose of providing sup-



PHOTO COURTESY of Jim Reme

Wanda Akin (left) and Raymond Brown (right) were this year's keynote speakers for the Global Understanding Convention.

port to victims of world crimes such as genocides, war crimes and crimes against humanity. The organization also conducts outreach and educated survivors, human rights advocates, activists and other organizations about the ICC, international criminal law, human rights and the current situation in Darfur, according to internationaljusticeproject.com.

Additionally, the project also runs the Health and Reparations

Project (HARP) which provides medical support for the mental health of refugees and victims of crime in Darfur. "The number of Darfuri refugees in the United States is expected to increase significantly in the near future," according to the organization's website.

According to the University's website, Brown has been

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Why the World Should Pay Attention to China

CHRISTOPHER ORLANDO
POLITICS EDITOR

Dr. Kevin Dooley, Dean of the Honors School at the University, gave a presentation on China as part of Global Understanding on April 5 to approximately 40 students, faculty and visitors. Dooley's presentation was about how China is becoming an important country in understanding where the world is going. He started out with the fact that China is the second most Googled term worldwide. Dooley started by stating the question: "Why does China matter?"

Dooley mentioned the five major countries that will have major impacts in the next 50 years: Brazil, Russia, India, China and South Africa (BRICS). The unique part about China is that it is the only one not a democracy. "There is an old idea that wealth means democracy and that statement is being challenged by China," Dooley stated during the presentation.

Dr. Rehka Datta, political science professor, who spent time in China last semester agrees with Dooley, "China has demonstrated tremendous economic growth, into the double digits. Government investment as well as opening of its economy has resulted in massive development of infrastructure, construction, education, the military, and other areas."

An article in the *New York Times* by Charles Kupchan said, "Washington has long presumed that the world's democracies will as a matter of course ally themselves with the United States; common values supposedly mean common interests. But if India and Brazil are any indication, even rising powers that are stable democracies will chart their own courses, expediting the arrival of a world that no longer plays by Western rules."

Dooley stated during the presentation how the expansion of China's middle class is worrying those in power. According to Dooley, once middle classes expand they want more protection, and this normally leads to a rise in democracy. This is referred to as the "Classical Economic Model."

Dooley continued the presentation by going through a history of China. One of the major events in China's history is when a student read the declaration to speed up political and economic reform by implementing constitutional rights, to fight corruption and the right to a free press not controlled by the government. Following this declaration, the military was sent to Tiananmen Square which was the center of the rise of democracy in China. It was here the famous picture of the student

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News

One of the Global Understanding events revolved around the Invisible Children.

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Opinion

You know those people who complain about every detail of their lives on Facebook?

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Entertainment

One student reviews Madonna's newly released album *MDNA*.

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Club and Greek

See who was crowned Miss Monmouth at Theta Xi's event last Wednesday.

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University Members Hold Rally to End Use of Child Soldiers

BRITTANY IRVINE
STAFF WRITER

A rally to end the use of child soldiers was held on the steps of Wilson Hall early last Thursday. Students and faculty gathered to pay homage to children ages five to 15 who face torture, rape, crimes and even post-traumatic stress disorder.

The rally also was held as a part of the United Nations Academic Impact initiative, which is “a global initiative that aligns institutions of higher education with the United Nations in actively supporting 10 universally accepted principles in areas of human rights, literacy, sustainability and conflict resolution,” according to its website. The initiative urges students to share information about child soldiers.

According to sources such as Amnesty International, the Child Soldiers Report of 2008, and Conventions on the Rights of a Child, the Revolutionary Armed Forces, National Liberation Army of Columbia, Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam/Sri Lanka and the Lord’s Resistance Army of Uganda have been using children for years. However, there are other armed forces that

use children in Thailand, India, the Philippines and Myanmar, among other countries.

Oscar Sanchez, a junior communication major, helped organize the event along with Tess La Fera, a member of the Institute for Global Understanding.

“People need to find something they are passionate about. They should do something, have something to stand for,” Sanchez

“This is so relevant today,” La Fera said. “People need our help as fellow humans; this is our job as metaphorical brothers and sisters.”

The event featured 13 volunteers who read stories and facts from a microphone atop the steps of Wilson Hall. After that, a short video was played that showed the reality experienced by child soldiers. For instance,

battle during his time as child soldier, but he was not sure if he killed people when he fired. A rocket hit his leg while he tried to escape; he was brought to a nearby hospital where his leg was amputated. While he was hospitalized, the government gave him money and it was then when he recalled his dreams: he wanted to go to school and start a small business.

that the use of child soldiers is a complicated and widespread issue that requires a comprehensive and coordinated global response,” Mezey added.

The video also featured photos of violators of human rights that used children as soldiers in their armies. “They’re terrorists before they even understand the meaning of the word,” read the screen as the video ended.

Heather Kelly, Assistant Director of Student Activities for Multicultural and Diversity Initiatives, attended the rally because she said it was better than only supporting the cause via the Internet. “Reaching people through social media is more from a distance,” Kelly commented. “People don’t feel the cause with a click. It’s not as personal; here, it is more meaningful.”

Students can visit websites such as Amnesty.org, Un.org or read *A Long Way Gone* by Ishmael Beah to learn more about the cause of ending child soldiers and spread the word.

The event was sponsored by the Social Work Society, the Sociology Club, Phi Kappa Psi Fraternity and the Institute for Global Understanding.

“It’s important to understand that the use of child soldiers is a complicated and widespread issue that requires a comprehensive and coordinated global response.”

NANCEY MEZEY
Director of the Institute for Global Understanding

said. “This will create a better campus community and an overall a better world; spread the word.”

La Fera said that the event was a response to the *Kony 2012* documentary that recently went viral. She commented that people must understand that the forcing of children to become child soldiers is a violation of human rights and awareness must be raised.

16-year-old Susan was captured and forced to kill, then smear the blood on her arms to show that she has no fear of death.

The video also told the story of 14-year-old J.K. from Bong County, Liberia, who was working on his farm when all of a sudden his father told him to hide because the soldiers were coming. J. K. couldn’t hide quickly enough; he was caught, tied and beaten. He used an AK-47 in

“Child soldiers are ideal because they don’t complain, they don’t expect to be paid and if you tell them to kill, they kill,” one student said into the microphone during the rally.

Nancy Mezey, Director of the Institute for Global Understanding, says that this problem exists around the world and that the cause to end it will be benefitted as more people find out about it. “It’s important to understand

New Graduate Program Approved

Program continued from pg. 1

what the program will include, Mahoney said.

“Based on demand for P.A. at other universities and high applicants/available seats ratio, it is expected that a large number of qualified students will apply for the [new] program,” Mack said.

The program is expected to be competitive, as most schools that offer it only accept about 25 to 30 students per semester. “The P.A. programs are usually highly selective, somewhat similar to M.S. or D.O. programs,” Mack added.

Students can be state and nationally certified after graduating from a Physician Assistant program. For national certification, students must take the Physician Assistant National Certifying Exam (PANCE) and re-certify every five to six years by taking the Physician Assistant National Re-certifying Exam (PANRE). For state certification, regulations vary depending on where the individual wants to practice. In New Jersey, applicants must have verification from The National Commission on Certification of Physician Assistance (NCCPA) which can


be received through the PANCE. The NCCPA website can aid students and practicing physician assistants in finding certification information and test locations.

After acquiring a master’s degree in this field, graduates will have their choice of where to work, such as hospitals or private offices. For example, Associates in Cardiovascular Disease in Clark, N.J., a private cardiologist office, currently employs two physician assistants to help doctors with patient overflow and emergencies.

The University also offers two other healthcare programs in affiliation with other schools. Students can pursue a Doctor of Osteopathic Medicine Degree from the University of Medicine and Dentistry of New Jersey-School of Osteopathic Medicine (UMDNJ-SOM).

Also, those with a bachelor’s degree who have completed pre-medical studies at the University can continue their medical education at Universidad Autonoma de Guadalajara (UAG) in Guadalajara, Mexico; six seats are saved for qualified University students.

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Seminar Highlights Effects of Global Warming on Oceans

MELISSA WINTERS
STAFF WRITER

The University community was introduced to the growing problem occurring in the ocean through a seminar entitled "Sea Change: Imagine a World Without Fish" last Wednesday as a part of the Global Understanding Convention. The event consisted of a film viewing followed by a presentation and discussion led by Dr. Matthew Poach, a Marine Biochemist for the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA).

Ursula Howson, a professor of biology, began the program with an introduction to the film "A Sea Change." The documentary "investigates how ocean acidification will affect future generations," Howson said. According to the NOAA, ocean acidification is a process through which carbon dioxide is absorbed by the ocean and changes the chemistry in the water. As described by the film, ocean acidification is "the 'flipside' of global warming."

The documentary featured Sven Huseby, a retired history

teacher who, after reading an article about ocean acidification, became worried that his grandchildren would be affected by the changes. The film documents Huseby's efforts to research the causes and effects of the issue, as well as how it can be fixed.

As presented to the audience, the film explains that the world's oceans have absorbed 188 billion metric tons of carbon dioxide in

coral reefs. In the film, Huseby asks, "Are we screwed?" to which oceanographers respond, "Yes, to a considerable extent." It also mentioned that scientists recognize ocean acidification as an "irreversible experiment" that could result in mass oceanic extinction anywhere from 30 to 300 years from now if the problem continues.

In a presentation following

on commercial fish throughout the Northeast," Poach said. As outlined by the NOAA, research is currently being guided by three hypotheses that address the variation of acidification in different oceanic areas, the changes in ecosystems from acidification, and how species will respond and adapt to acidification.

Poach explained that scientists are currently testing the differ-

sisted of individuals from different majors and backgrounds, Poach tried to keep information simple and easy to understand. The message that was stressed, however, was that the need to reduce carbon dioxide emissions is increasing every day. "In order to correct this issue and make something better, we need to reduce our levels of CO₂," he commented. "It all comes down to our emissions of CO₂."

Tony MacDonald, Esquire of the University's Urban Coast Institute, who planned and attended the event, agreed with Poach on the importance of creating awareness of the issue. "Conducting research on ocean acidification is an effective message to the need to reduce CO₂ levels," he said.

Poach explained that global warming and the growing changes on Earth are undoubtedly supported by the research of expert scientists.

"We have a historical record of causing change that has led to negative impacts," Poach said. "We know the problem is going to continue so now we need to find a way to change."

"We have a historical record of causing change that has led to negative impacts. We know the problem is going to continue so now we need to find a way to change."

DR. MATTHEW POACH

Marine Biochemist for the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

the last 200 years, with 22 million tons being absorbed every day. As a result, oceans are becoming increasingly acidic. With these rapid chemical changes, oceanic species are unable to adapt to the ocean's high levels of acidity.

The documentary also included commentary from scientists who fear a mass extinction of the

the film, Howson introduced Poach to the audience with details of his past and present research with the NOAA. He is currently working on an ocean acidification research project at the Northeast Fisheries Science Center in Sandy Hook, NJ.

"The NOAA has been granted a large amount of money to study the effects of ocean acidification

ent hypotheses with a research plan that "includes developing an ocean acidification monitoring network, assessing organism responses, predicting future responses, developing strategies for adapting to consequences and developing models synthesizing information for other scientists."

For the audience, which con-

GUC's Keynote Address Focuses on World Crimes

Keynote continued from pg. 1

a trial lawyer, teacher and legal journalist since 1974. He "has handled a wide variety of U.S. criminal and civil matters representing individuals and corporations, and he has appeared in courts and conducted investigations throughout the U.S. and globe, including Kenya, El Salvador, Switzerland, the Bahamas, Uganda and Sierra Leone."

Akin is currently an adjunct professor at Seton Hall University's School of Law and has an independent practice in Newark, N.J. She has more than 29 years of experience as a trial lawyer in criminal defense in the U.S. and international courts. She also is qualified to represent the accused and the victims before the ICC, and is currently representing Darfurian victims in a case against President Omar al-Bashir of Sudan.

The speakers were suggested by Professor Don Moliver, Dean of the Leon Hess Business School, according to Dr. Nancy Mezey, the Director of the Institute for Global Understanding. "He knew of the speakers and suggested that we consider inviting them to speak," Mezey said. "The GUC committee looked at the work they were doing and thought that their focus and areas of expertise would be a very good fit for the convention this year."

The topic of the keynote speech was a collaborative effort between the speakers and the GUC committee members. "Given the theme of the convention and the areas of expertise of the speakers, the GUC committee proposed the topic to the speakers," Mezey said. "The speakers then made a few suggestions on how to connect the topic more closely with their focus on criminal law, and we all agreed on the final title and topic."

Mezey said that the speech examined many issues with which students might not have been previously familiar. "The presentation was just what we hoped it would be: informative, educational, insightful and inspiring," she continued. "My only regret is that we did not have more time.

Because of their generosity of spirit and enthusiasm for their work, the speakers stayed nearly an hour after the official end of the talk to answer questions from the audience."

"As impressed as we were with the speakers, I think the speakers were equally impressed by the Monmouth University audience," Mezey added. "We are hoping to continue to work with Mr. Brown and Mrs. Akin through their non-profit organization."

Mezey mentioned the opportunity that can come to students from their continued work with the organization. "We hope that such opportunities will open the door for our students to intern through IJP and help IJP further their mission," she said.

Marina Vujnovic, communication professor and a member of the planning committee for the convention, said that the feedback from the keynote speech has been positive. "Most people were really impressed with what they've heard," Vujnovic commented. "Some people mentioned that it was difficult to grasp the scope of their work because of the time limitation."

She suggested that there be an opportunity for them to come and speak at the University again. "The most impressive thing for me was their dedication to helping victims of the crimes against humanity and showing us how it is possible to make a difference in the world through any profession, if there is enough dedication and will," Vujnovic added.

If any student is interested in getting involved with the institute or convention, call 732-923-4666 or e-mail igu@monmouth.edu. Students also can visit the Facebook page at www.facebook.com/mu.igu and follow on Twitter at @IGUatMU.



Students gathered in Wilson Hall where they listened to the co-founders of the International Justice Project talk about world crimes, such as the genocide in Darfur.

PHOTO COURTESY OF Jim Remo



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Panel Discussion Brings Awareness to Unknown Global Issues

MELISSA WINTERS
STAFF WRITER

The Global Understanding Convention continued with “Diversity and the Interworking’s of Cultural Politics,” a panel discussion hosted by the Latin American Student Organization (LASO) early last week. The panel sought to raise awareness concerning several global issues, all of which involve the United States yet remain unknown to many Americans.

Tess La Fera, one of the event’s presenters who serves as the Secretary of LASO and office assistant in the Institute for Global Understanding, mentioned the importance of making these issues known to others.

“We live in a global world and there’s no escaping the eminency of the consequences, both positive and negative,” La Fera said. “Should we choose to enclose ourselves in a bubble and ignore the impact that we have on the rest of the world, as well as the impact the rest of the world has on us, we are only harming our own future security and well-being.”

In addition to La Fera, other presenters included Professor Gisela Cordero of the Foreign Language Department and Dr. Rosemary Barbera, Associ-

ate Director of the Institute for Global Understanding. Throughout the panel discussion, each speaker addressed a different issue that is currently affecting several nations.

The first issue, as presented by Cordero, concerned the damaging effects that U.S. oil drilling has had on the people of the Amazon. The drilling of American oil companies, including Texaco and Chevron, is leaving Amazon farmers with contaminated land and severe health issues, including a variety of cancers, Cordero said.

Barbera addressed the second issue of the violence in Latin American nations because of the violent torture techniques taught to Latin American militaries by the U.S. Army. The U.S. military teaches warfare techniques, including methods of torture at the Western Hemisphere Institute for Security Cooperation near the Panama Canal, Barbera said.

As a result of the U.S. Army’s teachings, Latin American armies are using learned torture methods against their own people. Barbera continued that the United States military has not stopped the violence and killings.

“It’s sad that this goes on in our name and even more so that

“Should we choose to enclose ourselves in a bubble and ignore the impact that we have on the rest of the world, as well as the impact the rest of the world has on us, we are only harming our own future security and well-being.”

TESS LA FERA
Secretary of LASO

no one knows that it goes on in our name,” Barbera said. “We don’t know about it, but the rest of the world does. We don’t know the pain our country has inflicted on these people.”

The last issue, discussed by La Fera, focused on how the United States remains distant from third-world nations while favoring re-

lations with wealthier nations. La Fera first identified the average incomes, ranking of labor service and percentage of populations below poverty lines for the U.S., Canada, the Democratic Republic of Congo and Sudan.

La Fera then highlighted the level of interaction between the United States and each of these nations, while pointing to the civil wars in the Congo and Sudan that have continued for decades without intervention by the United States.

In an open discussion that followed the presentation, several students shared feelings of shock and sadness concerning United States involvement with these issues. Many admitted to being unaware of what has occurred in other nations.

Jess Severns, a sophomore education major who attended the event to support La Fera, mentioned that she left the discussion with an unexpected lesson. “The

thing I found the most important was that these problems are real and they aren’t going away, and many of us, as American citizens, have no idea that they are even going on,” she said. “That’s what really struck me. We aren’t even knowledgeable about what is really going on in the world.”

Creating awareness was exactly what Barbera desired to achieve through the discussion. “I hope attendees will begin to understand how our nation engages in activities that are immoral and criminal, but then charges other countries with doing the same,” she said. “It is important that everyone become aware of these issues so that we can vote for people who will change these policies and actions.”

Similarly, La Fera hopes that all of the events held during the Global Understanding Convention will encourage the University community to become aware of world issues.

“A great start is to attend events such as the ones that took place this week,” La Fera said. “Then spread the word to your families, friends, coworkers, professors and anyone who you believe could benefit from the knowledge. Change the world, even if just for one person, even if just for a little while.”

Students are Educated on Diversity in the Workplace

JACKLYN KOUFATI
LIFESTYLES EDITOR

How do different cultures communicate with each other?

That’s the question that Dr. Don Swanson, Chair of the University’s Philosophy, Religion and Interdisciplinary Studies Department, tried to answer during a seminar entitled “Challenges of Cross-Cultural Communication.” Swanson held the seminar in conjunction with Global Understanding Convention.

Swanson presented a slideshow trying to answer the questions of “How do people with different cultural backgrounds work in the workplace together?” He viewed the question as a case study and brought up examples from when he spent time in Guam.

Swanson was the Dean at the University of Guam, but he also worked with a company helping the workers to communicate bet-

ter and understand the different cultures.

There were several different job titles that had people of different cultures working together. The managers in the company were either American or Japanese.

The middle managers consisted of Americans, Australians, Koreans, Filipinos, Chamorros (people indigenous to the Mariana Islands) and Chi. The number of nationalities represented at the University of Guam represent the U.S. territory’s diversity, as only 12 percent of its population is Caucasian. With all of these different cultures trying to work together in the same place, Swanson explained that “patience and tolerance” are the keys.

Swanson also spoke about the different ways that cultures think. Americans follow individualism while other cultures follow collectivism. Eighty per-

cent of the world is collectivists, meaning that Americans are the minority, Swanson said.

Americans also are known for being materialistic, Swanson continued. “Does the person that dies with the most toys win the game?” he asked the audience, implying that material things do not mean much in the end. Meanwhile, other cultures are not as materialistic.

In cultures that stress collectivism, the term “we” plays a major role. Relationships are treasured and people will lie to keep a relationship from being ruined. On the contrary, the American culture has the attitude that the truth should always be told, no matter how much hurt it may cause.

Swanson compared American assumptions to Micronesian assumptions. Micronesians believe that nature will provide anything one would need and that life is controlled by destiny. However,

Americans believe that they can control nature and the future. These two differing viewpoints cause problems in the workplace, Swanson said.

Any other attitude of looking at life is a hard concept for Americans to accept, Swanson explained. Americans have a missionary mindset which means that they see things as correct when they are done their way. “Americans have a great deal of resentment toward other cultures,” Swanson said.

However, when working with other cultures, Swanson explained that Americans should not be there to change others, but to work with them. This means that when working outside of the American culture, Americans must be careful with what they say.

