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10th Annual International Social Work Lecture Features Scholar-In-Residence

GINA COLUMBUS
ASSOCIATE NEWS EDITOR

The 10th Annual International Social Work Lecture, sponsored by Monmouth University's School of Social Work, was hosted by Willie Baptist in Wilson Auditorium on Tuesday, December 2 to celebrate International Human Rights Day.

Willie Baptist, Scholar-in-Residence at the Poverty Initiative, was the key note speaker at the event and discussed issues to the audience concerning homelessness, human rights and the passion to fusing a movement to put an end to poverty.

Baptist, who is formally homeless and carried a number of low-income jobs, is a nationally and internationally known human rights activist and scholar.

Rosemary Barbara, Assistant Professor and ICD Concentration Coordinator, stated that Baptist was chosen be-

cause he speaks from his personal experiences.

The lecture, titled "The Hu-

public.

Aside from speaking, Baptist also presented a documen-

ty." The short film consisted of the living conditions of several homeless people, and the National Union of Homeless movement that has gone into effect in diminishing the homeless population in the past twenty years.

The movement works to transfer homeless people into empty, vacant houses.

Graduate student Chelsea Toth said that the presentation went along the lines of what she is studying.

"From this, you realize how humans are affected," Toth said. "The populations I work with are poor, and it directly affects me in the work that I do."

Baptist formally believes that the United States can be better towards the homeless.

"This is the richest country of the world, it should not be happening," Baptist stated. "No one should sleep on a



PHOTO COURTESY OF Gina Columbus

Scholar-In-Residence Willie Baptist spoke to faculty and students about human rights in Wilson Hall Auditorium.

man Right Not to be Poor" lasted from 5:30 to 7 p.m. and was free and available to the

tary he was in, "Living in the Boom Times: Lessons from the Movement to End Pover-

Lecture continued on pg. 11

EOF Program Charters Chi Alpha Epsilon National Honor Society

GINA COLUMBUS
ASSOCIATE NEWS EDITOR

The EOF Program held an induction ceremony for chartering the Chi Alpha Epsilon National Honor Society on Thursday, November 20th in Wilson Hall Auditorium.

The ceremony, which demonstrated the program's desire for academic excellence amongst its students, took place at 5 p.m. and was presented by Dr. Elbert Saddler, founder of Chi Alpha Epsilon, and Reggie Walker, EOF Counselor and Chi Alpha Epsilon Advisor. Director of EOF, Colleen Johnson, and Dean of Academic Advising, Joy Jackson, also spoke during the service.

A total of 32 students were inducted into the National Honor Society. Those in attendance received certificates of induction, Chi Alpha Epsilon pins and decals, and honor



PHOTO COURTESY of Reggie Walker

Inductees gathered for the chartering of the Chi Alpha Epsilon National Honor Society.

cords to be worn at graduation.

Natalie Rambone, a student who was inducted, said: "I was very honored to be chosen

to be inducted into the Honor Society. I have always been the type of person who prides themselves on setting goals and reaching them. This is a great

achievement because not only have I shown that I am a hard-

EOF continued on pg. 9

Singing for Survival: From Holocaust to Hope

SARAH ALYSE JAMIESON
OPINION EDITOR

Pollak Theater - The University's History and Anthropology Department, the Music and Theater Arts Department as well as many Professors and Deans of the campus presented to Monmouth students, staff and visitors the "Singing for Survival: From Holocaust to Hope" narrated concert on Wednesday, November 19, from 7:30 p.m. until 9:30 p.m., in Pollak Theater.

"The Concert was presented to showcase one of our talented faculty members, Raya Gonen. In addition her song cycle has a great deal of historical, literary, cultural and educational relevance. An audience like the one we had at Pollak Theater is ideal for this type of artistic presentation." Dean Michael Thomas, Assistant Dean, School of Humanities and Social Sciences, stated, in answer to why the concert was presented at the Monmouth University campus.

There were many who helped to prepare for this concert. The program committee members include Professor Susan Douglas, a History and Anthropology professor, Professor Raya Gonen, a Music and Theater Arts professor, Dr. Golam Mathbor, Associate Dean of the school of Humanities and Social Sciences, Dr. Fredrick McKittrick, History and Anthropology Chair, Ms. Vaune Peck, Counselor and Coordinator of Performing Arts Programming and Promoting, Dr. Saliba Sar-sar, Associate Vice President for Academic Program Initiatives, Dr. Pasquale Simonelli, Professor of Philosophy, Religion and Interdisciplinary Studies and Religious Studies Program Coordinator, and Professor Michael Thomas. "There

Singing continued on pg. 11



Wednesday 58°/33°
Rain



Thursday 34°/25°
Rain/Snow Showers



Friday 39°/24°
Rain/Snow Showers



Saturday 41°/30°
Partly Cloudy



Sunday 43°/33°
Partly Cloudy



Monday 46°/37°
Cloudy



Tuesday 46°/37°
Few Showers

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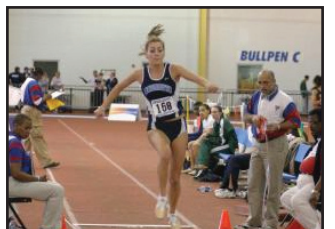
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Sports



The women's track and field team had a strong showing at Princeton.

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Monmouth University President

Whew! You finished the Fall Semester; congratulations. Now for some well-earned time off. Enjoy your holiday whether you are off to warmer spots, are working to gather a bit more spending money or simply relaxing at home with family and friends.

How to enjoy? One way is to reflect on the positive things you have accomplished this semester. While you have undoubtedly faced a challenge or two, from time to time, every one of you has done or experienced something that is good, positive, rewarding, fun or helpful.

I am proud of your accomplishments and your outlook (and your OUTLOOK newspaper!) on life. Every day I encounter dozens of students in different places. I am continually impressed by your optimism, sense of humor and engaging manner. Your confidence is growing daily; it is so obvious.

Take a break for a few weeks. Think back on the many good experiences since Labor Day. Give yourself credit for advancing your lives. Congratulate yourself.

Return refreshed and charged up to complete the academic year. The University and I will be looking forward to your return in mid-January.

Linda and I wish you and your families the very best for this holiday season.

Paul Gaffney
President



The Outlook to be Preserved in Microfilm

CHRISSY MURRAY
MANAGING EDITOR

Monmouth University’s student newspaper, The Outlook, is being preserved by the process of microfilming and has plans to go digital in the future.

“The newspaper is often used as a research source, not only for students but for academics, alumni and community members as well. In these instances, researches are forced to use whatever issues are on hand in the library, or they are forced to visit the newsroom to look at bound copies that are on file... In addition every time a reader handles these aging papers, the issues are degraded,” said Chris Ellwood, the Collections Manager of Archives and Special Collections.

“Throughout much of its history, The Outlook was printed on unstable stock that, over time, became acidic and brittle. Many issues of the publication were also bound in unwieldy volumes that inadvertently fostered mechanical deterioration, which compounded the newsprint’s inherent decay and effectively rendered the archival holdings unusable,” Ellwood wrote in the fall 2008 New Jersey Library Association (NJLA) newsletter.

In October, The Outlook issues were outsourced to Hudson Micro-imaging in New York. After 8-12 weeks of waiting, the first reel of microfilm was recently sent to the MU library for approval. “By the end of the calendar year we should have all of the microfilms,” said Ellwood.

All proposals and applications for external funding from public sources went through the office of Anthony Lazroe, the Director of the Office of Grants and Contracts. “I started at Monmouth in September of ‘07 and this was the first project that I submitted. I assisted in preparing the budget, preparing the routing documents and internal approval documents, and then hand delivering everything to Trenton.”

After multiple attempts, MU finally received a \$13,860 Project Grant award from the NJ Historical Commission to support preservation microfilming of The Outlook. The total cost for this project became \$12,642.04, based on the number of frames and volumes to be unbound (the most costly part), according to Ellwood.

