



THE OUTLOOK

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Red Light Camera Bill May Stop in a Flash

BRITTANY HARDAKER
STAFF WRITER

A new report from the New Jersey Department of Transportation (NJDOT) confirms what many opponents of red-light cameras have long suspected: the cameras lead to more accidents, more injuries, and greater costs for New Jersey drivers.

The NJDOT report, released in November, was compiled as an annual requirement of the state's five-year red light pilot program that began in December 2009. Overall, the report found an increase in the total number of crashes as well as a drastic increase in costs at intersections where the cameras were installed.

The traffic control signal monitoring system, also known as Red Light Running (RLR), is an "integrated device utilizing one or more cameras and sensors that work in conjunction with a traffic control signal to produce images of vehicles that disregard a red signal or 'run a red light,'" the report explains.

Although there are many supporters for the program, the costs outweigh the benefits for some New Jersey drivers. Created to increase intersection safety, some red light camera devices have been found to do just the opposite.

According to the report, the costs included, but were not limited to

"vehicle damage and repair, damage to property, emergency response, medical care, and even funeral costs."

Many, if not most of these crashes are the result of drivers who slam on their brakes when a traffic light turns yellow in order to avoid a ticket, the report explains. Motorists who are aware that an intersection is monitored by red-light camera systems tend to get in more rear-end collisions from cars following too closely behind them.

The NJDOT report found that the number of rear-end collisions increased by 20 percent (from 286 to 343) after cameras were installed, resulting not only in more injuries, but a cost increase of \$728,000.

Overall, the total number of crashes at the 24 intersections included in the report increased from 577 to 582 (up 0.9 percent.) It may not sound like a large increase; but the total cost – which takes into consideration vehicle and property damage, medical care, and emergency response, increased by nearly \$1.2 million for New Jersey drivers after cameras were installed.

However, many opponents argue that the most dangerous intersections are the result of poor engineering rather than careless drivers.

Through allowing red light cameras to make the objective decision



of whether or not a driver has disobeyed traffic laws, the argument erupts as to whether or not automated enforcement is a fair technique for issuing traffic violations. While traffic tickets were formerly up to the discretion of New Jersey police officers, the power is now in the lens of a camera.

That is not the case with the University, however; Sergeant Joseph Oberc of the University Police Department explained. Contrary to what many students believe, the cameras above the traffic lights are not there to catch questionable traffic violations. Instead, they are actually just there to trigger light changes in order to add to the flow of traffic around campus.

Oberc explained that police officers

Red Light Bill continued on pg. 8

Students Participate in Simulation Business Competition

AMY GEIS
STAFF WRITER

Two University student teams ranked third and 19th in an online simulation business competition against approximately 350 competing teams from all over the nation.

This competition was based on Dr. Randy Chapman's LINKS complex business simulations. Dr. David Paul, Associate Professor of Marketing and Health Care Management, uses these in his Services Marketing course every year. "This semester was the first time I heard of this 'competition,' because none of the teams ever placed high enough that I was informed of it," said Paul.

Benjamin Sutton, William-Brucella and Susan Imperiale placed 19th on the Key Performance Indicator of Ratio of Change in Net Income to Revenue, which shows the improvement of cash position over the prior quarter.

Bruella, a junior communication major with a business marketing minor, said he was shocked to find out about his team placing. "There really is no way of knowing how well we do compared to the other teams in the class unless the professor showed us our rankings," he said.

Third place on the Key Performance Indicator of Forecasting Accuracy was given to the team of Robbie Krienke,

Alex Whelan and Joseph Rienzi, which according to Paul this is "a pure signal of management skill and expertise in understanding customers and customer demand generation." Paul continued to say, "their forecasting accuracy was 94.1 percent, which was 0.1 percent away from tying them for best in the world."

Paul made certificates of achievement and presented them to the six students in class so the other students would be aware of the accomplishments.

These simulations are usually scenario-based and are used for development and learning. The students compete in a simulation of a service industry. Brucella said, "We just have to make decisions in order to gain more market shares, increase sales, and ultimately be the best firm in the industry."

The manuals are often incredibly detailed and confusing. Paul advised his students to read the manual three times.

According to Paul, this is necessary because "the first time, it will make no sense whatsoever, and might as well have been written in Greek; a second time, more slowly than the first, and it will begin to not only make some sense but they will begin to see the logic; and a third time, and they will then begin to see that there are

Business continued on pg. 2

Rechnitz Hall to Open After Winter Break

ALYSSA GRAY
COMICS EDITOR

With the winter weather rolling in and the holiday season jumping to the top of everyone's minds, the brand new Joan and Robert Rechnitz Hall, or more commonly known as the New Art Building, is set to open up following winter break.

According to the University's website the building itself offers over 20,000 square feet of space that will be filled with a grand gallery, multiple classrooms, as well as studios, lab rooms, and faculty offices. All of which are

aimed to provide students with the space needed to complete their projects and assignments in the most proactive manner. The building is also designed to intentionally mimic the existing building's exterior façade and contains archive storage space for the university's expanding art collection.

Dr. Andrew Cohen, Chair of the Art and Design Department, mentions that in order to compliment the vast amount of square footage now offered to the department, the proper layout will be needed to utilize the space its fullest potential.

"Flanking the central gallery, are two lecture halls for art history and art appreciation courses. Rechnitz Hall is completely wireless and students will have a lounge on the first floor with comfortable furniture and vending machines. Conveniently, faculty offices are spread throughout Rechnitz Hall allowing for easy accessibility and contact between students and their professors," said Cohen.

Cohen also illustrates how the building is directed to aid in students' education in the arts. He says that as compared

to the buildings that the art classes currently take place in, there is much more room. "Previously we were in cramped rooms with hardly [any] room to move. This is true of the two third floor studios as well; [the] large, open spaces allow drawing and painting students to spread out and receive proper instruction," says Cohen.

Aleyah Rubin, a sophomore majoring in fine arts, asserts the same views and expresses her excitement for the added space the building will offer. "What we currently have now is a very cramped studio

spaces with too many kids for the rooms, making some have to go into separate rooms during studio time because there aren't enough tables. With this new building, which is beautiful by the way, there are supposed to be spread out, larger rooms which will let everyone work in the same room at the same time, even if it is a large class," Rubin states.

To add to the already amped appeal the building holds, the fact that the building is not

Rechnitz Hall continued on pg. 4

Index

News	2
Op/Ed	6
Politics	8
Lifestyles	10
Entertainment	12
Features	14
Club and Greek	16
Comics	21
Sports	22

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News

Students have hands on experience with biology and botany through on campus vineyard.

page 3



Opinion

People have many different ways to celebrate the holiday season.

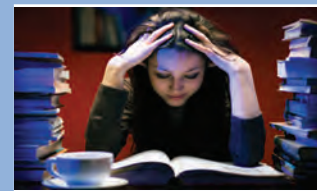
page 7



Entertainment

Is the Wii-U a disappointment or a future success?

page 12



Club & Greek

Students learn how to cope with stress at "Address Your Stress."

page 17

Kate Nawoyski Receives JASPER Award

Earns Gold Award in the Rising Star Category

CASSANDRA FIGUEROA
STAFF WRITER

The Jersey Shore Public Relations & Advertising Association awarded University student Kate Nawoyski with the 38th annual JASPER Rising Star Award.

This award is given to students who excel in the communication industry and are enrolled in accredited programs. Out of the 19 different award categories presented in the JASPER Awards, Nawoyski, senior communication major, received the Gold Award in the Rising Star category for her video, *Macheke Sustainability Project: Moleen Madziva*.

According to awards.jspra.com, “entries must meet a minimum score of excellence to be considered. Based upon the judges’ scores, one Gold and one Silver prize will be awarded in each category.”

Nawoyski said she was asked by the University’s Enrollment Publications Department to support Madziva’s sustainability project by creating a promotional and informative video. “The Macheke Sustainability Project is a great organization and we thought the video would not only help them, but get Monmouth University students motivated to get involved in the project,” said Nawoyski.

Sarah Savarese, the Director of Enrollment Publications and Communications, and Eileen Reinhard, the Assistant Director of Enrollment Publications and Communications, nominated Nawoyski for the award. “Kate does outstanding work and we’re very fortunate to have her working in our office,” Savarese said. “This competition category was an excellent opportunity to show

others outside of the University the quality of her work.”

The Macheke Sustainability Project is a non-profit organization whose headquarters are in New Jersey. “Essentially, MSP is a collection of social business initiatives whose focus is to empower people and eradicate poverty in the village community of Macheke, Zimbabwe,” according to machekeproject.org. “This model of poverty reduction seeks to support people in their goal to becoming self-reliant through social entrepreneurship initiatives.”

Moleen Madziva is a University alumnus who was born in Zimbabwe in 1975. She grew up in the village of Macheke and traveled to the United States to pursue an education. After receiving a Ph.D. in Sustainability Education at Prescott College, she decided to develop a project that would decrease the poverty level in Macheke.

Students and professors at the University as well as peers at Prescott College have supported Madziva and her efforts to empower the people of Zimbabwe and reduce the poverty level.

“These efforts have led to my founding of a non-profit organization called the Macheke Sustainability Project – a profound initiative that seeks to empower the people of my village as they turn from a life of abject poverty,” Madziva said.

“I’m just glad that I was able to help the MSP get their message out and hopefully get them some more volunteers,” Nawoyski said. “The award is added recognition, icing on the cake.”

The JASPER Awards are an entity of the Jersey Shore Public Relations & Advertising Association. However, the JASPER com-

mittee is responsible for deciding the candidates and winners of the awards. “In existence since 1965, the Jersey Shore Public Relations & Advertising Association has grown into the area’s largest communication association, consisting of almost 200 members from the advertising, graphic design, marketing, and public relations professions,” according to their website, jspra.com.

“Everyone appreciates recognition for their accomplishments, and we knew Kate deserved to be honored in such a way as this,” said Savarese. “I’m glad the judges agreed.”

Other than the award winning, *Macheke Sustainability Project: Moleen Madziva*, Nawoyski has created additional videos that support different causes and organizations. “I created a testimonial video for Houseless Not Hopeless, a project created here at Monmouth by Susan Damaschke and the First Year Service Project that helps raise awareness about homelessness,” Nawoyski said. “I’ve also created videos for the Alternative Spring Break trips to Guatemala to promote the work that students did and to raise funding for the trips.”

Nawoyski is involved with many other groups and organizations on campus. Her involvement includes, but is not limited to, President of the Pre-Law Club, Operations Manager for *Hawk TV*, Apartment Manager for Residential Life, videographer and editor for Enrollment Publications, captain of the Mock Trial team and she works for Production Services.

Nawoyski is also very committed to volunteer work and will be traveling to Haiti in January for an Alternative Winter Break Trip.



PHOTO COURTESY of Blaze Nowara

Kate Nawoyski won the award for her video called *Macheke Sustainability Project: Moleen Madziva*.

Students Place in Key Performance Indicators

Business continued from pg. 1

“hints” embedded in the text as to how to do well in the simulation.”

Teams of three were formed in the class, “Each of which competed against all the other student teams to manage their firm in marketing a (non-specified) service,” said Paul. “Teams had to order and pay for marketing research in order to understand their markets.” They had to appeal to both businesses and consumers.

“Each team is responsible to

make quarterly decisions from how much we pay our employees, how much our service will cost, and what kinds of market research we want to purchase for each quarter,” Brucella said.

Rienzi, senior business major with a concentration in marketing and management, said, “We had to look at marketing research and other data on a weekly basis regarding our services and oth-

ers’ then react to the research and change our stance in the market so our firm would hopefully be more successful than other firms.”

Each team’s work was submitted to Chapman’s website. “Each

week constituted a quarter (i.e., 4 quarters/year), and decisions were submitted electronically by each team each quarter,” said Paul.

“In the 14 plus years I’ve been using marketing simulations, this is the first time one of my student teams has ever placed this high in either of these Key Performance Indicators,” Paul said.

Arizona State University, Penn State University, Clemson University, and Virginia Commonwealth University are just some of the other schools that participated and placed in this competition.

“In the 14 plus years I’ve been using marketing simulations, this is the first time one of my student teams has ever placed this high in either of these Key Performance Indicators.”

DR. DAVID PAUL

Associate Professor of Marketing and Health Care Management

CRIME BLOTTER

STUDENT MISCONDUCT

11/30/12 - 3:22 AM

LONG BRANCH

PERSON UNDER THE LEGAL AGE WITH ALCOHOL / STUDENT MISCONDUCT

12/1/12 - 2:29 AM

MAPLEWOOD HALL

THEFT

12/1/12 - 11:30 AM

MAC FITNESS CENTER

PERSON UNDER THE LEGAL AGE WITH ALCOHOL / STUDENT MISCONDUCT

12/2/12 - 2:58 AM

CEDAR HALL

WED.

THURS.

FRI.

SAT.

SUN.

MON.

TUES 11/28 - 12/4

A Glass of Merlot, Please

NANA BONSU
OPINION EDITOR

In order to provide students with hands on experience in the field of biology and botany, the University has created a vineyard on campus as a part of the biology curriculum.

The idea of the vineyard originated from Dr. Pedram Daneshgar, assistant biology professor. According to Daneshgar, the purpose of the project is to fuse together the biology curriculum taught in the classroom with real life experiments that will expose students to the material they learn.

“The Monmouth University campus vineyard is essentially an outdoor laboratory designed to help students learn about sustainable agricultural practices, integrated pest management practices, growth preferences of grapes, proper cultivation of grape vines and other aspects of vineyards such as wine production,” said Michael Palladino, Dean of the School of Science. “The vineyard also has the potential to help students learn about aspects of grape genetics and about the genetics of bacteria and yeast that live on grape vines and are essential for wine production.”

“The main goal of this botany project is to teach students about sustainable agriculture and what it takes to successfully grow a vineyard,” Daneshgar said.

Daneshgar, an ecologist specializing in plants who also teaches botany at the University, wanted to create a “platform to teach all biology majors.” Rather than each section of biology creating a different project, the vineyard project will serve as a tool to connect all students within the field of study.

“One aspect of Daneshgar’s vision for this project is to incorporate aspects of the vineyard as a theme connecting multiple biology courses,” Palladino said. “In introductory courses and plant science courses, students can learn about fundamental aspects of plant biology using the vineyard, and in upper level courses, students can learn about concepts in plant genetics and microbial genetics related to the vineyard.”

The project, which began in early May of 2012, involved a se-

ries of initial procedures before construction could commence. Once an appropriate location was selected, the project needed official approval and confirmation from President Paul Gaffney, who gave his permission to allow the vineyard to be constructed near the Doherty House, an ideal location for the vineyard because it is located on a slope, preventing water accumulation which is bad for the vines.

After the initial process was

completed, vines from an upstate New York vineyard were ordered, and the biology students began the construction of the vineyard.

The two primary vines grown in the vineyard are Chambourcin, a red grape variety that produces a red wine with spicy undertones, and Cayuga White, a grape variety which produces a sweet and fruity white wine. Both vines were selected primarily due to their disease resistant nature and because they are both known to be successfully grown in New Jersey.

The maintenance of the vineyard is the responsibility of Daneshgar and five students who are either conducting an independent study

or working as interns. Because of the currently cold weather temperatures, the group tends to the vineyard once per week. During the spring and summer months, the group will make several visits to the vineyard each week.

The group’s weekly visits consist of observing and evaluating the approximately 100 vines one by one in order to note the health of each plant. The group then collects data such as measurements of plant growth.

“The weekly visits contribute to the hands on experience and overall understanding of the factors which influence plant growth,” said Daneshgar. “When the project reaches the wine production stage, the students will learn about fermentation.”

The group’s visits have seen success up to this point with very few issues.

“The only issue we’ve really had was a deer problem, but we made some spray with mint and garlic, sprayed the plants, and the plants were fine,” Daneshgar said.

Because the Doherty House is used for many University events, it would not be possible to construct a deer fence, so the group

a combination of both Hurricane Sandy and the winter weather.

Although the project is meant to serve as a learning tool for biology students, “any student who wants to do something with the vineyard is more than welcome to get involved,” Daneshgar said.

The project also plans on getting involvement from other departments in the future as the project grows and progresses.

“We would like to reach out to the art department to design wine labels, as well as the business department about marketing the wine,” Daneshgar said.

The initial startup capital required was \$2,000, which covered the cost of the vines, the

equipment needed to construct the trellis system which supports the vines as they grow, as well as the equipment rented to prepare the soil. The fixed cost of the project totals less than \$500 per year which covers the cost of fertilizers and sprays. The overall funding comes from the biology department, but the department is hoping to gather more financial support to help pay for materials and equipment.

Long term funding will eventually become of great concern, especially when the vineyard is ready to produce wine because of the very costly wine making machinery.

The project has received ongoing support from John and Janet Giunco, owners of the award winning Four JG’s vineyard in Colts Neck, who serve as the primary advisors to Daneshgar throughout the process.

“The Giuncos have been invaluable for guiding Daneshgar on how to develop the vineyard. The Giuncos provided Daneshgar with growing tubes to support the vines, contact information for key vendors from whom to purchase vines and supplies, and they helped with a soil analysis to determine the nutrition content [in order to determine a suitable vineyard location],” Palladino said.

The vineyard is currently in its early stages, so it is not producing grapes, but Daneshgar is optimistic that grapes suitable for wine production will begin to grow within 3-4 years. Once the vineyard has reached its peak, it should be able to produce 300-400 bottles of wine per year, according to Daneshgar.

Because much of the project is in the planning stages, it is not official what will happen to the bottled wine.

“It will either be sold, or it will be used at Monmouth’s formal events such as Alumni Day or Homecoming,” said Daneshgar.

The vineyard project is still in its premature phase, but volunteers are welcome to get involved.

“We envision the vineyard as a resource of pride for the campus,” Palladino added. “I encourage any students or faculty interested in learning more about working the vineyard to contact Daneshgar.”



PHOTO COURTESY of MU Photography

The purpose of the vineyard is to merge the biology curriculum with real life experiments.

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The maintenance of the vineyard is the responsibility of Daneshgar and five students who are either conducting an independent study

The Presidential Search Continues

LAUREN GARCIA
ASSISTANT NEWS EDITOR

The University is on track for the Presidential search of the 2013-2014 school years. According to the email sent to students on behalf of Dr. Marcia Clever and Al Schiavetti, the co-chairs of the Presidential Search Committee, advertisements have been placed in several media forms to alert individuals interested the position of President for the University.