One of the people Swanson worked with said, “If we don’t understand each other, it’s not my fault and it’s not your fault,

it’s our fault.”

In other cultures, community values are put before operational values. If a group cannot work together then work will not get done. This is hard to explain to Americans because in their culture there is no excuse for not working one’s hardest, regardless of whether or not he or she gets along with others in the workplace.

Even though Americans may not understand other cultures, when working with them we must learn to respect them, Swanson said. “Cultural differences that we look at really do matter,” he added.

Swanson mainly focused on the differences between the American culture and the other cultures in Guam. “I thought that [the seminar] was extremely relevant to issues that business majors and communication majors will be facing,” said Leah Torres, sophomore.

Final Panel Topics Are Decided For 2nd Annual NJCA Conference

PRESS RELEASE

WEST LONG BRANCH, NJ – The New Jersey Communication Association announced last week that two groups of Monmouth University students have been selected to participate as both panel moderators and panelists during this years annual conference. The conference theme, “Communication in Action: Opening Doors to Create Change,” was the inspiration for both student groups when they created their respective panel topics.

“Be Practical. Be Professional. Be Experienced: Starting your Career Path through Internships,” was created by students Nicole Andretta, Lauren Rice, Marisa Meiskin, and Adam Slover. This topic was produced to inform students how important practical experience is in a demanding job market. Joining them will be panelists Kathleen Kennedy, Director of Cooperative Education at the University, Adam Slover, student at MU and current PR intern, and Jeff Mass, Director of Career Services at the University. Moderating the group will be Ms. Andretta, Ms. Rice, and Ms. Meiskin.

“Networking and Interviewing,” was created, and will be moderated by students, Alison Nudo, Nicole Levy, Theresa Burek, and Daniela ScottodiRosano. This topic was produced to further educate students on the importance of bettering their interviewing skills, and how networking skills are the foundation for most professional jobs in Communication fields. Joining them will panelists Jennifer Patterson, Social Marketing Manager at Single Throw Internet Marketing, Peter Walifer, Ticket Sales Manager for the Lakewood Blue Claws, and Mary Harris, Public Relations Professor at MU.

As a reminder, the conference will take place on Sat., April 14 at 8:30 am at Monmouth University in Wilson Hall. It is encouraged that all students, professors and faculty attend. All participants and attendees can register at www.njca.rutgers.edu up until the day of the conference.



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Raising More Than Just Awareness

THE OUTLOOK STAFF OPINION

Some people do charity work every day, some do it every week, some do it “when they have the time” and some have only done it in the past- some haven’t done it at all. Those of us that have may do it from the goodness of our hearts while others just do it for resume fluff.

While we can all do something individually, a business or institution can do a lot more by “putting its weight” behind a cause or organization. For example, Starbucks has been noted for its use of ethically-harvested coffee, being proud participants of National Service Month and supporting the GLBTQ community. The company has more attention-grabbing (as well as financial) power than most if not all of its employees combined. As such, we wondered if it is time for MU to step up and do something similar, since the University has made no publicly declared endorsements.

It would be great for the image of the University, saying it would be nice to see the University come out behind one major cause and push for its success. The same member pointed out that multiple causes could be supported at different times, varying the organizations to which support is given.

Though good things are done for some better-known organizations like The American Cancer Society, more could be done in the community. In addition to beach clean-ups and local food pantries, there are likely many different ways for students to help in nearby towns. If such opportunities were made known to the student body then it would be easier to do good deeds in our community. For example, The Big Event is held annually and the University usually sees a decent turnout from the student body. Why not have

supporting these groups should be enough considering that, without the University, those groups would not exist, it could be argued that the University is, in fact, doing enough.

Regardless, Greek organizations are obviously going to do charity work because, if they didn’t, they can be accused of being nothing more than drinking clubs. Attendance at their events is never mandatory and sometimes one frat will boycott another frat’s event. If the University seriously wants their Greek organizations to make a difference then their administration should enforce that events be mandatory for all Greek members.

Given the plethora of causes and charitable organizations, it may be difficult for the University to support any one in particular. Simply having the Volunteering Center in the basement of Anacon shows more charity involvement than many other colleges and universities. Having that resource available is a great start.

While we could argue about whether or not the University should get involved for hours, one thing remains true; the impact and support rallied by official support from Monmouth University can be exponentially greater than what our student organizations can accomplish on campus.

The impact and support rallied by official support from Monmouth University can be exponentially greater than what our student organizations can accomplish on campus.

an event like this each semester as a way to fundraise and help out around the community? Also, this would improve the social image of the University, potentially turning this great school into a well-known and admired name across the country. Periodic emails or flyers throughout campus could be good ways of notifying students that these opportunities exist.

Regardless of what the student body does, the institution itself could be a very powerful supporter if it chose to publicly assist a specific charity. Considering the fact that many clubs and Greek organizations support charities that



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Old Wives’ Tale Proves True for Social Media

VICTORIA JORDAN
STAFF WRITER

I am a public relations major and a part of my future career will consist of monitoring social media sites. Classes and experience have helped me develop remarkably analytical ways of observing things people post. Most of these are big-time corporations, professional athletes, celebrities and other students like me.

I follow blogs and Twitter, and Facebook accounts, mostly for personal entertainment. There are rare occasions when I do not find some kind of humor or interest in what they post. However, what isn’t so funny or intriguing but is actually quite annoying and bothersome are the posts that scream for attention.

Before I begin my spiel, I’d like to mention that I care very little for unnecessary and often unintelligent Facebook, Twitter, and blog posts. I usually find myself “un-friending” and “un-following” these people. I understand if someone is thrilled about their long workout at the gym and the protein shake they had afterwards, but what is the reason to let everyone in your social network of friends aware of this information?

To top it off, they often post a picture of their accomplishment, tagging not only themselves but the shake as well. I’m a health-nut myself, but I find no desire to let everyone on the web know that my workout and choice of food is better than theirs.

Fine, I’ll let it slide for those who find it necessary to post such things for their friends to “retweet” or “like” if this is their motivation to maintain a healthy lifestyle.

However, the posts that really annoy me, and I’m sure many others, are the ones that inten-

have a strong potential of harming someone’s reputation. Want some examples?

“@nameless like she obviously couldn’t have worn a tighter top, at least not in her size #fatgirl-problems.” (1 hour ago)

Posted 3 days ago: “I have to listen to this piece of \$#!% lec-

that again.” (5 likes, 2 comments)

I’ve seen far, far worse written than the examples above, but I am positive that almost everyone has seen something similar to them. Why is it that people are so desperate to share these kinds of vulgar comments online?

The vast majority of us have

ken to in years. It is especially shocking to read these posts if you may be the person someone is writing about.

For the national companies that make big-time bloopers such as these, their consequences are well known by the public. Public relations specialists in crisis management often cover their sorry butts for making the mistake in the first place. Celebrities and professional athletes also face this same issue and also hire their own PR specialist if they cannot handle a crisis properly.

On the other hand, normal people like us must take accountability for what we post on the Internet and then anxiously await for other people to see. We are each our own public relations person and need to treat everything we post as if the whole world can see it.

If you feel the overwhelming need to share something with someone, how about writing it down the old-fashioned way on a sheet of loose-leaf paper to get it off your chest? If you rush ahead and post what you want to say, everyone who can see it will see it; those who can’t eventually will too.

A professor once told me, “If you don’t want your name next to it on the front page of *The New York Times*, don’t write it.” All of us can learn that lesson, and many of us have when we were younger.

Do yourself a favor and remember what mommy used to say: if you don’t have anything nice to say, don’t say it at all.



IMAGE COMPOSED by Victoria Jordan

Social networks are not meant to be outlets for people to treat others badly or vent their problems.

tionally degrade someone or something. I’ve seen countless posts, tweets and pictures that are obviously meant to humiliate, embarrass and aggravate another person.

Even worse are the ones that

ture me in a class I need. Anyone else having no luck? Follow my blog. I rant about it daily.”

Nameless Girl to Other Nameless Girl, 3:49 pm: “tell me how we didn’t get in but the B!%@\$ in front of us did? so not having

cell phones that enable us to vent about situations through a call or a text. Instead, people choose to share their life stories with all of their Facebook friends, Twitter and blog followers, many of whom they may not have spo-

Live Life With Absolutely No Regrets

ANDREA DOOLEY
STAFF WRITER

“Regrets are the natural property of grey hairs,” Charles Dickens once said. What does that mean? The more you regret, the greyer you’ll be? Maybe, but one thing is for sure, everyone regrets something they have done, or didn’t do when they had the chance to. Life is about making choices, and taking chances, and sometimes we don’t do what we wanted in the long run and wish we would have. College is a four year period with a high probability for regret.

When you’ve taken every class you needed to take, and you realize that you’re so close to graduation, and the real world, and that partying on a Tuesday will soon be frowned upon-do you regret anything?

Have these four years at the University been fully taken advantage of? Have you done it all or are there things that you now wish you would have taken the opportunity to do?

There are so many aspects of going away to school. There’s the whole living-on-your-own-without-your-parents thing, which for many takes a lot of adjustment. There’s the option for night classes for those who cannot get out of bed until at least after noon.

There’s the freedom of doing whatever you want, whenever you want, which can be considered a college freshman’s biggest downfall. And then there’s knowing that after this, society expects you to grow up, put on your big kid pants and join the working world.

For those who still have some time left at the University, you are the lucky ones. As seniors, we can’t change the choices we made and the chances we took. We can only learn from them and apply them to the rest of our lives.

I asked seniors what their big-

gest regret was as graduation draws near, and if there was anything they wish they could go back and do differently.

Does commuting prevent you from getting the full college experience? It might. Living close to the University has its perks. You have the ability to meet new people and make new connections, but at the end of the day go home to what’s comfortable and familiar. However, familiarity may have its downside.

For senior communication major

organizations, Greek life, *The Outlook*, WMCX, *The Verge*, Hawk TV, PRSSA, CommWorks and the fall and summer study abroad programs, to not take advantage would be foolish. These opportunities are for the students-to help them grow in their experiences.

“Studying abroad is life changing,” said Kara Hunt, senior. “You learn so much about the way other people in different parts of the world live. You see that there’s so much more to life than what you know living in the Monmouth

during your college career are probably the most important decisions you’ll make in college. The courses you choose determine what degree you will graduate with, which in turn determines what career you will focus on for the rest of your working life. The classes you chose, and when you chose to take them, also determine your length of stay at the University.

The less classes you chose to take per semester, the longer it takes you to complete your aca-

not knowing what you really want to do as far as a career is concerned early on is a regret as well.

Declaring a major, as well as a minor, is a serious decision that should not be taken lightly. Many students change their majors two or three times before they get it right, which causes an obvious delay in an anticipated graduation date.

Some students neglect the option of declaring a minor because at the time it may seem insignificant, but in reality declaring a minor makes you more well-rounded in your knowledge and experience.

Senior Melissa Minio’s biggest regret is not declaring a minor sooner. “If I did, I would have been able to become a marketing minor, which I think would have been more beneficial for me and my career path,” she explained.

Four years fly by. You come in as a freshman and in the blink of an eye you’re a senior with less than a month left until you walk across the stage at PNC Bank Arts Center, receive your diploma and shake President Gaffney’s hand.

College is supposed to be the best four years of your life. Enjoy it while it lasts and take advantage of the many opportunities placed right in front of you.

College, much like life, is about doing your best, having fun and living with no regrets.

For those who still have some time left at the University, you are the lucky ones. As seniors, we can’t change the choices we made and the chances we took. We can only learn from them and apply them to the rest of our lives.

Kayla Inglima, commuting from her home in Freehold for her first two years is her biggest regret.

“Even though I was only 20 minutes from Monmouth, I still missed out on a lot socially. Also, I regret not participating in more events on campus because as I’ve found out from attending as an upperclassman they can be really fun and interesting,” said Inglima.

Adding to the commuter blues, senior Chris Spirito also regretted being a commuter and living at his parent’s house in Ocean all four years.

“[I regret] not getting involved with more organizations. Being a commuter sucks, especially as a freshman, and getting involved would have made me feel a little more connected to Monmouth rather than feeling like I was just going to class,” he said boldly.

The University has a lot to offer its almost 5,000 undergrad students. Between sports teams, club

bubble. I suggest everyone takes advantage of studying abroad,” said Hunt.

The biggest regret Devin Rogan has is not studying abroad. “I think it would have been a fun time and a really great learning experience. It could have also filled some of my requirements and saved me from taking classes that I was not interested in,” he said.

The classes you chose to take

demic audit and graduate. It’s simple logic. For senior Stephanie Ramadan, “My biggest regret is not taking enough credits each semester and now I have to graduate a semester late.”

For some, graduating late may not seem like an issue, and if that’s the case, take your time. Only enroll in the amount of classes you feel you can handle at once. And for others, the indecisiveness of



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The Naked Truth Behind the Strip Search Decision

ALYSSA GRAY
STAFF WRITER

Take a moment to imagine the following: one second you are driving down the road with your wife and son, carefree and content. In the next instant you are being pulled over, arrested for supposedly not paying a fine and strip searched at a correctional facility not just once, but twice. To some, the situation described might seem over exaggerated and farfetched to say the least, but for Albert Florence the situation was all to real.

According to an article released on April 2 in the *New York Times* on in 2005 Florence's wife, who had been operating the vehicle, was pulled over for speeding. As the traffic officer ran through the usual procedure of processing a speeding violation, he had discovered that Florence had failed to pay a fine, which lead to his arrest. After Florence was taken into custody, he was admitted to Essex County Correctional Facility, where he was first strip searched, and then transferred to a Burlington County holding facility where he was searched for a second time.

After Florence's release, it turns out that the fine that had led to his arrest in the first place was, in fact, paid. However, the fact that there was a confusion about the fine wasn't the problem in Florence's eyes, the problem was that he was subject to strip searches for something so minimal

Florence has since sued, claiming that strip searches of those arrested for minor infractions violate the Fourth Amendment, which protects against any kind of unreasonable search and seizure, along with requiring probable cause and a judicially sanctioned warrant; the case

has made its way all the way up to the Supreme Court in a case labeled *Florence v. The Board of Chosen Freeholders*.

On Monday April 2, 2012, the United States Supreme Court, which had been in this debacle for well over five years, was finally able to come to a closing decision, ruling in a five to four vote that officials may strip search arrested individuals, no matter how minor the offense or even if there is no reason to suspect a contraband, prior to their admittance into a jail or correctional holding facility.

As explained by Professor Michele Grillo, Assistant Professor of Criminal Justice at the University, "The United States Supreme Court views the legality of strip searches as an equity issue. If one offender must succumb to strip searches, then all offenders must be searched in the same manner. Otherwise, there is the possibility of "selective" or "profiled" searches, where one offender may be targeted over another for a search.

The other issue considered by the United States Supreme Court was safety. The majority opinion held that strip searches serve two purposes: the safety of the entering offender and the safety of the current inmates. Strip searches prevent drugs and weapons from entering the facility. Therefore, the type of infraction is not sufficient to preclude an offender from a strip search."

But if the whole argument was that strip searches without reason of suspicion go against the Fourth Amendment, then how could the Supreme Court have end up coming to such a decision? Professor Gregory Bordelon, lecturer of political science and pre-law adviser, has a theory as to why the Supreme Court made

the decision that it did. "There was a balancing of interests in the case and certainly Florence's argument was that the nature of the offense does not justify the intrusion of a strip search. However, the Court saw it differently and went with the safety of police officers, other inmates, and institutional concerns espoused by the police department in this particular case. Note though that the case was five to four, so the dissent may make a very strong argument in a future case under a different set of circumstances," says Bordelon.

Bordelon goes on to mention what the addition to the strip search can possibly accomplish. "It does increase the power of the state to the detriment of individuals, but note again that it is not a case that dealt with an investigatory stop or search concerning probable cause or reasonable suspicion. Logistically, if the ideological makeup of the Court changes in the coming years, this case may offer a precedent starting point to further clarify when rights attach vis-a-vis pre-trial detention. Should there be a different standard after booking? What if the arrestee is placed alone versus in the general population? Will these things matter or will the Court simply allow police departments to have the protections of the general rule that Florence set forth? It is an example of courts not wanting to encroach upon the police power, but at five to four, who knows if it can last as precedent?" Bordelon contends.

No matter the reasoning of the Supreme Court, the close cut decision about permitting strip searches without probable cause, or for minor infractions, still has several individuals stating that it is still is an invasion of privacy, including various

students here at the University.

Freshmen Robert Reiner, Tyler Vandegrift and Ryan Mohr all seem to agree that strip searches are an unnecessary invasion of privacy. "We shouldn't have to give up any more of our freedoms for security, because in the end we just might wind up losing both in the process," says Mohr.

On the other hand, freshman Mark Consentino believes that everyone should do some research on the case before they say whether they think that the decision was correct. "The role of the U.S. Supreme Court is to determine constitutionality. State law here in New Jersey, it should be noted, is actually more restrictive than federal in regards to strip-searches. No one is arrested, brought to the police station, made to undergo a strip search. In this case Florence was arrested on a warrant—meaning a judge ordered the trooper to arrest him and bring him to answer the charges of failing to appear in court. If someone cannot post bail, they get run out to county jail. That is where Florence was searched; in jail, not the police station, where New Jersey law restricts these kinds of searches. It is not uncommon for strip-searches (note: these are not cavity searches) to be performed in addition to showers, etc. Whether the arrest is on view, with probable cause, or on a warrant, and for whatever crime or offense, entering a general population of inmates and corrections officers requires the sterile environment be maintained from weapons or contraband. That said, the larger issue of whether people can be strip-searched immediately upon arrest seems to be what people are sounding off on here, and the precedent the case sets will be something to watch," states Consentino.

It appears that it is going to have to be up to the individual though as to whether these searches are constitutional or not. "I personally believe that when a person commits a crime, some rights should be lost as part of the punishment. In today's day and age, we are seeing more crime committed behind bars then ever before. This includes the smuggling of drugs and weapons by newly admitted offenders as well as guards and visitors. Taking this into account, I believe that the United States Supreme Court made the right decision in allowing strip searches, regardless of the severity of the charge. As previously mentioned, it is for the safety of all involved, and it prevents haphazard searches. Hopefully, the ruling will act as a further deterrent to crime, especially misdemeanors in New Jersey," says Grillo.

Meanwhile Vandegrift believes that "It's completely unreasonable because when you are under arrest, you are not always detained with proof of any offense and you are there just for investigative purposes. Although if it is in jail then it is completely constitutional to search the individual because they are now an indigent prisoner. That should be put in black and white though because they have lost their right to freedom and since they are under supervision within the jail then they have also lost their rights to search and seizure."

Everyone values privacy one way or another. It is the sense of solitude and secrecy that allows everyday individuals to go about their lives feeling whole and in control. Not only that, but it also allows a person to maintain their autonomy and distinct aspects of their individuality, which as components to a stable, yet basic, personality make-up.

Honors School Dean Explains Why China Matters

China continues from pg. 1

tank was taken. The death toll was between 400 and 800.

The most influential leader in Chinese history was Mao Zedong. He led the political group, the People's Republic of China, which later turned into the Communist Party of China. The party is still in control today and has over 70 million members. Zedong believed that the peasants were the ones who controlled society. He wrote "The Little Red Book" which describes a classless society in China. Zedong's political ideas came from the likes of Karl Marx and Leninism. Zedong also had the idea that the peasants would topple the upper class and this would allow him to reeducate the masses.

However Zedong met opposition. There were large protests, the largest being held at Beijing University. Since the government controls the press, there is no information critical of the government. Zedong claims that he allowed the protests to happen so that he could discover his enemies.

Eventually Zedong's attempt at reeducation failed and he closed the schools. He arranged a group of youths known as the Red Guard, similar to Hitler's Youth, who started destroying property and killing people. This rash action destroyed the economy.

Following Zedong's death in 1975, a man named Deing Ziao Ping took over. Ping changed the landscape of China's economy. He started to attract foreign investors and companies to do business in China. China's GED rose 19 percent in the 1980s and 1990s.