Ellwood said, “The state grant provides for reformatting the newspaper to 35mm microfilm standards established by the NJ Division of Archives and Records Management (NJDAARM). Then, once the replication, testing, and quality-control processes are complete, master copies of the microfilm will be stored in the NJ State Archives. The Monmouth University Library will retain master and service copies of the film and make the content available through the NJ Library Network... It’s good in case of a fire, all of those books won’t be lost, they can be stored somewhere else. The microfilming standard for preserving shelf life is 500 years.”

Linda Silverstein, the Systems Librarian and Interlibrary Loan Coordinator said, “Our microfilm collection is currently housed on the first floor in the 67 wing of the library.”

“[This project] is supported by both myself and Professor Susan Douglass, who was a member of the history department while I was at Monmouth. However, credit for recent developments should go to the Special Collections Manager, Mr. Chris Ellwood,” said Michael D. Banick, the Director of the Mountainside Public Library and former Special Collections librarian at MU.

Communication Professor John Morano said, “This is his [Chris Ellwood’s] vision and he has done a remarkable job putting this whole project together and seeing it through... As a professor in the journalism program for 20 years and as adviser to the school paper for almost as long, I can attest to the value of such an endeavor.”

Ellwood’s interest in microfilming began while in a graduate program at Columbia University, working with primary sources and information resources. Banick said, “The idea occurred to me after completing the Preservation Management Institute at Rutgers University and visiting a preservation microfilming lab.”

“[In the spring of 2001] Professor Susan Douglass had the idea to have a couple of her Vietnam course students create an annotated bibliography utilizing articles from the Outlook that spanned the Vietnam Era. I and another student [Deepthi Patel, an MU Graduate student] put that bibliography together and later adapted it for the library web page,” said Silverstein.

“[The Vietnam project] allowed us to do a methodical survey of the entire run of The Outlook to determine its completeness and to see if there were any serious condition issues. After that, we were able to attend to one topic, the Vietnam War, as reported through the Monmouth student press. The result was an online bibliography of Vietnam-related newspaper articles from The Outlook, with links to scanned images of those articles. In some ways, this was our first newspaper digitization project, undertaken in a highly focused, subject-specific way,” Banick said.

After the project to create the annotated bibliography was done, all involved came to realize just how frail the collection had become and how difficult it was to look at,” Silverstein said.

Frank Gogol, the current Outlook Editor in Chief, said, “The Outlook is a dynamic window into the University’s history. Publications began in 1933 when the school opened and putting these periodicals onto microfilm is a necessary part of preserving the institution’s narrative.”

“Each issue offers a snapshot of not only what was going on at Monmouth at that point in time, but what was going on in the world and larger society, and how these larger issues manifested themselves on campus. There is so very much that can be learned by just going through the old issues, about who we are and where we came from as a higher education community,” Lazroe said.

Professor Morano added, “This project is important because it provides a dramatic increase in access for researchers, students, and those who are curious. If we didn’t do it, volumes would deteriorate. It could lead to restricted access, running against the grain of all things journalistic. Microfilming helps ensure that everyone gets to see them.”

“One practice today is to create both a preservation microfilm of an original and a digital copy that can be accessed by computer. This extra step – digitization – solves, in some way, the dilemma of preservation and easy access,” Banick said.

“Plans are already being made to digitize back issues of The Outlook using images from the preservation film, after work on the present project is concluded this year,” Ellwood said.

Monmouth Makes Princeton Review

PAIGE SODANO
SENIOR EDITOR

Monmouth University has recently been featured in The Princeton Review’s 2009 edition of the Best 368 Colleges, being named for one of the best institutions for undergraduate education.

The Princeton Review, a company based in New York that specializes in education services, and known for its test preparation courses, features MU in its newest edition of the annual book.

Fifteen percent of America’s 2,500 four-year colleges appear in the book. There are also two Canadian schools included.

There is a two-page profile for each school, along with student survey-based ranking lists of the top twenty colleges in over 60 categories. The company also lists the rankings on their Web site (www.PrincetonReview.com).

In the profile on MU, there are quotes that come directly from Monmouth students surveyed for the book. Comments include things such as, Monmouth is big enough to qualify as “a diverse school with good academics, recognized extracurriculars, and impressive athletics,” yet small enough that “students really get to build great academic relationships with their professors and get the attention and education they need and deserve.”

The students mentioned also note that standout departments include communication, business (where most of the professors “have worked for companies prior to teaching, so they have a lot of insight”), education, music, criminal justice, and pre-medical sciences.

The data included in the book come from a survey, which included 120,000 students, which comes out to about 325 students per campus, on average. These students come from the 368 schools listed in the book.

Assistant Director of Study Abroad, Robyn Asaro, said, “Monmouth is this little gem tucked away on the Jersey shore. I’ve looked at a lot of college campus’ lately as my son is a senior in high school and there are few that compare to Monmouth’s beauty, attention to the student and wonderful location.”

A college’s appearance on these lists comes from a consensus, which came straight from the students’ opinions.

The survey included eighty questions, and asked students to rate their schools on several topics and to give feedback on their experiences.

The lists include the top 20 schools in categories that range from best

professors, administration, and campus food to student body, political leanings, race/class relations, sports interests, and other aspects of campus life.

The Princeton Review does not rank the colleges in the book, nor do the rankings reflect The Princeton Review’s opinion of the schools.

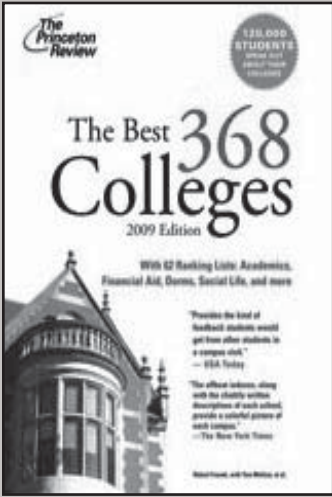
Along with making it into the top 368 schools, Monmouth University has also made it into the Best 296 Business Schools for the 2009 edition.

This book reflects students’ opinions from surveys of 19,000 students who attend these 296 schools featured in this edition.

The topics comprised are the most popular from MU students and ones that were most agreeable to talk about.

The book also does not rank schools just as the Best 368 Colleges, but instead has 11 ranking lists of the top 10 business schools in various categories.

Dr. Robert Mc Caig, Vice President for Enrollment Management, commented, “We are really excited to be named as a ‘Best 368 College’ by The Princeton Review. This is the fourth straight year we’ve been given this honor, and it speaks to the increasingly national reputation our university is earning.”



Reflecting on the 2008 Monmouth-William Roberts Charitable Trust Outstanding Teaching Award

KATHLEEN O'DONNELL
ASSISTANT TO THE DEAN SCHOOL OF
EDUCATION

Did you ever wish you could begin to repay that high school teacher who really made the difference in your life? Every year Monmouth University seniors have the opportunity to honor their former outstanding secondary school teachers by nominating them for the Monmouth University-Roberts Charitable Trust Outstanding Teaching Award.

Anne Marie DeRosa began to repay the outstanding secondary school teacher in her life last year when she nominated Anne Marie Tarnowski, one of last year's outstanding teaching award recipients. "When I saw the opportunity to nominate a former teacher for the Monmouth University Roberts Charitable Trust Outstanding Award I jumped on it" said DeRosa. "Even though it has been ten years since I was in high school, it was important to recognize someone who made an impact on my personal, professional and educational life."

Ms. Tarnowski, a social studies teacher at Brick Memorial High School, said she was amazed when she found out that she was nominated for the award. "I loved the idea of having future teachers think back on their past educational experience- since they will be a part in the lives of so many others." said Tarnowski. "Receiving the nomination letter made me proud of myself and of my student, Anne Marie DeRosa. She has worked hard on her education; she didn't have to bother with nominating me, yet she did so anyway."

Nominees are asked to send in a resume; a short narrative summary of their approach to teaching and any teaching innovations or activities they feel would help the committee understand their strengths. "Filling out the necessary paperwork to be considered was not difficult and provided some interesting reflection for me." Tarnowski said, "Certainly the notification that I had been selected as one of the winners came as a shock, and a very pleasant one at that."