Grey Dimenna, Vice President and General Counsel the one responsible for most of the staff work of the Presidential Search Committee, has confirmed and named the areas of advertising for the position: “The advertisement was placed in the *Chronicle of Higher Education*, *Inside Higher Education* and three publications reaching primarily women and minority professionals,” said Dimenna. “The Search Committee also sent out letters to hundreds of individuals including government officials, former trustees, honorary degree recipients and donors and friends of the University, asking them to

nominate individuals that they believed would be excellent candidates for the University’s next president.”

The University’s website has a page regarding the Presidential Search. It currently lists the end of October to the beginning of November as the deadline for submitting applications.

The Search Committee is now

dents alerting them of the process of the search, 70 officials have applied for the position.

Some of the applicants, however, are still currently employed by other institutions. The University has agreed to keep the personal information of the applicants confidential. Their identities will not be known until they have narrowed down the

Search Committee is considering each candidate’s background, experience and the quality of the materials submitted as part of the application.”

Dimenna added that the committee is still using the criteria listed in the Leadership Statement in order to measure the quality of each candidate. The Leadership Statement,

which is available for viewing on the University website, lists challenges and characteristics that will be sought for a new president. Many challenges are listed on the website but a few examples are: the future of the academic program, enrollment strategy, enhancement of financial resources, focus on student satisfaction and success, growth of alumni support, enhancing di-

“The Search Committee has done a preliminary narrowing of the candidates and continues to work toward narrowing the pool to a smaller group for in-person interviews.”

GREY DIMENNA
Vice President and General Counsel

in the process of narrowing down the list of applicants, which include people ranging from various positions and backgrounds: “sitting and former college and university presidents, provosts, vice presidents, deans and other individuals affiliated with higher education as well as others from business and government,” said Dimenna.

As of the last email sent to stu-

candidates to the final few who will then be brought onto campus in the last two weeks of January into early February, according to Dimenna.

“The Search Committee has done a preliminary narrowing of the candidates and continues to work toward narrowing the pool to a smaller group for in-person interviews,” said Dimenna. “In narrowing down the pool, the

which is available for viewing on the University website, lists challenges and characteristics that will be sought for a new president. Many challenges are listed on the website but a few examples are: the future of the academic program, enrollment strategy, enhancement of financial resources, focus on student satisfaction and success, growth of alumni support, enhancing di-

versity and so fourth.

As of next year, the Search Committee intends on narrowing down applicants to bring to the University during the weeks of January 21, 28 and February 4. The email explaining the process states that “each visit will commence on an evening and will continue for two full days thereafter. During these visits, it is the intent of the committee to make each candidate available to as many groups as possible including faculty, administrators, students, staff and the Board of Trustees.”

A schedule will be made for each visit that will advise the campus about the time and location of the meetings during the visits which will hopefully allow all interested individuals or groups to participate, according to the email. Electronic feedback will also be made available by the committee to provide individuals with the opportunity to offer their feedback on the candidates.

The next president will be chosen by the Board of Trustees with the information given to them by the Search Committee during a special meeting in February.

Get a Job!

Students and Employers Gather for the Annual Career Networking Day

SAGE FONSECA
STAFF WRITER

Over 65 employers came to Anacon Hall for the Network 2012 Fall Career Day organized by the University Center for Student Success and Career Services on Thursday.

Some of the businesses present included *The Asbury Park Press*, Aflac, Prudential, Wells Fargo Bank, the Marine Corps Officer Programs and Toys “R” Us.

Most of the businesses attending had local branches so students could hunt for internships as well as full time working positions.

For students arriving at the event, which was held from 12:30 pm to 4:00 pm, they were greeted with a packet that included descriptions of all the business, government sectors and non-profit organizations in attendance.

These packets also included information about which majors each employer was looking for and what positions they wanted to fill.

The Rebecca Stafford Student Center was occupied with students studying their new manuals

before heading into the event.

“It’s important to do research and see who meets up with my resume,” said Jessica Kimball, senior.

Inside, Anacon Hall was bustling with students and recruiters eagerly networking for the future, handing out resumes and business cards and giving out small stuffed animal giraffes.

“They should know what they’re looking for. You know the people who are serious but I also understand it’s a college environment.”

DENISE GRAGA

Assistant Personnel Officer for the Ocean County Health Department

Most representatives agreed that the students coming to the event were well prepared with resumes, talking points and an idea of what they want for the future.

“They should know what they’re looking for. You know the people who are serious but I also understand it’s a college environment,” said Denise Graga, Assistant Personnel Officer for the Ocean County Health Department.

ment.

The employers were enthusiastic to give advice to students for future career events and interviews.

“Appearance has 1,000 words attached to it,” said Maria Zanfardino, Agent for Aflac.

Robert Flom, representative from Source 4 Teachers, said that when looking to hire people from

The Meadowlands Racetrack also echoed the idea that any skills students have can be useful in business.

“There is every job imaginable in our industry, any education you have we need,” said Mona Vaccarella, Director of Human Resources and Labor Relations for the Meadowlands Racetrack.

With so many opportunities for

“I know how nerve-racking it can be,” continued Columbus, “I was excited to encourage and support the students,” said Columbus.

The event also gave students an opportunity to work on their interview skills for the next event, or upcoming job search.

“After the first [career fair attended] I changed my resume,” said Kyle Thomas, senior. “[The events] are really helpful and for the most part everyone is encouraging.”

“The last event I went to made me more prepared,” said Francesa Oden, senior. “These events are helpful because you get to meet different companies and recruiters.”

Before leaving the Fall Career Day, students were asked to fill out a survey included in the job packets to help provide feedback for future events.

Students who did or did not attend the event, but want to do online practice job interviews, or get tips on resume building, interviews and job search letters can find all the information on the Center for Student Success page on the University website.

Students to Utilize New Space in Rechnitz Hall

Art Building continued from pg. 1

strictly just for art majors adds to the universal excitement emitting across the student body. Garret Vitulli, a sophomore business major, contests enthusiasm similar to Rubin’s, mentioning how he is happy that he will get to experience the new “Art building experience” without having to actually be an art and design major. “I have an art appreciation class in the building when it first opens up for classes next semester and I have to say that it I’m looking forward to it as much, or maybe a little more, than I am looking forward to my business courses,” says Vitulli.

He proceeds to mention how it could possibly bring more awareness and interest to the department. “I think by letting people from other majors into the building and seeing all of the cool work that the art students are doing might influence them to take a few more design-based classes of their own. It could really help boost the department and let other kids discover a skill that they never would have thought they had and do things they never thought they could do,” Vitulli contends.

On top of the increased learning spaces, a large gallery was constructed to be one of the main



PHOTO COURTESY of Jacklyn Kouefati

Rechnitz Hall will have a large gallery aiming to be one of the main focal points of the building.

focal points of the building, and will also showcase student and local pieces. “The inaugural

exhibit “faculty and friends” is curated by our Gallery Director, Scott Knauer, and Professor Vin-

cent Dimattio.

In the future, the gallery will display student senior shows and

our ‘all art/design student exhibit, which are annual events. Additional exhibits, where we bring nationally and internationally recognized artists, are selected by our Gallery Director with input and advice by art/design faculty,” Cohen states.

He goes on to indicate that the Rechnitz Hall gallery will also allow for exhibitions of larger, higher quality to be brought to campus, an option that was not possible in the old 800 Gallery. However some studios will remain in the 600 building zone, such as photography, printmaking, ceramics and sculpture with an additional studio for drawing and painting classes; all to make sure that the previously cramped students now have the necessary space.

The building is set for the grand unveiling sometime after the University’s winter break, where there will be a formal reception for invitees only, and then a general public admission to the building upon the later date. For those who cannot wait for the official viewing or whom wish to stay updated on the art building’s process, they can do so at Monmouth’s website, http://www.monmouth.edu/resources/campus_planning/artbuilding.asp, where a virtual tour of the building is offered along with a description of the project.




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3RD ANNUAL



Holiday Bazaar

Thursday, December 6th

Anacon Hall <sup>2nd floor of the
Student Center</sup>

10:00 am - 4:00 pm

*find a gift for everyone
on your list!*

shop for:

- jewelry
- Northface
- Uggs
- candles
- toys

and more!



THE OUTLOOK

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More Rooms For Residents, Less Parking for Commuters

THE OUTLOOK STAFF OPINION

As students, there are many things we have to deal with. Some primarily face the battle of getting work submitted on time, while others adapt to lifestyle changes the most and must bear the harsh reality of becoming an adult. However, one issue that all of us are familiar with is whether it is better to be a resident or a commuter. The University has obviously made that decision for us by choosing to build a new dorm in Parking Lot Six near the library.

Current residents may not care about this, but it does affect all of us. After all, who among us doesn't at least have a friend who has said, "I'm late to class because I can't park!" Beginning this spring, we'll have 200 less parking spaces. In return, the University promises to have more bedrooms some time during 2014.

Several editors pointed out that it might be a very serious problem for students looking to use the library late at night. If library parking is deferred to the Woods Theater lot, then, if students are at the library late at night, it could be a daunting experience to walk that distance at that hour.

Moreover, this could cause serious overcrowding of the Woods Theater lot during the day, meaning students who have class in there may have to park far away and race across the entire campus.

In addition to Lot Six being one of the few commuter lots on the north end of campus, students have been complaining almost non-stop

throughout the entire semester about a lack of parking during certain times. Despite the valet parking service, many students find themselves consistently running late, due to the inability to find places to park. One editor points out that if it weren't for being an honors student and thus having the ability to park in the honors lot, he might have needed to rearrange his schedule.

The Outlook can only imagine how people will feel when another 200 spots are taken away for a dorm that nearly half of the student body may never see finished.

Budgetary constraints notwithstanding, it might make more sense to build additional facilities, or at least plan to. If students plan to live off-campus anyway, funds would be better spent on additional academic buildings or student facilities- i.e. all of the psychological counseling and health services could be consolidated into one building, opening up additional spots for clubs and such in the Student Center.

Also, many buildings are used for several departments; foreign languages, natural/social sciences and technological majors are a few examples of programs that would certainly benefit from their own facilities.

Pretty much everyone is aware of the Art building that was recently built on campus. Not only is the department, and all of its students, rejoicing in its completion, but the mere fact of having separate, specialized facilities will create greater educational benefits. Having a space dedicated to students of a specific

discipline allows the University to celebrate them and bolster a more complete learning process.

There is no doubt that art majors will profit from being able to work in greater space and within designated, specialized areas. This same principle applies to all students of all educational disciplines.

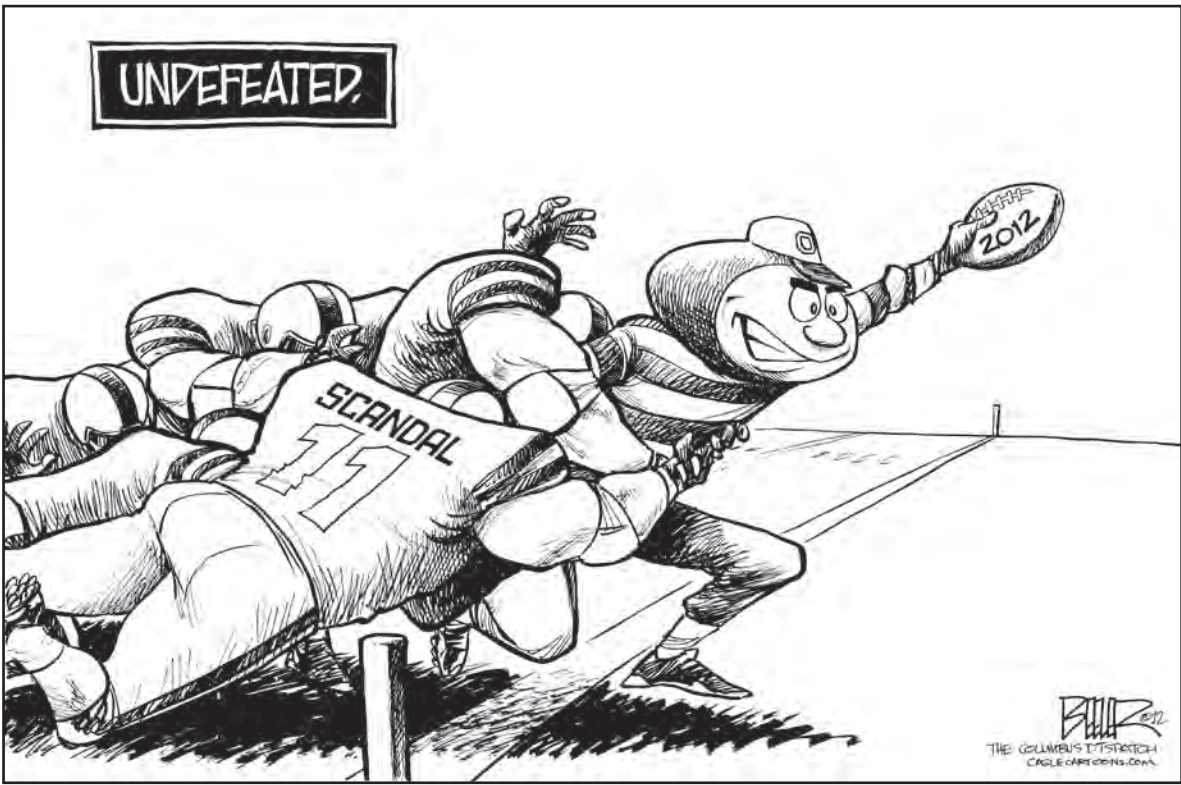
One editor who used to live on campus said an additional dorm would be completely unnecessary. Since students rarely get turned down for housing and, at times, there are empty beds, there is no reason to assume there would be enough students living at the University to warrant the dorm.

Living off campus is cheaper and should sophomores realize that, there is little reason for them to stay on campus.

Conversely, one editor at *The Outlook* doesn't believe the dorm is a bad idea. By enticing more students to live on campus, the University is attempting to avoid its suitcase school image. However, the editor agrees that the placement is poor, and that the University should consider investing funds elsewhere before looking to have more residents.

While it is understandable to want more students living on campus, there are many aspects of the University, such as Howard Hall, that could use improvements first. Though a new dorm wouldn't be the end of the world, *The Outlook* feels that, should the University go through with it, there should be greater consideration given to its placement prior to the beginning of construction.

CORRECTION: Last week, in a story headlined "Hawks Fly Together in Hurricane Relief Efforts", *The Outlook* reported that the relief fund had collected \$700, which is what the paper was told on the record by a staff member from Student Activities. After the story was published, the paper became aware that the actual amount collected to date was \$9,074.46. If, for any reason, this inaccuracy has caused misunderstanding or problems, *The Outlook* regrets that.



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Alternative Press’ ‘Artist of the Year’ Stirs Controversy

AMY GEIS
STAFF WRITER

How does someone who has been arrested twice in the past four months for domestic assault and injuring his fans deserve an award as prestigious as *Alternative Press’* Artist of the Year?

Rock Magazine, *Alternative Press*, announced that Falling in Reverse, a post-hardcore band, was their Artist of the Year. To a point, music should be just about the music, but when it comes to giving awards, kids are going to start to look up to the band. Lead singer Ronnie Radke is no role model.

The reason this is causing controversy is because Radke has not been a model citizen. Let’s take Radke’s past year step- by-step. In August, Radke was arrested for domestic assault on his girlfriend. In September, during FestEVIL at the Jackson, NJ Six Flags, Radke threw four microphone stands into the crowd at the end of the band’s performance.

There were at least two fans that were hurt with alleged head injuries. Radke was then arrested.

This fall, while touring with Falling in Reverse, an opening band, I See Stars, was arrested for possession of drugs. Radke, a recovering addict, kicked them off of the tour.

The band then begged Radke to stay on tour and offered him their pay. Radke agreed after making them sign a contract of secrecy but then ended up kick-

ing them off the tour again.

Fans of I See Stars had already bought tickets for that night and were assuming they would be there. A group of fans started to chant “I See Stars.” Radke kicked the fans out of the show while maliciously shouting at them.

I See Stars’ record label, Summerian Records, said, “Just because you no longer do drugs doesn’t mean you are no longer a horrible human being. Ronnie now abuses people instead of substances.”

We have to realize Radke alone isn’t Falling in Reverse. There are four other members, but as a front man you take the responsibility as the face of the band.

Are we trying to show kids that you can be a horrible person, but as long as you are in a cool band people won’t care?

Nobody is perfect, but with someone as far away from perfect like Radke, they don’t need to be rewarded in the year where incident after incident kept happening. The timing is all wrong. Radke needs time to prove that he can be a respectful human being.

Radke in the past has been arrested for drugs at least six times and even went to prison for two-and- a- half years after violating his parole due to his involvement in a group fight that resulted in a death.

In the Artist of the Year article, Radke announces that he is going to be a father. This is a scary thought because he has no respect for people and seems like



IMAGE TAKEN from ticketfly.com

Falling in Reverse, the *Alternative Press’* 2012 selection for Artist of the Year, is a controversial choice. The lead singer of the band, Ronnie Radke (second from left), is known for his out of control behavior both on and off the stage.

a rotten soul. We can only hope that this baby is a miracle child and can change Radke.

Falling in Reverse fans will probably argue the fact that Radke’s personal life has nothing to do with the band and that they deserve this award, but it’s the principle.

By *Alternative Press* picking them, it puts them on a pedestal where they certainly don’t belong.

Surely Radke isn’t the first rock and roller to get arrested, but it’s time that we stop being enablers of this behavior.

Of course Falling in Reverse fans aren’t phased by this, but most music fans are irritated. Every year, tons of artists hit the scene that are talented, excited, and loyal to fans, so why was this bitter, drama-filled band chosen as Artist of the Year? That is something we may never know.

There is a certain image that comes with being in a rock and roll band. It’s all about partying and being bad, but when you start to disrespect and harm others, it is taken to a whole other level.

I believe Radke’s unacceptable behavior and his lack of sympathy for those he’s hurt should be evidence enough that Falling in Reverse isn’t Artist of the Year material yet.

College Brings About Change New Priorities and Circumstances Accompany Senior Year

VICTORIA JORDAN
STAFF WRITER

“These four years will fly by.” How many times have you heard that cliché? I know I was told that when I entered both high school and college, and it is more of a reality than I ever expected.

As this semester of my senior year rapidly comes to an end, I’ve had my moments of reminiscing about my previous three years at the University. My father was so accurate in telling me that I will enter college as a young girl and leave as a young lady.

Of course, four years ago, I thought he was just commenting on my high school immaturity and little knowledge of the world. Now, I hope to offer meaningful insight on the “growing up” that takes place during the college years.