The present leader of China is Hu Jintao. Under his rule China's growth and employment has made strides but working conditions and wages have not. During the presentation, Dooley showed a video released by "ABC

News" that showed employees that worked for American company, Apple. This video showed an entire metropolis that surrounded an Apple assembling plant where mobs will form in the streets for a chance at a job with the company. The comparison mentioned in the video for an American to join this type of operation was \$23.00

society, particularly non-governmental organizations (NGOs) involved in rights advocacy and public interest issues, and has stepped up attempts to limit freedom of speech and freedom of religion and to control the press, the Internet, and Internet access."

China is one of the biggest contributors to the failing environment

cancer is a leading cause of death among Chinese citizens. "China's continued reliance on coal as a power source has contributed significantly to China's emergence as the world's largest emitter of acid rain-causing sulfur dioxide and greenhouse gases, including carbon dioxide," according to the State Department's website.

conviction; after the collapse of the Soviet Union, democratic capitalism seemed the only game in town."

A *Time Magazine* article done by Eric Liu believes China's competition can be good for the United States. "China's ascent can be great for America. Competition forces us to make more disciplined choices, to activate more fully our creativity and ability to cultivate and elevate talent from anywhere. This is our secret weapon. No one adapts like the United States."

Datta believes that China will be a force in the 21st century. "China's boom is easily felt in China's air - despite some challenges that the country faces, there is much optimism everywhere you go in China, enough to bring home the point that China will be a force to reckon with throughout much of the 21st century.

Dooley also took questions from the audience, most of which asked how the world will be changing when countries such as China, Russia Brazil, South Africa and India begin their rise on the international stage. Dooley said, "The biggest challenge today is the current structure of the Security Council. The current, permanent members are a product of the Cold War and are relics of an age gone by. To assume that Britain and France still possess the power that they once did is somewhat dangerous and to ignore the strength of countries like India and Brazil is naïve. The United Nations needs to be overhauled to better examine the true power relations of states." Don would recommend this presentation to other students at the University. "If they (students) are interested in learning more about China and the inner workings of their government, then yes I would recommend it."



PHOTO COURTESY of Christopher Orlando

Dr. Kevin Dooley gives a presentation to approximately 40 students, faculty and visitors during the Global Understanding Convention..

an hour versus in China they would only receive \$1.78 per hour.

Dooley also addressed how media censorship has led to information being shady. With the government controlling the press, no one criticizes the government on a large scale and leads to an uninformed mass. China has even censored some social media sites such as Facebook from displaying certain information. According to the United States State Department website, "The government has increased its efforts to reign in civil

due to their consumption of energies especially coal. During the 2008 Olympics held in China, the Olympic committee had second thoughts of whether it was safe to hold the Olympics in China due to the poor air quality and smog. Dooley showed a picture of downtown Beijing, where the smog is so bad that skyscrapers are not visible a block away. Angela Don, a freshman English major, stated, "The most interesting part was the picture of the smog." Dooley also mentioned about how, due to these conditions,

Dooley was happy about how the presentation went. "I would hope that everyone understands that the United States is no longer the world's lone economic power and that states like Brazil, Russia, India, China, and South Africa are going to dominate international affairs in the twenty first century," stated Dooley. The article by Kupchan echoes this view. "Since the founding era, the American elite and the public have believed in the universality of their model. The end of the cold war only deepened this

GUC Stuffs Bullying Into a Locker

BRITTANY HARDAKER
STAFF WRITER

Professor Jennifer Shamrock of the Communication Department along with three of her senior students: Kiley Minton, Alexa Passalacqua, and Natalia Starosolsky conducted a presentation entitled “Bullying in America” for the 11th annual Global Understanding Convention on Wednesday, April 4.

Throughout the presentation, Shamrock and her students showed pictures and video clips of children and young teens that have lost their lives to the inescapable realities and pressures of bullying. While bullying continue to grow harsher each year, school administrators throughout the country are failing to put an end to the problem that has plagued America’s youth. As devastated and grief stricken families look for answers, they turn towards current laws and legislations in their home states.

Bullying is forcing kids to stay home from school, some missing a total of one third of their total school days; the problem only gets worse for some, the group’s presentation explained.

For example, one of the main videos that Shamrock and her group focused on was a news report from Anderson Cooper called “Bullied to Death,” that told the story of Asher Brown, a 13-year-old boy from Houston, Texas who ended his life as a result of bullying. When Cooper questioned the boy’s parents, they said, “Asher was picked on for not wearing the same clothes, for his stature, for his Buddhist religion and for being gay.” However, despite Asher’s parents’ complain of their son being bullied, the administrators of Asher’s school denied knowing that the boy was bullied at all.

As a result of school district’s inability to catch bullying in their schools before children and young teens look towards such drastic measures. Many advocacy groups throughout the United States have de-

veloped. For example, Shamrock and her students showed a trailer from the award-winning documentary made the advocacy group Parents Against Violence Everywhere entitled “Rats and Bullies.”

According to their website, those involved in the production of “Rats and Bullies” explain that the movie “Tells the powerful true story of a 14-year-old girl named Dawn Marie Wesley, who after being bullied and threatened with death by three girls at her school, hung herself in her bedroom with her dog’s leash. In the suicide note she left behind, she named the three girls. The tragedy sparked national outrage, fueled a groundbreaking investigation which led to precedent setting court case, where, for the first time in North America, teens were made to stand trial for bullying.”

For many young teens, however, bullying exists far from within the confines of their school. Cyberbullying, according to the National Crime Prevention Council’s website, is the act of using the Internet and related technologies such as instant messaging, email, YouTube, and several social media outlets, to harm others in a deliberate, repeated, and hostile manner.” Cyberbullying has breached the safety of individual’s homes, making it hard for kids to escape. To many, suicide seems like “The only way out,” Shamrock explained.

The presenters offered an example. In 2006, Megan Meier, a young girl from Dardenne Prairie, Missouri, hung herself when a 47-year-old neighboring mother, Lori Drew, made a fake Myspace account in order to find out what Meier thought of her daughter. Drew created an account of a young male under the alias of “Josh,” pretended to be interested and in love with Meier, then told her “You are a bad person and everybody hates you. Have a shitty rest of your life. The world would be a better place without you.” Meier then proceeded to hang herself in her bedroom closet as a result of the cruel messages sent

by “Josh.” Despite the horrors of this story, Drew was only charged with misdemeanors of doing “bad things with a computer,” the group explained. Bullying plagues many of America’s youth and extends not only from young adults to others, but parents as well.

The presenters explained that bullying is cyclical, continuous and that it happens just about everywhere including: School, on the Internet, in the workplace and around the world. According to the American Academy of Child and Adolescent Psychiatry’s website, “Surveys indicate that as many as half of all children are bullied at some time during their school years, and at least 10 percent percent are bullied on a regular basis.” The website further explains that the fourth leading cause of death among 10 to 14-year-olds is suicide as a result of being bullied.

The group continued by telling the stories of those who have been so gravely impacted by bullying. One story was that of Michael Brewer was a 15-year-old from Florida who was set on fire and left to die by bullies. After a two-month stay in a Miami hospital’s intensive care unit, Brewer is still recovering from second- and third-degree burns that cover his entire body.

As a result of such heinous crimes against America’s youth, many states have looked towards advancing, expanding, or creating anti-bullying legislation. According to the group’s presentation, the first state to enact a bullying law was Georgia in 1999. After over a decade, New Jersey created the Anti-Bullying Bill of Rights, named “toughest in the country.” However, many claim that such high regard against bullying is too costly and too demanding. Although, after the recent death of Rutgers student, Tyler Clemente, many are starting to believe that the law should enact anti-bullying requirements for all schools.

As of this year, 45 states have

laws about bullying, the presentation explained. Although both Montana and South Dakota currently have no bullying laws set in place. Perhaps it is because these state legislators have the same ideologies as many Americans do: “Kids will be kids, boys will be boys.” Although bullying has sparked hundreds of movements and advocacy groups throughout the country that work diligently to influence and persuade lawmakers to put an end to bullying once and for all, the crisis continues to loom overhead.

Alexa Passalacqua, one of the presenters of “Bullying in America” and senior communication major commented on the student turn out for this particular presentation. “I think the student turn out for the event was really good. I feel this is a topic that affects a lot of students so some of them might have been able to relate to it,” she said.

Shamrock shared a similar opinion in that she felt pleased with the amount of students that showed up for the event; more than the two presentations she took part in for the Global Understanding Convention. Shamrock was also pleased to see that those that attended were not only students from her classes, but others as well.

According to Shamrock, “Unless people demand that legislators make anti-bullying legislation a priority, not enough necessary policies or laws will be enacted.” However, Shamrock expressed, feature films such as the upcoming documentary film, “*Bully*”, which exposes the realities of bullying on a daily basis in America, and the growing amount of celebrities speaking out about bullying and will hopefully bring publicity and attention that the issue so deserves.

She also explained that the recent implementation of New Jersey’s anti-bullying law sparked her interest in the topic. “Even

if you read just a little about the topic, you’ll discover the large-scale magnitude of the problem,” Shamrock said. However, “Every state must realize that growing numbers in child suicide will be the consequence of not addressing such a vast and growing problem,” Shamrock said.

Passalacqua also offered her outlook on the issue. “We chose this topic for the Global Understanding Convention because it’s an issue that really needs to be brought to America’s attention and solved because no person should have to go through what some of the people in our presentation did such as suicide, being uncomfortable going to school and cutting,” she said. She then expressed her feelings on the current law and legislation that have come to being in our state. “I think New Jersey did a great job with the anti-bullying law and it’s sad but I think the death of Tyler Clemente really brought it to the forefront that a change needs to be made so this stops happening to other kids,” Passalacqua said.

According to another student who attended the presentation, Angelique Vigo, a sophomore Applied Communications major, “Bullying has gone global. It occurs worldwide. More students are standing up against bullying and trying to put an end to it internationally as more people are becoming aware of this global problem.”

Vigo continued by saying, “In my opinion, I feel that the laws passed by the New Jersey legislature against bullying is favorable to all students who were victims and those who may possibly be victims. I feel that such laws should have been in effect much sooner. Those who are running for political office should be more vocal on their views and what they propose to prevent bullying.”

Supreme Court Hears Health Care Bill Arguments

CASEY WOLFE
COPY EDITOR

The pending United States health-care law was taken to the Supreme Court last week. The nine justices heard arguments from the Solicitor General, representing the defense, and Paul Clement, Florida Attorney General, representing the plaintiff.

President Barack Obama’s Health Care Reform Bill, enacted in 2010, intends to aid Americans in obtaining and paying for health insurance. It is expected to expand coverage to 32 million Americans who are currently uninsured, according to *CBS News*. Insurance companies can no longer deny coverage of children based on pre-existing medical conditions. Those here illegally are not eligible to purchase medical coverage, even if they pay fully on their own.

However, the individual mandate states that by 2014 those who do not have medical insurance will be fined an annual fee of \$695. There will only be exceptions made for some low-income people. The debate for the individual mandate was held on Tuesday, March 27. The Solicitor General’s argument for the mandate was weak, believes Dr. Gregory Bordelon, rofessor of political science and pre-law advisor.

“Honestly, the solicitor general did not perform well on Tuesday for the individual mandate argument. He seems to pick it up a little bit with the taxing clause argument and his rebuttal, but that was a hot topic in the news that day and on Wednesday - whether his seemingly slow pace agitated the justices and whether Paul Clement’s forceful advocacy (on behalf of

the state of Florida) will be a factor in the justices’ conference decision,” he said. Bordelon also believes that Clement did well in comparing the health care bill to the case of *McCulloch v. Maryland* in terms of interstate commerce. “Had the federal government in McCulloch forced people to put their money in the then-newly created bank of the United States, you may have had a different situation than what happened in that case.”

and I was telling one of my colleagues that it’ll be more work than any bar exam, any brief, any trial (I think) to have to write a draft that encapsulates the importance of this case - in policy terms, in historical contexts and in my field, in justifying the proper role of interstate commerce clause precedence.” He predicts a five to four decision with varying opinions.

College students are already required by New Jersey state law to

for the Monmouth University Student Health Insurance plan, the premiums have gone up, but so does the quality of the coverage. However, in the next three to four years, as the maximum benefit limits are lifted, the premiums will be several thousand dollars,” said Maloney. “The current premium is \$649. This is an issue for not only four year college students, but two year as well. The community colleges are looking at insurance premiums

election, the President has more to lose if the law gets struck down than the other way around. Given how de-sensitized many voters have become and how much fringe groups of the two major parties tend to exacerbate the “sound byte” effect of politics in this country, the holding (if overturning the healthcare law) could be detrimental to the president,” he states. Bordelon believes the decision to be made in June will be taken eagerly by the presses and exposed to its full potential.

Media plays no small role in politics, and Bordelon provides an example of the “sound byte” effect in the health care case. “The health care cases before the Court have also played out in the media last week when the president seems to criticize the federal courts’ power of judicial review (and some media outlets took that out of context - once again, the “sound byte” effect) and the responding edict by the U.S. Fifth Circuit Court of Appeals in Houston ordering the Justice Department to give a statement on the executive branch’s position on the power of federal courts to review the constitutionality of federal laws.”

The glare of such media exposure often blinds citizens to what’s really happening in any particular case and does not allow time for a case to fully develop before exposing it to the public, believes Bordelon. Such is the case with Obama’s health care law. “I think these back-and-forth playing out in the media take away from the very important work of our real courts, and that work takes time.”

“What this means for students is that they will be required to possess health insurance that meets the federal guidelines. As the quality of the insurance programs increases, so does the insurance premiums. That is why for the Monmouth University Student Health Insurance plan the premiums have gone up, but so does the quality of the coverage.”

KATHY MALONEY
Director of Health Services

This law is expected to be a close and continuous race in terms of approval or denial. Opinions in this case are diverse and controversial, according to Bordelon. “The decision will be close and the opinion-writing will be mammoth,” he said. The significance of this case is outstanding and almost intimidating to approach, believes Bordelon. “My law school alma mater finally has a clerk in the Court this term (for Justice Clarence Thomas),

have some form of health care, according to Kathy Maloney, Director of Health Services. The new health care law would dictate the amount of coverage college students’ need, which is becoming more and more costly. “What this means for students is that they will be required to possess health insurance that meets the federal guidelines. As the quality of the insurance programs increases, so does the insurance premiums. That is why,

in excess of the student’s tuition”

First-year student Shannon Yingst expresses concern as well over the increasing insurance rates. “It’s worrisome that when I graduate I’ll have to pay so much for healthcare on top of college debt,” said Yingst.

As for Obama, the publicity of this law and whether or not it is passed will be imperative to the outcome of his chance at reelection, said Bordelon. “As to the November

Wear the Rainbow

BRITTANY HERRMANN
STAFF WRITER

Neon colors are making a notable appearance in men's and women's spring fashion. From gym wear to weekend clothes and everything in between, the neon color trend is becoming a popular style among students at the University.

T-shirts, jackets, sneakers, dresses, nails, purses you name it, it's neon. But what has inspired this retro 80's trend to take over campus in full force? It may be more than the expected incentive from the runway.

Tom Gliozzo, a senior, believes, "Events, such as Barstool and Day Glow, have been the forefront for the neon trend."

Gliozzo thinks these house-music infused events which many University students attend in neon apparel have spilled over into everyday life. Neon styles are being displayed on and off campus rather than just at an event where the trend is expected to be worn.

A University employee at Einstein Bros Bagels, Tiffany Ivory, has also noticed the neon trend among students.

"I notice the style in both men and women," said Ivory. "I tend to see a lot of neon athletic clothes." Neon colors are not only taking over men's and women's casual style, but the colors are becoming a dominant trend within athletic apparel.

Popular athletic brands such as Nike, Under Armour and Adidas have all jumped at the opportunity

to capitalize on the consumer interest in the neon color trend. Everything from sneakers to gym bags are now being designed with neon colors.

Though relatively new, the neon color trend is predicted to have a longer life span than the average fashion trend due to its versatility. In the past, many fashion trends were short lived because they concentrated on particular pieces from high end designers, limiting the accessibility of the items to the general public.

A longer lifespan is predicted for the neon trend because the style is fun, easy to incorporate and most importantly, cheap.

Keeping up with the latest trends on a college student's budget is very hard. As fashion changes rapidly, it seems as if bank accounts dwindle simultaneously. However, the neon color trend is extremely affordable!

"If head-to-toe electrified color isn't your thing, we've got a great way to test out the look on the cheap," said fashion blogger, Tracey Lomrantz, of Glamour.com.

In a recent article on the neon trend, Lomrantz believes the best way to try the neon trend out without making a commitment is with accessories. "Pair neon accessories with a nude dress (for women) or a white T-shirt (for both, men and women), and jeans for maximum impact with minimal investment," said Lomrantz.

While the trend can be purchased at just about any retail store, there

are limitations depending on everyone's personal budget. Popular clothing stores such as Forever 21 and H&M, have various neon pieces for women and men at very affordable prices.

Typically speaking, women have the flexibility to either embrace numerous colors within their outfits or keep it simple with one or two accents of color. For the men, it is best to stick with just a few key pieces, such as a shirt or shoes, to rock the trend without going overboard.

Looking to embrace the trend by spending even less than the price of a shirt? Unfortunately guys, your best bet is to simply stick with clothing, but there are still numerous options for women.

Neon can also be found in the beauty section of your local drug store. A great way to incorporate the neon trend on a low budget is with your nails or hair accessories. These two areas are definitely affordable, while still managing to make your outfits vibrant and trendy. One fashion trend in particular has merged quite well with the neon color trend: Color blocking.

Though this has been hitting runways for the past few seasons, it is reviving itself now that bright, exciting colors are coming into play.

This trend is self explanatory; it refers to the process of selecting "blocks" of color together within one outfit. It typically begins with selecting one bold, solid piece of clothing, then continuing to mix, match or clash the rest of your pieces.

es.

These pieces include shirts, shoes, pants and jackets, finished off with accessories.

Similar to the concept of the neon trend, the user can choose to be as bold or as subtle with the look as they would like to be. However, it is recommended that over four solid colors or patterns within a single outfit is excessive.

Since we are in the process of welcoming the warm weather, the combined trends are morphing to fit right along with the spring and summer color styles as the sun makes more and more appearances. Selecting a newly purchased, bright neon piece is a great way to begin to build an outfit around and experiment with both, the neon trend and color blocking trend.

Need an extra incentive or some inspiration? Popular stars such as Nicole Richie, Rihanna and even the



PHOTO COURTESY of Brittany Herrmann

Students everywhere can be found wearing these brightly colored clothes, even when going to the gym.

first lady Michelle Obama have been spotted rocking the color blocking trend with vibrant colors!

Whether your budget leads you to the drug store, mall, or a local boutique, what are you waiting for? Pick up your neon pieces and join the trend.

April is Now Parkinson's Disease Awareness Month

SLOANE CORAN
STAFF WRITER

On March 30, 2012, the U.S. Senate declared April Parkinson's Disease Awareness Month. According to the Parkinson's Disease Foundation website, as many as one million individuals in the U.S. live with Parkinson's disease.

While approximately four percent of people with the disease are diagnosed before the age of 50, incidence increases with age. It is a chronic, degenerative neurological disorder that affects one in 100 people over age 60. While the average age at onset is 60, people have been diagnosed

as young as 18.

For Kathy Maloney, the Director of Health Services, this disease hits close to home, as her father battled the disease and ultimately passed away from. She mentions that while there is currently no cure for the disease, there is treatment.

One of the key developments is the deep brain stimulation surgery in which a neurosurgeon implants electrodes into the brain. These electrodes are connected to an implantable device that is placed under the skin on the chest. The device, an electronic stimulator, sends electrical impulses to the brain to help ease the symptoms of tremor.

The procedure can be done on one side or both sides of the brain depending upon which side(s) of the body is most affected. This is a treatment, not a cure.

Maloney states that the disease is the second most common neurodegenerative disease affecting older adults.