Outstanding teachers receive a monetary award of \$1,500. They and their families are invited to a dinner in their honor hosted by President Gaffney. Nominating students and their families are also invited. "I hold Monmouth University in the highest regard for the manner in which the entire process was conducted" said Tarnowski. "The communication was excellent and the attention given to each recipient and their family was fantastic. It was such an impressive dinner reception; I shall never forget how welcomed and honored each and every member of the Monmouth University family made me and my family feel."

Award winners are also invited to the Monmouth University Commencement Ceremony. "It was exciting and wet and cold at graduation, but the day was full of smiles as we sat amongst the younger graduates." Tarnowski said. "I treasure my award at every level and I commend Monmouth University for its outstanding commitment to education."

Newton High School science teacher, coach, science coordinator and a 2008 Outstanding Teaching award winner Jake Mull said: "Being awarded the Roberts Award from Monmouth University was one of the most rewarding experiences of my professional



PHOTO COURTESY of Kathleen O'Donnell

This year's recipient, Mr. Jake Mull is accompanied by President Paul Gaffney, his wife, nominating student Brittany Heller, and William Roberts.

career." Mull was nominated by biology major Brittany Heller for his ability to translate complex scientific concepts into a format that his students could understand and for making science fun. One of his innovations was the "Mull Diagram", a tool that helped students solve complex stoichiometry problems.

"During my career I have experienced teachers being criticized much too often and not praised for doing a good job. To have a former student take the time to nominate me made me realize that I really do make a difference in my students' lives." said Mull. "Never before was I treated with such class, respect, and dignity by an organization. The staff and faculty of Monmouth made me feel as if I was an international dignitary. I cannot say enough wonderful things about the Roberts Award that Monmouth has developed and how Monmouth goes out of their way to make teachers feel worthwhile and important. I doubt I will ever forget receiving my Roberts Award or the wonderful experience I went through to accept the award."

The Monmouth University-Roberts Charitable Foundation Award was established in 2006 at the suggestion of William Roberts, Monmouth University Board of Trustee who provides monetary support through the Roberts Charitable Trust Foundation. The purpose of the award is to recognize and honor outstanding secondary school teachers who have made an important contribution to the education of current Monmouth University students. Each year up to three outstanding Secondary School teachers are selected to receive the award based upon outstanding teaching skills, impact on the nominator's life and dedication to teaching.

The third 2008 Roberts Outstanding Teaching award winner was Shore Regional mathematics teacher, Daniel Nicol who was thrilled about the nomination and elated when he learned that two Monmouth seniors, Nicole Mancini and Sheena Migliaccio, had nominated him for the award. "To be recognized by Monmouth Uni-

versity instilled in me a sense of pride and accomplishment." He said. "This great learning institution allowed me to bring my family to share a wonderful dinner in my name, also allowed me to attend and be honored at the graduation ceremonies where I saw my two former students receive their diplomas. The expression of joy on their faces was unforgettable."

This year's Monmouth University-Roberts Charitable Foundation Outstanding Teaching Selection Committee members are: Dr. Lynn Romeo, School of Education Dean and Chair of the Selections Committee; Drs. Eugene Simko, Jason

Barr, James Konopack, Michael Palladino, and Deanna Shoemaker; and five Monmouth University students selected by Vice President for Student Services, Mary Anne Nagy. The most important information used in the deliberation process comes from the student nominating form which must be submitted no later than December 12. Forms should be sent to Dean Romeo, McAllan Hall 116, or by e-mail to soedean@monmouth.edu. For more information contact Kathleen O'Donnell in the Dean's Office, School of Education (732-571-7518 or kodonnel@monmouth.edu).

For those seniors who are considering nominating their outstanding high school teachers, Annmarie DeRosa gives this advice: "...no matter how old you are or how long it has been since you attended high school, those who impacted you the most still count and appreciate your recognition more than you could imagine. Ms. Tarnowski today is an amazing mentor and a wonderful friend. Relationships with those who impact our lives last a lifetime, so take the time to acknowledge and reward those who go above and beyond to be the resilient adults in children's lives."

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407 Cedar Ave: The New Alumni House

LAUREN GILDE
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

As of the 2008-09 school year, 407 Cedar Ave. is the new Alumni House, a change that came as part of a Monmouth University funded project designed to free up space for classrooms in Wilson Hall.

The house, located next to Lot 25 on campus, was built in 1988 and was used as a residence for President Gaffney and his wife. They moved in to the house in fall 2003 as part of a plan to renovate and remodel the president’s estate located on Norwood Ave. He lived on the property until about three years ago, when he moved back into the estate. Since then, the university has been contemplating what the best use of the property would be.

The university chose to move the Alumni Office, University Advancement, Development, and Prospect Research to the new location allowing the elimination of two classrooms on the first floor. The vacated classrooms are now being used for meetings and special events.

“Faculty and students expressed concerns that every time there was a special event in Wilson Hall that their classes had to be relocated, which resulted in disruptions,” said Patricia Swannack, Vice President for Administrative Services.

The move would also provide additional space for members

of the English Department who currently share offices.

“Since the Alumni operation can function independently and there has been a desire, for some period of time, for Alumni to have their own space, it seemed logical to take this opportunity to relocate,” said Swannack.

Employees were notified and asked to pack their belongings in mid-July, a week before the move. The university used the time to get the classrooms in Wilson Hall ready for the students arrival in September.

Renovations to the home included a new roof, new rugs, office furniture, and landscaping. Structurally, everything has remained the same. The two-story house features a full kitchen, two-car garage, basement, hardwood floors, and several rooms that have been converted into office space.

“When we first moved in, the house was pretty much empty except for tables,” said Michele Lassen, Associate Director of Alumni Affairs.

The Alumni Board of Directors meetings will eventually be moved to this new location.

“The set-up was created so that the Alumni were flowing through our office to get into the conference room,” said Lassen.

The basement is used for university storage and record retention. It is accessible only to those employees needing to retrieve information. A newly

created driveway allows Alumni and visitors to enter the residence through university property. Employees working in the Alumni House have been asked to park in Lot 16, across from the building.

“It was nice being in Wilson because we were closer to the center of campus and had better access to everything,” said Michelle Fabio, secretary of Alumni Affairs.

Monmouth University had to obtain a use variance change from the West Long Branch Zoning Board in order to convert the residence into the Alumni House. The conditions of this include that the property must remain a residence. This is why half the garage is used for the tenant and the other half for storage.

“The university’s construction manager lives in the northern portion of the house, since in the event of an emergency he is responsible for responding,” said Swannack.

As soon as the staff of 13 employees and one graduate assistant is settled in and the Multipurpose Activity Center is complete, the university community and alumni will be notified of the change. The new Alumni House allows added room for gatherings and special events held for Alumni.

“The house gives a place for Alumni to come and meet. It is much more inviting here,” said Lassen.

Renowned Author David Treuer Gives Reading as Part of the Visiting Writers Series

FRANK GOGOL
EDITOR IN CHIEF

Author David Treuer read excerpts from two yet-to-be-published books he is writing and spoke to students, faculty, and other members other Monmouth University community about his writing in the 800’s gallery on Tuesday, December 2.

David Treuer is a writer of Ojibwe and Jewish descent. He was born in Washington, D.C. and raised on the Leech Lake Indian Reservation in northern Minnesota. His Undergraduate degrees were obtained at Princeton University and he was graduated in 1992 after writing

the renowned writers who works we read and study.” She, in return, thanks Thomas and Green for their efforts in coordinating Treuer’s visit.

She then shared the story of how she met Treuer at a literary conference where he was the plenary speaker “When he read from his novel, The Translation of Dr Apelles, I knew that a new gifted writer was changing the American literary scene,” she said. She briefly spoke about each of his published works and went into a brief, but detailed, praise for The Translation of Dr Apelles.

Treuer then took the podium. He began by thanking all in attendance

“When he read from his novel, The Translation of Dr Apelles, I knew that a new gifted writer was changing the American literary scene.”

DR. MARY KATE AZCUY
English Professor

two senior theses.

The first thesis was in the anthropology department and the second was in the Princeton Program in Creative Writing. While at Princeton, his thesis advisor was the Nobel Prize winning author Toni Morrison.