I have made so many changes to my lifestyle since my freshman year that thinking of the habits I had back then is quite amusing. The following is the shortest advice I could possibly give about the most common habits that I had during my previous three years of college (most underclassmen probably have them too) and how I approach similar issues today.

However, I am taking a unique stance by deciding if I am too old for the following habits that I used to consider the norm.

Am I too old for: finding the most outrageous frat or toga party? Yes. As a freshman, dressing up in a bed sheet wrapped uncomfortably around my torso was apparently one of the best ways to meet new people, and so

was paying a \$10 cab ride to a party where you were so easily identifiable as a freshman that it was basically self-torture.

Looking back, none of those people I met are my friends today, and I would much rather wear jeans and a tee to a place where I know I have good company. Underclassmen, enjoy these days before you realize how silly they were!

Am I too old for: skipping class? Too many upperclassmen’s dismay, yes. It seemed like a difficult concept to wrap my head around a few years ago, but I pay a high tuition to attend class. I do think that, as a senior, intentionally not going to class is just pure laziness compared to it being an immature decision as an underclassman.

Prioritizing has become a skill that I’ve learned through my many years of schooling. If a class, meeting, internship, or job is “worth missing” at this point, then your level of responsibility and reliability isn’t worth a career.

There are many hours in a day to find spare free time to yourself instead of skipping out on a priority.

Am I too old for: roommate conflicts? So far, I’ve experienced at least one issue every year with a roommate. So I don’t think a person can ever be too old for conflict because it is a part of life. However, the way I handle situations has drastically changed.

As a freshman and sophomore, I thought ignoring the problems that were obvious would solve all issues, but that only created

more tension and added a heap of unnecessary stress. Approaching any problems that arise right away is the best way to grow as a communicator, negotiator, and mature person. Disagreements will happen, and they might continue after talking it out, but being comfortable in your environment and own skin is always most important.

Am I too old for: sleeping in on weekdays? Again, to many people’s dismay, yes. This semester gave me a brutal awakening to the real world with my internship in New York City. 7:00 am. would be considered a late start to my morning.

Although my years as an underclassman were always focused on preparing for a career, my senior year made me realize how different it is from college. Underclassmen, enjoy your sleep while you are able to get plenty of it.

In my opinion, seniors should already put themselves in situations that force them to wake up early, be it a class, workout, job, or internship. Doing so will make the transition to a job much smoother and more enjoyable.

These were just four quick memories that were so prevalent during my years as an underclassman. College really does allow a person to flourish as an individual in every aspect of his or her life.

As stated when I began, these four years really do go by quickly.

Don’t wait until the end of your college career to make vital changes to your life that can have a great impact on the many years to follow.

Starting Traditions People Celebrate Holidays Differently

RACHEL GRAMIUGLIA
STAFF WRITER

It is now December and holiday traditions are in full swing. Some traditions are small, some traditions are large, but traditions are traditions. From playing it simple, like making snow angels, to kicking it up a notch, like ice-skating in Rockefeller Center, traditions come into the holiday season stronger than ever before. Traditions can be found at the root of our families. They date back to as far as anyone can remember.

Let’s take my family for example. We’re big, we’re loud, and we’re Italian. Add the holiday season into the equation and you’ll get a whole mess of crazy, big, and loud Italians who love food.

One tradition that my family does around the holidays is that we bake and bake and bake. All the women in my family meet at one of our houses (usually mine) and we bake tons and tons of holiday cookies for our friends and family. By the end of the day, we would have baked over 600 cookies. Sugar rush, anyone?

Then we have to frost and decorate the sugar cookies, dust the linzer tarts, and try not to eat any of the special Italian cookies that our Nonna made. Houses cannot withstand the amount of noise that 13 Italian women who are continuously drinking make. I know my house can’t.

Another tradition that my family does is on Christmas Eve. My uncle thinks that it is good luck to eat all the fish eyes from the fish we make for the meal. He believes that eating the fish eyes will make you smarter for the year to come. I just find it gross.

My uncle does not speak the

greatest English, he just tends to babble, and otherwise he’ll speak Italian.

“This is good for you, my girl!” my uncle would say.

After I would decline, he would persist and chace me around the living room with a fish eye on a fork and try to get me to eat it. I do not care how smart I would be, I ain’t eating no dang fish eye.

However, some family traditions are not as crazy, loud, and wine-filled as mine are. Some are just quite simple, and less loud. Joe Boyle, junior, keeps his family’s traditions humble. His family likes to exchange some gifts during Christmas Eve.

“It’s something we’ve been doing ever since we were little, and it just kind of sticks with us every year,” Boyle said.

Keep in mind that tradition carries over across the globe. In France, they celebrate Christmas a little bit differently. The children leave their shoes by the fireplace, and by the next morning, Christmas Day, their shoes would be filled with fruits, nuts, and little toys for them to play with. Simple, and yet, refreshing.

We can all learn a lot about each other just by getting to know other people’s traditions. Traditions make the holidays that much more special for all of us. Big or small, they are meaningful. It doesn’t take much for them to develop either. You just find something fun to do and you find yourself repeating it year after year. You then start to fall in love with your traditions too, and these traditions become a part of your family, and they become a part of you too.

So go make a snow fort, bake 600 cookies, visit New York City, eat fish eyes (totally just kidding), or start a tradition of your own.

Model U.N. Team Attracts Students of All Majors

Students Use Skills of Bargaining and Negotiation to Set Resolutions in New York City Conference

SAMANTHA TARTAS
STAFF WRITER

The University’s Model United Nations (U.N.) team will spend the upcoming months researching and preparing for two of the largest international conferences where they will negotiate, bargain and propose resolutions for international conflicts.

Seven students will be traveling to represent the University in Rome from March 7-12. The remainder of the club will be attending the largest international conference in New York from March 24-28. They will be representing Belgium in the New York conference and are waiting for their country assignment from Rome.

“Fundraising for the conferences was okay, said Model U.N. President, Aziz Mama. “We received funds from Student Government, but it wasn’t enough to cover both conference expenses. We fundraised and received additional donations through the University, Provost Pearson’s office, deans and outside donations. The club is growing at an unexpected rate, and we’re going to need more funding to take delegations of a larger size,” said Mama.

Mama also discussed how there were only nine members in 2011 and has almost doubled in size for the past two years with 14 members in 2012 and 25 active members for the 2013 conference.

“It has completely exceeded our

expectations,” said Mama.

Junior David Goldenthal discussed the attitude of the students in the club. “It [the club] attracted students who were dedicated and wanted to do well as a whole. We can bring more to the table and show what this club is about.”

The group earned an honorable mention while representing Finland in 2011.

In 2012, the club was given a rare opportunity to represent two countries. 12 club members represented Luxembourg while Mama and Katelyn Nawoyski represented Portugal in the U.N. Security Council.

“This was a much smaller committee and a bit more prestigious to be a part of, simply because so few schools get to be a part of the Council,” Nawoyski said.

Mama became involved with the program during his freshman year. “I started doing Model U.N. because I was involved in it during high school. I also wanted to make it less of a political science club and expand its influence into other majors,” he said.

The roster includes a variety of majors, including political science, biology, social work, international relations, economics, finance, communication and education.

Students will investigate issues addressing a large agenda; topics range anywhere from access to clean drinking water to nuclear crisis situations.

“This is why we wanted more

majors in the program. This event is beneficial for everyone,” said Mama.

The Political Science Department followed suit and will be offering Model U.N. as a four credit class during the spring semester.

Dr. Thomas Lamatsch, assistant professor of political science, doubles both as the professor for the class and advisor for the club.

“There are two important things that this class will bring to the students. First, Model U.N. is a lot of work, and students have always been asking, ‘How can I get credit?’ So not only will these student’s receive credit for their work, the course also doubles as a traditional international relations course that teaches the students about the United Nations,” said Lamatsch.

The course description explains how it will introduce students to the U.N. and how it operates. It will



PHOTO COURTESY Katelyn Nawoyski
The Model U.N. team competed at U.N. headquarters in New York City in a mock presentation.

also give them real life experiences by bargaining, negotiating and resolving international conflicts. Students will take theories and historical knowledge of their assigned country and learn how to apply them in practical and experiential components.

“If student’s want a class, we [the Political Science Department] will bring it back,” said Lamatsch.

Student can also earn their Ex-

periential Education requirement upon completion of the week long conference. They will also be able to use the class as a springboard during actual negotiations at the international conferences.

“Each student also improves their public speaking, writing and researching skills. Negotiations also take place during informal caucus, so a student’s interpersonal skills will also improve,” said Mama.

Red Light Camera Receives Less Than Stellar Feedback

Red Light Camera continued from pg.1

should be making the decisions as to whether or not someone has committed a violation. “Ultimately, it comes down to the need for direct interaction with a police officer. Sometimes, people have very legitimate reasons as to why they might have to bend certain traffic laws, such as if a driver is sick or might need help,” Sgt. Oberc said.

“We cannot always depend on technology to decipher right from wrong,” he continued. Oberc explained that during tough fiscal times, there is even more of a reason to make sure that someone is truly deserving of a ticket before issuing one.

Mike McKenty, a senior history/education major at the University, had a first-hand experience with what many are considering an unfair method of traffic monitoring. “Not only did I get a ticket sent to me in the mail for stopping one second less than I was supposed to at a right-on-red, but it was accompanied by a play-by-play video,” McKenty said.

Like many, McKenty challenged the ticket he received and won; after township officials admitted that they did not calibrate the cameras for the 85th percentile of traffic.

According to program regulations, all traffic lights were supposed to be set in order to accommodate the speed of 85 percent of all drivers on the road in a specific area – and were not.

Consistent with the ticket as well as the video he received in the mail, McKenty explained that he was flagged for going through the intersection .27 of a second too early. “Just because the timing of the light was incorrect, people were forced to stay home from their jobs in order to pay \$85 to \$140 in fines; a week’s groceries for some and a whole

day’s pay for many, just based on hundredths of a second,” McKenty said.

New Jersey Assemblyman Declan O’Scanlon Jr, a long-time opponent of the current red light camera program has since introduced a series of guidelines for testing the existing program across the state.

“The bottom line is that, at the very least, these cameras are not increasing safety and are likely having a net negative impact on safety - these camera systems are making our roads more hazardous. We should all join together and call for the plug to be pulled on this program,” O’Scanlon said.

He explained that, like McKenty, many motorists might have been wrongly fined because yellow lights were timed incorrectly. O’Scanlon has been working with traffic experts and engineers in order to find alternative methods to keep drivers safe on New Jersey roads.

A platform in which he has backed for months, O’Scanlon explained that the red-light cameras are “nothing more than a revenue generator,” and that “townships across the state continue to take advantage of innocent drivers.”

O’Scanlon’s opinion is similar to the feelings of many opponents of the current bill. While the report has illuminated many interesting statistics to NJ drivers, the report only analyzes two groupings of data: statewide data over the course of just two years and data from a mere two intersections in Newark over one year’s time.

Rather than focusing on statewide

camera data, O’Scanlon argues that the narrative of the report centers solely on Newark, “Ignoring the negative realities of the program,” he said.

After calling for a ban of red light cameras, claiming that they fail to decrease overall accidents, O’Scanlon has not only called for the program to be suspended, but has demanded that no other municipalities be allowed to enter the current program.

Instead, he has introduced a revised bill that would stretch the duration of yellow lights as well as give drivers an extra 1.5 seconds to clear an intersection before tickets are issued. His proposal also would reduce fines from the current \$85 to just \$20.

While there are many opponents of the current bill that have similar feelings to O’Scanlon, none are as drastic as the unidentified shooter who decided to settle the score with red-light traffic cameras once and for all in Newark this past August.

Two of the cameras located at separate intersections in Newark, Broad and Market streets and Broad Street and Raymond Boulevard; were riddled with bullet holes from an shooter who was outraged by the cameras, according to *The Star-Ledger*.

At the same Newark intersections, the NJDOT report found that right-angle crashes, the most common at right-hand-turn lights, dropped from 7 in the year before the cameras were installed to 1 in the second year, a more than 85-percent decrease.

Many opponents and proponents

of the current bill are split on their decision based merely on the muddled results found in the report. While some intersections found that crashes increased, others found that crashes decreased with the institution of the red-light cameras.

Samantha Conoscenti, a senior health studies major at the University expressed support of the red-light camera program. After getting into an accident that left her car totaled, Conoscenti explained that she wished that a camera were at the scene of the accident so that there was footage of what actually happened.

“While going through a green light, another driver unexpectedly went through the intersection where they should have been stopped at red light and t-boned my car,” she said.

Conoscenti explained, “At the time, the intersection never had cameras and up until this past summer, they still didn’t have them. If the cameras had been there when I had the accident, maybe I wouldn’t have had such a nightmare with my car insurance company.”

Although many states have found traffic-light cameras to be a helpful resource in presumably reducing traffic accidents and fatalities, the data shows that this may not be the case in New Jersey.

According to Dr. Gregory Bordelon of the Political Science Department, “There are currently five bills in the state legislature dealing with the matter and none seem to be gaining any traction in either the Senate or the Assembly.”

“The legislation seems to suggest a lack of consensus on the effectiveness

of the current devices and whether they actually do deter unsafe driving rather than unintentionally encourage it,” he further described.

Red-light cameras bring about debatable legal concerns. “It appears difficult for the government to be able to proffer evidence of guilt solely on the data from the camera. It could be possible that someone accused of committing a traffic light violation observed by a camera could argue the functionality of the camera, the timing of the motion capture, among other things,” Bordelon said.

Similar to Oberc’s opinion, Bordelon explained that “It seems harder to cross examine a camera than a living, breathing police officer therefore making a defendant’s case against it stronger than that of traditional human enforcement.”

As many local police resources have faced economic strain, municipalities may fight to keep the current red-light systems because cameras are cheaper than putting officers at every intersection. “It’s a debate that will get resurrected in the legislature, and with obvious bipartisan support, that will likely be sooner rather than later,” he said.

As communities across the nation seek to address and remedy accidents as well as reduce both injuries and fatalities, states are increasingly looking for tools to enhance traditional enforcement techniques. Two years remain in New Jersey’s pilot program. If stats don’t show a full and legitimate increase in safety, this pilot program may not fulfill its term.

However, the Department of Transportation report recommends that the show must go on. The existing red-light camera program will continue with further analysis by the DOT. However, legislators just like O’Scanlon are working diligently to reform and improve what so many are considering to be an absolute failure of a program.

Middle East Tensions Rise: What Role will the US Play?

BILL SCARANO
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

Eleven years after the United States first began its military campaign in Afghanistan and nearly one year after the official end of combat operations in Iraq, there is finally a proverbial light at the end of the tunnel for America’s decade of fighting in the Middle East.

After the withdrawal of combat troops from Iraq in December of 2011, President Obama announced a similar drawdown of combat forces from Afghanistan to occur over the next two years, which will result in all American combat troops having been withdrawn from the country by the end of 2014. The departure of fighting forces from Afghanistan will signal the end of hostilities in the Middle East and will finally allow America the time to redouble its efforts domestically and address equally pressing concerns on the home front.

As anyone following the events concerning the Palestinian militant group Hamas and the State of Israel over the past two weeks will likely agree, the relative stability which now exists in Iraq and Afghanistan does little to ease tensions, in a region where civil, ideological, and territorial disputes occur side by side with multi-billion dollar business transactions.

The recent fighting largely centered in the disputed territory in and around the Gaza Strip, involved Hamas militants firing rockets into Israeli border towns as well as using improvised portable explosives to attack civilian targets such as commuter buses. After eight days of sporadic attacks by Hamas and largely defensive actions by Israeli forces, a cease-fire brokered in part by Egyptian President Mohamed Morsy has provided an end to fighting, but the deal is very fragile and may prove to only be a temporary solution. Even if the current cease-fire remains, it is likely that new conflicts will arise within the areas in and around the disputed Israeli and Palestinian territories given the long history of aggression between these two entities.

Dr. Joseph Patten, Chair of the Political Science and Sociology Department states that, “The Israeli-Palestinian conflict has been going on for nearly 100 years and actually links back to biblical times.”

The Middle East’s vast oil reserves naturally make the entire region critically important to the world and as any compromise to the security of the region’s oil output would have virtually immediate detrimental effects on the global economy.

Patten stated, “U.S. foreign policy has always attempted to find a balance between serving as a peace broker in the region as well as working to ensure a steady and inexpensive source of energy.” Any further conflict in the Middle East could cause disruptions to the flow of oil, thus driving crude prices skyward. Undoubtedly, this would place tremendous strain on an already fragile American economy and may cause a shift in America’s priorities from improving the country’s domestic affairs to once again committing troops to the Middle East in order to protect its oil interests.

Domestic concerns and uncertainties in the Middle East place the United States into a somewhat conflicted position. The \$4 trillion cost of the Iraq War alone has taken financial resources away from the American economy and a case can be made that this spending contributed to the current economic slowdown. The loss of American life over the past 11 years’ conflicts has also made the American people increasingly war-weary and eager to see an end to fighting.

Although American interests in the Middle East will have to be protected for the foreseeable future, that does not necessarily mean that America will be ready to intervene in a hypothetical conflict in the region, if it such a situation involved an accepted ally such as Israel. Furthermore, it may not be illogical to reason that, given its need to recover from recent conflicts, the United States should not intervene at all in

international disputes.

Aileen Nuñez, a sophomore studying social work and political science believes that “America should not intervene in international conflicts for the time being; there are more important concerns to be addressed at home.” However, since Israel is an ally and effectively an American protectorate, Nuñez added that situations involving allies “are different” provided that there be a mutual understanding between America and its allies that America expects similar support in any future American-led combat operations.

If America is not ready to provide military support in any conflicts which may be forthcoming, what then, if anything, can be done to promote peace and stability in the volatile region, particularly with regard to the Israeli-Palestinian conflict?

Dr. Charles Cotton of the Political Science Department favors a revisit of tactics already tried, stating that the “1967 Israeli borders should be restored.” Nothing short of a resolution from the United Nations would be able to reinstate these boundaries, but such an action would greatly reduce the pressure on the United States to take action. Although a controversial solution, the reinstatement of the 1967 boundaries would at very least draw concrete lines in the sand between Israeli and Palestinian factions, which may serve to reduce the current tensions with regard to territorial disputes between the two entities.

America has dedicated so much in terms of resources and lives to its military involvement in the Middle East over the past 11years. Although an official end to fighting is now in sight in terms of the presence of combat troops in Afghanistan, new tensions concerning America’s closest ally in the region may yet send American troops into the area once more. For the moment, there are no definitive answers to be had, but as with virtually all other matters past and present, time will be the ultimate judge.