According to the Mayo Clinic, the symptoms of the disease can vary from person to person. Early signs may be subtle and can go unnoticed. Symptoms typically begin on one side of the body and usually remain worse on that side even after symptoms begin to affect both sides. The signs and symptoms may include tremor, the characteristic shaking associated with the disease often begins in the hands.

Symptoms such as loss of automatic movements like blinking, smiling and swinging your arms when you walk are all unconscious acts that are a normal part of being human. This tends to be diminished and even lost in people suffering from Parkinson's. This may make even the simplest tasks difficult and time-consuming. When you walk, your steps may become short and shuffling, or your feet may freeze to the floor, making it hard to take the first step.

Others may no longer gesture or seem animated when they speak and lastly, their speech changes. For example, you may speak more softly, rapidly or in a monotone, sometimes slurring or repeating words, or hesitating before speaking.

My grandfather was diagnosed with this disease in the early 90's. My family and I were committed to learning everything we could about the disease and what we could do to help. At the

beginning my grandfather would have tremors in his hands, but as time progressed, his symptoms became worse.

Towards the end of his battle with the disease, became more difficult to execute, like brushing your teeth or washing your face.

I was in high school when he was ill and unlike other teenagers spending time at the mall, I was at Princeton Hospital along with my family spending as much time as we could with him, tending to his every need. I didn't have to do any of this, I simply wanted to.

Finding words to express exactly how important the disease is to me, is perhaps just as hard as finding a way to convey just how much my grandfather means to me. Even though my grandfather passed away in 1998, it might seem like such a long time ago to some, but to me as cliché as it sounds, it feels like yesterday. When a loved one passes, that wound never heals and it doesn't get easier, it becomes harder. Every accomplishment and milestone surpassed is followed by the thought of "I really wish I could share this with him." And perhaps the worst part of it all was not having him there on my wedding day. As my thoughts transfer to words on paper, that wound that on some days seems to have healed becomes fresh again. It seems so final, so definite.

While in and out of the hospital, my grandfather was a favorite of all the nurses and considered the perfect patient, never once wincing at the site of a needle or murmuring any words of complaint. As each season came and went, my grandfathers optimism never wavered. As his gravestone so undeniably states, he truly was "A Man For All Seasons."

Turning your grief into a positive experience can be fulfilling and cathartic at the same time. Making a difference by volun-

teering with an associated organization can make you feel as if in your own special way, you are keeping that person's memory alive.

The Michael J. Fox Foundation is a great supportive group that helps to fund research. Also, fashion designer Tory Burch believes in supporting the foundation with her "Shop for a Cause campaign. Select items are featured and 20 percent of your order goes directly to the Michael J. Fox Foundation for the month of April. Learn more at toryburch.com.

The Parkinson's Disease Foundation's website has information on ways you can become involved with this incredible organization. For example, every year in Central Park, The Parkinson's Unity Walk (PUW) is held for those who are either directly or indirectly affected by the disease. This year, the walk will be held, rain or shine on April 28. PUW is a grassroots organization that hosts the Parkinson's community for a one-mile walk which increases awareness and raises funds for PD research. Participants can join in New York City or view the video highlights online.

The walk is a 1.4 mile walk, a program with speeches from the Walk's sponsors and representatives from the seven major U.S. Parkinson's disease foundations and information booths and 100 percent of donations go directly to Parkinson's disease research.

I approach one step closer to graduation this May, I can't help but find it ironic that each graduate receives five tickets for the ceremony. Four of mine will be used, leaving me with one extra. That extra ticket should have been my grandfather's.

It will be to look back at my family and not see his face with a smile from ear to ear watching his only granddaughter graduate, I can't help but fight back tears thinking of what could have been.



PHOTO COURTESY of Sloane Coran

Parkinson's disease is diagnosed in more than 5,000 people a year, according to webmd.com. Coran's grandfather, Maxwell, was one many afflicted with the disease.

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Turning Tragedy Into Positivity

Linda Mussara, Supervisor at Einstein's Bagels, Discusses 'Relay' Motivation

MICHELLE CALLAS
STAFF WRITER

One woman in the University community found hope after heartbreak. Having survived cancer, suffering the loss of her beloved husband and caring for her sick mother, Linda Mussara, supervisor at Einstein's Bagels, turned her grief into something positive.

For the last five years, this strong woman has put her energy into the Desperate Mama's Relay for Life team and turned her pain into motivation to help others. Mussara's husband Joe suddenly passed away eight years ago from glandular cancer. Enjoying five years of marriage together, he was diagnosed on January 14, and after unsuccessful cancer treatments, died exactly three months later.

"That really put Relay at the front of my brain to say we've got to do something here," his widow said. "If we can save one life it's worth it."

Mussara is one of many who have been saved from cancer. She fought her own battle against throat cancer 15 years ago. "I spent a summer getting radiated five days a week for 12 weeks," she said. "They never tell you what the radiation is going to do to you later on down the road." Relative five-year survival rates for nasopharyngeal cancer are 72 percent when diagnosed at stage one, as Mussara was, according to the American Cancer Society's website.

A woman whose eyes light up behind her gold-rimmed glasses when she smiles under her shoulder-length red hair shared how she first got involved in Relay for Life. Eight-years-ago, Mussara first participated in the event at Freehold and attended a couple of survivor luncheons. She spoke fondly of Barbara Rogers, who passed away from stomach cancer in 2007 and also lost her husband to cancer. Mussara invited her along to Relay for Life the year Rogers' husband died. Rogers was an English professor at Monmouth from 1999 to 2006 and retired as an adjunct. "It was such a moving experience for her, to see what it was all about," Mussara said.

On January 17 of this year, Mussara underwent surgery to replace her carotid artery, which feeds blood to the brain, and had deteriorated due to the radiation treatment. Two weeks following that surgery, her appendix had burst and she underwent an appendectomy. One week later, she was back at Einstein's keeping her spirits up and serving the customers enthusiastically.

As supervisor of the bagel shop for the past seven years, Mussara greets many of her customers by name. Her favorite part of the job is the students. "I'm like their mom-away-from-home," she said. They share more than just their bagel order with the outgoing redhead. "You become like a family over there," Mussara added. She knows who is dating whom and what is happening in the kid's lives.

Trish Bartlett has worked with Mussara at Einstein's since September and spoke about her motherly ways. "She'll take care of you," she said. "She's so great with all the students."

Mussara enjoys her job at the University where she has worked for 15 years. Before Einstein's opened seven years ago, she worked for Aramark in the



PHOTO COURTESY of Michelle Callas

Linda Mussara sees working at Einstein's as something that keeps her grounded throughout the stresses in her daily life, which includes taking care of her mother, who is struggling with Alzheimer's Disease.

Student Center. Being around young people and the energetic atmosphere is an escape from her difficulties at home. It gets her through the tough days. "The first kid that walks in is really nice to you, it puts you in a better head and you just go with it," she said.

After hustling to feed students and get them off to class on time, Mussara goes home to care for her mother, who is in the end stages of Alzheimer's disease. This illness is a neurological disorder where brain cells degenerate and die, according to the Mayo Clinic website. The disease causes dementia, loss of intellectual and social skills, and a decline in memory and mental function. It is progressive and has no cure.

"My mom doesn't really speak too much anymore," Mussara said. "I actually think that's why I enjoy being here so much, because this is a great escape for

ber of the Desperate Mama's Relay for Life team. "When I think I might be having a bad day, I think about what Mussara's day is," she said. "She leaves here and is caring for her mother every single day."

Simoes, who also helps her parents manage their healthcare, understands that the difficulties and responsibilities go beyond the daily needs. Dealing with Medicare, finances and pharmaceutical companies are all part of the job. "Health care is a huge thing," she said. "Mussara and I talk about that a lot." Mussara needs to hire a home-health aid for her mother just to get a night out with her boyfriend, Artie Woods, who is a HVAC technician at the University.

The two friends helped the Desperate Mama's beat their goal of raising \$2,000 for Relay for Life. As of April 4, the team raised \$4,479.99 and has the highest amount of donations at

the Multipurpose Activity Center. The survivor dinner begins at 5:00 pm and the opening ceremony begins at 7:00 pm.

Relay for Life participants stay overnight and have someone from each team walking the track through the entire event. Staying up all night is a representation of the slogan "Because cancer never sleeps," according to the ACS website. Each year, 3.5 million people participate in Relay for Life with an additional 5,000 communities internationally.

Money raised goes to support Hope Lodge, which is housing for patients, their families and caregivers when they need treatment far from home. It also funds programs that assist with driving patients to appointments, having a cosmetologist help women cope with changes in their skin and hair, breast cancer support groups and college scholarship opportunities for cancer survi-

about the first time she was interviewed several years ago about her experience. Mussara shared the story about how the girls she spoke to was moved to tears from hearing about her loss. The pain of the past emanated around her as she choked up thinking back to when she lost Joe. A professor, whose name she could not recall, approached her one day, gave her a hug and thanked her for giving the girls an epiphany and helping them understand the deep meaning of what Relay for Life can do.

"Her positive attitude is amazing to me for all the stuff that she's gone through with her own situation, [and] her family situation," her co-worker, Bartlett, said.

Working at Einstein's and seeing about 300 students a day helps to keep the busy caretaker grounded. "[It] takes all that and puts it somewhere else for the day," she said. Even though she spends her day preparing food and nights caring for her mom, she still makes time for herself. "You have to make sure that you take care of yourself," Mussara said. "[It] makes all the stuff that you have to do a little easier."

This summer, Mussara and Artie are planning a ride in a hot-air balloon. She has always wanted to skydive but has yet to experience it. At least this trip will get her floating among the clouds.

Her strength to endure difficulty and positive attitude shines a bright light on those around her. "There's always obstacles and struggles in everybody's life, it's how you deal with them," Mussara said with determination. "You can't let it get you down, you gotta survive."

"There's always obstacles and struggles in everybody's life, it's how you deal with them... You can't let it get you down, you gotta survive."

LINDA MUSSARA
Supervisor of Einstein's Bagels

me." During the day, her father takes care of her mom and Mussara takes over in the evening. It is heartbreaking and stressful as she struggles to get her mother to eat. "She's forgetting how to open her mouth," she said with concern in her voice.

Kristine Simoes, communication professor, built a friendship with Mussara and is also a mem-

ber of the Desperate Mama's Relay for Life team. "When I think I might be having a bad day, I think about what Mussara's day is," she said. "She leaves here and is caring for her mother every single day."

Simoes, who also helps her parents manage their healthcare, understands that the difficulties and responsibilities go beyond the daily needs. Dealing with Medicare, finances and pharmaceutical companies are all part of the job. "Health care is a huge thing," she said. "Mussara and I talk about that a lot." Mussara needs to hire a home-health aid for her mother just to get a night out with her boyfriend, Artie Woods, who is a HVAC technician at the University.

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Overcoming the Obstacle of Writer’s Block

TAMMY SYBEL
STAFF WRITER

The vertical flashing black line in Microsoft Word is staring you down and reminding you just how little you have written thus far. Writer’s block can be downright demoralizing if you have an assignment due. Whether it is from distraction or procrastination, or your mind is at a standstill, writer’s block is frustrating when it refuses to relent. What is it that causes this bothersome problem and how can it be defeated if someone is stuck at a crossroads?

Writing involves many components that differ for individuals, ranging from purpose to mood to motivation. When something is missing from this mixture, writing can be impossible and panic can ensue.

“I think writer’s block is caused by lack of inspiration sometimes. Other times I think it’s stress-related,” Nicole Massabrook, a sophomore writing assistant for the Writing Center said. Sometimes without that little “click” going off in one’s brain, words fail to materialize, which leads to even more worry about not being able to write. Massabrook continued, “Even with homework, sometimes you’re just stressed by the fact that it’s due soon and you have a million other things to do that you can only focus on the fact that it needs to get done instead of how you’re actually going to do it.”

Dr. Heather Brown, assistant professor of English, said that when people talk about writer’s block, what they are really talking about is writing anxiety. “I firmly believe that a major cause of writing anxiety is the idea that one has to wait for inspiration to strike. Inspiration is great when you can get it, but it

is even more important that you get your butt in the chair, open a blank document and just start typing. The best way to cure writer’s block is to write,” Brown said.

“Writer’s block takes two forms with me. Generally, we’re talking about, for lack of a better term, literary constipation. As a journalist, writer’s block can’t exist,” said John Morano, professor of journalism and author of *The Morano Eco-Adventure Books Series*.

Brown brings up an interesting point when she said that the people who say that they work better under pressure are actually missing out on what their writing could be. “I’ve heard many people say this, and I used to be one of them, that they write better under pressure. The people who say this are missing an even more crucial ingredient than inspiration: time. If you don’t give yourself time to write, then your anxiety will get the better of you, eat up your time, make you even more anxious, and your writer’s block will get worse,” Brown said.

Laura Migliore, a student and writing assistant at the Writing Center, said that one cause of writer’s block could be from a misunderstanding of what needs to be done. “If you do not understand exactly what an assignment is asking for, what argument you want to make, or what ideas you want to present, you can end up staring at the computer for hours,” she said. Not believing in one’s own writing and doubting oneself can also be a cause for writing to come to a rushing halt. “Another cause for writer’s block is feeling self-conscious about your writing. Believing that you are not a good enough writer, will always make it more difficult to write. You will simply be psyching yourself out before you even attempt to begin

writing your paper,” Migliore said.

Brown, on a similar brainwave, echoed some of the same things. She said, “You may write poetry with ease but freeze up when you have to write a persuasive essay. If we’re uncomfortable with the writing situation, then it’s even harder to get motivated to tackle that anxiety and start writing.”

Writer’s block can strike at any time and most likely will at the most inconvenient of times. Many have given recommendations and tips on different ways to overcome this temporary setback of writer’s block, sometimes working and sometimes not. Many have been plagued with writer’s block for years and along the way some have offered more insight into the dilemma. Massabrook said, “A high school teacher of mine taught me a writer’s block exercise. Start writing a stream of consciousness, just ‘I have writer’s block’ over and over. Then you’ll start thinking about why you have writer’s block or maybe even just why you hate writer’s block and you write that down too.”

Mary Harris, communication professor, said, “Writers of any sort can try to talk out the ideas aloud until their ideas become more clear. Also, people can try some free-writing exercises, and through this process, let go of any negative self-talk about one’s creative work. Just let the process happen and see if any new ideas are formulated from there.”

“The easiest way to conquer it, I find, is to try and say the story. Tell it to someone. I usually tell it to my dog, Max (he’s a great listener and has stellar literary judgment). Just by speaking the story, you’re actually creating a draft. I can tell Max the story several times, making adjustments along the way. If you can say



IMAGE TAKEN from wordsmithbob.com

Writer’s block has many causes, including stress from procrastination and lack of interest in the topic at hand.

the words, you can write the words,” Morano said.

Some people say working together to brainstorm can be beneficial to the overall product of an assignment. Migliore said, “Talking out the assignment with someone else can also help, and while you do, it might be beneficial to jot down whatever thoughts or ideas you may have as a result.”

“Talk to a faculty, friend or Writing Center tutor. Writing is social as well as solitary, and conversation can stimulate thought, which motivates writing,” Brown said. Brown also suggested to set goals for oneself, whether it be a word count deadline, like 500 words a day, or giving oneself rewards along the way to completing something. “Read other writers who write about writing. I go back to this one again and again because it comforts me to know that even the most accomplished writers have to set aside anxiety before they can get to work,” Brown said.

Migliore said that if everything else fails, just write. “Do not try to make your paper turn-in ready, it may not even make much sense, but many times this is how you will develop your best ideas,” she said.

So if that document is still waiting untouched reminding you just how little you have gotten done, step away. Take your mind off of it and think about something else. All of the best writers have entered the writer’s block no man’s land at least a few times in their lives and they have gotten over it. It just takes perseverance and patience to develop the thoughts and ideas to push past the momentary delay in the brain. Brown said it nicely, “With few exceptions, nothing worth reading has ever been written in one sitting.” Just start tapping away, who knows what it is that you can come up with- maybe the next great thing. You never know.



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Students Discuss the Ocean "Here, There, Then, Now"

NICOLE MASSABROOK
STAFF WRITER

"Here, There, Then, Now," a performance presented by students as a part of the Global Understanding Convention and the ART NOW: Performance, Art and Technology series, took place on April 5 in the 600 building courtyard. The outdoor setting was an appropriate venue for a presentation since it was all about the ocean.

The University has a special connection with the ocean, and for some, this is its best aspect while others despise it. That is why Professor Deanna Shoemaker's Performance and Social Activism class centered their performance on the sea.

The students were required to write their own short stories about the ocean as well as interview five other individuals about what their feelings were on the ocean.

In the actual performance, students came out chanting "Here, there, then, now" and recited a Lucille Clifton poem, "The Mississippi River Enters the Gulf." The poem details how many only think of the present, ignoring all that came before and will come after.

Dahlia Elsayed, professor of Art and Design and one of the individuals behind ART NOW, said, "We all go to the ocean and leave a mark and the waves come and destroy it."

Afterwards, they all said their short stories about their thoughts on the ocean that included embarrassing or scary

experiences. Some, like junior Henry Siebecker, had epiphanies when it came to discussing the presence of the sea. Siebecker said, "I come out of my apartment every day and I see the ocean and I realize how small I am in comparison."

Meanwhile, others related their stories to the University itself. "The beach is a part of me. It has been there throughout my whole life, so it makes sense that I would find my way here to Monmouth."

"The beach is a part of me. It has been there throughout my whole life, so it makes sense that I would find my way here to Monmouth."

VALERIE ANZOVINO
Sophomore

[...]This is where I'm at home," said sophomore Valerie Anzovino.

The students then followed up their performances by going up to audience members. They told onlookers various thoughts about the ocean from other people these students had interviewed.

Once again, the thoughts on the sea ranged from dangerous to magical and the interviewees ranged in age from elementary school students to senior citizen.

The presentation continued as performers then gave audience members chalk. The audience

was asked to write an adjective to describe the ocean either on the cobblestone in the blue chalk swirls, sketched out earlier, or the ribbons of the standing banners that were painted ocean blue. While audience members took a little bit of coaxing, they did indeed participate and adjectives like "chill," "vast," and "magical" sprinkled the ground.

Shoemaker said, "We've been talking about reclaiming public spaces." The chalk is supposed to represent the idea of participants taking back that space. At the same time, much like a sandcastle, the chalk will eventually be washed away by nature.

The audience seemed to enjoy the performance with sophomore Angelique Vigo saying, "I thought it was well rehearsed, and some parts of the water they described I didn't really think about. By the stories that they told, you could tell that the water is a part of them."

Junior Jessie Tracey said, "They were on point with all their speeches. I thought it was cool how they all did it like [consecutively]. One of them went out, while the others stayed back."



PHOTOS COURTESY of Nicole Massabrook

"Here, There, Then, Now" (top) had students from a Performance and Social Activism class discuss their thoughts on the ocean as part of the Global Understanding Convention. Chalk was distributed to performers and onlookers as they wrote down their personal thoughts on the sea (bottom).

The Global Understanding Convention might be over, but ART NOW is still continuing. Go to http://www.monmouth.edu/arts_events/artnowseries.asp to see what is coming soon.

The Material Girl Hasn't Lost Her Pop Sound

ALEX FILLIMON
STAFF WRITER

Super Bowl XLVI was the last time that I have seen Madonna perform live, bringing back a sense of nostalgia for all her fans.

On her Facebook page, she updated her status on December 17, 2010 which stated, "Its official! I need to move. I need to sweat. I need to make new music! Music I can dance to. I'm on the lookout for the maddest, sickest, most bad a** people to collaborate with. I'm just saying..."

The Facebook update had fans looking forward to her newest album, *MDNA*, which was released on March 23.

When I was growing up in the 90's, Madonna was a music icon. Her hit songs such as "Like a Virgin," "Papa Don't Preach" and "Vogue" were heard on the radio and TV all the time.