After graduating from Princeton, Treuer went to the University of Michigan, where he earned his Master degree and Doctorate in anthropology.

He is the author of several books including Little, which was the culmination of his creative writing thesis and was published in 1995, The Hiawatha, which was published in 1999, and The Translation of Dr Apelles and Native American Fiction: A User’s Manual., both of which were published in 2006. He is currently writing two new books, Neverland and a non-fiction piece.

Assistant Dean of the School of Humanities and Social Sciences, Michael Thomas, opened the event with a few words about the Visiting Writer’s Series and thanks the many parties responsible for putting the event together. He first thanked Dr. Stanton Green, the Dean of the School of Humanities and Social Sciences, whose efforts helped to bring the Visiting Writer’s Series to the university.

“This is the kind of event and turnout and activity that [Green] saw happening and that we envisioned in the success of the Visiting Writer’s Series like this,” Thomas said.

for coming out and expressed how much he appreciated the turnout.

The first selection he read from was an unpublished novel that he is in the process of finishing called Neverland. H described the book as “Dances with Wolves directed by David Lynch and written by Jim Jarmusch.”

“It deals with a very famous, almost Nobel Prize-winning, Jewish-American, Holocaust survivor writer [Viceman], whose had a very long and successful career who feels that his life had fallen apart. He lost his wife, you don’t know how. He’s lost his only son and you’re not quite sure how at the beginning. He feels that he has nothing left to write and nothing left to live for. He hears about a school shooting, which as occurred on an Indian Reservation in which a student killed her classmates and ended up being killed himself and he decides that if writes about this he can bring some meaning to his life,” Treuer explained.

After reading the first chapter, he read a smaller excerpt from later in the novel. School shootings, an iPod, and several references to Christina Aguilera tied the book to present setting.

His second except was from a non-fiction semi autobiographical book he is currently writing about Indian reservations in America that is has yet to be named.

He shared an anecdote about an experience his brother had while he was attending Princeton. He had been telling some of his classmates that he had come from an Indian Reservation and one student had asked, “well, how’d you get out?... How’s you get over the barbed wire fence?” Treuer explained.

“I am always shock about some of the really weird ideas people have about [Indian] reservations,” he said. “The main point of the book that I have realized and explored is that people are used to believing all these silly things about reservations and barbed wire fences and that people believe that reservations are some weird exception to America...but what I actually believe is the reverse, that you have on reservations is America but condensed, America in a microcosm.”

MUPD Crime Blotter

The Monmouth University Police Department is an armed, fully commissioned police force operating 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. The department consists of 20 full-time officers and detectives, as well as safety officers, dispatchers, and traffic attendants. University police officers patrol the campus and off-campus residential facilities in marked patrol units, on bicycles, and on foot.

One of the highest priorities of the Police Department is to provide a safe and secure campus, conducive to the learning environment. In keeping with this theme, all officers routinely attend training in current law enforcement concerns, first aid, and diversity training.


If you have any questions regarding the MU Police Department, or if you need any assistance, please feel free to direct any inquiries to 732-571-3472.

Monmouth University Police Department Crimes By Location

Date	Time	Location	Crime	Preventable	Case
11/21/2008	0313 hrs	Elmwood Hall	Simple Assault	No	Active
11/21/2008	0354 hrs	Laurel Hall	Possession of Alcohol-Underage	No	Ex-Cleared
11/19-21/2008	1400-2057 hrs	Parking Lot #5	Criminal Mischief to Auto	No	Active
11/22/2008	2250 hrs	Elmwood Hall	Possession of Alcohol-Underage	No	Ex-Cleared
11/24/2008	0930 hrs	EOF Building	Harassment-Phone Calls	No	Active
11/24/2008	1505 hrs	Cedar Hall	Student Misconduct	No	Ex-Cleared
11/25/2008	1300-2000 hrs	Possible Dining Hall	Theft-Laptop	No	Active
11/25/2008	1900-2000 hrs	Elmwood Hall	Theft-Bicycle-Recovered	No	Closed
12/2/2008	0030-0044 hrs	Willow Hall	Assault	No	Active
12/3/2008	1145 hrs	Wilson Hall	Theft	No	Active
112/3/2008	1315-1415 hrs	Dining Hall	Theft	No	Active
12/3/2008	2000-2040 hrs	Elmwood Hall	Criminal Mischief	No	Active
12/4/2008	0420 hrs	Pinewood Hall	Student Misconduct	No	Active
12/6/2008	0113 hrs	Redwood Hall	Student Misconduct-Possession of Alcohol	No	Active
12/6/2008	0113 hrs	Redwood Hall	Student Misconduct-Possession of Alcohol	No	Active
12/7/2008	0118 hrs	Spruce Hall	Student Misconduct-Possession of Alcohol	No	Active

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Finals Survial Guide

FRANK GOGOL
EDITOR IN CHIEF

Finals begin tomorrow. It seems that every time "finals" is said at least half the people around me sprout a few new grey hairs, particularly the freshman. I know this is a difficult time, especially because professors tend to pile on the work at the last minute, but here's a little secret that has helped me get through so far: don't get stressed, it'll only make things harder for you.

Most people, when hearing that, would probably retort that it is easier said than done. Fair enough, but let me put it in perspective for you. You've got two ten-page papers to write, five finals to study for, and a part-time job on the side.

The first thing that you need to do is decide whether or not you want to get this all done efficiently.

If you decide that you want to, the next thing you need to do is make a promise to yourself not to procrastinate. There will be more parties next semester, that television show you're going to miss will run again, and all those people you want to talk to

on AIM will be there when you are done.

You just need to sit down and do the work. That is the only way it will get done.

The same rules apply to studying for your finals. Everyone has their own way to study, so do whatever works best for you. Block-off periods of time to sit and study, then really do it. Again, the only way it will get

standing your class content, then you might want to consider utilizing the many tutoring services available through the university such as the Writing Center.

And then there's that part-time job. With a little foresight, you can request time off, but given that it is the holiday season, that might not be a viable option. If this is the case and you do have to work a lot, again, it comes

down to prioritization. Use the little time that you do have in the best way you can by writing your papers

and studying for you finals.

It is a stressful time of year, but it doesn't have to be so terrible. Making it through finals is really about doing what you've got to do and being a responsible student. So, we wish the best of luck to all of you.

With that said, we would like to extend a warm thank you and goodbye to our News editor, Peter Torlucci, and our Study Abroad and Co-Entertainment editor, Megan Labruna. Without these to individuals, this newspaper would not be what it is and for their contributions we are grateful.

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



Did you know... your cartoon or picture can be here next week! It can be about anything but should be related to the Monmouth community, student life, or something going on in the news that week.

E-mail submissions to outlook@monmouth.edu and it could be printed here next week.

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

Holiday Headaches?

Spread Cheer this Holiday Season

JENNIFER FYTELSON
STAFF WRITER

Ever since I was little I was told that the holidays come once a year. But I cannot help but notice that the holidays have started to creep up on us right after Halloween.

I want to incorporate all of the holidays, Christmas, Hanukah, and Kwanzaa, but I can't help but feel that Christmas always takes over. All the commercials are focused on getting your Christmas shopping done, and the radios have 24 hours of Christmas music. Even the television networks have jumped on the "Polar Express", with ABC Family having the 25 Days of Christmas, literally 25 Days of Christmas movies. So, since we know that Santa is out pushing and doing his public relations for Christmas, my question is where is Hanukah Harry? (my apologies to SNL).

I was lucky in the way that I grew up celebrating "Chrismakah", the combination of both

Christmas and Hanukah. Let me make this perfectly clear, I am in no way trying to knock Christmas. I am just trying to show the readers what else goes on. Holidays have been taken over by industry and have become truly commercialized. The whole purpose is not who has the best decorations – which mind you are not those inflatable snow globes – and it is not who gets the most presents; it is the point of spending quality time together with the people you love. I think we forget the whole point due to the fact that we are all so caught up in the material meaning behind the holidays. I can't count the times that when I have told people I celebrate both holidays that their response was "So wait, you get presents on Christmas, AND eight days of presents for Hanukah." This at least for my family is not the case! We do a couple presents for Christmas day and about three out of the eight nights for Hanukah. But do you want to know a secret? Personally the presents aren't my favorite

part. For Hanukah, we get together with my aunt and cousin at my house, we have potato pancakes, some chicken and I make matza ball soup. And after we eat we have a game night, usually Apples to Apples. And for Christmas, we go to my mom's sister's house, where along with her eight other siblings and their kids we have a huge ham for dinner. Then we all sit around and listen to our aunts and uncles re-tell stories of when they were kids. You know what – that is the best part of the holidays for me!