Monmouth 2012-13 Mock Trial Team Competes

PRESS RELEASE

The mock trial team competed in the 1st Annual Hooter Invitational hosted by Temple University this weekend. After receiving the fact pattern, case record and law from “the state of Midlands” in the case of *Allen v. Neptune Underwater Expeditions* in October, the team diligently prepared during intense practices and scrimmages leading up to the competition in Philadelphia. In a competitive field of schools, the mock trial team showed sharp skills of trial technique and strategy combined with a knowledge of evidence. Sophomore team member, Susie Pagano, who plays attorney roles for both the plaintiff and defendant reflects on the team’s first invitational.

The attorney role in a round is so trying, but yet incredibly exhilarating! Considering that I want to be an lawyer in my future, this was the perfect practice... nothing beats actually being in the round, going up against other schools, and being put to the test by the opponents. Making objections can definitely be the most intimidating, but all it takes is giving it a shot. The first time I had an objection sustained in a round, I was absolutely thrilled,” Pagano said.

The team competed in four rounds, representing both Andy Allen, the spouse of the deceased plaintiff in two rounds as well as the defendant, Neptune Underwater Expeditions, in two rounds. All team members showed incredible preparation and professionalism, having positions as both attorneys and witnesses. The team won a ballot in its last round on Sunday after finishing the first day with a relatively high combined strength score. Team captain Kate Nawoyski met with team leaders from other schools and stated that the spirit of mock trial is competitive yet respectful and the level of competition encourages team members to bring their strongest

performance each round.

Witness roles were especially challenging as team members had to bring out emotion on demand and respond to harsh cross-examination from another team’s school.

Joe Dellera said, “It’s definitely a challenge. It does not just about know your entire affidavit and being able to answer the questions; there’s acting involved as well. I love playing my witness role of Reggie Rodgers because he is an important witness, but he also has a little bit more character than an expert witness since he is a lay-person.”

Dr. Gregory Bordelon shares his sentiment about the team’s performance: “The team really held their own against schools that have had programs in place for years and have been competing in far more invitational tournaments than we have. This team’s ability to adapt round-to-round in this competition was amazing, and we saw that in that last round ballot win on Sunday!”

Bordelon goes on to compliment the Monmouth family for their support. “The Political Science and Sociology department has been incredibly supportive of our nascent team! With such a student-centric environment and such a wealth of inter-school competitions, it’s nice to know that mock trial has found its niche alongside Model U.N. and the Debate Team.”

The team would like to thank the following people specifically: Dr. Joe Patten for the support and encouragement to the team; Ms. Mel Dale in Office of General Counsel for her critiques in scrimmages immediately before competition; Dr. Charles Cotton in his willingness to help with resources specific to the case file; Dr. Nancy Mezey for equipment help for the team’s “demonstrative evidence” and Ms. Amy Bellina in Student Services in help guiding the program’s logistics for traveling to competitions.

Governor’s Race Chatter Starting Already

JESSICA ROBERTS
STAFF WRITER

DAN ROMAN
STAFF WRITER

Now that the Presidential Campaign is through, New Jersey residents are turning their attention to the upcoming Governor Campaign. Current Governor Chris Christie has already applied his papers for re-election, but there has yet to be a definite for which Democrat hopeful is going to step up and run against him.

Christie’s recent popularity is stemming from his major success after Hurricane Sandy.

An article in *The Star Ledger* sourced a post Sandy poll from Quinnipiac University, showing the Governor’s high approval rating. According to the poll Christie’s approval rating up to 72 percent, the highest of any New Jersey Governor.

According the poll, he is even popular among the high amount of Democrats in NJ. Fifty two percent of Democrats approve of Chris Christie, something that Monmouth University sophomore political science major Saliha Younas would agree with.

According to Younas, “Even though I am a Democrat and my opinion of Chris Christie was not high in the beginning, after Hurricane Sandy it has changed. I liked the way he worked with the President and put aside party politics in order to handle

the situation.”

Junior communication major, Daniel Gunderman says that his opinion of the Governor has not changed. “My opinion of him has only been solidified by Hurricane Sandy. Day in and day out, he battled illness and fatigue to be at all the majorly impacted areas from the storm. He even struck down reporters when they crossed the line, telling them that politics was second to his state’s recovery. He’s been unparalleled leader.”

Gunderman goes on, “Chris Christie is a very intriguing political figure; at times he shows unmistakable wit and knowledge of the political system, as I believe he did while handling the Hurricane Sandy, Governor’s office and White House relationship by silently furthering his hopes of running for future office during the matter.”

He continues, “He (Christie) genuinely cares about the people of his state. Conversely at times he shows some bursts of distinct sarcasm and force, which I think makes him a much idealized, influential voice.”

His overwhelming popularity at the moment makes it out to seem that Christie will be a tough matchup.

Dr. Patrick Murray, Director of the Polling Institution at the University disagrees with this.

According to Murray, “We know from past history that horse race polls this far ahead of an election has little to no predictive value about what will

actually happen. Campaigns have not gotten underway yet and the underlying numbers indicate the governor’s handling of the storm have put him in a strong position for re-election. The question is whether this bump will last or if other issues will be more important to voters when November 2013 rolls around. No poll can predict that.”

According to Dr. Joseph Patten, Chairman of the Political Science Department, a lot can happen between now and November 2013, “Many people point to the fact that George H.W. Bush also had high approval ratings and he lost his bid for re-election” but it still hurts Democrats as Patten adds “His high approval ratings will certainly affect who runs against him, it likely will make possible challengers stay home in the race.”

While Christie has an overwhelming support from the New Jersey residents, there is another competitor that has everyone on the edge of their seats to run.

The current Democratic favorite is Newark Mayor Corey Booker, nicknamed New Jersey’s superman. Even Christie supports, such as Gunderman, would like to see Booker officially join the race. “Although I like Christie, I think that an interesting counterpart for the ticket next year would be Newark’s Mayor Corey Booker. He has shown a lot of poise governing one of the state’s biggest

cities, and could really make the debates and propaganda quite interesting.”

The conventional wisdom in NJ is that Newark Mayor Corey Booker would mount the strongest challenge against Christie.

Booker is very popular around the country, and is seen as a rising star in the Democratic Party. His 1.2 million followers on Twitter see firsthand how he interacts with people directly every day. Booker has not stated whether or not he will run but said that he needs more time to decide following Hurricane Sandy. The storm is going to play a crucial role in his decision to run, as Mayor Booker has been working closely with Christie and is focused on the residents of Newark.

The relationship between Christie and Booker has not been the typical Democrat/Republican relationship. They both appeared in a video together, poking fun at Booker’s popularity in the state over Christie. Booker has also called Christie an “Indispensable partner” in dealing with the school systems of Newark.

Booker, however, could be the Democrats’ only hopes. A recent poll has him losing to Governor Christie 36-50 percent, a much closer margin than the 20-60 percent State Senator Barbara Buono is losing to Governor Christie.

This same poll stated that Booker

is the clear favorite in the race for the democratic nomination. He gained 46 percent support from Democrats across the state.

If Booker does not run for Governor, he has another possible position he could run for in 2014 with the next Senate election in N.J.

In the general, Booker does almost as well, beating possible opponent Lt. Governor Kim Guadagno by 23 points. Democrats may need to realize that a failed governors bid by Booker will hurt him in a Senate race that looks like it could be a lay-up for Democrats to win. Booker also has much more of a National appeal. He was a frequent campaigner for President Obama during his re-election traveling across the country. He also was given a prime-time speaking spot at the Democratic National Convention.

According to *Politickernj.com*, Democrats in NJ would rather Booker ran for Senate, and hope for a great campaign from one of the relative unknown possible candidates for the Democratic nomination. No matter which position he decides to go for he will become a major player in New Jersey politics.

Other Democratic possible nominees are State Senator Barbara Buono, State Senator Richard Codey, Assemblyman John Wisniewski, and Senate President Steve Sweeney.

Guide to a Woman’s Holiday Wishes

MAGGIE ZELINKA
LIFESTYLES EDITOR

‘It is always better to give than receive’ is a common saying around this time of year, but what if you do not know what to give? This case is especially common when men are looking for gifts to give women. Picking out a gift for a special woman, or even your sister, is really not as difficult as you may think.

A gift which is always sure to please any women is jewelry. Sophomore Lisa Lazzaro concurs by saying, “I really want new diamond earrings! I lost my old pair and don’t wear earrings anymore.”

Although diamond jewelry is rather expensive, you can even find something cheaper. On *Kay Jewelers* site, they have elaborate and simple necklaces for as low as \$50. If you do not wish to spend this much money, then see if the lady you are buying for has a Pandora bracelet. A charm from Pandora can usually be purchased around \$25-\$35.

If the woman you are buying for is more into art, be thankful, because the possibilities are endless. Senior Amanda Romano loves to connect with her creative side and wishes to further her art skills this holiday season. “I actually want more art stuff because I love to paint and draw,” Romano says.

Painting or drawing supplies can be picked up at any craft supplies store. The nearest art supplies store to campus is the Michael’s located on Route 35. Freshman Lauren Anderson also wishes for art supplies this December, but a different kind of art.

“For Christmas I’d really love a fish eye lens for my camera. I am an aspiring photographer, therefore I crave all of the ravishing yet quite expensive essentials. The fish eye lens simply bends an image to give it a sort of 3D or bubble appearance. It’s just really cool to look at,” Anderson stated. Photography items can be purchased at stores such as Ritz Camera. Another nearby option would be The Photo Center located in Brick.

If your woman is an adventurous type, than perhaps the best idea would be visit L.L Bean, REI, West Marine, or Eastern Mountain Sports. Items at these stores range from camping or hiking, hunting, fitness apparel, boating accessories, and cloth-



IMAGE TAKEN FROM thenorthface.com

North Face jackets usually can be purchased for around \$100.

ing. If you wish to get an item with almost infinite usage, than it would be in your best interest to get a North Face jacket. Whether hiking, running, or just for everyday wear, plenty of women have a North Face as their go-to jacket.

Some ladies prefer to stay indoors rather than outdoors, and if that sounds like the one you are purchasing for, almost anything in today’s world can fit under this category. For the more tech savvy soul, gift ideas range from iPhone cases, computer accessories, or Blu-ray movies.

Sophomore Lindsey Pieschl agrees that it is not too hard to shop for a woman who is into technology. “I don’t really have anything I want that badly, but I did ask for a laptop cover this year,” she said. Your best bet to find a perfect gift would be to visit Best Buy or an Apple store this holiday season.

If the woman you are shopping for is a fashionista, buy a gift card to her favorite store. Unsure of her favorite store? Then it may be wise to buy a gift card to either Urban Outfitters, American Eagle, or Forever 21 since they are currently the popular stores amongst young women. Word of advice - do not buy her clothing unless it is a jacket.

When you buy an item that

is too big for her, she will think you depict her as being that size and get upset. When you buy an item that is too small for her, she will think you want her to be that skinny and will get upset. If you truly wish to buy her clothing, than find her measurements and sizes before the purchase.

If you want to play it safe, there is one gift that no woman can turn down: a vacation. For Michaela Moscaliuc, English instructor, a vacation to a tropical island is her number one holiday wish. “What I really want is a stretch of hot sand, a big splash of sun, singing waves, few tourists (but many languages), and, with me, people and books I love. Heard rumors that I might get my wish. Generous Santa.”

The vacation can be as simple as a one night vacation to see a play in New York City or as extravagant as a romantic trip for two in the Caribbean Islands. It could even be a weekend get away to some where exclusive such as the Poconos mountain range.

Once you begin to think about what your woman is like, it becomes easier to think about what she would want or need. Thus, the first step for succeeding in a present is succeeding in knowing that person. After all, the thought is what really counts.

For moms who love the kitchen, a homemade cookbook is unique, and benefits the whole family. If you think your mom would love this idea, then get creative. Type up some recipes, mount them on nice paper, and place them in a binder with page protectors. A homemade cookbook will not only speak from your heart, but your stomach as well.

If your mom prefers to shy away from the kitchen, treat her to a day

Headphones on Top

JOE MILLER
STAFF WRITER

When fully ripe as it is now, this holiday spending season can inhibit the practice of proper judgment in gift selection. A white elephant purchase is most frequently made in the haze of checkout lines and bad traffic, especially in the case of women shopping for their men. This is because guys may seem easy to shop for, but we are surprisingly particular. A cordless drill, snow blower, or any task-oriented gift is always appreciated, though a better gift may be found through carefully looking into a recent resurgence in certain entertainment devices.

Dr. John A. Kosinski, an adjunct in the department of chemistry, medical technology and physics, is so intellectual that his possible holiday wishes saturated my mind with visions of some enigmatic resonating circuit machine. Kosinski surprised me with his simple request.

Kosinski wants to be able to enjoy music through top-of-the-line media devices. “I want a top quality set of speakers for my home office,” he said. Kosinski’s ideal gift is not unusual, considering in the market demand over

ners in the headphone market, *Beats* by Dr. Dre, has decent sound, big low end, and trendiness in younger demographics, but people more concerned with sonic quality than the current big names have more options to explore.

If you are amongst the hordes of headphone buyers this year, consider that headphone makers with models in the same price range as *Beats* often exceed their audio quality. These include *Sennheiser*, *Audio-Technica*, and *Grado Labs*, who typically have many models in the chic, over-the-ear style, or in the convenient in-ear design.

Before choosing a pair, be sure to know whether your man does his listening at home or on the move, and know his tonal preference. Figure out if he likes a lot of bass, more treble, heavy mid-range, or a more neutral mix, because quality headphones will list these specifications, and they do make all the difference in the listening experience. Headphones are the big-ticket item this year among many men, and choosing the pair that a man really wants is possible if you know what to look for in the deceptive multitude.

When asked what gift he really wants this holiday season, Senior

Dave Brook replied, “Personally, I believe the best brand is *Bose* easily. They have the best sound quality and everything. The only problem is they are more expensive than other leading brands.” Many men like Kosinski and Brook are looking forward to opening a box of high quality headphones and stereo systems this holiday season, but this is not so much the case with older men, such as parents or grandparents.

Much like purchasing headphones, other gifts require an extensive resourcefulness in attentiveness to a guy’s personal taste.

When buying a boyfriend or husband presents for the holidays, a common mistake is to blur his preferences with your own, so apply wisdom you have gained from your relationship to appeal to his taste instead of your own.

creative gifts. A compilation of family photos whether it be in the form of an album, scrapbook, or collage is always a great idea.

Ideas for original gift baskets can be found on websites such as Pinterest.com. Depending on the parent, you can personalize the basket with goodies they enjoy such as their favorite snacks, bottle of wine, or movie tickets.

Aside from gifts of monetary or sentimental value, perhaps the greatest gift any of us can give to our parents this holiday season is our time and attention. Being away at college, for most students and their parents, provides insight into how much they truly appreciate each other.

Generally, as people get older, they come to appreciate the holiday season for more than the decorations, presents, or weather but for the inexpressible value of family and friends. Whether parent or child, establishing family traditions and making memories that can be taken anywhere throughout our lives has always been what makes the holiday season so special.

“I want a top quality set of speakers for my home office.”

JOHN A. KOSINSKI’S
Adjunct Professor

the past few years.

The demand amongst the public for a better sound experience is great in many ways, but in some cases, quality has been impaired by the stupidity of the average consumer.

For example, the appearance of BigR Audio Bruce Lee signature headphones on the *Men’s Health* 2012 Holiday Gift Guide is comedic in its ridiculousness. Maybe these can have great sound, but their popularity, when there is little chance of high-fidelity audio being so much as slightly related to a long deceased Kung-Fu actor isn’t flattering to consumer intelligence.

Their current popularity makes some of them questionable, but great headphones or speakers can be found in many price ranges and tonality preferences.

One of the obvious front-run-

Smiles Will be Present With These Presents for Parents

ALEXIS DECARVALHO
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

bookstore. Gift options range from all types of University apparel such as sweatshirts, hats, mugs, car decals, and more. Some are even branded with “Proud Mom” or “Proud Dad.” Make your parents proud to say that their kids go to MU

Next, set a budget. Sophomore Nicole Gregory goes above and beyond for her parents saying, “There is usually no limit if it’s something that my parents want.” Last Christmas she bought her parents tickets to a Broadway play in the city, a great gift for those who enjoy a night out.

For Gregory, it is important to buy parents nice, sentimental gifts because her parents have “helped a lot through-out the years.” She continued by saying, “On Christmas, it’s nice to give and not only get.”

Unisex gifts, such as the Nook or Kindle, can be great and easy to find, but those that pertain to a particular hobby your parent enjoys can be even better.

“It’s always nice when there is some thought behind the gift.”

JULIE SCHAAFF
Professor

at the spa.

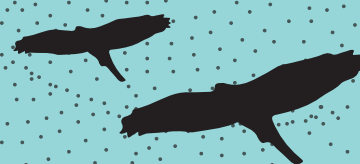
For the dads who also enjoy the art of cooking, pick up an outdoor grill set. All grilling essentials can be priced together for as low as \$60 and can be found at retail stores such as Kohl’s, Macy’s, or Home Depot. If you want to get your dad even more, throw in some spices and seasoning to give his favorite foods a

boost. For dads who love to eat food instead of making it, you can never go wrong with a gift certificate to a favorite restaurant.

Julie Schaaft, a second year professor in the health and physical education department and parent, particularly enjoys the holiday season. For her, “It is always nice when there is some thought behind the gift.”

One of her all time favorite gifts was a leather bracelet that had three silver beads to represent the three members of her family. The beads were marked with their initials, and the gift she says, “Made me smile every time I looked at it.” Schaaft’s daughter, a 19 year old sophomore at Flagler College, has also given her one of the best sentimental gifts, an original poem accompanied by a DVD that the family “Loved watching together.”

If your parents are like Schaaft and appreciate quality not quantity, there are a number of thoughtful,



HAWKS FLY TOGETHER FOR RELIEF:

Wave of Hope

BENEFIT CONCERT

Friday, December 14th

7:00 pm Anacon Hall
doors open at 6:30pm

tickets are \$7 at the door

all proceeds benefit those affected
by Hurricane Sandy*



*50% of our proceeds will go to the Hurricane Sandy New Jersey Relief Fund, and 50 % will go to the MU Sandy Relief Fund which directly benefits Monmouth University students, alumni, and employees who were impacted by Hurricane Sandy.