Leading up to today, she has had a successful music and acting career. With the release of *MDNA*, Madonna is once again the talk of the year.

"Give Me All Your Luvin," featuring Nicki Minaj, became the first hit single for *MDNA*. Those who watched the Super Bowl had a chance to watch her perform it live during the halftime show with Minaj.

Even though this song had a catchy melody, the lyrics were too repetitive and cheesy for me. The first two lines of the song, "L-U-V Madonna Y-O-U Madonna," made me feel like I was listening to a high school cheerleader team.

During the halftime show, I guess that the song was appropriate for the game, but I still wasn't a fan after hearing it.

Minaj gives the song a certain type of edge with her constant flow of lyrics that contrasts the pop, re-

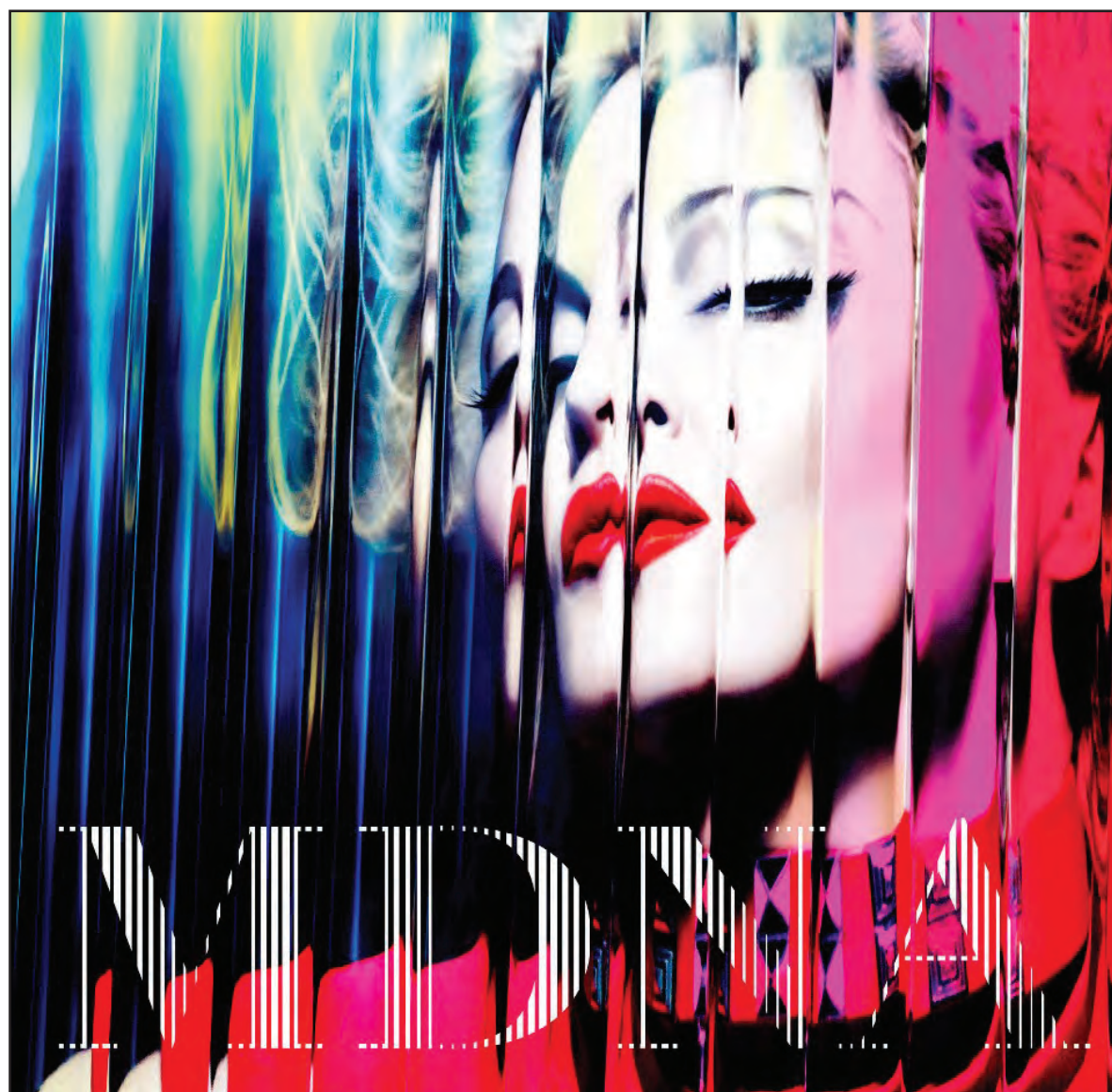


IMAGE TAKEN from additiontolife.com

Madonna shows she isn't done creating new music with her latest album, *MDNA*. Some songs worth listening to include the soulful, "Masterpiece," and the techno-pop piece, "Girl Gone Wild."

laxed feel that "Give Me All Your Luvin" has. Whenever Minaj is featured in a song, she always has a verse or two that she recites at a

rapid pace. This change added some diversity to the song, which really improved it.

Another single that grabbed my

attention was "Girl Gone Wild." Unlike "Give Me All Your Luvin," this song had a more techno vibe than pop. Even though "Girl Gone Wild"

has strong similarities to other mainstream artists such as Britney Spears and Lady Gaga, the song still has some elements that doesn't stray far from Madonna's other songs. Despite the similarities, it's a song that you could definitely dance to all night long.

"Masterpiece" is another single from the album that is worth mentioning. This pop ballad has some of the most beautiful lyrics that I have ever heard in a song. It seems that Madonna is comparing the "Mona Lisa" with someone she is in love with.

The verse, "If you were the 'Mona Lisa,' You'd be hanging in the Louvre, Everyone would come to see you, You'd be impossible to move," really reinforces that comparison.

Not only are the lyrics great, but the music itself gives out a calm, romantic feel to it. The gentle instrumentation makes this pop ballad worth listening to.

Even though the lyrics make this song seem kind of depressing, I felt that it calmed me down while I was listening to it. Whenever I feel the need to relax, I can just listen to this "Masterpiece."

Not only is the album available on iTunes, but there is an exclusive album that was announced by Smirnoff vodka on their Facebook page titled *MDNA Nightlife Edition*. It contains seven tracks from the album as well as an exclusive remix of "Masterpiece," four remixes of "Give Me All Your Luvin," and two remixes of "Turn Up The Radio" (another single from *MDNA*).

MDNA is an album that is worth purchasing. These new set of songs demonstrates how Madonna is still the legendary star that people throughout the world recognize her as. I'm sure she will still continue to make great music in the future.

Provost Film Series Struggles With Life Under the Bombs

KEVIN HOLTON
COPY EDITOR

As part of the Global Understanding Convention, the final film in this year's Provost Film Series, *Under the Bombs*, was screened on April 5 in Pollak Theatre.

The evening included speakers Thomas Pearson, Provost and Vice President of Academic Affairs, Az-zam Elayan, professor of chemistry, and Saliba Sarsar, professor of political science.

The movie was set during Israel's brief but devastating attack against Lebanon during 2006. Here, hundreds of air raids, as well as other bombings, took place, killing thousands of civilians. This film focused on the fictional narrative of one woman, named Zeina Nasrueddi (Nada Abou Farhat), as she attempted to find her sister Maha and son Karim.

Pearson was very concerned with the social and political issues that created the situation in Lebanon. "I chose the film *Under the Bombs* because of the issues involving Christians and Muslims in the Middle East. I wanted a film reflecting those cultural interactions and collisions."

It is difficult to find a movie that is simultaneously enjoyable and enlightening. Films like *Under the Bombs*, which are sometimes called docu-dramas for combining elements of fiction and documentaries, can have difficulty being judged as a quality movie because either the fiction doesn't always blend well with the drama or such a film is written with too much focus on the documentary, leaving the fiction bland and tasteless. The viewer of a docu-drama may often think the film is boring or "tolerable at best."

Let me put this in the most direct manner possible: *Under the Bombs* was fantastic.

Foremost, director Philippe Aractingi was both adventurous and extremely intelligent. He brought attention to the war and invoked the viewer's empathy by showing scenes of actual bombings, refugee stations, wounded or dying people and the raw carnage of Lebanon. Having ventured out into the war zone to capture such footage, he put his life at risk to capture the real attacks against his people.

This footage was incorporated during the entire film, showing the audience that the presence of the military was a constant reminder that Zeida and her taxi driver, Tony (George Khabbaz), could be killed at any moment. The director later had Farhat as Zeida speak with tourists and journalists as though her son was real. Many of the people she spoke to were never informed that the child did not exist, so their reactions were completely genuine. Everything



IMAGE TAKEN from filmmovement.com
The Provost Film Series concluded this year's program with the docu-drama, *Under the Bombs*.

from what those people said to the pain in their facial expression was improvised and real.

This brings up another point as the acting was so great that at times I forgot that what I was watching was primarily fiction. Farhat played the panic-stricken mother so well that the viewers were on the edge of their seat from the beginning of the movie. Halfway through the movie, she receives tragic news and bursts into tears, overwhelmed by grief. Her voice, face and mannerisms were so accurate that it was difficult to believe it was just acting.

Khabbaz, who plays Tony, was equally believable, though he played a polar opposite. The charismatic cabdriver convinced the audience to fall in love with the antics he went through to prevent Zieda from breaking down or losing hope.

As the movie progressed, it became clear that his humorous demeanor was meant to mask his own fears and doubts. While he originally regarded Zieda as little more than another customer, he came to identify with her through these shared vulnerabilities, sacrificing his time and money to aid her.

The acting was superb and the di-

recting was top-notch, but the best part was how well *Under the Bombs* captured the fear, pain and adversity the Lebanese were subjected to during this attack. Empathy overwhelmed the viewers as the camera showed real children crying for their parents during the air raids. As bombs leveled schools and tore open homes, one can't help but think, "That could've been my home." While, of course, we do not live in Lebanon, the message is clear: The homes there function like homes in America do; the schools educate as ours do; the people scream, cry and suffer like we do.

This point lingers throughout the movie. As the camera looks over ruined buildings, burning signs and hundreds of deceased or displaced citizens, the viewer comes to realize whether in war or peace we are all alike.

Rather than show aspects of Lebanese culture or society, it shows the nature of fear, using the viewer's inherent desire for peace and safety to allow us to identify with the Lebanese society.

Under the Bombs was one of the most enlightening and poignant cinematic experiences of my life. The juxtaposition of the quest to find a missing child against the absolute carnage of war created an incredibly moving film.

The screening ended with a question and answer session with Sarsar and Elayan. They took the time to point out the potential for violence that future wars could bring and how this film is just one example of why we must strive for peace. "What we saw is Sunday school compared to what will happen if Israel were to attack Iran," said Sarsar.

The last thing by Elayan, as well as the last thing said during the presentation, was also the most powerful. "I hope all conflicts are someday resolved by the power of reason rather than for the reason of power."

These Short Stories Are a Real 'Knock' Out

DAN STE. MARIE
STAFF WRITER

Critically renowned Israeli author Etgar Keret released another collection of short stories titled "Suddenly, a Knock at the Door" that fans will laud over for weeks. This is the fifth collection of short stories released in the United States by Keret, translated from Hebrew, and shows that even the most overused cliché can open a door to a world full of possibilities and strange people that make a story unique and life-like.

Keret has been publishing short stories since 1992, co-authoring some graphic novels released in Israel and working for the Israel film and television industry. Keret didn't gain world recognition until 2004 when a collection of short stories ("The Bus Driver Who Wanted to be God and Other Short Stories") was released in the U.S. Now his stories can be found in *The New Yorker*, *The New York Times* and featured on NPR's "This American Life." His stories have also been portrayed in graphic novels and his novella "Kneller's Happy Campers," which was adapted into the independent movie, *Wristcutters: A Love Story* starring Patrick Fugit and Tom Waits (it premiered at the Sundance Film Festival). Keret has won prestigious writing awards including being named a Chevalier of France's Order of Arts and Letters.

Upon first view of the book, many fans may notice the difference in thickness and weight; it's much bigger than his previous releases. This is a very good thing for the fans that want longer stories and more to read in one collection. With 35 stories offered that range from a single paragraph to over 20 pages long, any fan of short stories should be thrilled with this release. They are silly but mature, find the ordinary in the weird, or suggest a unique view of this violent, cruel world. Keret switches hats constantly but his characters never leave the restraints of everyday life, only subtle differences explain their existence or give their purpose in life.

The first story shares its title with the book as the writer sets the tone for the rest of the collection. The main character in the story is pressured to tell a story by a Swedish tourist holding a gun, till "Suddenly, a knock on the door." Eventually the main character's couch is occupied by three strangers demanding a story as they threaten him with guns and a cleaver. He keeps trying with the same tired saying, "Suddenly, a knock on the door" but the strangers think it's a cop-out, but they finally agree, "Just so long as it brings us a story." It's a simple device that writers use, but Keret shows how life interrupts our days or keeps it moving with a simple knock on the door.

The next story, "Lieland," is possibly the best tale found in this collection, as well as a favorite that will stick out above the au-

thor's past works. It is as if Keret was stretching his hands in the first story, clearing his throat, and wants the audience to be hooked by the second story. Robbie, the main character of "Lieland," is a professional liar that has made up an aunt who is first stricken with cancer so he can get out of school, and then plagued with blindness, to excuse his behavior in the military. Pretty soon Robbie finds himself in an empty world next to a gumball machine, and a redheaded boy missing his front tooth. The boy kicks Robbie in the shins and proclaims, "I'm your first lie."

Robbie is dumbfounded but keeps wandering around the strange world until he meets Igor, a Russian with a glass eye and no arms. Igor, a skinny German Shepard with two paralyzed legs, is a little white lie Robbie made up when he was late to work. Robbie is traumatized by the experience and starts to change his ways, first telling innocent lies where nobody's hurt, and then giving up lies altogether. The conclusion to the story will warm the cold-hearted and make readers question the kinds of lies they come up with.

In "One Step Beyond," Keret again finds himself in the mind of a hired killer like his story "Good Intentions," found in "Bus Driver," except this murderer is without a conscience or morals. The main character is not given a name, but

he is a man sitting on death row waiting to be executed. He says he could kill anybody, from old people to little kids, so long as he gets the job done and nothing bothers him. What he hates the most about children are kids stories, "...illustrated lies about worlds without evil, places more boring than death."

The death-row inmate can hardly wait for his death and ponders what the

afterlife has in store for him. He asks for a Christian priest to talk to so the murderer can adequately prepare for what waits for him on the other side, but he's ready to kill again no matter what it is. "It won't matter to me if the guy's a run-of-the-mill sinner, or a demon, or Satan himself." What happens to the serial killer after his execution can't be revealed, but the personal hell the man finds himself in will give readers a hearty laugh that'll make them want to share the story with friends and family.

This collection is the best Keret has released yet. The stories are filled with awkward occurrences and relatable characters that make readers yearn to live or scared for what's outside their front door. These tales all seem connected with each other, as one story ends about a talkative man on a plane and the next story finds the main character on a plane fearing it's going to crash. Keret exposes and blends his literary influences of Vonnegut and Kafka but cultivates stories that are all his own, rich with humanity, humor and spontaneity that comes with a knock at the door.

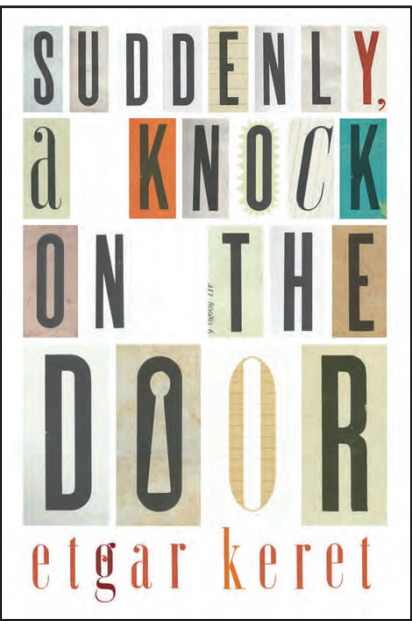


IMAGE TAKEN from jewishbookweek.com
Author Etgar Keret offers another round of unique short stories in his latest collection, "Suddenly a Knock on the Door."



IMAGE TAKEN from filmmovement.com
The film was about Zeina (Nada Abou Farhat), a Lebanese woman who searches for her children while her country is at war with Israel.

Who is the Prettiest of Them All?

Theta Xi Holds Their Annual Miss Monmouth Beauty Pageant

STEPHANIE RAMADAN
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

Theta Xi held a beauty pageant called Miss Monmouth on Wednesday, April 4. Tickets were five dollars in advance and seven dollars at the door. Through Miss Monmouth, Theta Xi raised \$1,420 which went to their philanthropies, Habitat for Humanity and Multiple Sclerosis.

Joe Nardini, a sophomore and Business major, is the President of Theta Xi. “We have been hosting the event Miss Monmouth for the past couple of years. The fundraiser has been extremely successful and has enabled us to give back to our philanthropic organizations. We’re really happy with the turnout this year and really appreciate everyone that came out to support us,” said Nardini.

The event consisted of three rounds, casual wear, formal wear, and sportswear. Each contestant was asked three different questions.

Some of the questions that were asked were, “What is beauty according to you?” “What makes up your world and why?” “Why do you want to be the winner of this pageant?” “What can women learn from men?” And lastly, “Describe yourself in two words.”

There were 16 contestants in the pageant. The names of the contestants were Kimberly Kravitz, Ava Pignatello, Taylore Glynn, Taylor Dickson, Chelsea Addeo, Maria Marinaro, Elyssa

Buccieri, MJ Robol, Annelise Delemarre, Lexie Arnold, Victoria Wagner, Jessica Trucillo, Ariana Tepedino, Jessica Sponaugle, Gina Gilanyi and Megan Fitzsimmons.

The judges were Bryan Duarte of Sigma Pi, Joe Deller of Tau Kappa Epsilon, Nick Auriemma of Theta Xi, Usman Shah alum of Phi Sigma Kappa, Andrew Sutton of the football team, and Jon Guida of the baseball team.

James Savage, senior and business finance major, was one of the hosts of Miss Monmouth. “We had a great group of girls who made the contest a close competition, but in the end everyone won because it was for a great cause,” he said..

Savage’s co-host was Kimberly Rookwood, alum of Theta Phi Alpha. The DJ for the night was Sean Johnstone, of Theta Xi.

Usman Shah, senior and Political Science major and one of the judges, had a tough time coming to his decision. “Overall, judging Miss Monmouth was a good time, there were a lot of beautiful women to choose from and all of the contestants did their



PHOTO COURTESY of Stephanie Ramadan
Featured above are the hosts of Miss Monmouth James Savage and Kim Rockwood.

best, which made it a difficult decision at the end,” said Shah.

The first place prize, which was awarded to Taylore Glynn, freshman and English major, consisted of gift cards to Junior’s of West End, Beach Bum Tanning, A.H. Fisher Diamonds, Jersey Mike’s, Shore Cab, and Cupcake Magician. “It was an opportunity I never thought I’d get to have, so when I was asked to participate I couldn’t turn it down, and it was for a great cause. I had so much fun with the other girls and the brothers, but winning was the icing on the cake. I felt really accomplished, and I’m so happy I was able to have this experience,” said Glynn.

Second place, Taylor Dickson, junior and communication major, won gift cards to Stop & Shop, Jersey Mike’s, Joe’s Pizza, JR’s West End, and Cupcake Magician. “It was a really fun experience, the girls were really cool. I was surprised because I didn’t expect to place, so it was funny,” said Dickson.

Third place prize winner, Chelsea Addeo, won gift cards to Joe’s Pizza, Scala’s, Shore Cab, Beach Bum Tanning, Jersey Mike’s, and Cupcake Magician.

Miss Monmouth brought students from all organizations out to support Habitat for Humanity and Multiple Sclerosis. Miss Monmouth is sophomore Maria Iantosca’s favorite event. “I love going to Miss Monmouth because it is always entertaining. I think it is one of the best fundraising events we have here at the University,” said Iantosca.