So this year when you're tearing into your new Coach purse or Wii games just stop and think for a moment. Think about what great family and friends you have. Recount the year you have spent with them and the memories you have made. And most of all enjoy the day, whether it is Christmas morning, the first night of Hanukah or the week long celebration of Kwanzaa. So from my family to yours I hope you all have a wonderful holiday break!

TARA FANTINI
STAFF WRITER

As the holidays rapidly approach us, it is important that we take a step back from the busy disarray of shopping, school and finals to think about the true meaning of the holidays. It is no secret that this season is not about the gifts, but about spending time with loved ones and being thankful for all that you have. Now, that is not to say there is no room to shop, leave your significant other hints about what is on your wish list and enjoy a few holiday parties along the way. However, it is essential that we give back to those who are less fortunate in the community.

There is no excuse not to get involved in a charitable cause or to lend a helping hand. It is easy and free! While donating money or gifts is a great way to give back, volunteering your time is just as needed and valued. Here are some great ways to get involved this holiday season so even if you indulge a little too much on holiday meals and shopping this year, you will still have something to feel good about!

holiday wish lists to provide gifts for families in need, for more information contact Amanda Klaus at s0616557@monmouth.edu.

- Be a Santa to a Senior is a program where ornaments on trees list needed items for senior citizens in the community, trees are located at the First Baptist Church of Long Branch at 499 Bath Avenue or the Home Instead Senior Care Office at 25 Main Street in Eatontown, unwrapped gifts can be returned to the same locations, for more information, call Nicole Buono at 732-542-9004.
- Food and clothing are also needed for the Manna House, which is a housing facility for homeless children; The Long Branch Public School system, which assists needy families during the holidays; The Long Branch Elves; Toys for Tots; Family and Children's Services; and the FoodBank of Monmouth and Ocean Counties.

Citizens or Consumers?

JAMIE MARALLA
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

We all consider ourselves to be 'members of the public' in doing this we claim to occupy a civic role with certain obligations and responsibilities. While we all have different definitions of a citizen it is defined by dictionary.com as a native or naturalized member of a state or nation who owes allegiance to its government and is entitled to its protection. What this states is that we give to our country in hopes for the same thing in return, that our country gives back to us. Currently our society has seen a declining number of people engaging in civic participation in all aspects of community life. Instead people are performing individual forms of leisure, therefore, rather than engaging in society individuals are sitting home watching television. One of the main sources of this decline comes from the media's lack of responsibility to keep citizens informed and has replaced news with entertainment.

We are losing individuals who want to take part in the history of our society because the media is not appealing the necessity of real news to them. It is partly for this reason that the news media are so important to citizenship. Outside the education system, the news is one of the only places in our culture where we can receive information, whether it is about problems with the environment and the consequences of different approaches in globalization to the recent political campaign. The assertion is that a good citizen is an informed citizen and our country claims to have seen a decline of 'good citizens'. This is because

in society today we are lacking informed or involved participants. Most of our news television shows do not involve everyday individual's instead only breaking news or anything out of the ordinary. This allows news to play more of an entertainment role rather than an informant one. It is something little such as this that begins our initial disconnection from society. It is the neglected role of the media to keep its' citizens informed. Much of the blame for this is put on the idea that the media would rather create a consumer than a citizen. Each individual is bombarded everyday with thousands of advertisements none of which educated them on how to be a consumer but just guide them to consume more. It is these advertisements that have taken over our society and changed individuals from citizens to consumers. While citizens are actively engaged in the shaping of society and the making of history; consumers simply choose between the products on display. Individuals who want to take part in our society have become discouraged from doing so due to their representation which is portrayed through the media.

Since news media is our only form of news education they are also responsible for catering to the needs of their viewers. While citizens are the main viewers of news, very rarely are they ever the story. The most important idea is that citizen participation must become news worthy issues. Examples of citizen activism—not only demonstrations, but any form of civic campaign—usually have to pass a high threshold to be seen as newsworthy. Although news media is aimed at entertaining the average

citizen they themselves are not newsworthy. Therefore, citizens have an informal role in democratic politics—one that is strongly dependent on the way they are represented in the media. This in turn, leads to individuals who have stopped making democracy an important role in their lives because they do not see themselves as important to democracy.

In a recent interview, Barack Obama made a call for action to our country. He emphasizes that citizens must be the solution to this problem. Obama admits that he has seen a public yearning for participation and will work with the government to evoke those feelings throughout the entire country. He places a strong obligation on integrating civic participation early by incorporating programs into high school and college. In citizens efforts for putting in time to volunteer he plans to offer better college costs. Therefore, giving back to the community will also give back to the individuals that take the time out to contribute. His goal is to have a civic education system that involves community service. Making the public feel that they are needed rather than just trying to feed them negative information is a more positive role to have towards citizens. The main reason citizens lack civic participation is because unless their actions are extreme they go highly unnoticed. Our current state of decline has come from the fact that we have failed to bring realistic solutions to this problem. Bringing the public back into an important role in our country will allow them to not only want to participate, but to be acknowledged for it.

- MU Graduate Honor Society Annual Holiday Food and Clothing Drive to benefit various community agencies that serve the shore area, in need of non-perishable holiday food items and winter clothing, items can be dropped off in the labeled bins located in the Student Center and Edison 148, for more information, please contact chisigm-alota@monmouth.edu.
- The MU Bookstore is hosting a "Give A Little, Get A Little" drive where students can donate canned goods in exchange for coupons good for purchasing imprinted items; all donations are given to Long Branch Public Schools.
- SGA Giving Trees are located in the Student Center, Plangere, and Magill Dining Hall where students can take a tag from the tree of

- In addition, the Long Branch Fire Departments are collecting donations for food pantries now through Dec. 20th, 8am-8pm, at the Independence Firehouse located on Union Ave. or the West End Engine Co. located at Second and Montgomery Avenues.
- Students who live in the area can also volunteer to help serve meals to families in need on Christmas Day, between 11am and 3pm, at the Asbury Park Fire Department located at 800 Main Street.

Best wishes for a happy holiday and New Year!

Becoming an American Citizen

SARAH JAMIESON
OPINION EDITOR

People who desire to become American citizens should be able to accomplish this goal at a much easier and faster rate than they do presently, I believe.

The excitement shown when a loved one becomes an American citizen is clearly shown on Gather, an online conversation site, by Marlane L., a member to the site since April 13, 2007. Her feelings, posted on the website are a perfect example of the enthusiasm felt when one becomes a citizen of the United States; "My wonderful and handsome Russian boyfriend became an American citizen. After 10 years of being a legal immigrant in this wonderful country of ours, his dream finally became

true today. He is now able to share the same rights as we American Citizens do, including the right to vote for our government officials, local, state and federal. This was the happiest day of both of our lives, especially his. Now Oleg is an American citizen and has nothing more to fear."

10 years is a very long time to live in the United States of America as a legal immigrant; it is a long time to live somewhere, anywhere without full citizenship. There needs to be ways in which loyal immigrants are able to earn their citizenship in America at a faster rate.

Presently, there are only two main ways to become a citizen

Citizen continued on pg. 9

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CORRECTIONS AND CLARIFICATIONS

There are no corrections to report this week.

THE OUTLOOK WILLINGLY CORRECTS ALL FACTUAL MISTAKES AND ERRORS. IF YOU HAVE NOTICED A MISTAKE IN THIS ISSUE OF THE OUTLOOK, PLEASE SEND AN EMAIL TO OUTLOOK@MONMOUTH.EDU WITH THE SUBJECT LINE: "CORRECTION" OR CALL AT (732)571-3481.