FULL ICE HOUSE FOR SENIOR ART MAJORS

KEVIN HOLTON
CO-ENTERTAINMENT EDITOR

Dozens of students, faculty and supportive loved ones gathered at the Ice House Gallery for the December Senior Show reception on November 30. This event celebrates the work done by those majoring in art with a concentration in photography. It lasted from 7 pm to 9 pm. Refreshments were served.

Walking in the door, viewers were greeted by three different photography series. Samantha Suchavski shot the "Amplified Tendrils" series, Nicole Armitt was behind the "Longing" collection and Rebecca Lennon took the "Torsi" sequence. All are art majors with concentrations in photography.

Suchavski's work showed nature at its most raw level; by photographing a variety of branches, she was able to use contrasting colors- or the lack thereof- and different degrees of depth to engross the audience.

"It's about entanglement, about getting down to our roots," Suchavski noted. "It's simple, yet at the same time, so complex."

Armitt's photos featured old radios, which most might not look twice at, sitting in fields or other wild settings. The shock of seeing that one item sitting alone in the middle of nowhere was great at evoking the feeling for which the images were named: longing. Headphones rested below most

frames, allowing the viewer to put them on and listen to a broken tune that would likely be playing from such a discarded device.

"Longing is about broken relationships and the symbolism involved," Armitt commented, adding that the songs playing could be seen like a couple's song after the couple broke up- sad, even mournful, with no one left to listen.

Lennon's collection was a series of photos of the human torso from a variety of angles. She captured the contours of the human form in black-and-white stills, giving each a simultaneously removed and engaging sense of her art.

"I really love dealing with the human form- the torso, to be exact. I wanted to give a way to look at the nude body without shame, so I abstracted it. I love the body in its purest form and wanted to remind people of its beauty," commented Lennon.

Anne Massoni, specialist professor of photography, was very excited about the event. "Students in their senior year are required to take a portfolio class. They develop a single body of work which they exhibit here, with the department. It has to [...] have technical merit and a conceptual underpinning. They make work that they feel passionate about," Massoni said.

This particular exhibition had a second function though; over this past summer, a senior photography major by the name of Paul Chrzaszcz passed away. The lower level consisted of an arrangement



PHOTO COURTESY of Anne Massoni

The December Senior Show highlighted the best work by this year's graduating photography majors.

of his pieces, selected by friends and family, in memory of his life. Ribbons were available for those in attendance to demonstrate that they'd known and cared for him.

Chrzaszcz had also been a volunteer fireman; members of the fire station attended the event as well.

The memorial exhibit consisted of paintings, photographs, sculptures and collages, demonstrating all manner of art, from abstract to classical images. Regardless of the image itself, there was no doubt as to Chrzaszcz talents.

"He was an advisee of mine," Massoni said. "He was as joyful

and enthusiastic on the first day I saw him as he was on the last. He always had a smile."

Matthew Miranda, a friend of Chrzaszcz, helped to organize the event. "We wanted to make sure his family had a big say in it." He then added, "We were supposed to do the senior show together; he didn't have enough credits at the time."

Paige Chrzaszcz, Paul's sister, tearfully explained their selection of his work. "A lot of them weren't finished. We didn't pick the 'best,' we picked the strongest," she said.

Looking around at the crowded

lower level of the Ice House Gallery, it was clear that Paul touched many lives in many ways; the incredible depth and variety of his work reflected this life of experience and understanding.

There are many different forms of art. It can be light or dark, flat or three-dimensional, realistic or abstract, but it is always an expression of a person's creative expertise. Knowing the care and effort each person puts into their work is what made going to the senior exhibition such an experience. Remember to get out there and support your fellow Hawks.

WII U LAUNCH FAILS TO REACH NEW HEIGHTS

NICK SEGRETO
STAFF WRITER



IMAGE TAKEN from asia.cnet.com

The New Wii U controller is hardly an original concept.

play. You know, like Xbox Live, except about six years late. Well, it's free, so I'll give them that.

The initial impressions aren't very good. Let's take a look at the Wii U's gaming library to see the incredible launch titles. We've got *Batman: Arkham City Armored Edition*, *Call of Duty: Black Ops 2*, *Assassin's Creed 3*, *Mass Effect 3* and *Madden NFL 13*. Other titles include *New Super Mario Bros. U*, *Epic Mickey 2*, *Just Dance 4*, *Nintendo Land* and *Rabbids Land*.

Hold the phone- I was apparently on vacation and didn't get the memo. You know, that memo that said that Nintendo is now the dumping ground for ports of popular games from other consoles.

Some people look at this as a great launch line up. Others realize that these have been Nintendo's bread and butter for nearly a decade. Sure, they've tried to spruce up their main franchise lists with popular titles like *Assassin's Creed* and *Bayonetta*, but that doesn't stop some from thinking this is an excuse to milk an additional \$300 dollars over the same games.

Nintendo and I have been going to counseling lately. I want to see new people because Nintendo just isn't delivering what they promised me. I told them that the Wii U was their last chance to win me back. Did they succeed? Uh... let's just say I filed for separation.

The Wii U is supposed to be our first glimpse at the next generation of gaming. As far as first impressions go, this was a very lackluster experience.

Let's start by taking a look at the Wii U hardware. We've got a new controller that has a touch screen and, in some cases, shows the game on the screen as well as the TV, kind of like the Nintendo DS. This is actually a really cool controller; props to Nintendo for their creativity here.

It's a neat idea, it works pretty well and it'd probably be a great new controller for the Wii- wait, this isn't a new controller, it's a new console that costs 300 bucks. That's ok, I just happened to have 300 dollars that I was going to flush down a toilet.

Well, if a DS controller isn't your cup of tea, you can use the Pro Gamepad. What is this? It's an Xbox 360 controller. Yes, it's literally an Xbox 360 controller with Nintendo's logo slapped on it.

I know this is the default controller most gamers use and it's perfectly fine to use, but this is Nintendo- they pioneer in developing new and unusual things, then making them work. I wanted Nintendo to try something new and take risks like it usually does.

It's alright though; the Wii U now has a decent online network. You can friend other people you play with and you have a better connection to the games you

on the path to recovery, but apparently even my most cherished video game character is falling victim to the Wii U's mediocrity.

I will say that *ZombiU* looks pretty cool. I like survival horror, and I like zombies, which means that this game looks legitimately good. If there's one saving grace in the Wii U launch titles, it's this one.

Surprisingly, Nintendo really made out with this launch. They sold over 400,000 systems in the first week, and that would've been higher if Best Buy and Game Stop didn't run out of stock. You multiply 400,000 by

the \$300 price tag, and we can probably assume that Nintendo has no regrets over their system design. After bashing their lackluster new hardware, very uninspired and ignorable launch library and the fact that it seems like Nintendo wants to make a lot of money off of a little idea, my final verdict on the Wii U is... meh.

I don't plan on getting it any time soon. I'll stick to my other consoles and save that 300 dollars I was planning on flushing for the sewer people. Maybe I'll check it out later if they put some original games on it.



IMAGE TAKEN from tinytpic.com

The Wii U Tablet can show the same game from a different angle, offering players a tactical advantage.

Student Spotlight: Bryan Haring and Seasons

NICOLE MASSABROOK
CO-ENTERTAINMENT EDITOR

Bryan Haring is quite the entertainer. The junior dazzled audiences with his best cockney British accent as Staff Sergeant Froggy LeSeur in the fall play, “The Foreigner”. While Haring seemed pretty comfortable on the Lauren K. Woods Theatre’s stage, he is a bit more at home playing with his band Seasons.

Seasons is an electronic hard rock band in which Haring sings and plays synthesizer. Haring describes his band’s music as “a mix between Muse and Panic! at the Disco.”

Seasons didn’t come together in the easiest way. Haring and guitarist Dylan Sorkin had to really search for band members who would play together well after multiple bands they were in separated.

Haring said, “After [the last band] dissolved, I sought out Ryan Kroon (drums), a classmate of mine from high school. After he agreed to join, we held auditions to find another guitarist. We also auditioned candidates for lead vocals (I had planned to play bass and sing backing vocals) and bass. Kyle Rinfret (vocals, guitar) really wowed Dylan and I at the audition, so we welcomed him aboard on the spot. After I decided to remain on lead vocals, we looked into a bassist. I phoned another classmate, Joe Vena (bass), since we had been in a band years earlier. He accepted, and the line-up was completed.”

Those who have heard Haring’s voice might find it surprising that he had not originally intended to be Seasons’ lead vocalist. Haring has only been singing for four years and playing piano for three. Haring’s interest in music started with the saxophone when he was ten. Haring said, “I joined the school band on alto saxophone when I was ten. I was hooked after that.”

Haring’s vocal style is definitely similar to that of Panic! At the Disco’s Brendan Urie, so it was no surprise that Haring list-

ed the singer as an influence. “Thom Yorke [of Radiohead], Matt Bellamy [of Muse] and Brendon Urie have inspired me greatly. Thom Yorke has shown me what it means to be vulnerable in music, and his light falsetto is something I’ve tried to emulate. Matt Bellamy plays piano, guitar, and sings magnificently. One day I would like to do that many things as well as he can. Brendon Urie has a legendary set of pipes, and he lent his skill to Panic!’s first record when he was only 18.”

Haring is certainly as ambitious as Urie. He is currently majoring in music with a concentration in industry. When he graduates he would like to record a full length album and tour the east coast.

Seasons has played plenty locally. Haring said, “We’ve played at a few local clubs like Crossroads and the Canvas Clash, but our proudest achievement is the two shows we played at Starland Ballroom. They were part of the Jersey Shows Real Deal Contest and we won! Those shows really inspired us to step our game up so that we can eventually

play there again.”

Songwriting is also on the list on Haring’s talents. “Each song is introduced to the whole band by the member that began writing, what we call the ‘mastermind’, and once it is out in the open it is refined and re-worked until it becomes a song that truly sounds like Seasons. As for the lyrics, I write most of them. Lately, Kyle has been writing lyrics as well,” Haring said.

Seasons also recently recorded a five track EP with producer Erik Romero at Lakehouse Studios in Asbury Park. A release date has not been set, but Seasons has music available for streaming and purchase, with the convenient name your price option, on their band camp page: seasonsnj.bandcamp.com.

You can hear Seasons when they play at Brighton Bar on December 11 and on campus in Anacon Hall on December 14 for A Wave of Hope Benefit Concert, sponsored by Student Government Association.

For updates from the band, like their facebook page facebook.com/seasonsbandnj.



IMAGE TAKEN from facebook.com/seasonbandnj

Seasons is from Monroe Township and consists of (left to right) Ryan Kroon, Kyle Rinfret, Bryan Haring, Dylan Sorkin and Joe Vena.

The Return of Quentin Tarantino

NICOLE CALASCIBETTA
STAFF WRITER

Quentin Tarantino fans will have plenty to talk about this week as two of his iconic films are being shown once again in theaters. In commemoration of *Reservoir Dogs*’ 20 year anniversary, the film was re-released in theaters on December 4 and *Pulp Fiction* is set to follow on December 6. According to Derek Feit, the General Manager of the AMC Lowes Theatre in the Monmouth Mall, the re-releases are shown only once at 7 pm on the days scheduled.

Reservoir Dogs is Tarantino’s first motion picture that he both wrote and directed. The plot revolves around six men hired to participate in a jewel heist and are given code names to protect their identity. The film premiered at the 1992 Sundance Film Festival and gave Tarantino recognition among the movie industry. Actors Harvey Keitel, Tim Roth, Steve Buscemi, and more star in the film along with Tarantino himself. The movie is just under two hours and is jam packed with witty dialogue and gruesome scenes that make *Reservoir Dogs* hard to forget.

The violent comedy *Pulp Fiction* was the second movie both written and directed by Tarantino. Samuel L. Jackson and John Travolta play two mob hit men who find themselves in some messy situations that intertwine with the lives of other characters. Uma Thurman and Bruce Willis star in the film, which is just under three hours long. *Pulp Fiction* won Best Screenplay Written Directly for the Screen at the 1995 Academy Awards.

Professor John Morano, author of “Don’t Tell Me The Ending!”, a book for aspiring film critics, describes Tarantino as “Auterish”, meaning that audiences can expect certain traits in the film before they even enter the theatre. “For me, he’s unique among directors because he has films that I love like *Pulp Fiction* and *Reservoir Dogs* and at the same time he has films that I loathe like *Kill Bill* and others,” said Morano.

Tarantino’s long list of movie archives also includes *Grindhouse* and

Inglorious Basterds. Audiences can expect gratuitous violence and comedic, character-developing dialogue from Tarantino films.

Associate Professor of Radio/TV Aaron Furgason said, “I think he, as well as Kevin Smith, gave hope to every independent film director. Their success suggests that you don’t necessarily have to attend film school to be a good screenwriter or director.”

Tarantino films also have a tendency to break the linear story sequence. “That randomness gives it excitement and possibilities, that style of writing I found really interesting,” said Morano.

“I think Quentin is the greatest example of a post-modern thief,” said Furgason. “What I mean by this is that Quentin loves to pilfer ideas, scenes and feel from a wide variety of influences (mainly Westerns and Hong Kong films). He takes all of this, mashes it up and spits out *Kill Bill* or *Inglorious Basterds*.”

Although Furgason isn’t necessarily a fan of *Pulp Fiction*, he does plan to show *Reservoir Dogs* in his summer Generation X Film Directors course and respects Tarantino’s willingness to take chances and risks with his films.

Junior Tyler Rosen said, “Quentin Tarantino is my favorite director, and *Pulp Fiction* and *Reservoir Dogs* are two of my favorite movies.”

Rosen continued, “I think he is the best at writing character dialogue, and his directing style is instantly recognizable. I think it’s great that both of these classic films are being re-released in theaters since it will give people a chance to see them who haven’t already, as well as offering a difference experience to the people who have only seen them on DVD.”

“It also gives people a chance to become more familiar with Tarantino’s style before his newest film, *Django Unchained* is released in December,” said Rosen. Tarantino’s next film *Django Unchained* starring Jamie Foxx is about a slave who becomes a bounty hunter right before the Civil War. *Django Unchained* will be released in theaters on December 25.

Potentially Exciting Television

NICOLE MASSABROOK
CO-ENTERTAINMENT EDITOR

By now you’ve probably heard that “Boy Meets World” is coming back. Well, it might be coming back. The spin off series, titled “Girl Meets World”, could be on Disney channel next year if the series gets picked up. Right now it is considered ‘in development,’ the same place that Joss Whedon’s *The Avengers* spin off is along with what could be the new “Downton Abbey”. Networks are developing pilot episodes before to determine if these would be successful series. These are just a few of the series that television fans are keeping their fingers crossed to see on their screens next year.

“Girl Meets World” centers on 13 year-old Riley, Cory (Ben Savage) and Topanga’s (Danielle Fishel) daughter, according to TVLine.com. Savage and Fishel have officially signed on to do the show, should it be given the green light for a season. There might not be too many original cast members hanging around.

Rider Strong, who portrayed Shawn, announced that he would not be joining the cast right now. Don’t count him out completely. On his website, Strong wrote, “There might be a chance to see some of the

BMW cast in a guest spot, and I think it would be nice to find out where our characters have been all these years. But Girl Meets World will be, and I think it should be, [its] own show. It will be about Cory and Topanga, their daughter, and a new set of characters.”

Don’t expect the new show to be all about Cory and Topanga because this is being developed for Disney channel. The channel is aiming to attract kids today, kids who didn’t necessarily grow up with life lessons from Mr. Feeny. The show is about Riley, her older brother Elliot, and her best friend Maya, an edgy girl who might not be as dark as she seems (who sounds like the Shawn to Riley’s Cory). They will probably be learning their lessons from their history teacher, Cory Matthews.

Riley has not been cast yet, nor have any other characters. The show truly has to take their time in finding the right actress to play her. The show could plummet quickly if they don’t.

While “Girl Meets World” has hype around it because of the actors. The *Avengers* television spin off, “S.H.I.E.L.D.”, has hype around it because of the man creating it, Joss Whedon.

Whedon, *Marvel’s The Avengers* director, wants to explore the world of those around the Avengers,



IMAGE TAKEN from poppoppa.com

“Boy Meets World” aired from 1993-2000, but only a few original cast members are set to return.

S.H.I.E.L.D. agents. The show is due in part to Whedon’s three year deal with Marvel Studios (which is owned by Disney, which owns television network ABC).

The main S.H.I.E.L.D. agents viewers saw in the summer blockbuster were Maria Hill (Cobie Smulders) and Phil Coulson (Clark Gregg). Smulders is already occupied with her regular gig on “How I Met Your Mother”. Viewers should remember, spoiler alert for those who haven’t seen *Marvel’s The Avengers*, Gregg’s

character was fatally stabbed. However it was announced that Gregg will be reprising his role in the new show. In what capacity he will return (human? ghost? hologram?) is currently unknown.

Other actors being added to the series seem to be unknown. Whedon is known for repeatedly working with the same actors. Aside from Gregg, Whedon has yet to cast familiar faces. The only official cast members, as of press time, are Ming Na and Brett Dalton, two relatively unknown actors. It has yet to be announced who they are playing, although the series is looking to cast five series regulars.

The news is exciting for both fans of *The Avengers* and old school fans of Whedon. He knows how to do television spectacularly. He is the mastermind behind cult hits like “Buffy the Vampire Slayer” and “Firefly”. He can make a small budget look huge, and he can easily balance multiple storylines. Because of these factors, many fans believe that ABC’s pick up of “S.H.I.E.L.D.” is almost guaranteed.

If you’re not excited about the potential for a wholesome family show or an action-packed superhero drama, maybe you’re more of a history fan. According to *The Hollywood Reporter*, “Downton Abbey” creator Julian Fellowes is in the midst of creating

a new show about New York in the 1880s titled “The Gilded Age.” The series will follow the lives of several millionaires. Rumored characters include J.P. Morgan, John D. Rockefeller, and Cornelius Vanderbilt.

The intention to develop the series was only announced last week, so not much information has been made public about the series. Historical dramas do not often get picked up because typically there is less interest among audiences. However the recent success of Fellowes’ “Downton Abbey” really changes everything. The British series has picked up nine Emmy awards in addition to another 18 Emmy nominations.

“Downton Abbey” wasn’t Fellowes’ first foray into period dramas. “The Young Victoria”, a miniseries about Queen Victoria starring Emily Blunt, was critically acclaimed and his film Gosford Park, an English drama set in 1932, won an Oscar.

The series airs on PBS stateside, but Fellowes is developing “The Gilded Age” for ABC. Should the drama be picked up, it will be Fellowes’ first drama developed for American television.

While none of these series will definitely make it to the small screen, they are safe bets.