Breakfast at Night with Phi Sigma Sigma

Sorority Holds Their Annual Pancake Breakfast

STEPHANIE RAMADAN
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

Phi Sigma Sigma held their annual late night pancake breakfast on Tuesday, April 3 in the basement of Spruce Hall. Tickets were five dollars in advance and seven at the door.

All together, they raised \$315 for their philanthropy, the National Kidney Foundation. Phi Sigma Sigma advertised for their event through flyers around campus, tables at the Student Center, and a Facebook event.

According to their website, The National Kidney Foundation is a voluntary, nonprofit health organization that is dedicated to preventing kidney and urinary tract diseases, improving the health and well-being of individuals and families affected by kidney disease and increasing the availability of all organs for transplantation. Their vision is to enhance the lives of everyone with, at risk of or affected by kidney disease.

The pancake breakfast is the one of the events Phi Sigma Sigma holds annually for the National Kidney Foundation. Another one is Monmouth Idol which is held in the fall.

Jaclyn Schultz, junior and criminal justice major, is also the Vice President of Phi Sigma Sigma. According to Schultz the pancake batter was donated from Perkin’s Family Restaurant and the Americana Diner, which has been a tradition for years. All of the sisters of Phi Sigma Sigma collaborated and made pancakes which were then served to the students who attended. It was

an “all you can eat” event and at the tables were supplied with toppings such as sugar, jelly, and syrup. The available choices of pancakes were chocolate chip and plain.

“The pancake breakfast is a really unique and different kind of fundraising event. It is one of our biggest events and we are always pleased with the turnout,” said Schultz.

The pancake breakfast was also a great way for the freshmen who are not involved in Greek life to participate and learn more about it.

Tyler Havens, the Assistant Director of Student Activities for Fraternity and Sorority Life at the University, said “These events show that our groups are committed to the value of philanthropy. Our students raise thousands of dollars for organizations locally and nationally. These dollars help these organization support programs and research for those that are affected.”

Many people from different organizations attended the pancake breakfast to help support their philanthropy, which in turn, also helped to promote Greek unity.

Rachel McGivney, sophomore and business management major, was one of the two sisters who holds the Philanthropy Chair of Phi Sigma Sigma. “As the Philanthropy Chair it is

really important to get students to come to our events and donate to the National Kidney Foundation,” said McGivney.

Jessica Trucillo, sophomore and psychology major, is a student who certainly enjoys eating breakfast for dinner. “...I think the pancake breakfast is a really fun event to attend and it gives

everyone the opportunity to socialize with their friends and it is an added bonus that the money goes to a good cause,” said Trucillo.

The fundraiser was open for all students to attend and it was encouraged that they do, regardless of if they are involved in Greek life. Alison Burks, senior

and social work major, was one of the students who was present at the event.

“I was never a part of Greek life or any organization like that, but I wanted to go and see what it was all about. The pancakes were delicious and it turned out to be an enjoyable time,” said Burks.



PHOTO COURTESY of Stephanie Ramadan
Featured above are Phi Sigma Sigma members Renee Oleniacz, Madeline Diaz, Giovanna Randazzo and Nina Costa (left to right).

Which Slide Are You On?

Sociology Club Hosts Fundraiser for the Inside Out Project

ALEXIS ORLACCHIO
STAFF WRITER

The Sociology Club hosted a fundraiser outside of Bey Hall for the Inside Out Project and co-sponsored the Kortney Rose race with the Political Science Club on Friday, April 6.

“The money from the slide is going to the Inside Out Project, a global art project that translates messages of personal identity into pieces of artwork,” said Amanda DiVita, Sociology Club President.

A street artist, who goes by the name of “JR,” plasters artwork on buildings and billboards in order to communicate the message of freedom, identity and limit to those who see it. The purpose is to raise awareness, be a part of a global cause, and give back to communities. Students are encouraged to take a black and white photo and send it in to the Inside Out Project Company in exchange for a giant poster of their work, where they are free to display it for the world to see.

“The date for the fundraiser was specifically picked during the Global Convention Week,” said Danielle Parillo, junior. The Sociology Club rented a giant blow up slide from the Party Works Company. The cost to ride the inflatable slide

“It’s gotten a lot of people talking,” said Megan Brownfield, Sociology Club Secretary. “People have been walking by and taking pictures of the slide, but we want them to use it!”

“The University almost didn’t let us put the slide up. We originally wanted to do a Slip n’ Slide, but it was too much liability and they were worried about the grass,” joked Carly Gross, junior and Sociology Club member. “There were so many people we had to go through, so many rules. We had a company that we (the Sociology Club) wanted to use to rent the slide, but the University made us use a company that they had previously worked with.”

The Sociology Club was not allowed to play music because the University did not want to disrupt classes. “We wanted the slide right outside of Bey Hall but we had to move it,” said Gross. “We wanted to attract all the kids coming out of class, but we were told we were too close to the statue.” The slide was set up on the grass between the Student Center and Bey Hall.

“I was late to my first class because I was too busy playing on the blow up by Bey Hall,” said Brian Nicholas, junior.



PHOTO COURTESY of Alexis Orlacchio

The Sociology Club also co-sponsored the Kortney Rose Race with the Political Science Club. Above, Professor Dinella’s psychology research methods class pose in front of the infatiable slide.

fun, definitely a good idea for a fundraiser,” said Christina DiPrisco, Junior.

Professor Dinella’s Psychology Research Methods class actually took a break from learning and went on a brief class trip to participate in the fundraiser. “It was very fun and a great idea for a fundraiser,”

“The Sociology Club also co-sponsored the Kortney Rose Race with the Political Science Club,” said DiVita. The Kortney Rose race was held on Friday, April 6 at 2:30 pm. The race was a 5K run that “began in front of Wilson Hall and went around the University, and extended to the outside streets as well,” said Kristen Gillette, Secretary for the Department of Political Science and Sociology.

The Kortney Rose Foundation is a non-profit organization that raises money for the “research and education related to the treatment and cure of pediatric brain tumors.” Kortney Rose, the daughter of Kristen Gillette, unfortunately died from brainstem glioma in April 2006. All money raised went straight to the pediatric brain tumor research conducted at the Children’s Hospital of Philadelphia.

The total raised for the Kort-

ney Rose race was \$1,500. “There were two large sponsors who were a big help,” said Gillette. “Professor Peter Reinhart, Director of the Kislak Real Estate Institute and Specialist Professor, said he would donate \$10 for every participant who completed the race before him. Professor Joe Patten, Chair and Associate Professor of the Political Science Department, said he would donate \$10.25 to every participant who finished the race before him.”

“The Sociology Club donated money for the t-shirts that were made. They covered half of the cost,” said Gillette. The t-shirts were made prior to the event so participants could wear them for the race.

“I am grateful to the Political Science Club and the Sociology Club for organizing the event to benefit our charity,” said Gillette. “We are hoping this support will help children with brain tumors.”

“I was late to my first class because I was too busy playing on the blow up by Bey Hall. It was worth having awkward stares walking into class late. [I’m] enjoying everyday while I can.”

BRIAN NICHOLAS
Junior

was one dollar for two turns and five dollars for unlimited turns. Students had to sign a waiver before participating to ensure their safety and for legal purposes.

“It was worth having awkward stares walking into class late. [I’m] enjoying everyday while I can.” The fundraiser idea was well received by the students and faculty. “This was

said Dinella of the slide.

“It is such an amazing cause and we raised \$110 by the end of the day,” said Parillo. “We are so grateful for everyone’s donation’s.”

Club and Greek Announcements

The Outdoors Club

The Outdoors Club hopes everyone had a relaxing weekend and is ready for the beautiful weather this week has to offer. At the general meeting this Wednesday, April 11 in Bey Hall we will be discussing the upcoming trip to Jenny Jump State Forest.

There are 35 spots available with a cost of \$10 a person for those who participated in any of the cubs fundraisers and \$15 for anyone who did not.

This trip will be on April 28 and 29; if you would like to come please bring your money to the meeting on Wednesday.

Don’t forget to check out the official Outdoors Club Facebook page for updated information; feel free to post any questions or suggestions regarding the club and any of the trips.

Eta Sigma Gamma

Eta Sigma Gamma, The National Health Education Honorary will be having their induction, Wednesday, April 11 at 3:00 p.m.

The inductees Nicole Barberio, Nicole Dobron, Kelsey Maher, Megan Martin, Michelle Mullins, Vanessa Orbe, and Rebecca Van Dyk will receive their pins today and enjoy a lovely catered gathering in the McGill club room.

ESG recognizes academic achievement and supports health education advocacy initiatives. They participate in events such as health fairs, The Great American Smoke Out, and Fat Talk Free week.

They also organize their own events, such as the blood drive in honor of Kelly Boozan, an MU student that was badly burned last semester. Look out for ESG at this upcoming health fair April 26, 11:00 am to 2:00 pm in Anacon!

College Republicans

With rising gas prices and deficit spending continuing at its current rate it is time for us to take hold of our future. With the national debt currently at \$15.6 billion this is a catastrophic outlook for our ideals of living the American Dream. If we are left not able to afford a future retirement and sound options for our families, we could be left with few options in as little as a decade.

If you are interested in taking control of your future, regardless of political affiliation, join us at our next meeting. If you have any questions please e-mail us at mugop@monmouth.edu.

This is our future let us take control of RECKLE\$\$ SPENDING.

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Which building would you like to see renovated next on campus?

COMPILED BY: JACKLYN KOUFATI & ANTHONY PANISSIDI



Nick Kulka
sophomore

"None of the buildings"



Katelyn Nawoyski
junior

"Elmwood or Pinewood"



Don Swanson
faculty

"Edison"



Ashley Medina
freshman

"Howard Hall"



Massab Younas
junior

"The Student Center"



Veronica Yurowski
junior

"Plangere"



Craig Biebel
senior

"Howard Hall"



Margaret Checton
staff

"McAllan"



Jordan Bloom
freshman

"The Dining Hall"



Susan Imperiale
junior

"The 600 building"

SCHOOL OF SCIENCE Dr. Michael Palladino, Dean

SPRING 2012

Pre-Professional Health Careers Meeting

Wednesday, April 18, 2012

Wilson Hall Auditorium ♦ 2:30 – 4:00 PM ♦ Refreshments

SPECIAL GUEST SPEAKERS

Doctor of Physical Therapy Program, Jointly sponsored by UMDNJ School of Health Related Professions and Rutgers Graduate School at Camden, NJ

Richard A. Ferraro, MPT, Ph.D., Assistant Professor, Rehabilitation & Movement Sciences

Cooper Medical School of Rowan University, Camden, NJ

Catherine B. Dayton, Ph.D., Director of Admissions
John McGeehan, M.D., Associate Dean for Student Affairs and Admissions

ADVISING INFORMATION

Dr. James Konopack

- Pre-Professional Health Advising Office – Howard Hall, Room 312
- Pre-Health Registration Form & E-mail notices - contact Barbara Santos
- Strategies for Verbal and Writing Sections of Tests (MCAT, DAT, etc.) – contact Dr. Bass
- When to Start The Application Process to Professional Schools –contact PPHAC
 - Letters of Recommendation
 - Supplementary Information Form (**Due Date: April 23, 2012**)
 - The Interview
- Foreign Medical Schools – contact Dr. Mack and the PPHAC
- Affiliation Agreements: contact Drs. Mack and/or Naik
 - ❖ Monmouth Medical Center Scholars' Program – Drexel University College of Medicine
 - ❖ University of Medicine & Dentistry of New Jersey – School of Osteopathic Medicine (UMDNJ-SOM)
 - ❖ Seton Hall University – Physician Assistant Program
- PPHAC Website - http://www.monmouth.edu/academics/pre-professional_health/default.asp

Pre-Professional Health Advisory Committee (PPHAC)

Dr. James Mack, Professor, Biology and Director of PPHAC
Dr. Rose Knapp, Assistant Professor, School of Nursing & Health Studies
Dr. James Konopack, Assistant Professor, School of Nursing & Health Studies
Dr. Massimiliano Lamberto, Assistant Professor, Chemistry
Dr. Datta Naik, Professor, Chemistry, Vice Provost and Dean, Graduate School
Barbara Santos, Secretary, PPHAC Office– HH 312

(PPHAC Office Hours: Monday, Tuesday, Friday: 9:00 am – 1:00 pm & Wednesday, Thursday: 1:00 pm – 5:00 pm)

Additional PPHAC Student Test Support

Dr. Mary Lee Bass, Educational Leadership,
School of Counseling and Special Education

mack@monmouth.edu (732) 571-3687
rknapp@monmouth.edu (732) 923-4671
jkonopac@monmouth.edu (732) 923-4674
mlambert@monmouth.edu (732) 263-5698
dnaik@monmouth.edu (732) 571-7550
bsantos@monmouth.edu (732) 571-3687

mbass@monmouth.edu (732) 571-4490

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FA 101-32

MONMOUTH UNIVERSITY CATHOLIC CENTER'S SPRING 2012 RETREAT

APRIL 22, 2012

Course Description:

Get closer to Jesus Christ this Spring! Even better, experience it with friends and peers from Monmouth. Come to a day-long event where we can celebrate and worship Christ in our lives. Get ready a great, rejuvenating day and a chance to meet new people and members of the Catholic Center. The only requirement is that you practice a Catholic faith.

What You Need:

- A positive attitude
- A desire to get closer with Jesus
- A friend
- \$2
- Openness
- Join the FA 101-32 group of Facebook to sign up
- Follow @MnmthUCatholic on Twitter

Class Schedule:

Icebreakers

Lunch

Guest Speaker: Maryalice Goldsmith


Group Discussion

Praise and Worship

Adoration

Mass

Confession



REGISTRATION BEGINS NOW!

★ Designated Hero of the Year ★



GARY MEJIA

2nd Place: Chelsea Pfender

3rd Place: Ryan Clutter

Honorable Mention: Chris Sikorski

Designated Employee of the Year: Tyler Havens

Congratulations & Thank You!

Hero Campaign and Office of Substance Awareness



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Comic Books and Heroes Focus on Real World Issues

MATTHEW FISHER
COMICS EDITOR

If you think comic books and superheroes are only about stopping alien invasions, giant monsters and evil villains, think again. Countless comic books and publishers have confronted real world issues.

To start, “Unknown Soldier,” from Vertigo Comics, dealt with the issue of child soldiers and the civil war that plagued Uganda in 2002. The character was updated from his WWII-roots by writer Joshua Dysart and artist Alberto Ponticelli. (This was the second time Vertigo published a comic featuring the Unknown Soldier following a 1997 four-issue mini-series by writer Garth Ennis and artist Kilian Plunkett.)

Running for 25 issues, the series dealt with Dr. Moses Lwanga, who returned to Uganda after being born there and raised in America, as he and his wife, Sera, helped refugees of the Lord’s Resistance Army.

One day, Moses is brutally attacked, but doesn’t die. Instead, he wraps up his wounds and hears voices that tell him to fight the evil and injustice of his homeland by dealing with it head on as the new Unknown Soldier.

The entire series was not only a good read but raised awareness of what happened in this country and those responsible. “Unknown Soldier” even confronted Joseph Kony in the series finale.

According to the *New York Times*, in addition to library and Internet research, “Mr. Dysart decided that ‘if I was going to deal with the absolute worst aspect of these people’s lives, I was going to have to go there.’ He visited Uganda in early 2007, months after a cease-fire was declared the previous summer. Mr. Dysart spent time with the Acholi and visited the cities of Kampala and Entebbe.”

The site also reported that Dysart brought over “1,000 photographs that Mr. Ponticelli could

use as references for the illustrations.”

However, comic books don’t have to just feature superheroes or fictional beings to discuss problems in the world. Sometimes, if an issue needs to be addressed people will develop a way to talk about it, which is what the United Nations (U.N.) has done. They used the comic book medium to raise awareness on global issues such as poverty in the comic book titled, “Score the Goals.”

According to un.org, “The 32-page educational comic book features 10 football UN Goodwill Ambassadors... who become shipwrecked on an island on their way to playing an ‘all-star’ charity football game in support of the U.N. While on the island, the team has to tackle the eight MDGs [Millennium Development Goals] along their journey towards being rescued. The MDGs are targets aimed at slashing global poverty by 2015 by combating hunger, disease, illiteracy, environment degradation and discrimination against women.”

Interestingly enough, this isn’t the first time that the United Nations has worked to discuss issues through comic books. In 2007, they worked with Marvel Comics to produce a story that featured heroes like Spider-Man working with the organization. According to *the Financial Times*, upon announcement of the comic, “The comic, initially to be distributed free to one million U.S. school-children, will be set in a war-torn fictional country and feature superheroes such as Spider-Man working with U.N. agencies such as Unicef and the ‘blue hats,’ the U.N. peacekeepers.”

While having iconic heroes like Spider-Man helps the U.N. spread their message to readers and children worldwide, it wouldn’t be the first time that a superhero has brought attention to a serious issue.

One example would be “Batman: Death of Innocence,” by writer Denny O’Neil and artist Joe

Staton, which focused on the danger of landmines left over in war torn countries. The comic book was composed of two parts with the first being a story of Batman trying to prevent people from dying by landmines. The latter portion includes stories from people who constantly face the threat of these devices.

The danger of landmines was also discussed in another DC story titled, “Superman and Wonder Woman: The Hidden Killer.”

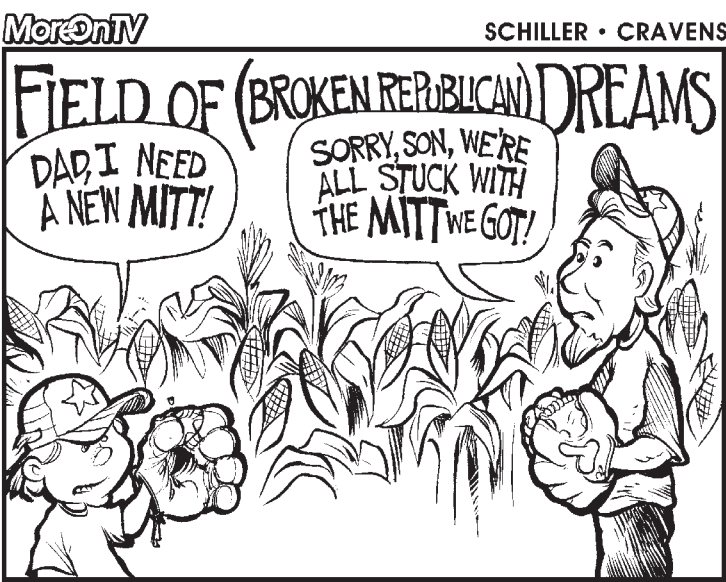
Still, when it comes to dealing with real world problems, the buck doesn’t just stop with comic books and superheroes tackling the issues.

Today, DC Entertainment is doing just that with their new initiative, We Can Be Heroes. Posters and advertisements for the project feature a silhouette of the new Justice League (i.e. from DC’s New 52 reboot) standing against an image of Africa.

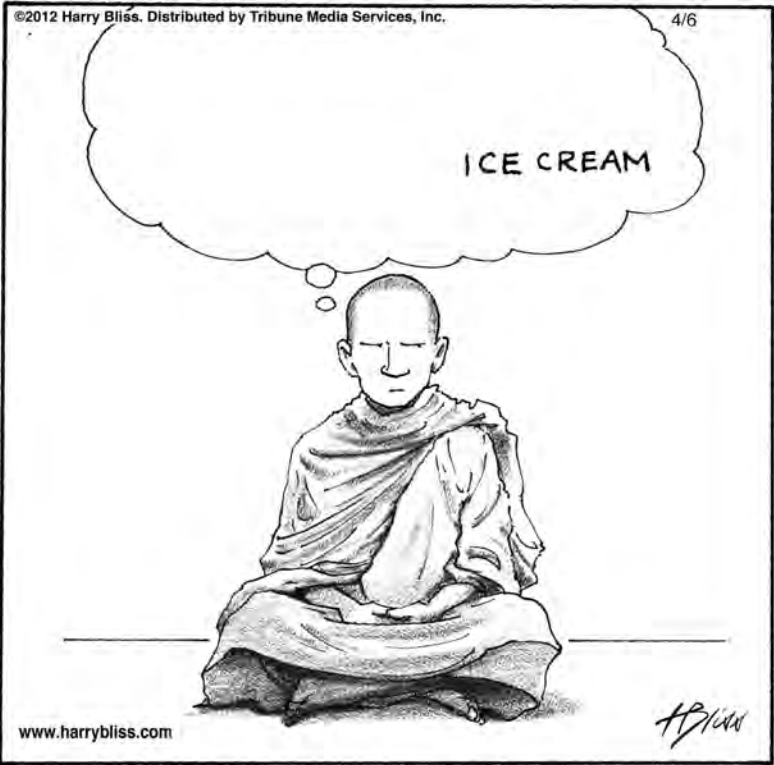
Here the publisher is using its iconic heroes, which include Superman, Batman, Wonder Woman, Green Lantern, the Flash, Aquaman and Cyborg, to channel everyone’s hero to stand up and help stop hunger in the Horn of Africa.