Monmouth University Debate Team Wins Gold at SUNY

KRISSY MIKULKA
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

Despite falling snow and sub-zero temperatures, Monmouth University's fledgling debate team heated things up on November 22-23 at a tournament in Binghamton, NY, winning a total of nine trophies, including number one ranked speaker in the entire novice division, Kristyn Mikulka. This was the team's second ever tournament, and for five of the twelve Monmouth students competing, it was their first tournament. The tournament was the third largest in the nation this year, with 96 debaters in the novice division and more than 300 debaters total.

The debate team is made up of multiple sets of two-person teams who compete together as partners against other two-person teams from schools from around the country. While the debate team has



PHOTO COURTESY of Krissy Mikulka

MU students were ranked within the top 20 speakers at the competition.

18 members, only twelve people (six teams) competed at this weekend's debate: Margaret DeVico and Daniel Wisniewski (who are also team co-captains); Grant Lucking and Mike Borkin; Danielle Diodato and Shaun Sabo; Kevin Sanders and Jackie Trainer; Kure Cain and Christian Traum; and Krissy Mikulka and Bryan Tiscia. Accompanying these teams was the coach Professor Joe Patten.

Each year, a single resolution is chosen by the Cross-Examination Debate Association and debated for the entire school year. This year's resolution is "that the United States Federal Government should substantially reduce its agricultural support, at least eliminating nearly all of the domestic subsidies, for biofuels, Concentrated Animal Feeding Operations, corn, cotton, dairy, fisheries, rice, soybeans, sugar and/or wheat." In each round of competition, one team is selected to affirm this resolution, designating that team as the Affirmative. Of course, the teams come prepared with tons of evidence either supporting or refuting reasons to affirm the resolution.

While it is relatively simple to generate a plan that affirms the resolution, it is also the duty of the debate teams, should they be chosen not to argue for the debate resolution, to find evidence that refutes any plan that could be presented by an opposing affirmative team. This evidence can be in the form of articles and quotations that directly counter arguments made by the other team, as well as counter-plans and/or disadvantages to the proposed affirmative plan. This all sounds very complicated, and sometimes it can be, but it all boils down to which team can most effectively argue that they have the superior evidence and logic behind their argument.

Each debate round consists of four nine-minute constructive speeches, four three-minute cross-examinations, and four six-minute rebuttal speeches. Each team member completes one of each of these elements within the round, and the round itself takes between 70 and 100 minutes, depending on how much of the allotted 10-minute preparation time is used by each team. At the Binghamton tournament, there were five rounds held on Saturday November 22, followed by elimination or "break" rounds on Sunday the 23. This extremely rigorous tournament style forces every team to incorporate a high level of stamina into their repertoire of debate skills.

Each round is judged by a debate coach, graduate student, or professor from the host school and/or attending schools. The judge must listen carefully to all of the arguments made, and renders his or her decision based on which team did the better job of presenting and defending their arguments. Additionally, the judges award up to

30 "speaker points" per round to each team member based on how well their members delivered their speeches, regardless of whether or



PHOTO COURTESY of Krissy Mikulka

MU Students prepare to take on the competition at S.U.N.Y.

not that team won.

Each Monmouth team garnered at least one win at Binghamton, and amazingly, five of the six attending teams had enough wins to make it to Sunday's elimination rounds: Diodato and Sabo; Borkin and Lucking; Trainer and Sanders; Mikulka and Tiscia; and DeVico and Wisniewski. The first four of those five teams were eliminated after the first round, but team captains and first-time competitors DeVico and Wisniewski defeated their first-round opponents and made it to octafinals. In this second round of eliminations there were only 16 remaining teams of the original 46 in the novice division. DeVico and Wisniewski were pitted against a team from Boston College in the octafinal round and were ultimately defeated.

The five teams to make it to elimination rounds (or to "break," as they say in debate-speak) were all awarded trophies at the awards ceremony. Additionally, four of the Monmouth debaters were ranked within the top 20 speakers in the novice division: Tiscia was ranked 12, Diodato was ranked 8, Wisniewski was ranked 6 and Mikulka was ranked 1, and received a standing ovation from the more than 300 debaters at the ceremony along with her trophy. "I've never coached a team that won first place speaks," remarked Coach Patten, who had coached at two other schools before founding and coaching the debate team at Monmouth.

The entire team left the tournament exhausted but thrilled to have done so well. Monmouth was able to defeat teams from the University of Massachusetts (Amherst), the University of Vermont, the City University of New York, the University of Rochester, SUNY Binghamton, and the New School.



PHOTO COURTESY of Krissy Mikulka

Kevin Sanders was one of the students who had enough wins to make it to Sunday's elimination round.

Monmouth Students Put on 'TheRubber'

ALEX ALLMAN
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

Want a slice of pizza at Gianni's? Maybe an Italian Ice at Rita's? Or maybe you want to shampoo your schnauzer at The Dog Spaw? Maybe you want to do all three? How about getting a discount at each place you go? For that, you would need 'theRubber.'

'TheRubber' is simply a

[Lombard] and got him to license it to us." They were able to get several local businesses to get involved that are very close to Monmouth, including Jack's, where you can get 10% off of your total bill; The Lake House, where you will pay a \$2 cover and get a free drink; Nelly's, where you can get 10% off of anything; and Electric Beach, where you will pay reduced prices on tanning pack-

"It was a cool idea, but to be honest, I did not know what to expect. It really started small, just friends and some of the business owners...are pleasant surprises. And everyone is happy with the results of the product."

VIC LOMBARD
Founder of "theRubber"

rubber-band bracelet with the words "the rubber" on it. While this does not sound like much, this bracelet can be shown at various locations in the Monmouth University area and the bearer will receive discounts and free products. Unlike coupons, one can use 'theRubber' multiple times a day at the same location. 'TheRubber' can be purchased for \$10 from Phi Sigma Kappa members' Anthony Guimmarra and Christian Bucossi.

This product was started by Vic Lombard, a student at West Virginia University. "'TheRubber' was originally created to be a VIP pass to bars in Morgantown, WV (WVU)," Lombard said. "But, then I thought, not everyone goes to the bar, but everyone does have to eat and handle everyday chores. So I wanted to expand to other businesses that apply to the everyday life of students, not just bars. It became obvious that we can help students save money in every aspect of life, whether it be discounts at the bar, a free slice of pizza, or getting your oil changed."

WVU then hosted a business plan competition, with the top idea winning a grand prize of

ages and get 25% off on nail services and tanning lotions.

Bucossi is happy with the results so far, but hopes to expand on what Lombard started. "There has been a good response but people are still skeptical, hopefully more people hear about it and more businesses decide to work with us," he said.

Guimmarra has used 'theRubber' throughout the summer and experienced the benefits. "I personally use it at all the available stores that I would normally go to and I have saved probably over \$100 combined. Considering the bracelet only costs \$10 I think it's a good investment," he said.

According to Lombard, "The businesses love the program because it does not cost them anything and they get exposure to a wide array of people. Many of the businesses have a noticeable increase in traffic, but it all depends on the special." Several local businesses in the area declined to comment.

'TheRubber' also offers opportunities for fund raising groups. They are currently seeking to include any group or organization to raise money

"This product is a win for everybody," said Lombard. "Customers get great reusable discounts...and businesses get the exposure they want

VIC LOMBARD
Founder of "theRubber"

\$10,000. Lombard and his team entered, but placed second. While they were unhappy with the results, "Good did come out of it," he said. "We had a few venture capitalists who wanted to invest in the idea and that's how it was financed." Lombard continued, "It was a cool idea, but to be honest, I did not know what to expect. It really started small, just friends and some of the business owners... The new branches such as the Monmouth U. branch are pleasant surprises. And everyone is happy with the results of the product."

Guimmarra heard about this product and wanted to get involved. He said, "Me and my roommate (Bucossi) contacted

for itself while promoting and distributing 'theRubber' as a fundraising opportunity. Any organization on campus can use this program to make money for their group and help people to save money at the same time, which is what Phi Sigma Kappa hopes to do.