Put Procrastination Off Until Later

EMILY TAYLOR
STAFF WRITER

The art of procrastination lies somewhere in between the confidence we have in ourselves and the anxiety we face to perform. Depending on the difficulty of the assignment or project, whether it is work related or personal, time is the main factor hindering efficiency. Time represents the amount of hours or minutes or days spent working towards a goal, and for the start of finals week, time is something we usually put off. Because of the confidence we have in performing to the deadline, we normally work better under stress.

“I usually procrastinate when I have a lot of work to do and I put it off because it is too much to take on,” said senior Samantha LaRocca.

If we as students are putting off assignments to the very last minute, we develop stress which initiates the release of adrenaline. And depending on where we as individuals fall within the ‘Fight or Flight’ response, we generally experience both phases.

First, the brain triggers a flight response in which the delay process begins and procrastination is filled with the updating of statuses and the re-tweeting of famous 90’s lyrics. By the time we’ve already complained about how much work we have we begin to fight the avoidance of course work and we decide start our list making, delaying us another 20 minutes.

Suppose we cut the crap, sit down and focus for a change because experience has shown that we have already overcome difficult challenges and have succeeded, relating to why we procrastinate- because we can, it’s always

worked and we normally end up on top.

Besides, according to the *BBC News*, Professor Joseph Ferrari of DePaul University Chicago, the author of *Still Procrastinating? The No Regrets Guide to Getting It Done*, has found that 20 percent of the population of the world are chronic procrastinators, complicating their lives, and probably shortening them, with their incessant delaying and task avoidance. So let’s start by following a few simple tricks in order to reduce the stress of procrastinating:

1.)Don’t take breaks unless completely necessary; for hunger, thirst, etc.

2.)Utilize your ‘I’m on a roll’ moments- you know when you’re in the zone, so stay there and avoid diverting your attention.

3.)Set mental time limits for yourself- don’t just use the allotted eCampus deadline, know that within a certain amount of hours your assignment needs to be completed.

4.)Prepare yourself to work- don’t surround yourself with distractions, so prepare snacks, course work and other materials that you’ll need.

5.)Reward yourself-what better way to complete an assignment knowing something positive will come of it? Maybe you’ll plan a dinner date after or catch up on some DVR.

Athletes like Defensive Line-man Brad Harris attend mandatory study hall in the library in order to focus on his studies. “Mandatory study hall for athletes helps eliminate the chances of procrastination because [the athletes] are required to be in an academic setting and do their work,” said Harris.

Study hall is a part of the requirements for Division One athletes, aiding in a quieter atmosphere dedicated to assist the student-athlete in his or her studies. Other students like Samantha LaRocca have also found the library helpful in avoiding procrastination.

“I have to go to the library because doing [homework] in my

room doesn’t work,” says LaRocca.

Although the Guggenheim library has limited hours, it does provide students with many useful resources including the functional cubicles and printers available. However, beginning Sunday, December 9, the library will have extended hours until 1 a.m. But if you know you will be work-

ing around the clock, working in Howard Hall in order to utilize tip number two on the helpful hint list might be best.

If you do find yourself avoiding tasks as the semester winds down remember that the end is near with holidays, winter break and a month of relaxation, so remain positive and avoid your delay.



IMAGE TAKEN from amazon.com

The best way to beat procrastination is to prepare for it and schedule library time accordingly.

The Count Down to Winter Break Begins

ERIN MCMULLEN
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

Thanksgiving break has come and gone, but have students really gotten back into school mode? “No way,” said freshman Sarah McGrail. “Definitely not,” sophomore Caroline Keating agreed. Between the unavoidable and completely unexpected two-week break caused by Hurricane Sandy, the four-day Thanksgiving weekend shortly after, and the current anticipation for winter break in just three short weeks, the last thing on students’ minds right now is their schoolwork.

Over the past few weeks, it has become increasingly difficult to return to the normalcy that once enabled students to focus on their work. Though it has not been the fault of the Uni-

versity, for President Gaffney could not have possibly handled the situation any better, it seems that Sandy is mostly to blame for the lack of focus on the students’ part. “I used to have a good work ethic before the hurricane hit, but after all that time off it’s been hard for me to get my work done. It felt like the semester was almost over by the time we got back,” McGrail further explained.

Although students usually have some what of a difficult time getting back into the swing of things after the usual short Thanksgiving break, the extra two weeks off from the hurricane this semester have made it even more difficult. Many students were unsure of whether or not certain projects and homework assignments were supposed to be handed

in on their original due dates, or whether or not deadlines had been extended. The loss of power statewide made it almost impossible to contact professors with questions, or even access the Internet to check eCampus or WebAdvisor.

Matthew Lawrence, communication professor said that he sees a decline in student interest for certain classes. “Usually classes where you lecture, you can tell that fewer students have read the required reading,” said Lawrence. “But it’s not like an epidemic or anything.”

Very few students were able to do their work while they were home during the hurricane due to power outages and other unfortunate means of destruction, which only meant that by the time they arrived

back at school, their pile of work had grown substantially. Although most professors were incredibly understanding and flexible with project deadlines, it was still a struggle to get back on track. “I’m still having a little bit of a hard time getting back on schedule,” Keating said. “It hasn’t been easy.”

Most students would probably agree with both McGrail and Keating that adjusting to classes after the hurricane was no easy task. Even though not having power was a situation that took a lot of getting used to, it certainly hindered the students’ ability to get work done while at home, which in turn affected their focus and work ethic once they finally arrived back at the University.

Keating, a commuter, also explained that because her house in Fair Haven still had not gotten its power back even after classes at the University had finally started up again, she had absolutely no motivation to do her school work. It is more than likely that her case was similar to the hundreds of other students who commute to campus every week. But regardless of whether students live on campus or travel every day, it was still a fight to regain the motivation that was lost during the hurricane.

to be a vicious cycle this semester: the ever-present knowledge that there is a break right around the corner being followed by a lack of motivation that unfortunately comes along with that knowledge.

With winter break less than twenty days away, the cycle has begun yet again. It seems that students are more concerned with buying presents and planning get-togethers with friends from home than they are with going to classes and finishing their homework. Even with finals coming up, most students seem to be just about done with the fall semester. They have lost most of their motivation and drive to work as hard as they did in the beginning of the semester, and it has become especially apparent now that the end of classes are nearing.

Lawrence reveals his strategy to boost student morale toward the end of the semester. “I try to engage them more, maybe find actual activities that require them to interact with each other on more of a personal level, or something requiring them to be proactive in their approach,” said Lawrence.

Even without the two weeks off during Hurricane Sandy, students would have most likely still had a difficult time rebounding from Thanksgiving break.

However, because of the additional weeks during which classes were cancelled, students have lost almost all of their motivation. It has been an incredibly rough semester in terms of class time, which has been very little help to the work ethic of many students. Winter break might be right around the corner, but the anticipation leading up to the last day of finals is what is going to make these next three weeks seem much longer than they actually are.



IMAGE TAKEN from blouseanh.com

With so much time off this semester and the approaching holidays, students are having trouble getting back into the swing of things.

Educators from High School to College

WESLEY BROOKS
STAFF WRITER

Almost all of us have a favorite teacher from high school or even a professor from here at the University who is looked at as a friend or mentor. There are some major differences in the way these relationships are viewed. “One of my

communication professors used to work at places such as Walt Disney World and they really allowed me the chance to see what working in the field is like at a professional level,” said Rebecca Zidik, a sophomore. Hearing about real life experience from professors often enlightens students to see the world differently than they

may have viewed it in the past and could even inspire them to change their major if a high interest arises in a particular subject.

Over fall break, many students have returned to their home town high schools to visit favorite teachers. One major difference is that these teachers know their students on a more personal level and often stay in touch with them after graduation.

“I am real close friends with my high school Spanish teacher and it was really cool to see him both at my high school’s homecoming and here at Monmouth at a soccer game. He was also my soccer coach and inspired me to go far,” said sophomore Rachel Fox. More of the education process is geared towards individual styles in high school and a structured learning environment helps to foster some of these close relationships.

Some teachers even will go the extra mile according to freshman Briana Lieberman,

“One of my teachers still keeps in touch with me through phone and email while I am away at MU.” This is vastly different from a relationship with a pro-

their respective fields and expect more from students. A more professional relationship is expected at this level as a result.”

This may make it difficult for incoming students since some are not used to seeing education at the next level. However, this relationship can be the segway for an internship, scholarship or study abroad opportunity. Thus, it is important to create a network of teachers who see the strong qualities of their respective students.

“It is always exciting to hear my former students share their stories and know I was a part in helping them in their desired career and educating them because it only takes one positive experience to make a difference in one’s life,” states Terri Peters, education professor.

There is a major difference between the relationships one has with a high school teacher compared to a professor, but they both carry an important aspect of what one can learn throughout life at the University and beyond.

“It is important to understand that while the professors are very caring about students, it is rare that relationships are on a personal level like with high school teachers.”

ERIN KENNEY
Professor of Disability Services

fessor.

Unlike teachers, professors come to universities to get work published in scholarly articles and to give their students insight on a particular field of interest as well as to challenge students’ thinking. Erin Kenney, professor of disability services, notes that, “It is important to understand that while the professors are very caring about students, it is rare that relationships are on a personal level like with high school teachers. This is because many professors still work in



IMAGE TAKEN from monmouth.edu

Relationships between students and professors in their educational settings are often times less personal than those between high school teachers and students.

Black Friday Madness

TAYLOR MANTHEY
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

Black Friday: the infamous day after Thanksgiving holiday; a day that appeals to many Americans yet raises feelings of intimidation and frustration. It marks the start of the holiday shopping season, businesses open shop early, close later and offer promotions. It has been recorded as the busiest shopping day of the year since 2005.

The appellation is quite ironic: cold weather lines, no guarantees, sleep deprivation, etc. So when factoring in your sanity, time, uncertainty and the price of your purchases, does it all add up to be worth the troubles?

Some would say that highly discounted electronics or other items are not worth freezing their toes off, but Senior, Greg Sentara disagrees. He spent his Thanksgiving night camped outside of a local Target to take home a 32-inch Apex LCD TV for only \$147. “It was way worth it; I’m a broke college kid and desperately needed a TV. Now I’ve got a nice one that’ll last me years,” said Sentara. For him the reward was well worth the wait.

Unfortunately for sophomore, Benjamin Rickks, his Black Friday experience does not share a happy ending. “I bought some TV on impulse at Walmart. I mean it was only \$78 and looked so nice. I’ve had nothing but problems after one month.”

Ben fell victim to the common one-off model strategy. Basically, distributors will strip down a well-known model and sell the partially gutted product for far less money. Commonly used by retailers, the one-off model poses as a real bargain, but more often times than not.

The biggest perk to shopping on Black Friday is of course the countless deals, especially when it comes to electronic gadgets. From Smartphones to refrigerators, you can find deals almost anywhere for this product, but that still doesn’t mean you’ll find discounts on ev-

everything you’re looking for. Yet if you’re searching for electronics, Black Friday is a smart move for you.

In terms of other desirable merchandise: clothes, shoes, perfume, sports gear, etc., venturing into the Black Friday gauntlet may not be the wisest move. The swarms of people are easy to get lost in, “Even though I’m only there for one thing, I just can’t wait to get out,” said Pat Nardella. The thought of getting close to complete strangers

can make some people cringe.

So, when the holiday comes around next November, remember to do your homework and to do it well. Also, keep these Black Friday guidelines in mind:

First off, junk is junk, even if it’s cheap. If you don’t need it, don’t buy it!

Second, time is money. So make sure it’s worth it before investing your hard earned money or sleeping hours.

Last but not least, don’t rush

your pumpkin pie! Family and friends come first, cutting your pie time in half to race to the stores should be considered a big no-no: enjoy your turkey day before giving it up in favor of spending your money.

Perhaps retail enthusiasts should consider trying the World Wide Web to satisfy their shopping needs next holiday season. “Cyber Monday is way better, you don’t even understand,” exclaimed Nardella.

The fad of convenient online shopping is catching on rather quickly. The possibility of a new holiday is upon us. Online retailers and websites have created their own ‘Black Friday’ on the following Monday. Retailers offer extreme sales on limited items all day and sometimes all week.

‘Cyber Monday’ can very well be the next new thing. Like Sentara said, “If you shop smart, you save smart.”



IMAGE TAKEN from businessinsider.com

Black Friday shoppers should educate themselves and be aware of the tricks and scams of retail stores for reducing product quality and increasing cost.

Brotherly Love

Theta Xi Chapters Team Up Coast to Coast for Hurricane Relief Efforts

DANIELLE FERRIS
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

The Gamma Iota chapter of Theta Xi, at Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University in Prescott, Arizona reached out to the brothers at Monmouth to lend their hands for support as the East Coast began its efforts to rebuild the state.

The brothers of the fraternity in Arizona set up an online account and gave people the option to donate any amount of money. Once the account was set up both chapters at Arizona and at MU promoted the online account encouraging friends, family and both school communities to help out in any way possible.

The initial goal of the fundraiser was to raise money for a month start-

ing on October 30 with hopes of reaching \$20,000. As of now, the fundraiser has raised almost \$3,000. The brothers of the two chapters decided to extend the fundraiser for another week to give people more time to donate. The fundraiser will now end on December 7.

After seeing the devastation the storm caused on the Jersey shore coastline, the Gamma Iota chapter felt an obligation to help out brothers who were in the heart of the storm. President of the Gamma Iota chapter and junior at the Arizona school, Shawn Carter, quickly contacted the brothers at MU to see what could be done to help out.

"We knew we had brothers on the

Jersey shore and wanted to do whatever we could. We have a brother in our chapter who lives in New Jersey and learned that he lost every-

"We like to promote for chapters in the Monmouth community to work together at all times and the fact that a chapter from across the nation wanted to get involved is amazing."

CASEY MCCABE
Panhellenic Chair for Greek Senate

thing he owned," said Carter. We also knew brothers in the University chapter were personally affected. We were just glad to help out anyway we could," said Carter.

The president of Theta Xi, Joe

Nardini, had previously met Carter at a national convention. The two worked to join their chapters together.

"The Gamma Iota chapter set up the entire online account so all of the donations would be in one place. They are choosing random brothers and their families along the east coast and cutting checks to them," Nardini said. "The amount given to each family will be determined by the total raised in the end and how many families are chosen."

While the west coast could only see the devastation of the storm on the news, there was still a significant impact. "As this storm did not affect us as much as those on the east coast,

it was still shocking and devastating. There are four brothers in our chapter who have family and friends living on the east coast. Worry and fear for the lives of our loved ones were definitely a concern," said Carter.

This fundraiser was a great example of the sense of community Greek organizations obtain. PanHellenic Chair for Greek Senate, Casey McCabe, commented on the efforts of both chapters. "We like to promote for chapters in the Monmouth community to work together at all times and the fact that a chapter from across the nation wanted to get involved is amazing."

Students and faculty looking to donate can still do so by visiting Theta Xi's account on Wepay.com throughout the rest of the week.

To Rid the Debris

Tau Kappa Epsilon Joins Together for Hurricane Relief

ALEXIS ORLACCHIO
ASSISTANT CLUB & GREEK EDITOR

The brothers of Tau Kappa Epsilon gathered on Sunday, November 11 in Point Pleasant to help families affected by Hurricane Sandy to clean their house of debris.

TKE member Lorenzo Russomanno organized the clean-up. "Community service is a big part of being in a fraternity; we always have this sense of wanting to give back. My e-Board position in TKE puts me in charge of planning and organizing all community service events," Russomanno said.

"Lorenzo and I had been in contact with each other for a while and he was so anxious to get out there and do something for these people," said Christa Hogan, TKE advisor. Hogan has been advising the fraternity for about a year. She knew of a couple, Kathy and Scott Emery, from Point Pleasant that needed help gutting their home for repairs.

"She shared a story with them about friends of hers that were trying to get some debris out of their house so that the town could clean it up and they could use an extra hand or two," said Jon Buchalski, Assistant Director of Greek Life. "They took the story and actually did something with it," he said.

"It was overwhelming," Hogan said in reference to how many TKE brothers showed up to help. Twenty-four TKE members, including alumni showed



PHOTO COURTESY of Christa Hogan

Twenty-four TKE brothers, including actives and alumni, came together in Point Pleasant to help families whose lives had been turned upside down from the storm.

up in Point Pleasant to help the family clean out their home. Within 20 minutes, the brothers had moved everything the family needed removed from the house to the curb.

"When I heard and saw all of the disaster and destruction caused from Hurricane Sandy, I knew I wanted to organize some-

thing that could really help out hurricane victims hands on," said Russomanno. After they helped the initial family, they walked through the town of Point Pleasant offering help to anyone in need.

Hogan originally did not plan on staying for the duration of the clean-up, but was afraid the

citizens in Point Pleasant would fear that the brothers were looters and not volunteers.

"My seven year old daughter and I stayed to help as a buffer," Hogan said. She continued, "They must have helped a dozen families." Hogan said at the end of the day the family bought the brothers' dinner to show their

appreciation.

"Since many of us were so fortunate throughout the storm, we felt as though we should give back to the community and help those who were less fortunate," said Russomanno.

Kathy Emery wrote a letter to Ellen DeGeneres explaining her experience with Hurricane Sandy. She received a call back from DeGeneres's show and will be flown out to California for the taping of the show.

"She sent a picture of the guys to Ellen. She's going to try to mention them on the show and acknowledge their hard work," said Hogan.

The brothers' volunteer work has found its way into the pages of some local newspapers including *The Asbury Park Press*. Buchalski said, "Monmouth University was sending a press release out to the home towns of the members who participated so they could be proud of the members from their community coming down to help." According to Buchalski, the members of TKE are planning on organizing restoration efforts for the town of Sea Bright.

"I'm very proud of all my brothers who took the time to help. To see a family lose absolutely everything, helping them was the least we could do to lend a hand in picking themselves back up. It's a good feeling to know that people will always be there for others, especially in a time of need, and I'm very proud to have the brothers that I do," said Russomanno.

Won't You Lettuce Watch this Movie?

Monmouth Area Vegetarian Society Hosts "Peaceable Kingdom" Documentary Screening

STEPHANIE RAMADAN
STAFF WRITER

On Sunday, December 2, the Monmouth Area Vegetarian Society (MAVS) held their last event for the semester which was a screening of the documentary, "Peaceable Kingdom: The Journey Home" in Magill Commons.

Professor Mary Harris is the director of the organization. According to their Facebook page, MAVS "is a non-profit, non-sectarian educational organization that is open to the Monmouth University community and outside community."