According to DC’s Blog, “The Source,” on why they chose these heroes, the site reported, “Each of these characters is a super hero in his or her own right, but when they band together as the Justice League, they become an unstoppable force for good and right in the universe—a key message of the We Can Be Heroes campaign. While many individuals may feel powerless to effect change on their own, as part of a global campaign such as this, their efforts, combined with those of other donors, can create a world of change.”

These comic books and projects are just some of the ways that writers, artists, and publisher have brought awareness to global issues today and in years past. It just goes to show that in a medium of fantasy, people aren’t that disconnected from reality.



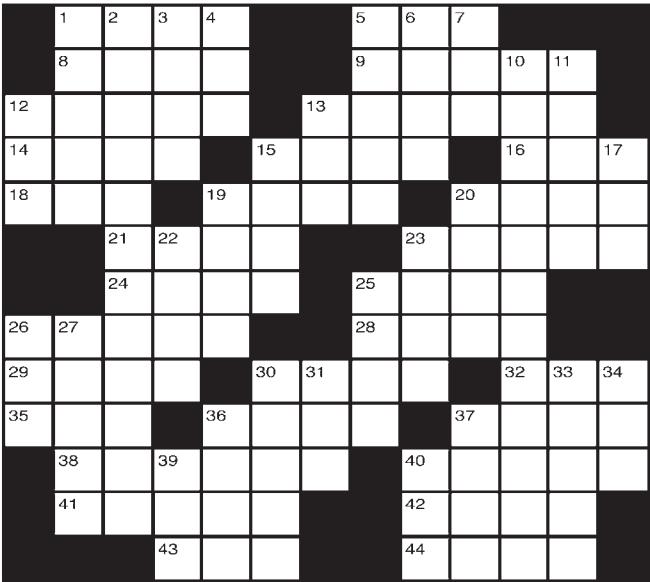
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by Jacqueline E. Mathews



Created by Jacqueline E. Mathews

4/1/12

ACROSS

- Actress ___ Daly
- Network for Diane Sawyer
- Word in some Hope/Crosby titles
- Bullwinkle, for one
- Sightseeing trips
- Long-running primetime serial about the Ewing family
- Youngest on “The Cosby Show”
- “Promised ___”; Gerald McRaney drama series
- Whitney and McKinley: abbr.
- Dined
- Adams and Ameche
- Pitcher
- Robe for Indira Gandhi
- “X-Men: First ___”
- Arden and Plumb
- Blockhead
- Threaded fastener
- Comedian Martha ___
- Dallas hoopsters, for short
- “___ the Clock”
- Record speed letters
- Take advantage of
- Shredded cabbage dish

- “___ dead people”; Cole’s line in “The Sixth Sense”
- Character in “Winnie the Pooh”
- “___ Attraction”; Glenn Close film
- “Enemy of the ___”; movie for Will Smith and Jon Voigt
- Run ___; go wild
- Drug that causes hallucinations, for short
- Sunbathes

DOWN

- Rainbow ___; food and game fish
- Game show hosted by Chris Harrison
- ___ a soul; no one
- Sullivan and Bradley
- “___ home is his castle”
- Courageous
- Potter’s title on “M*A*S*H”: abbr.
- Actor on “Law & Order”
- Actor Rob ___
- Refrain syllable
- Rather or Aykroyd
- “___ & Clark: The New Adventures of Superman”
- Yrbk. section
- “The Price Is Right” host
- ___ May Clampett
- 5th and Pennsylvania: abbr.
- Winter garment
- “Win, Lose or ___”
- Dallas school, for short
- Throws
- Lose vital fluid
- “A Flea in Her ___”; movie for Rex Harrison and Rosemary Harris
- Mountaintops
- Diner owner on “Alice”
- Friday and Bilko: abbr.
- “___ Rock”; Simon & Garfunkel hit
- “For Me and My ___”; Judy Garland film
- “My Big ___ Greek Wedding”

Solution to Last Week’s Puzzle

M	A	C	S	A	R	A	H	L	O	A
A	T	A	P	R	I	D	E	U	R	N
I	E	R	L	I	N	D	A	P	A	N
M	A	L	I	A	R	A	I	N	S	
M	A	N	S	T	A	N	D	I	N	G
S	H	A	D	E	M	O	E			
E	V	A	C	A	W					
J	E	R	R	Y	O	R	B	A	C	H
G	E	N	E	S	S	Y	R	I	A	
O	C	T	V	A	N	C	E	J	I	L
A	T	E	P	L	A	I	N	E	L	I
L	S	D	S	A	N	D	S	R	S	T

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4/1/12



Calamities of Nature by Tony Piro



Welcome to Falling Rock National Park by Josh Shalek



The Monmouth University Student Employment Office thanks all the businesses that made our 16th Annual Student Employee Appreciation Week such a success! Please make sure to visit these special businesses!

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BED BATH & BEYOND EATONTOWN	GIUSEPPE’S PIZZERIA WEST LONG BRANCH	METROVATION/ THE GROVE SHREWSBURY	NIGHT & DAY SPRING LAKE	SURF TACO LONG BRANCH
BLUE SWAN DINER OAKHURST	GOLD’S GYM PIER VILLAGE	MIDDLEBROOK/ CLEARVIEW CINEMA OCEAN	NIKKI’S HAIR STUDIO OAKHURST	TGI FRIDAY’S EATONTOWN
BOGART’S BAR & BISTRO EATONTOWN	HERR FOODS LAKEWOOD	MISTER C’S BEACH BISTRO ALLENHURST	OCEAN PLACE RESORT & SPA LONG BRANCH	THE OUTLOOK MONMOUTH UNIVERSITY
BUFFALO WILD WINGS EATONTOWN	HOT BAGEL BAKERY OAKHURST	MU ATHLETICS EQUIPMENT ROOM THE MAC	PANERA BREAD OCEAN	THE SAND BAR WATERFRONT RESTAURANT BRIELLE
BURGER KING MONMOUTH MALL	HOULIHAN’S EATONTOWN	MU CAREER SERVICES STUDENT CENTER	PAPA JOHN’S PIZZA WEST LONG BRANCH	THE VITAMIN SHOPPE www.vitaminshoppe.com EATONTOWN
CARVEL ICE CREAM WEST LONG BRANCH	I NAILS EATONTOWN	MU COPY CENTER WILSON HALL	PARTY CORNER SHREWSBURY	TOP IT FROZEN YOGURT BAR LONG BRANCH
CASA COMIDA LONG BRANCH	INKWELL COFFEE HOUSE LONG BRANCH	MU HUMAN RESOURCES WILSON HALL	PERKINS EATONTOWN	TUZZIO’S ITALIAN CUISINE LONG BRANCH
CHILI’S EATONTOWN	IT’S GREEK TO ME PIER VILLAGE	MU STUDENT ACTIVITIES BOARD STUDENT CENTER	PERRY’S TROPHY LONG BRANCH	UNIVERSITY SUBS & DELI WEST LONG BRANCH
CHIPOLTE MEXICAN GRILL EATONTOWN	JACK BAKER’S RESTAURANTS POINT PLEASANT BEACH	MU UNDERGRADUATE ADMISSION WILSON HALL	RACEWARY DINER WEST LONG BRANCH	WEGMANS OCEAN
COBBLESTONE DINER EATONTOWN	JACK’S LONG BRANCH	MU UNIVERSITY ADVANCEMENT-ANNUAL FUND WILSON HALL	ROCKAFELLA’S PIZZA LONG BRANCH	WELLS FARGO STUDENT CENTER
CONTE’S CAR WASH LONG BRANCH	JERSEY MIKE’S SUBS WEST LONG BRANCH		ROONEY’S OCEAN CRAB HOUSE LONG BRANCH	WINDMILL RESTAURANTS THE LEVINE FAMILY NORTH LONG BRANCH
DUNKIN DONUTS BROADWAY, WEST LONG BRANCH	JESSE’S CAFÉ LONG BRANCH		SCALA’S PIZZERIA WEST END	YE OLDE PIE SHOPPE LITTLE SILVER
EL SALON OAKHURST	JOE’S CRAB SHACK EATONTOWN		SHERATON EATONTOWN	

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

STUDENT EMPLOYEE APPRECIATION WEEK

Academic Foundations - General Education thanks our superb student staff for their loyalty, hard work, and commitment to excellence. Your partnership allows us to go where we have never gone before. Office Assistants: senior **Angela Lucas**; sophomores **Kirsten Webb** and **Kerry Zeigler** & Technical Assistants: senior **Evan Mydlowski**; junior **Maria Tsampounieri**

Admission Processing “Amanda Squared” **Amanda B. and Amanda G.**, Work up on the fourth floor. Scanning, mailing, and IDs. Oh! And prospects galore! Smiles from each every day, Never showing their exhaust. Processing list after list, Until their eyes had crossed! So, here’s a big Thank You, That AP has prepared. For all of the hard work, Put in by Amanda Squared!

Administrative Services: **Jessica**, you truly are a hard worker. **Brielle**, your organizational skills are exceptional. Thank you both for all of your help - **Brielle Wanamaker** & **Jessica Ragone**!

Emily, thank for helping out so much over the past year! Your hard work and dedication is greatly appreciated by everyone in **Advancement Services**!

Brittney and Jennifer – Thank you for your dedication to the **Alumni Office**. Your hard work is appreciated.

Thank you **Phonathon Hawk Callers** and **Annual Fund** staff for all that you do for our office and for the university itself. We truly appreciate it!

Thank you **Abby Traxler, Jaelyn Tucker, Kristina Murdock** and **Madelyn Mauterer**. We greatly appreciate all of your help in the **Athletics Office**.

Athletics Blue/White Varsity Club A BIG thanks to the Varsity club staff! **Amanda “Emo” Romano, Kae “I love pork ribs” Crede, Kerrin “Lil Sis” Haganey, Kelly MACdonald**, and our newest addition **Denisse Amarillo**!

The Athletics Communications Office would like to thank its dedicated student-workers for all of their time and hard work during this school year. We couldn’t have done it without you guys. CT, Lobster, George and Jarr would like to thank you: **Katie, Melissa, Erin, Gabby, Tarryn, Gab, Alicia, Bryan, Pat, Michelle, Ricardo, Damaris, Lynn and Travis #wearneon**

The **Athletics Marketing** office would like to thank its great staff for making this a banner yr!! Thx to **Sof, Alyssa, Jackie, Cass, Andrew S, Corinne, Colette, Kelly, Kerrin and Kelly M (for a little bit), Andy, Linda, Ryan, Michele, Jorge, Intern Alyssa, Intern Joe aka #TheJoeShow** and of course, **Shadow**. We couldn’t have done it without you all, thank you SO MUCH!!

Athletics – Equipment Room – you keep MU’s Athletes looking their best! Thanks for all you do every day, night and weekend. – **Greg & Mike**

Athletics – Event Staff - A great job well done by the “Yellow Jackets” as always!

The **Bookstore** would like to thank our Student Workers for all their hard work and dedication. They make our store the Best. YOU GUYS ROCK! **Nicole Bilica, Katelyn Cahill, Kody Castor, Sherri Faccione, Julie Gallart, Stephanie Garcia, Daniel Kazanjian, George McWilliams, Soraya Quezada, Kelsey Rinear**

Thank you, **Stacy** for your enthusiasm and hard work in the **Cashiers Office**. We are so glad you were a part of our team! from Jerri, Sue, Marilyn, Loretta

Thank you Student Greeters from the **Center for Student Success (CSS)**! When students and visitors first come to the Center for Student Success (CSS), located on the lower level of the Rebecca Stafford Student Center, they are greeted by one of our friendly students. We want to thank our student greeters, **Jillian Bender, Samantha DeMarco, Danielle Divita, Leslie Fernandez, Rebecca Grande, Jenna Kanaley, Tara Mallinder, Alyssa Pagliaccetti, and Ashley Regan**, for their good natured attitude in welcoming all students and visitors to the CSS each day. The greeters are always courteous in directing fellow students and visitors where to go for CSS services. We want to thank you for all the support you provide to our departments!

Thank you to all our **Central Box Office** staff: **Andrew Bandurski, Gabrielle Vincentini, Beth Gilman, Jennifer Dwiggins, Joe D’Amico, Kaitlin Shields, Michael Rosas, Nyesha Sanford, and Justin Versprill**... We appreciate your time and efforts this year! Congratulations **Gaby** on your nomination! You will be missed! ~ Patti and Caitlin ~

The **Certification, Field Placements, and School Partnerships Office** would like to say many thanks to our student worker **Amanda and Adit**, and our graduate assistant **Lisa** for all the wonderful work they do in our office. Also a special thanks to all the student workers we borrow from ELSCSE, C & I, and the Dean’s offices. You truly are a HUGE help to our team.

Chemistry, Med Tech & Physics is proud to say ... A big “THANKS” to our student workers today. In the labs and classes, you help to see us through. We appreciate your dedication and your hard work too. **Muhammad, Miriam, Stephanie, Alex, Patrick, Daniella, Nicole, Susette, Cathryn, Conrad, Arielle, Chris, Mena, Shravya, Gillian, Heather, Kaitlyn, Ray and Scott** – We are grateful for your help – THANKS A LOT!!

The Students and Faculty of the **Communication Department-AV** would like to thank, **Deanna, Manny, Vincent and Brianna** for all their help this year. We always have what we need when we need it.

Cassie & Kara, Our ship is going to sink without you both! Diane and I want to thank you for all your support over the past four years. The whole **Communication Department** will miss you! Happy Graduation!

Thank you to the Student Event Assistants, Student Office Assistants and those that pitch in when called upon from your friends in **Conference and Event Services**! Job well done!

Thank you Student Workers! **S** is for “**STUDENT WORKERS**” and the student workers in **Computer Science, Software Engineering and Information Technology** are one of the best groups on campus!

T is for “**TOTALLY COMMITTED**” and we appreciate the time you spend supporting us in technology!

U is for “**UNANIMOUS**” and we agree that you are the BEST!

D is for “**DEPENDABLE**” and we couldn’t do it without you!

E is for the “**EXCELLENCE**” you demonstrate in everything you do!

N is for the “**NON-STOP**” energy and enthusiasm you spread to all your peers around you!

T is for “**TERRIFIC**” and that is what we think of you!

The **Criminal Justice Department** would like to honor **Rebecca Laskowski and Kyle Browne** for their hard work, dedication and enthusiasm. You are an asset to the department. - Marie Casanova, Criminal Justice Secretary

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Health Services **Vanessa** is our sunshine girl. On time and ready to file. A student athlete who works harder than most. And greets students with a smile! **Nicole** is our fashion diva. From her head to her feet. Answers phones, files charts And doesn’t miss a beat. **Taylor** is always in the know, No job too big, no question too hard. At the Health Center she has no fear. Hope summer goes fast, she'll Be rested and ready, ‘cause we’re Together again next year! With **Emily** the time flew by so quickly, The days, the months, the years; And now that she'll be leaving We’re fighting back the tears!

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On behalf of the **Institute for Global Understanding**, Director Nancy Mezey and Associate Director Rosemary Barbera recognize and applaud the following students for their valuable contributions to the IGU this past year: Graduate Assistant **Ruphina Mbua**, and Undergraduate Students **Tess La Fera and Nyesha Sanford** - Your hard work and enthusiasm are greatly appreciated!

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Monmouth University Library wishes to thank all of our student employees for their dedication and commitment! We appreciate all you do to help us help the entire university community. Good luck on you final exams and may you have a safe and restful summer!

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The **School of Science** commends its 2011-2012 Peer Mentors for the inspiration and guidance they have provided to their fellow students. Thank you so much for your hard work, dedication, and creativity!

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The **Student Employment Office** would like to congratulate the following supervisors for being nominated by their student employees for Supervisor of the Year:

Susan Damaschke, Student Services (2 nominations) Kyle Harris, Facilities Management Debby Molinaro, Academic Foundations-General Education Samantha Murphy, Annual Fund Maureen Slendorn, Human Resources John Tiedeman, School of Science

THANK YOU



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Many Thanks!

to our student employees:

Patty & Robert

for all of your great work at

the Copy Center!

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Thank You

for making this a great year!
Keep up the good work!

The Office of the Annual Fund



First Year Seminar PLAs!!!!

First Year Seminar/Academic Foundations – General Education would like to thank all of our Peer Learning Assistants [PLAs] for your support of our First Year Seminar classes during the Fall 2012 and Spring 2013 semesters. Here's to all you do! Bea, Judy, Jeanette, Debby, and Your Professors

Juliana Read

Kaci Brannick

Felicia Norott

Thomas O'Hara

Brett Bodner

Kaileen Smith

Hillary Marsh

Emily Curry

Gabrielle Conlin

Andrew Edelman

Lauren Woehr

Ryan Murphy

Kathryn Perez

Victoria Rivera

Jessica Dooley

Valerie Anzovino

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THICK AS THIEVES

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7:30 P.M.
RES. QUAD
***RAIN SITE:**
ANACONHALL

APRIL
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3:00 P.M.
SHADOW LAWN
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Ehehalt Wins 500th With Hawks

MAGGIE ZELINKA
STAFF WRITER

The men’s baseball team is currently on a five game winning streak with the addition of this past week-end’s wins over the Lafayette Leopards and sweep over the Quinnipiac Bobcats.

The Hawks opened up their week on Wednesday against non-conference Lafayette. Jon Shippee was deemed starter of the game and pitched a career best 6.1 innings striking out three and allowing two runs off six hits. Replacing Shippee in the seventh was right hander Neil Harm who closed out the game and was awarded his second save of the season. When asked about Shippee’s performance, Head Coach Dean Ehehalt said, “He has thrown three real good games for us. He’s not really conditioned to go nine at this point, but he’s thrown real well.” With this win, Shippee has improved his season record to 3-1.

Shippee and Harm had the support they needed from their offense. Scoring seven runs, the Hawks have finally regained their stamina at the plate. Designated hitter, Tim Bickford, knocked in second baseman Jamie Rosenkranz for the Hawk’s first run. Rosenkranz also accounted for the team’s second run in the bottom of the third. Hitting an infield single to get on base, Rosenkranz moved to second on a balk and then to third on a wild pitch. It was Bickford once more who hit the single needed to get Rosenkranz across home plate. Monmouth then changed the score in the fourth off catcher Tom Augustyniak’s and Rosenkranz’s bats. Augustyniak hit the first pitch he saw for an RBI double scoring center fielder Josh Boyd who got on base after being hit. Rosenkranz followed

Augustyniak’s lead by hitting an RBI double as well.

At this point, the Hawks were up 4-2 and needed some insurance runs. Their prayers were answered in the eighth. Starting the inning was short-stop Jon Guida who got on first by an error. Then came Boyd who bunted to get on first and moved Guida to second. Augustyniak was then walked to load the bases for senior left fielder Ed Martin. Martin was awarded with an RBI after getting hit by a pitch. With the bases loaded, Rosenkranz came to the plate and hit an RBI single scoring Boyd. Knocking in the final run was second baseman Jake Gronsky with a single.