"This product is a win for everybody," said Lombard. "Customers get great reusable discounts and benefits at a low cost and businesses get the exposure they want without having to pay a large sum for conventional advertising. With the economy the way it currently is, everyone needs savings and this is an easy way to get them and have some fun in the process."

For those interested in writing for the Political News page of The Outlook, please contact Bryan Tiscia, President of The Political Science Club to get started. You can contact him at s0656427@monmouth.edu. All topics and viewpoints are welcome.

Department of Art and Design Hosts Senior Show

SARAH ALYSE JAMIESON
OPINION EDITOR

Monmouth students, faculty members and many guests joined to admire the fall 2008 Senior Art and Design show, in the University’s Ice House Art Gallery, on Friday, December 5th. The reception took place from the hours of 7 p.m. to 9 p.m.

Before the show began, Megan Demicco, a senior, Fine Arts and Graphic Design major, had been the first student to attend the event. She was obviously excited for the show to begin. “I have worked for 4 years on this show to be successful for me, and I hope that it turns out well.” Megan stated.

Tiago Fernandes, a visitor of Megan’s, was very proud of his girlfriend’s hard work, and he knew that she will make it big.

The Marketing Coordinator for the Arts at Monmouth University, Barbara Powderly, was very impressed by her student’s hard work. She was overwhelmed at how far some of her past students had come and she was very proud of them as well.

Some students who were presented in the show stuck to the same focus in their artwork. Nicole Jones, a senior, Art and Design major, stated, “I took a class on nature, which

Alice in Wonderland is a symbol of, so I focused on her, in my work, and I am very proud of how it all turned it.”

“My daughter has been drawing since she was young, and I’ve watched her grow. Her work looks great at this show! Everyone’s show looks fantastic here tonight! All the parents of these talented artists should be very happy with their children’s work,” stated Shari Jones, Nicole’s mother.

“I grew as an artist at MU. I feel that my classmates all performed very well in this art show!” Heather Bennett, a senior, Fine Arts major, stated. “It has been fun here, but I’m definitely ready to graduate!”

Mike Barbetta, an MU Graphic Design Alum, thought that the show was one of the better shows that he had seen. He said how this class showed much talent.

“This is a cool show. The department is very small, but we are all so close. There are six Graphic Design majors and two Fine Arts majors in this show, but we all display much potential, I believe.” Chris Parrilla, a senior, Graphic Design major, stated.

for the look that truly fits their artistic ability.” Beau Champney, a senior, Graphic Design major, stated. “I feel that my work has been brought out from the strong support of the MU Art Department.”

Tom Russo, a senior, Fine Arts major, said that he was very proud to have his work shown at the MU Art show. He explained how he loved making art; it is truly his therapy.

Michael Buttmann, a senior, Music and Theater major, who had come to the show to view Russo, his roommate’s art work, described how he felt that he could truly relate to Tom’s art work, even though he knew nothing about art.

“Tom’s art work shows how good of an artist he is, and I am very proud of him and of his work,” Kellie Shane, a senior, Music and Theater major, stated, who had come to the show for



PHOTO COURTESY of Sarah Alyse Jamieson

Senior, Fine Arts major Tom Russo explaining his work to senior, Graphic Design major Beau Champney.

“As an artist one needs to stay true to themselves and fight for the look that truly fits their artistic ability.”

BEAU CHAMPNEY
Senior

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for the look that truly fits their artistic ability.” Beau Champney, a senior, Graphic Design major, stated.

Water Watch Education Week

PETER TORLUCCI
NEWS EDITOR

From January 12 to the 16 New Jersey Community Water Watch will hold Education Week in several New Jersey schools. Members of the organization will visit Newark, Trenton, Camden, and Atlantic City district schools to educate over 2,000 students issues on water scarcity and the importance of water as a resource. The name of the program is “Water we H2O it.”

“In honor of Martin Luther



PHOTO COURTESY OF njwaterwatch.org

Former MU Water Watch Organizer Katie Feeney teaches children about run-off and how it affects the environment.

King, Jr. Day, AmeriCorps holds a service event, and this is what Water Watch does,” said Monmouth University Organizer, Sean Foran. “This is my first, but Water Watch has held this event for nine years.”

MU’s chapter of Water Watch is looking to hold a second “Education Fair” next semester in the

dangers of fertilizers and other chemicals which are a big problem for the area’s water. Foran cited Deal Lake as an example, and that the high levels of nitrogen lead to algae bloom and the decrease in supply of oxygen. Without oxygen, fish cannot survive and there may be problems with water temperature. Algal blooms may also lead

to poor taste or smell in water, clog pumping systems or lead to toxic forms of algae or other toxic life forms.

“We are looking to follow-up on Fisherman’s Pond which is a section of Deal Lake,” Foran stated. “We were there for Make a Difference Day [in October], which was a clean-up attended by Senator Sean Kean and Freeholder Barbara McMorro. It was the same day as Homecoming, and there were 10 students from MU, and 50 members from the community who came out.” The MU chapter worked with Friends of Deal Lake and NJPIRG for this event. Make a Difference Day is a national day of service, and for NJPIRG’s Water watch, it is a statewide event amongst the seven Water Watch chapters, in 2008 there were over 600 participants.

In New Brunswick 212 volunteers for the Rutgers community performed a street sweep. The largest group was from Stockton with over 250 people who were at the Forsythe Wildlife Refuge in Galloway Township to cleanup as well as educate children from local schools.

“We are currently working with Long Branch high school students to work on Lake Takanassee. The Department of Environmental Protection has issued a \$2,000 grant to the school to help reduce run-off,” informed Foran.

New Jersey Community Water Watch is a part of NJPIRG and AmeriCorps that works to encourage students and communities to become active stewards of the area’s rivers and lakes through various projects throughout the state. For more information or to join in Education Week, visit www.njwaterwatch.org or contact Sean Foran through e-mail at Monmouth@njwaterwatch.org.

EOF Honors Society Inductions

EOF continued from pg. 1

doorstep of a house that is empty.”

Interesting statistics were also mentioned during the lecture.

Fifty percent of homeless people are working, two-thirds of homeless people are Caucasian, and in the heart of Philadelphia, someone becomes homeless every 30 minutes.

He also pointed out that the issue of homelessness is becoming more widespread, especially to the middle class, due to the increase in food and energy prices, and the economic crisis.

“Many people are just one paycheck away, or one health crisis away from being homeless,” Baptist said.

Baptist has founded the Poverty Scholars Program at Union Theological Seminary. Here, he works with low-income people to become Scholars-in-Residence. He is also a co-coordinator of the University of the Poor, which is a component of the Poor People’s Economic Human Rights Campaign.

The Scholar-In-Residence has also received numerous awards, including: National Association of Social Workers, Alston/Bannerman Fellowship for Long-time Activists of Color, Pennsylvania Chapter, The Spirit of Dignity Award, The Community Organizer Award, 2004 Public Citizen of the Year, the Smart-Edward Award and The Educating for Justice Award.

“Social work is making society work for everybody. Find those people [the homeless] and

inspiring; I cannot wait for my senior show, hopefully this spring!” Amy Stever, a senior, Fine Arts major, stated.

“I was enjoyable to work on helping the students layout their work for this show.” The Gallery Director of the MU Arts Department, Scott Knauer, stated. “It’s very nice to see the range of creativity and style that different students brought, in their work. This has been a great semester for the Art Gallery, and I’m looking forward to more exhibitions in the spring 2009 semester!”

work with them, not for them,” Baptist stated. He also mentioned that the skills and principles that are learned in social work are needed right now.

“A big problem needs a big solution,” Baptist said.

The National Union of Homeless has 15 thousand members and 25 chapters.

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Barbara believes that it is important for students to recognize International Human Rights Day “because it affects all of us.”

The School of Social Work also hosts The Greta Singer Clinical Lecture every spring, which is named in place of Greta Singer, a professor in the Department of Social Work who passed away in February 2007.