Their mission statement, according to their Facebook page, says that "MAVS is dedicated to providing educational resources for informing the public about the advantages of a vegetarian diet and nutritional information, including recipes that

will support and facilitate the adoption and healthful enjoyment of a vegetarian diet."

Their events not only give an opportunity for perspective vegetarians to learn first-hand about the delights of good vegetarian cooking and to get to know and interact with experienced vegetarians, but also give an opportunity for enriched understanding, mutual support, and shared fellowship for practicing vegetarians by providing opportunities for community outreach and community service in the interest of good health, environmental protection, and compassionate living.

Prior to the production of the film, there was a study done of 32 people who recently went vegan. Of the 32, five former farmers who gave up their ways really made an impression.

The film is about these five peo-

ple and their stories. The documentary showed how farm animals are treated and how the farmers began to get emotional about the situation and start to feel guilty about how they were being treated. This is what led them to cease their farming.

MAVS events are always free and open to the public. "This event is one that we have really been looking forward to and we are so happy to see new faces," said Harris.

Harris advertises for these events through means of e-mail for the students and the members of MAVS. Many people from the Monmouth County area come out to support MAVS and try new foods.

Along with the film, there was a vegan potluck. Each guest invited was to bring a vegan dish with him or her and an index card of the recipe. "It's really cool because you

get the opportunity to try things you normally would not try," said Harris.

Some of the foods that were fea-

"I'm always open to trying new foods, but I was surprised that I actually liked it."

JACKIE LEMING
Sophomore

tured were vegan chocolate chip cookies, smashed chickpea and avocado salad sandwiches, and buttermilk squash macaroni and cheese.

Harris is really determined to get students involved so she offered her classes extra credit if they attended. Christine Scherr, senior

business major, is one of her students. "I came because I wanted to get the extra credit, but also because I love Professor Harris," said Scherr.

Most of the members of MAVS are vegetarian or vegan, but not all of the students who attended are. Raquel Warehime, sophomore psychology major, is already a vegetarian, so she is used to the food and enjoys it. "I've been a vegetarian for four and a half years now, and I don't miss meat at all. I love vegetarian food," said Warehime.

On the other hand, Jackie Leming, sophomore health studies major, is not a vegetarian. Leming tried a vegetarian dish for the first time at this event and was not nervous at all. "I'm always open to trying new foods, but I was surprised that I actually liked it," said Leming.

XIngo!

DEENA HALUZA
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

Alpha Xi Delta hosted an event called XIngo for the first time on Friday, November 30 in the student center in order to raise awareness for their philanthropic organization, Autism Speaks.

The event was free to all students at the University and its purpose was to raise awareness of autism to the students on campus. The students in attendance played bingo and the winners received prizes. While the students were playing bingo, the sisters of Alpha Xi Delta shared facts on autism that they thought were important.

This is the first time that Alpha Xi Delta ran XIngo, and as a result of the turnout and feedback they received, they hope to host it again next year. The sisters of Alpha Xi Delta were pleased with the turnout of the event, which was mainly promoted through a Facebook page that included all of the event information. The cost was covered entirely by the Weekend Warrior grant available to organizations at the University.

Ashley Anton, senior communication major, attended XIngo on Friday night. “I thought this event was a great way for Alpha Xi Delta to promote their philanthropy and organization. I haven’t played bingo in years, so the fact that I was having fun and learning about autism was definitely an appealing approach for the event in order to accomplish their goal,” Anton said.

Some of the prizes that were given out to the winners included



PHOTO COURTESY of Deena Haluza

Alpha Xi Delta hosted a bingo night while simultaneously providing autism awareness to students. Next semester in February the sisters will be hosting “Karaoke for a Cure” in order to further raise money and awareness for their philanthropy Autism Speaks.

gift cards for: iTunes, Amazon.com, Banana Republic, Olive Garden, and AMC Theatres. The final prize was a Blu Ray player which included two Blu Ray discs.

This was awarded to the student who filled up their entire board first in the last round of bingo.

Vice President of Public Relations for Alpha Xi Delta, Kae

Crede, senior communication major said, “Alpha Xi Delta was thrilled to have the opportunity to host XIngo with SGA and have so many people come and partici-

pate.”

Brittney Penson, senior secondary education and history major, is the philanthropy chair and recording secretary of Alpha Xi Delta. “We made XIngo a free event because we wanted it to be a fun event that everyone could have a chance at winning some great prizes,” Penson said. “Everyone who won a prize also received one of our Autism Speaks philanthropy wrist bands that we sell throughout the year. This went along with the information sheet we passed out to everyone as they walked in that included information on our philanthropy and the organization.”

Alpha Xi Delta sister Danielle Puma, senior majoring in marine biology and environmental policy, said, “Our event was held to promote autism awareness on campus. Being a member of Alpha Xi Delta, Autism Speaks is something we are very passionate about, so we do our best to make people aware of its severity and how raising money for the disease is very important.” Since 2009, Alpha Xi Delta has raised more than \$800,000 for Autism Speaks.

In order to help raise more money for Autism Speaks, the next event that Alpha Xi Delta will be hosting is “Karaoke for a Cure” which will be held on Wednesday, February 20, at 10:00 pm in Pollack Theater. The tickets are \$5 presale and \$8 at the door. Alpha Xi Delta will have a pre sign up where people can sign up in pairs to sing karaoke in order to win a prize for first and second place.

I Am So Stressed!

STEPHANIE RAMADAN
STAFF WRITER

On Tuesday, November 27 in Mullaney Hall there was an informational program held for the students called “Address Your Stress”. It started at 7:30 pm and lasted about an hour. One of the hosts of the event was Tom McCarthy, Assistant Director of Counseling and Psychological Services here at the University.

The purpose of the event was to discuss stress with students, define it, talk about what causes it, and share ways to deal with it. The event was planned because of upcoming finals and papers, students stress levels tend to increase around this time.

Address your stress was advertised for by means of flyers and e-mails. About 35 students came out to learn new ways to deal with their stress. “We were extremely happy with the amount of students that

came out tonight. We are not used to such a turnout,” said McCarthy.

Most of whom were freshmen, which were fulfilling their “W,” which stands for “wellness,” requirement for the SHADOW program. The SHADOW program is a program that was designed for first year students in order to get them involved with events on campus. Various events fall under the program, each standing for a different letter. Once all of the letters are earned, students are entered into a raffle and eligible to win free clothes, gift cards, and concert tickets.

Some professors were requesting that their students attend this event. This was the case for Akash Patel, freshman computer science major. “I came tonight because I had to for a class, but I’m sure it will be beneficial,” said Patel.

Another student who was interested in stress coping methods was Alexa Caplinger, freshman English

and Education major. “I got an e-mail about it and I wanted to come because finals are stressing me out and I wanted to learn new ways to deal with it,” said Caplinger.

McCarthy defined stress as “anything in our lives that exceeds our ability to cope.” It was also characterized as being unavoidable and having the feeling of being frustrated and overwhelmed.

Some of the things that were defined as causes of stress were family, money, friends, and relationships. An interesting fact that McCarthy shared was that the number one mental issue on this campus and across the country is anxiety, and that is one of the main reasons why this session was held to educate students.

McCarthy also talked about ways in which stress can be good. It can act as a motivator, which will help to get work done and make one push harder. It also activates the fight or flight response in our bodies. This is important because it is how our body reacts when it is in danger.

There were handouts that were distributed to those who attended. One of the three was a questionnaire about your vulnerability to stress, another was a paper with instructions for a deep breathing exercise, and the last paper included tips to relieve the harmful effects of stress.

McCarthy demonstrated an alternate deep breathing exercise (different from the handout) and explained how to do it when stress becomes too unbearable.

McCarthy also expressed his hopes that this was advantageous to the students and that they would leave with some sort of knowledge in the subject. “If they walk away remembering one or two tips and apply them, I’d be happy with that,” said McCarthy.

Zach Bessette, freshman English major, is one of the students who was happy he came to this event. “I think it was really helpful and useful information,” said Bessette.

Lend A Helping Paw

DEENA HALUZA
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

During the week of December 10, Ashley Anton, senior and communication major, will be hosting the event Holidays for the Homeward Bound 2012 and will be collecting donations for the Monmouth County SPCA (MCSPCA).

“The idea of Holidays for the Homeward Bound is to provide the pets at the MCSPCA with the holiday homelike experience,” said Anton. “Their current home at the shelter has needs that need to be fulfilled to help keep the animals in suitable living conditions. By creating this event, I hope to be able to get as many University students involved, as well as faculty members and local community residents.”

Students and faculty members who wish to contribute can easily do so right at the University. For the event, Anton will place two drop boxes to leave donations based off of a provided wish-list by the MCSPCA. To promote this event, Anton created a Facebook event page and has also distributed flyers in a few neighborhoods in Eatontown and West Long Branch. Another large contributing factor to promote this event will be through word-of-mouth. The wish-list is available on the Facebook event page, on the flyers she has distributed, and will also be available next to the drop boxes on campus.

The drop boxes for Holidays for the Homeward Bound 2012 will be in Plangere from December 10-13 in the downstairs lobby outside of Java City and also in the Student Center on December 14 on the

first floor outside of the Student Employment offices. Anton will also be picking up any donations left on residents of Eatontown and West Long Branch’s doorsteps on December 16 and 17, as indicated in the flyers.

Emily-Ann Varvar, senior and health studies major, was very excited to hear that Anton created this event. “I am an animal lover and always try to help in any way I can,” said Varvar. “When I heard of the event, the first thing I asked Ashley was how I could help. I will definitely be donating and spreading the word. It’s so sad that pets won’t be in a home for the holidays. Hopefully these donations can make the pets more at ease.”

Anton’s fundraising goal is to reach at least 100-150 donations for the shelter. With the reach that she has made thus far with promoting this event, she feels this is a realistic goal.

Matthew Beverin, senior and communication major, said, “It shouldn’t be hard for Ashley to reach her goal. This is for a good cause that many people support, so getting a hundred people to donate an item in a school that has more than 4,000 students should be fairly easy. In my opinion, she’ll probably get much more than 100 donations.”

This is the first time that Anton is hosting this event and she plans to make it an annual event. She has been working closely with the MCSCPA for a few months now and is excited to execute her campaign. For more information on the campaign you can reach Ashley Anton at her email s0760131@monmouth.edu.



PHOTO COURTESY of Nick Hodgins
The number one mental issue on this campus and campuses across the country is anxiety.



Do you think that general education courses should be required?

COMPILED BY: ALEXIS ORLACCHIO



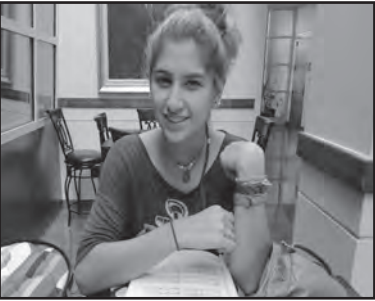
Sam
senior

"Yes, they're important because you get a good feel of other majors so you can pick out another interest."



Taylor
senior

"No, I don't think they're important. I don't feel like taking them helped me at all."



Erin
sophomore

"Some are helpful. Sometimes they're a little excessive, there's more than you need."



Colleen
senior

"I'd say they're necessary. I transferred as a business major and I switched to health studies so I feel they helped me a lot."



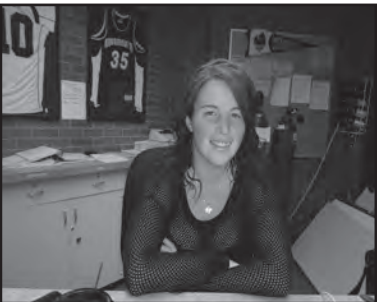
Cait
junior

"I think some of them are, like math and science. I feel like some are to make you seem worldly."



Anthony
freshman

"No, I think it puts an extra strain on students and I'm not really learning what I need for my major."



Kim
senior

"To an extent. I feel like I covered most of them in high school and I learn so much in my actual major courses."



Matthew
junior

"I feel like they should be, but at the same time I feel like everybody learned these things in high school."



Mike
Professor of Communication

"They should be required. We are in a better position than students to determine what should be a common set of knowledge."



Stephanie
junior

"I think they are helpful. They give you a more broad understanding of different subject matter."

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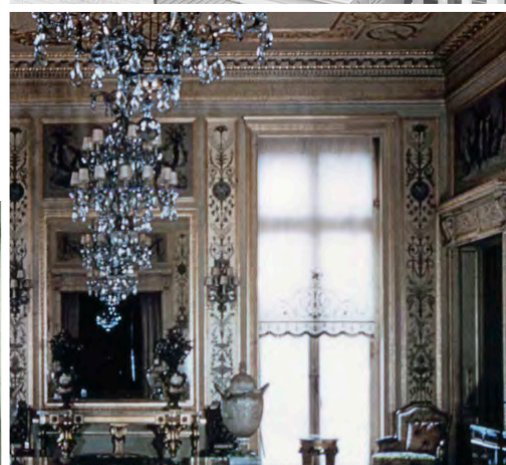
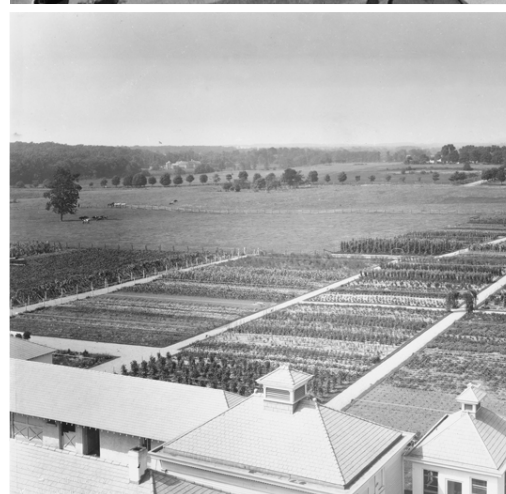
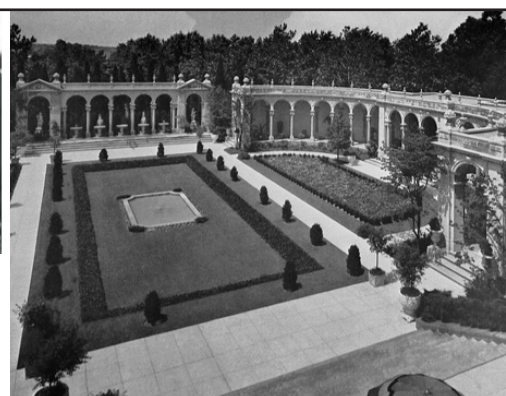
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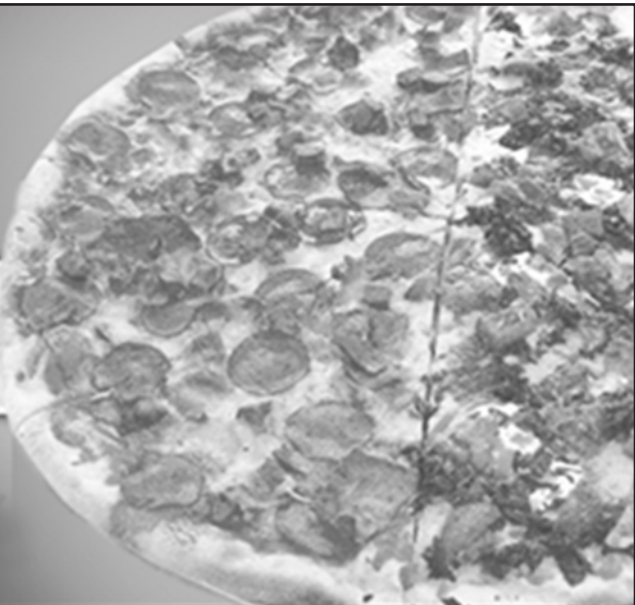
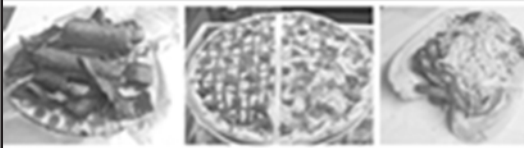
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Horoscopes

To get the advantage, check the week rating:
10 is the easiest, 0 the most challenging.

♈ Aries • (Mar. 21 - April 19) - This week is a 6
The pace is picking up, as you have probably already noticed. Accept the greater good of the situation, and even though your workload is getting more intense, your excellent performance in the situation attracts good attention. Release anything that might lead you astray and find a way to keep gaining that positive view others are seeing you in, it very well could lead to a great opportunity.

♉ Taurus • (April 20 - May 20) - This week is a 5
Avoid the confrontation by staying away from someone else’s argument. Instead save your energy and relax for the next two days. Someone notices your “chilled out” stance and finds it very appealing. Be on the lookout for this attraction, there very well could be a blossoming romance on the horizon just in time for the holidays.

♊ Gemini • (May 21 - June 21) - This week is a 9
Being ambitious is always a good thing but don’t get too carried away with it all. Sticking with the facts at work, getting the job done, and remaining at a steady pace will serve you well in the upcoming week.

♋ Cancer • (June 22 - July 22) - This week is a 7
The voracious learning phase has finally rolled in and is coming into play. It would be a good time to start practicing something that you love now, make sure that you don’t lose all of your time to these lessons though.

♌ Leo • (July 23- Aug. 22) - This week is an 8
The phrase “work now, play later” will be your mantra for the next couple of days. Avoid anything that might sidetrack you in order to stay on task and get the work done that will give you that extra set of cash. Resist the temptations of slacking and you will be very happy with how much you were able to finish at the end of it all.

♍ Virgo • (Aug 23 - Sept. 22) - This week is a 9
Assertiveness works well now, so avoid any distractions in order to be the most effective. You’re feeling more powerful and in control as of late and this will help you in your upcoming tasks. Though take things one step at a time to avoid failure.

♎ Libra • (Sept. 23 - Oct. 23) - This week is a 6
Times are getting hectic and nobody knows that better than you right now. Slow down and complete one thing at a time. Contemplate potential outcomes, postpone private meetings, and wrap up the details of the following days. There may be conflicts of interest that arise, but do not worry, those can always be dealt with later.

♏ Scorpio • (Oct. 23 - Nov. 21) - This week is a 9
‘Tis the season to enjoy yourself! Get out there and have some fun, ponder party possibilities, and plan some music and food filled festivities. Pass on what you’ve learned to those who are willing to listen. In the end everyone learns something and has a good time along the way.

♐ Sagittarius • (Nov. 22 - Dec. 21) -This week is an 8
The next few days are going to require patience, seeing as there may be a disagreement about priorities or delayed correspondence. Research the best possible option and consider assuming more authority to get your points across when they finally are decided upon.