For 19 years, Ehehalt has been coaching the Hawks. Up until April 3, Coach Ehehalt had 499 wins while donning the blue and white. After Wednesday’s win, he officially became the most successful coach in Monmouth’s baseball history. He improves his overall record to 521-473-2 over a span of 21 years of coaching at the collegiate level. Prior to Monmouth, Ehehalt coached the Brooklyn branch of LIU.

Gronsky believes that his coach’s 500th victory is something to get excited about.

“It’s awesome to be a part of it. Five-hundred wins. That is something that does not come around too often in any program, it shows the winning history we have at Monmouth,” Gronsky continues. “It shows the dedication level of Ehehalt. It was great to be part of it. I’m happy for him and I’m happy for the team.”

Coming off this victory, the Hawks prepared themselves for a battle against conference rival Quinnipiac. Ehehalt called upon his ace, junior Pat Light, to open up the series against the Bobcats. Light pitched

a whole seven innings, striking out an impressive 10 batters and having only one run marked against him. Freshman Adam Yunginger replaced Light pitching two thirds of the eighth inning, giving up three runs off two hits. Chris McKenna took over for Yunginger and saw only two batters whom he walked. Ehehalt then relied on Joe Loiodice who went 1.1 innings serving only three hits.

Every starter connected with the ball at least once. Martin went 1-for-3 with three out of the 11 runs, two walks, and one RBI. Rosenkranz went 2-for-4 with two runs, one walk, and an RBI. Gronsky extended his hitting streak to 10 by going 2-for-4 with two hits and two RBI’s. Batting clean-up was third baseman Danny Avella who finally found his swing again and finished the night 3-for-5 with three runs and three RBI’s.

Coming off this victory, Monmouth readily awaited their Friday double header. Throwing the first game was sophomore Andrew McGee while sophomore Stephen Frey was called on for game two.

McGee pitched a complete game while striking out four to earn a victory over the Bobcats, bringing his season record to 3-3. The final score of the game was 4-1 with QU scoring early on in the first. Fortunately, McGee was aided by Guida who hit his first career home run down the left field line in the bottom half of the second. Guida knocked in both Chris Perret and Owen Stewart. In the fifth, Martin scored Boyd for the final run of the game.

Much like game one of the double header, game two also provided QU with an early start on the scoreboard. In the first, the Bobcats scored their leadoff hitter but he would be the



PHOTO COURTESY of MU Photography

Danny Avella hit .462 with four RBIs in the series against Quinnipiac.

only QU batter to cross home plate for the rest of the game. MU retaliated by scoring six runs off of six hits. By the end of the second, the final score was already shown on the scoreboard: 6-1 in MU’s favor. Frey went the distance, striking out four and allowing five hits, earning his fourth win of the season.

While the Hawks were on a four game winning streak, one streak was brought to an end. Up until this point, Gronsky had an 11 game hitting streak. When asked about his current hitting success, Gronsky said, “Well a hitting streak is something I cannot really think about. If I can just keep having good at bats, good team at bats and we keep scoring runs, that’s what the focus needs to be about.”

In the final game of the series,

MU had all seven of their runs cross home plate within the first three innings. Fortunately, they were able to hold onto the game and won with a final score of 7-3. Dan Smith started for the Hawks and was awarded his fourth win of the season.

With the offense regaining their strength game by game, Ehehalt explains the secret, “We improved a little bit, we capitalized on some of our mistakes.” So there you have it, the Hawks have found a way to work around their offensive flaws and be able to create a five game winning streak. With this past week, Monmouth has improved their record to 18-12 (9-3 NEC). The Hawks will be hosted by Central Connecticut State for a four game series over the upcoming weekend.

Softball Sweeps Wagner, Kuzma is Hero

ED MORLOCK
ASSOCIATE SPORTS EDITOR

The softball team took both games of a double-header in West Long Branch on Saturday against Wagner to reach .500 on the season.

Kate Kuzma was the hero for the Hawks (13-13, 5-5), getting the game-winning hit in both games.

Lauren Sulick was the winning pitcher in each game, improving her record to 8-4 in 2012. She pitched a total of 11 innings, allowing three runs, all coming in the second inning of the second game.

“We have three pitchers that can do their job on any given day, and today Lauren just happened to be on and she stepped up and did a little bit more than what I would have liked,” said head coach Louie Berndt. “But in the situation right now we just need conference wins and she was on, they really weren’t hitting her. So I wanted to stay with her.”

The Blue and White won the first game 4-3.

The Seahawks jumped out to a 2-0 lead in the top of the first.

Monmouth answered right back. Kayla Weiser and Kaitie Schumacher hit back-to-back homeruns to take a 3-2 lead.

Wagner tied it in the top of the second and there was no more scoring until the bottom of the seventh.

Monmouth faced a scare in the fifth inning. Sulick walked the first two batters and coach Berndt headed out to the mound.

“They try to take so much on their shoulders. You just have to try and get them to remember

that it’s one pitch at a time, just stay within what you’re capable of doing,” said Berndt. “If you try to do too much then everything falls apart. So you just try to get them to relax and lighten up and just focus on their mechanics and what they need to do at that time.”

The next batter bunted, and third baseman Vanessa Cardoza forced out the lead runner at third. The next batter popped up to second base. With two outs and two runners on in a 3-3 game, Sulick ended the inning with a strike out.

MU came to bat in the bottom of the seventh with the score knotted at three.

Tish Derer led off the inning with a single. After a fielder’s choice, Weiser and Schumacher hit consecutive singles to load the bases with one out. Kuzma stepped in to pinch hit.

“I was a little nervous, but I knew I could do it, and everyone was giving me positive reinforcement. So I just tried to calm down,” said Kuzma.

She hit a slow roller that managed to get through the pitcher, and there was no play for the defense to make. Cardoza crossed home plate and the Hawks celebrated.

Sulick threw five innings in this game, allowing one hit and no runs. She struck out four and walked three.

Monmouth won the second game 7-4, to get back to .500 on the season.

The Seahawks jumped out to a 3-0 lead in the second inning, but that is all they would manage in this one.

Three runs appeared to be enough, until the Hawks came to

bat in the bottom of the fifth.

Christine Scherr started the inning off by reaching on an error and stealing second base. After a strikeout, Cardoza walked. Weiser hit into a fielder’s choice, then Schumacher drew a walk. With two outs and the bases loaded, Kuzma stepped up to the plate.

“The first pitch was a strike and I fouled it off and I knew it was right down the middle,” said Kuzma. “And then before that pitch I heard someone in the stands say, ‘No pressure, it’s ok, just try to clear the bases.’ I actually laughed. Then I took a breath, and it just looked like a beach ball.”

Kuzma crushed a grand slam to deep left field, putting the Hawks on top 4-3.

MU added a few insurance runs in the bottom of the sixth. Scherr picked up an RBI with a one-out triple. Two batters later, Cardoza belted a two-run homer.

The Hawks called upon Alissa Schoelkopf to pitch the top of the seventh.

“I brought Alissa in to change the pace and she throws so hard that I knew they weren’t going to touch her,” said Berndt. “The thing with her, she’s young, and she has to remember to just stick with the gameplan and not try to overthrow. But I would like to use them in that rotation with Alissa coming in and closing at times and keeping them off guard.”

Schoelkopf sat the batters down one-two-three, ending the game with a strike out.

Sulick pitched six innings, allowing three earned runs. She struck out five in the game, while walking five.



PHOTO COURTESY of MU Photography

Kate Kuzma hit a walk off single in the first game of a double header against Wagner on Saturday. In the second game, she hit a grand slam to put the Hawks ahead 4-3 in the fifth inning.

These two wins proved important for Monmouth, putting them in a tie for fifth in the Northeast Conference (NEC).

“The wins are huge. We talked about this the past couple of days. What we do in the middle of the week is only setting us up, instead of scrimmaging against ourselves, for these game that we play on the weekend, they are all that matters,” said Berndt. “Like I try to explain to the team, when we win there is a domino effect. So it just helps us. We can prob-

ably afford to lose one more, I don’t want to, so these two wins were huge. Especially after last weekend.”

The Seahawks (10-23, 3-7) find themselves in the basement of the NEC.

The Hawks host Villanova for a double-header on Thursday, with the first game starting at 3:00 pm.

They return to NEC play on Saturday when they travel to Farleigh Dickinson for a double-header.

Women’s Lacrosse Team Defeats First Place CCSU

PRESS RELEASE

MU women’s lacrosse squad used a total team effort to hand Central Connecticut State their first conference loss of the season, 12-7 on Kessler Field Thursday, April 5.

The Hawks (4-9, 3-2 NEC), which never trailed, opened up an 8-1 lead in the first half. The Blue Devils (5-5, 3-1 NEC), who are off to their best start in program history, scored six second-half goals but it wasn’t enough to keep pace with the Monmouth offense.

“To me it was a lot about the stats today,” said MU head coach Denise Wescott. We started getting the draw, we got some good looks early. Our defense just shut them down, our assistant coaches’ scouting report was good and that really helped us shut the door. Our offense pressure and ran our ride as well as we have all year. We eased up a little in the second, we felt a little too confident. We gave up the draws and they capitalized.”

Offensively, the Hawks were led by sophomore Kaleigh Gibbons, who had a career-high seven points on five goals and two assists. The MU defense was impressive, forcing CCSU into 14 turnovers. Sabrina Heskins had three ground balls and two caused turnovers while freshman Katie Donohoe backstopped the Hawks with six saves, six ground balls and four caused turnovers.

The Hawks jumped all over the Blue Devils with Gibbons tallying back to back goals in the first 2:38 of the game. Senior Sam Lillo tallied two straight of her own, giving the Hawks a 4-0 lead with



PHOTO COURTESY of MU Photography
Katie Donohoe made six saves in the Hawks 12-7 victory over Central Connecticut State.

14:10 to play. Lynn White added a goal, with Gibbons on the assist before the New Hampshire native scored her third of the first half on a free position goal. Senior Olivia Salata pushed the lead to 7-0 with 12:22 to play before CCSU’s Betsy Vendel got her squad on the board with 10:52 remaining. Monmouth’s Sam Savona put MU up 8-1, scoring with 34 seconds left in the half.

The Blue Devils cut the lead to 8-3 in the opening minutes of the second frame, prompting a Monmouth timeout. The Hawks rallied and Gibbons scored her fourth marker of the game to break up the CCSU scoring run. The Blue Devils got back to back goals over an eight minute stretch to put the score at 9-4 but MU

answered with consecutive goals from Salata and Gibbons. Central tallied a goal with 4:08 remaining before Lillo tallied her third goal to push the score to 12-6. CCSU’s Ashley Perkoski scored with four ticks remaining and the Hawks walked off with a five-goal victory.

The Hawk defense held Vendel, the league’s sixth ranked point scorer, to one goal on the afternoon. MU outshot the Blue Devils 34-20, including a 22-6 margin in the first half, while owning a 29-16 advantage in ground balls.

Gibbons’ set a career-high with her five goals and seven points, while going three for three on free position attempts. Lillo had a trio of goals but also had five crucial draw controls in the contest.

Track and Field Sets Records in Florida and Princeton

PRESS RELEASE

Laura Williams ran .02 shy of a new 400 meter hurdles school record as the Monmouth University women’s and men’s track and field teams opened competition at the Florida Relays hosted by the University of Florida, Friday afternoon. Vincent Elardo and Vincent DuVernois paced the men’s squad, landing top-four finishes in the discus and javelin, respectively. At Princeton’s Sam Howell Invitational, Qiyana Hill’s mark of 43.11 (141’ 5”) broke her own school record in the discus, while Khari Bowen finished the 5,000 meter run in 14.42 to set the new MU freshman standard.

In a field of 56 sprinters, Williams crossed the finish line in 1:00.03 in the 400 meter hurdles, good for 20th overall. Her time sits second all-time in the Monmouth record books, .02 seconds shy of Latasha Dickson’s 2007 time of 1:00.01. Rachel Watkins ran her personal best of 1:01.02 in the event.

Watkins cleared 1.70m (5’ 7”) in the high jump followed by senior Lindsey Walsh (Mount Laurel, N.J./Lenape), who landed a jump of 1.65m (5’ 5”).

Jennifer Nelson ran her way to third all-time in program history in the 1,500 meter run, clocking in at 4:36.86 for 25th overall in a field of over 40 competitors

Elardo took third in the discus finals, landing a throw of 50.70m (166’ 4”), while also earning sixth in the hammer throw, hurling for 56.36m (184’ 11”).

DuVernois took fourth overall

in the javelin as last season’s All-American launched a mark of 67.02 (219’ 10”).

The MU women’s 4x800 and distance medley teams set new school records, while the men’s sprint medley squad set a new program mark as the Florida Relays came to a close, Saturday afternoon. In the final day of the Sam Howell Invitational host by Princeton University, senior captain Jessica Toritto (Smithtown, N.Y./Smithtown East) qualified for the ECAC Championships in May to lead the corps of throwers who landed stellar marks on the afternoon.

“Florida Relays was a great experience for our team,” said head coach Joe Compagni following the events. “There were more than a dozen Olympians in action along with the top college teams in the nation and our athletes took advantage of that with some excellent performances.”

The women’s 4x800 team consisting of Amanda Eller, Emily MacEwen, Danielle Toritto and Ali Hehn crossed the finish line in 9:09.76, which landed the relay in sixth overall, and atop of the Hawks’ record books in the event, erasing last year’s time of 9:15.87.

Eller, Hehn, and MacEwen teamed up with Jennifer Nelson in the distance medley relay to run 12:06.26, shattering the 2001 record of 12:14.53. The new Monmouth record holders finished sixth overall.

The sprint medley relay of Geoff Navarro, Jon Marques (and Ford Palmer ran 3:24.63 for 10th overall. The team’s mark breaks Bob Shap-

son, John Werner, Bill Ott, and Felix Olivo’s 1998 record of 3:28.75.

The women’s 4x400 relay team of Rachel Watkins, Colleen Rutecki, Lindsey Walsh and Laura Williams ran a ECAC qualifying time of 3:50.61.

Vincent Elardo claimed seventh in men’s invitational shot put, landing a throw of 17.35m (56’ 11.25”). In the open shot put competition, Errol Jeffrey finished second overall with a mark of 17.11m (56’ 1.75”), while Shane Carle registered a throw of 15.96m (52’ 4.50”) for eighth.

Competing at Princeton, Symone Fisher landed a throw of 54.78m (179’ 9”) in the hammer to finish second overall, followed by Toritto, who claimed fifth and qualified for the ECAC Championships with her mark of 51.07m (167’ 8”).

Ann Marie Moccia registered a second place finish in the javelin, registering a toss of 39.37m (129’ 2”).

Qiyana Hill continued the trend by the throwers at Princeton, earning a second place result in the discus, hurling for 43.11m (141’ 5”).

Alison Day cleared 1.65m (5’ 5”) in the high jump to claim third.

For the men’s squad, Taylor Bernstein posted a throw of 44.55m (146’ 2”) in the discus to finish in third.

Jake Bartlett landed in first place in the high jump, clearing 1.99m (6’ 6.25”) followed by Ed Kramer and Erik Anderson who shared second with a mark of 1.94m (6’ 4.25”).

Monmouth is back in action next weekend at the Rider Invitational and Bison Outdoor Classic.

Men’s Tennis Team Goes 1-1 Against NEC Opponents

THE OUTLOOK SPORTS STAFF

The men’s tennis team went 1-1 on the week, after facing two fellow NEC opponents.

On Thursday, the Hawks fell to Quinnipiac 4-3. Freddy Marcinkowski and Carl Jedlinski both won their singles matches, but Quinnipiac was able to edge out the Hawks in four out of the six singles matches to take the victory. In doubles action, Francis Jedlinski/Laurence Heads and David Sherwood/Tom Kowalski won their matches 8-5 and 8-3 respectively.

On Sunday afternoon, the Hawks defeated Sacred Heart 5-2 in Fairfield, Connecticut. Francis Jedlinski and Sherwood were both instrumental in the victory, as they both won their singles and doubles matches. Carl Jedlinski and Jason Rothstein were also able to pick up victories in singles matches as well. The win brought the Hawks record to 4-9 overall (1-2 in the NEC).

The Hawks return to West Long Branch on Wednesday afternoon when they face off against Fairleigh Dickinson at 3:00 pm.



Gender Equality in Sports? Hardly: Analysis of Women's Sports Coverage Using the Baylor Championship

DAN GUNDERMAN
STAFF WRITER

From net-cutting, to pre-game dunks, national viewers missed out on a memorable women’s basketball championship game this year. Although it has been reported that the game received positive TV ratings (and its best since 2004), it still had a sub-par standing compared to other popular sports. It sure seems like the media just ‘forgot’ to cover Brittney Griner’s pursuit of championship and its aftermath.

A 26 point, 13 rebound, and five block game seems quite memorable, correct? Well if you didn’t log onto Yahoo! Or ESPN.com, chances are you wouldn’t find out about Brittney Griner’s powerful play versus the Notre Dame Fighting Irish.

Is this a question of what commercialization and a media marketing stance has done to the sports world? In 2012 it seems that ad revenues drive programming, which ultimately decides what gets national coverage, from live airing to post-game analysis. So, noting how men’s sports and their cult-following drive more viewings and therefore generate better business, programmers decide to cut or limit women’s sports coverage.

Is this analysis controversial, considering you may go online and read a story about how good the championship did with ratings? Well my personal opinion still tends to lean towards “no.” Throughout the season you could have easily found a powerhouse men’s program playing during primetime ESPN or network broadcasting hours. You’d be hard-pressed to find the same for women’s basketball.

While this power struggle continues between men’s and women’s sports...we had history unfolding. Baylor, led by 6’8” Brittney Griner was attempting to conclude a perfect season (40-0) and win its first championship since 2005.

The dazzling play of Griner has led to a season of dunks, numerous blocks, scoring outbreaks, and interesting post-game breakdowns of her drop-step, one-handed put downs. Breezing through the tournament, Baylor beat UCSB, Florida, Georgia Tech, Tennessee, and Stanford to make the championship.

Faced up against a Fighting Irish team who made the same

game a year ago (but lost to Texas A&M), this game was slated to be huge! Instead, it was just another college sport with mediocre coverage. If viewers really wanted analysis, they had to turn to their computers. You could barely get more than a quick highlight reel regarding the game. In contrast, we saw people breakdown the men’s championship in mass.

As I said, all media coverage seems to be carefully plotted, following some sort of formula that to stray from, is extremely frowned upon. Sadly, women’s basketball does not make the cut for huge-grossing profits and therefore, we barely got to see even this year’s dominant women’s team earn their spot in history.

What a shame. The sport’s world has clearly continued down this path of commercialization. Although women’s sports have never really been extremely popular television events, historical matchups and high-tension championships should earn a spot on the same level as men’s. It’s only fair.

As networks, can’t you just put aside your revenue projections long enough to be fair while picking which sport to cover? Realize that women’s sports are held dear to many, even though it may not be made clear through some Nielson media company readings. We need to be fair and objective...plus we might catch Brittney Griner throw-down on her next victim. Women’s sports can be highly entertaining.

If I was an executive for one of the four major networks or cable stations like ESPN, I’d do whatever was in my power to be objective. In this case, it would involve even coverage of the NCAA championships. Both men and women would receive equal promotion, coverage and later analysis. There can be no other way around it.

Although we haven’t reached this goal this year, even with a historical 40-0 Baylor season, we may have a chance to re-do it next year. Five starters are returning for Baylor, including Brittney Griner, so an 80-0 streak is not a wild projection. With an immensely powerful team possibly back in the hunt, it’s the perfect gateway towards the next generation of programming.

Come April next year, will we be able to praise the networks for their new coverage or question their tactics again? Only time will tell.



500 WINS



Also in Sports:

Are women's sports getting the media coverage they deserve?

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In his 19th season of coaching the team, baseball Head Coach Dean Ehehalt earned his 500th career victory in the Hawks 7-2 victory over Lafayette last Wednesday.

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