♑ Capricorn • (Dec. 22 - Jan. 19) - This week is a 9
Time to branch out your creative and intellectual outlets! Plan your agenda for maximum utilization of your time, and use that time to do something new. Attend a business seminar to help you fund doing what you love.

♒ Aquarius • (Jan. 20 - Feb. 18) - This week is an 8
Keep things practical in this high stress time. Figure out your finances sooner rather than later to avoid the headache. Also changing the budget revisions and bidding your time will all prove well for you as you make the move to get things done.

♓ Pisces • (Feb. 19 - Mar. 20) This week is a 7
It would appear that there is a project in the works for you. Review the instructions again to make sure you are doing things correctly and share the job with people who you can rely on. Choose your coworkers wisely though; you’re the one responsible for the whole thing in the end.

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a That Loud comix #2

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Track & Field Hosts Fourth Annual MAC Classic

MAGGIE ZELINKA
LIFESTYLES EDITOR

MU’s track and field season began this past weekend as the team hosted both conference rival Wagner College and Division III Stevens Institute of Technology in Monmouth’s Fourth Annual MAC Classic.

The men and women’s teams participated in thirteen events each.

The men won nine of their events while the women won a total of eight events.

Overall, the men scored 150 points while the women were not far behind with 131 points.

Head coach Joe Compagni is proud of his team’s great start to the season.

“I think we were pleased with it for our first meet of the year,” Compagni said. “It’s important for us to measure where we are at early in the season.”

Highlights on the women’s side came from senior jumper Rachel Watkins.

Watkins won the high jump with a height of 1.78 meters (5 feet and 10 inches). With her 1.78

was very good last year but has continued to improve every year.”

“Coach Dev, my high jump coach, had high expectations but I didn’t think twice about them,” Watkins said.

She also does not believe that her latest achievement will add pressure in her next meet.

“It’s a relief to qualify for ECAC’s my first meet and to know I’m ahead of my expectations for this season.”

She improved her resume by also winning the 60 meter hurdles by finishing with a time of 9.37.

Other wins for the women came mostly from MU’s junior class. Mariah Toussaint won both the 60 meter dash, although she was running unattached, and long jump with a landing of 5.67 meters (18 feet 7 inches).

Junior Laura Williams won the 300 meter dash with a 41.47 time. Shot put was won by junior Rachel Aliotta as she threw for 13.92 meters (45 feet and 8 inches).

Meanwhile, the weight throw was taken by junior Tilah Young



Senior Chris Rutherford competes for the Hawks as the Blue and White defeat Wagner and Stevens Institute of Technology in the Fourth Annual MAC Classic.

PHOTO COURTESY of MU Photography

“Ben Boyd ran one of the fastest times. We do not get to compete in the 300 meter very often, but for him to be in the top 5 in the very first meet of the year is a great start.”

JOE COMPAGNI
Head Coach

meter accomplishment, Watkins broke the school record, the meet record, and the MAC record.

“Rachel Watkins has the best jump in the country so far this year,” Compagni praised. “She

who threw a distance of 17.13 meters (56 feet and 3 inches).

The women’s relay team A won the 4x40 rely finishing with a 4:03.31 time.

The men’s highlights, accord-

ing to Compagni, came from sophomore Benjamin Boyd.

“Ben Boyd ran one of the fastest times,” Compagni said about Boyd’s 300 meter dash. “We do not get to compete in the 300 meter very often, but for him to be in the top 5 in the very first meet of the year is a great start.”

Boyd finished the 300 meter dash with a time of 35.30, creating a MAC record.

Another key player in the men’s victory was freshman Eric Kahana who raced in the 60 meter dash and finished with a time of 7.05 as well as competing in the 60 meter hurdles and winning with a time of 8.42.

The high jump victor was MU’s senior Jake Bartlett who jumped 2.01 meters (6 feet 7 inches) and

competed unattached.

The men’s relay team A won the 4x400 meter relay posting a 3:26.40 time.

Senior Ford Palmer also excelled in the meet by winning the 3000 meter dash (1.86 miles) with a time of 8:45.20.

Sophomore Joseph Marini took the long jump with a distance of 6.65 meters (21 feet and 10 inches).

Junior Errol Jeffrey won the distance jump with 17.41 meters (57 feet and 2 inches).

Compagni attributes the meet’s success to the work ethic of his team.

“Our sprinters, jumpers, and throwers spend the entire fall training to getting ready to get the season going,” Compagni

said. “[This outburst of power] is not what we expect since it usually takes some weeks to get there but when someone can come and put up a big mark. It’s great.”

Although the cross country runners did not participate in this past weekend’s meet, they will be competing shortly.

“The cross country team just finished their season so it was important for them to get a little break and train. Some of them while compete in this weekend’s meet,” Compagni said.

The track & field team travels to Princeton to compete in the New Year Invitational meet this weekend on Sunday December 9 with the events beginning at 11:00 am.

Men’s Basketball Wins Fourth Straight

ED MORLOCK
SPORTS EDITOR

The men’s basketball team won its fourth straight game Monday night with a 77-65 win over Binghamton.

Ed Waite led the Hawks (5-3) in scoring with a career-high 23 points.

Sophomore Andrew Nicholas

wasn’t far behind, scoring 19 points on seven of 14 shooting from the field.

Waite and Nicholas also had big games on the boards. Waite had nine rebounds and Nicholas grabbed eight, all of them coming on the defensive side of the ball.

Nicholas had a game-high five steals as well.

The Hawks changed the game right before halftime. The 5:15 remaining in the half, the teams were tied at 26. The Blue and White went on a 12-2 run, capped by a Jesse Steele three-pointer, to take a 10-point lead into the half.

Waite scored seven straight points to put MU ahead 33-26. Reed made a layup for the

Bearcats and Christian White responded with a two-point jumper for the Hawks. Steele made a three as time expired and the Hawks were up by 10.

Free throw shooting was much better for the Blue and White on Monday night. Last week against Lafayette, MU shot 50% from the charity stripe. Monday night they were eight of 12, a much

improved 85.7%.

The Bearcats (2-7) had two scorers in double figures as well. Guard Jordan Reed scored a game-high 26 points, shooting 10 of 17 from the field. Fellow guard Jimmy Gray added 10 points for Binghamton.

The Hawks next game is tonight, Wednesday December 5, at home against Navy.

Outlook’s Weekly NFL Picks - Week 9

	Away	Chicago Bears	New York Jets	Dallas Cowboys	Baltimore Ravens	Kansas City Chiefs	Atlanta Falcons	Detroit Lions	Houston Texans
	Home	Minnesota Vikings	Jacksonville Jaguars	Cincinnati Bengals	Washington Redskins	Cleveland Browns	Carolina Panthers	Green Bay Packers	New England Patriots
Ed (5-3)(36-28)									
Clutter (3-5)(35-29)									
Gavin (4-4)(41-23)									
Outdoors Club President Greg Cenicola (Brett Gilmartin 1-7)									

Women’s Hoops Falls to 2-5

RYAN CLUTTER
STAFF WRITER

The women’s basketball Team went 0-2 last weekend in the Navy Classic. After losing 81-74 against High Point on Friday, MU fell to East Carolina in the consolation round on Saturday 64-49 as their record dropped to 2-5.

Against High Point, the Hawks found themselves down early, turning the ball over six times in the first 6 minutes. They were down by as many as 13 points in the first half, but were able to get within 7 by halftime, trailing 35-28.

“We had stretches where we played really well and did some really good things and then we had stretches where we got a little tired and lost track of our fundamentals a little bit and it wound up hurting us on the defensive end,” said head coach Jenny Palmateer.

The Hawks were able to take the lead 43-39, thanks to nine straight points from Abigail Martin after the half. High Point then went on a 15-1 run and MU was never able to get the lead back. They shot 40.9 percent (27-66) from the field and were out rebounded 49-37.

“We were down both games at halftime and we knew we had to come out strong and we knew we had to cut into the lead,” said Martin.

“Whenever Abby gets on a roll like that, it’s an added bonus for us,” said Palmateer. “When she’s playing like she did against High Point, she’s a force to be reckoned with on the inside. We were able to get her some one on one opportunities in the paint and she’s tough to handle down there.”

Chevannah Paalvast had a game high 22 points, while Alysha Womack scored 19 and Martin added 15 of her own, all in the second half. Paalvast and Martin each had a team high



PHOTO COURTESY of MU Photography
Chevannah Paalvast scored a game-high 22 points in MU’s 81-74 loss to High Point.

eight rebounds.

In the consolation game on Saturday, the Blue and White faced an East Carolina team that was in control from the start. Much like the first game, MU came out flat, finding themselves down 14-2 after 7 minutes of play and six team turnovers.

The Hawks faced a deficit as large as 21, but only trailed by 6 with eight minutes to play. They never got any closer as ECU pulled away down the stretch, scoring 17 of the games final 25 points as the Hawks were defeated 64-49.

MU shot just 14-44 from the floor (31.8%) and turned the ball over 22 times.

“I’m really happy with the fight that we’ve shown, but we need to be able to consistently show that fight for 40 minutes,” Palmateer said. “Right now we haven’t really put together a complete game yet.”

“We take away the points that were

really good this weekend and we learn from the bad ones,” said Martin. “We know we can compete at a high level and we can go out there and let other teams know who Monmouth is and what we can do.”

Womack led MU with a 19 point effort and Paalvast scored 10 of her own. Paalvast, Martin, and Sara English led the team with 4 rebounds apiece.

With her performance, 32 points and 12 rebounds over the two games, Paalvast was named to the Navy Classic All-Tournament Team.

“Chevy (Paalvast) played really, really well this weekend and I was glad to see that,” said Coach Palmateer. “We’re going to count on her a lot, especially on the offensive end and we need her to be able to be somebody that we can consistently count on. The two back to back games here she showed that she is very capable of being that person for us.”

Coach Rice Challenges Team Early

RAY MALASPINA
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

The men’s basketball team opens their 2012-2013 season with non-conference play against some of the top collegiate basketball teams in the nation.

The Hawks will face teams from six different conferences, including the Big East, Atlantic Coast Conference (ACC), Colonial Athletic Association (CAA), Atlantic 10 (A-10), Patriot League and America East. Of these teams, seven qualified for NCAA postseason games last season.

Head coach King Rice, who is in his second season with the team, is not picking easy teams for the Blue and White to square up against in non conference play. “When I got here, I said I was going to change things. First thing I thought about was the schedule. I want Monmouth to be one of the best, most respected teams in the Northeast Conference, and the way to do it is to challenge teams that are better than you,” said Rice.

The players on the team feel the same way, like the rest of the coaching staff, about scheduling tough opponents in the beginning of the season to get them ready for NEC play. “It gets us ready because we know if we can hang tough against these bigger schools then we can beat anyone in our conference,” said senior guard Jesse Steele. “Also, being from a small conference, games aren’t as hostile as some of those big arenas so it gives us experience in playing big in conference games.”

MU, who started last season on the road for the first nine games, opened up their season in the Multipurpose Activity Center with a 91-62 win against Hofstra on November 9, starting the season 1-0 for the first time

since the 2009-2010 season.

The men’s team will also host Big East contender Villanova on December 22. With the Wildcats playing in West Long Branch, Rice hopes to “Pack the MAC”, not just for this game, but for all Hawk home games. Rice explains, “Everybody always wants to see the big time places. Villanova coach Jay Wright is nice enough to play us every year, one year their place, the next (year) at our place. We need our fans to come out just to see us. We shouldn’t have to bring in Villanova or someone else. The way we get people out (to games) is by getting the word out to the student body, having our guys invite them and winning some games to support the Hawks.”

When asking Steele about his thoughts on having Villanova coming to the MAC this year, he said, “It feels great and we’re so excited for that game vs. Villanova. We feel that we can definitely knock them off this year. We hope to have a sellout crowd. The atmosphere is going to be crazy.”

A majority of the tougher out-of-conference games will be on the road. Two key games will be against Syracuse (Dec 8), who made it to the Elite 8 last year, and also Maryland (Dec. 12). For Steele, Maryland is the non-conference game that is circled on his calendar. “I can’t wait to play against Maryland because I’ve always been a Maryland fan since my dad pole vaulted there,” explains Steele.

The team also took part in the Coaches vs. Cancer Classic. After dropping their first two games in the classic to 20th ranked Notre Dame and Georgia State, the Hawks were able to win the final two games in the sub-host rounds against South Alabama and Tennessee State.

The Hawks are affected by cancer as well; Rice feels that this is the least the team can do to help others. “A lot of people have been affected by cancer; my mom’s a cancer survivor, my wife’s aunt passed away from cancer about two weeks ago, so anything we can do to draw awareness to such a great cause, I’m all for that,” Rice stated.

Although the games are a challenge because of the opponents, the team feels that this can help them in conference play. Even though the teams the Hawks will be playing are more well-known than MU in college basketball, Steele and the rest of the squad still enter every game the same way. “As a team we try to impose our will on the other team, whether they are ranked or not, so our mindset does not change when we play against those bigger schools,” said Steele. “I try and tell myself that I’ve put in just as much work to try and be the best player I can just like the players from ranked teams so it relaxes me and I’m able to play my game.”

With Rice’s decision to make the schedule so tough, he hopes it helps the Hawks come time to play against NEC opponents. Monmouth was picked seventh in the preseason rankings and look to improve throughout the season. “Last year was very helpful for NEC play,” Rice said. “It definitely helped us last year getting us to 10 wins because we played such a hard schedule early, hopefully this year will help us get to 14 wins.”

Non-Conference games will continue through the rest of the 2012 year, as January 3, 2013 starts NEC play.

Their first NEC matchup will be on the road against Wagner, with the NEC home opener being February 10 against St Francis (PA).



Here’s The Scoop About NCAA Bowl Games: It’s More Than The Numbers

DAN GUNDERMAN
STAFF WRITER

After a grueling twelve weeks of regular-season football, some teams are poised to receive a nice and relaxing break before they take part in a bowl game. If they are lucky enough to compete in such a game, there is a lot of preparation involved, along with an adjustment to the rules behind the process.

Some teams will have over a month off, so circumstances may change from the final whistle of game 12 to the opening kickoff under the lights of a bowl game. As a fan, there’s definitely a few things to monitor if your team is about to take part in college football’s strangely designed system.

Also if you are a bettor (for pride of course), there’s a handful of aspects to the break that you may want to monitor. These include coaching changes, relationship with media, the transferring process, injury and attitude changes.

A team may be undefeated and have a Heisman candidate, looking to breeze through college football’s final test in the BCS Championship Game, but receive a huge setback when team cohesiveness falls through and no contingency plan is in place.

Even if the spread seems good, and the ESPN analysts have sipped the team’s Kool-Aid, there’s always more to this impactful break than meets the eye. As a fan, you have to be on a constant lookout for changes that take place because of the month of rest.

First off, although the season is not really over after the regular season, it pans out that just after the final game, teams like to re-hire coaches and bring in new ones, so these changes can take hold before the holiday. Or you can have a coordinator, who is quite powerful in the locker room as the “voice” of a number of players leave and take a head coaching spot or different position somewhere else.

Staff mixing and matching usually always takes place, and affects a high-caliber team that the public thought was good and had victory in the bag. Team chemistry can plummet after a coaching change, and if you see that the team’s attitude has fluctuated, chances are you may want to hold off with the thoughts of champagne, streamers and victory parades.

Second, to borrow a concept from a handful of communication textbooks, the media plays a significant role in agenda-setting, and in sports it can be quite telling. If the media picks favorites, labels underdogs and starts assuming they know exactly what will happen, college athletes start becoming affected.

Though it may seem subtle, the shockwaves of a media prediction really hit teams in the gut. Players may start thinking more (or less) of their role, their coach’s impact, etc. and when they have weeks to kick their feet up and relax, the changes may be recognizable. The key is, when watching media interviews with the coaching staff and players, make sure you compare the break-time interviews with the normal, regular-season ones. If anything seems a bit different or out of whack, it may hint at a larger internal problem. Refrain from choosing teams who have this internal strife, because talented or not, the team may be strongly in-

fluenced by what people like Kirk Herbstreit, Reece Davis, Jesse Palmer and Brent Musburger have to say (just to name a few).

Next, the overarching effects of transfers can hit a team very hard. After the season, some non-starters or disgruntled players, and admittedly impactful players bail on their current institutions and look to play elsewhere. This transfer is allowed to, because if it goes through procedurally, they can be a part of their new team after Christmas and be participating in spring practices to allow them to play the following season.

So when you have role players one day, but not the next, you may have to significantly adjust your game plan going into the January (or late December) bowl game. Any team that may have to shift a kick returner, or find a quality special teams tackler, or backup defensive end (just to randomly show some role positions) because their current one has left is in for a bit of trouble. Refrain from crowning these guys champs if this dilemma becomes apparent.

Finally, arguably the most impactful aspect to the long break that ensues after the NCAAF regular season is the effects of injuries and attitude changes with the squad. As far as injuries go, a team may look completely different when they run out of the tunnel in January than they did in late November. They could look horrifically worse, or surprisingly much better. Injuries may have had time to heal, or could have just been brought on in one of the many practices that coaches hold during the holiday season.

If you find that your team has just lost a goal-line rusher or notable receiver, you may want to start cringing a bit. But on the other hand, if someone who has missed a few games is poised to return for the bowl game, a new personality may be brought back to the team. It’s hard to say exactly how injuries will affect the squad, but it’s safe to assume that the injury report ticker on ESPN or on an online forum should be your best friend as a fan during the month of December.

In terms of team attitude, there is a lot that players go through during the holiday season. For the first time in months, they may have some down time, or be returning home to see their families. Or, they may be hitting the town and getting into trouble. Although the coach’s policies reign strong during this odd break, there always seems to be the chance of some sort of trouble that results. If teams have to deal with personal issues of star players or have to deal with NFL scouts having already spoken with them, some more conflicts could hold the team back from their full potential.

Like I said, there a lot of things to evaluate before you fall head over heels for a team and their prospects in the NCAAF version of the playoffs. It may seem a bit “overkill” to go through all these situations step by step, but in order to be completely aware and confident in a Bowl Game, look beyond the numbers and what you may hear every day. It takes a little investigative work to understand this odd break. During one of the NCAA’s 35 BCS and invitational games, there’s an overwhelming chance that one of these previously stated issues will take place; and that’s a prediction I will stand behind.



Flying Out of the Gate



The track & field team won its first meet of the season. They defended their home turf in the Fourth Annual MAC Classic, beating both Wagner and Stevens Institute of Technology.

Full Story on page 22