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One Kitten’s Home For The Holidays

JARED S. BALLIN
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

With a bit of luck, you could be walking by the Lois Blonder Sculpture Garden and see an odd-colored spot moving about. You may turn to see what the little blur was but all you would notice is a few rustling leaves, so you keep on walking. What you missed however, is a rare sight that few people get to notice on Monmouth University’s campus. They purr, they’re fuzzy, and they are one of MU’s best kept little secrets. They are what I like to call the Herd of Wild Monmouth Kittens.

They come in a range of colors and if you are lucky enough to spot one, they tend to run away quickly. Now these little critters must be some sort of abandoned litter, yet there always seems to be a group of them running around, especially in the spring. I even seem to remember seeing a bunch of them in the garden two years ago as a sophomore, so they must be getting along OK.

Unfortunately they do not have proper homes. That is the main problem behind the following story, that these kittens do not have caring homes that they really deserve and need, especially during this time of year. The cats do not having anybody to watch over them and because of that, they tend to get into dangerous situations like the one I am about to describe.

On November 21, I saved a baby kitten from the exhaust system of a Volkswagen Beetle with my bare hands. I was visited by my

friend Nicole who mentioned that she was stuck on campus because a kitten was stuck in her car. As usual, I met that note with strange suspicion, so I had to see this for myself. Apparently, a wild MU kitten crawled inside the engine compartment and after a professor heard the cries of the kitten, a group of people tried to get it out with no luck. He just went further and further down the length of the car so that he would die a horrific death if the car was moved or started, as he was on the Volkswa-

rigged 4 bolts in the plate that could not be removed and it could not be bent down enough to ease the kitten out.

What was I supposed to do? I’ve got this tiny little black and white kitten stuck under a damn Volkswagen and despite everything I tried, he just would not budge. Disappointed and crushed, I pulled myself out from under the car without the kitten.

I dusted off my sweatshirt and was about to start my long trip back home, leaving the cat under

fragile bone structures. I grabbed his legs the best I could, heard the scraping of nails against metal, and with a few light tugs and maneuvering, the fuzzy little bugger was finally free. Bewildered and confused, he hissed at me a few times and decided to chomp down on my thumb, but it was finally over.

It was like delivering a baby, a tiny furry baby with teeth and plenty of claws. A lot of stress, sweat, pushing and pulling, and BAM: You’ve got a cat.

was suggested that I receive the honor of having the kitten named after myself.

So yes, I have a heroic story indeed. However, that is not the point of my tale. My thoughts are “What will happen to the other kittens?” Animal Control now knows that wild kittens are on campus and with any luck they will stop by again soon to help round up the others and provide them with food and shelter. But right now, there are probably still a bunch of these cold hungry kittens running around campus.

So please, do the kittens and myself a favor, put some serious consideration into helping save some animals this year. Every day, more and more animals are abandoned, lost, found, and saved at your local animal shelters. With the help of you, yes YOU-the caring animal lovers that I know are-you can save the life of a defenseless animal that is just looking for someone to care for it.

Talk to your families and tell them that you are interested in adopting an animal and having a furry addition to your family. Winter is coming and not only do adopted animals make great family members to share the holidays with, but it also keeps more cats and dogs off the street where they will surely die of cold or starvation.

So please, when you go home during the upcoming break, think about that trapped kitten and how many lives can be saved if we all join in and donate to our local animal shelters and even go as far as adopting an animal companion of our own for the holidays.

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gen’s drive train at the time.

The towing company was late and now a group of people surrounded the car while the cat was stuck then on top of the main exhaust pipe as he traveled down the body of the car. He was stuck under this car for a good number of hours in this cold, nasty weather and the little “Mews!” coming from under the car guaranteed I’d at least attempt to save the kitten. So, being the humanitarian and devoted animal lover that I am, got my car jack out, jacked up the car, got on my back, and tried to nab the cat.

He was stuck in there and I couldn’t yank him out so I grabbed my ratchet set from my trunk and started removing a metal plate covering the exhaust pipe. Unfortunately, “German Engineering”

the car for the proper authorities to try to free him. But just then, five very loud, extremely desperate “Mews” pierced the silence of the afternoon and I just...melted. How could I let that kitten just lie there between cold metal while his little paws shook in the cold November wind? He had not eaten in hours, was separated from the rest of his litter, and probably headed for the warmest thing he felt all day: The undercarriage of a small car.

Determined more than ever, I tossed off my hat, slid under the car one last time, and crammed my hand in as far as I could so that I could grab him by his hind quarters. All we wanted to do was get the kitten out without harming him, a major concern of mine as kittens that young have very

Granted, delivering a human baby is 100% more complex, painstaking, strenuous, and painful. But still, it felt like a huge accomplishment for me. We all got the kitten a furry hat to lie down in and they took him into a warm car so he could shake off the cold.

After that, all I wanted to do was pet him a little and make sure he was getting a good home. Luckily, a friend of ours was going to see her family over the weekend and would provide him with a good, loving home, which was my concern. So after hours of being stranded, my friends took care of the little fella and made sure he was going to get a mother who could care for him and make sure this type of ordeal would never happen again. At least I have a camera-phone shot of him and it

The Folk Traditions of Antiquity

BRIAN BLACKMON
STAFF WRITER

The ancient and universal mediums of folk expression have populated our culture with the enduring richness of one of God’s greatest gifts to civilization—that of boundless imagination. Oral tradition, that genesis of all media, placed storyteller and audience huddled around generations of crackling fires to share in the experience of weaving and reweaving histories (both real and mythic) to be carried within each listener’s heart, to be breathed back into life through the linguistic music of the human voice.

The novelty of writing, encoding the intangible thoughts of the mind through the use of the symbolic iconography of alphabet letters, preserved many of the ghosts of these ancient fireside voices safely within bound volumes to be cherished and lovingly stored upon countless household book shelves. The French aristocratic lawyer Charles Perrault and his 1697 *Histoires ou contes du temps passé: Contes de ma mere l’oye*, first captured such fairy tales as *Cinderella* and *Little Red Riding Hood* to the printed page (the term “tales of Mother Goose” being equivalent to the English “old wives tales.” Here, Mother Goose is first introduced into print with this volume); while Jakob and Wilhelm Grimm gave birth to the concept of German pride as they diligently gathered the stories of their own homeland (utilizing the vast knowledge of Frau Katherina Viehmann), to produce their influential *Kinder-und Hausmarchen* in 1812

(the Brothers Grimm’s complete canon of fairy tales eventually filling three volumes with such beloved tales as *Snow White* and *Rumpelstiltskin* by 1822). While popular, the collections of Perrault and the Brothers Grimm are not the only interpretations of these stories, an identifiable characteristic of the oral tradition (that the stories possess the freedom to evolve with each storyteller and/or with each retelling).

Songs are also an important channel of folk communication, another rich manifestation of the oral tradition. Of the many ballads which lend their melody to our daily lives, I find that the most interesting is “Mr. Froggie Went A-Courtin.” According to legendary folk singer Burl Ives, in his 1953 book *The Burl Ives Song Book*, this song originated in 1549 as “The Frog Came to the Myl Dur,” and is one of the oldest English language songs in current use. Its popularity certainly

becomes evident at the literally endless variations which I have come across over the years (the vast majority of which, sadly, end with the unfortunate death of our hero).

Among the many folk charac-

same immortality bestowed upon the inhabitants of Perrault’s and the Brothers Grimm’s collections. His story, retold through the art of puppetry, surely has as many variations as the ballad of our noble frog. Born out of the

A script of one version of this unique slapstick performance was later recorded by John Payne Collier in his 1827 *The Tragical Comedy, or Comical Tragedy of Punch and Judy*.

The story of Punch and his wife Judy continues to be performed through the assistance of puppets, inhabiting the same miniature stage upon which the ancient tale is renewed for the current generation. Mr. Punch has also been able to enjoy a life outside of his source material, and may be found adorning boxes of Punch brand cigars (a post he has held since 1840). Punch is also remembered for serving as the mascot of the long running and revolutionary English humor magazine bearing his name. Founded by Henry Mayhew, Mark Lemon, and Joseph Sterling Coyne, Punch was first published on July 17th, 1841, and would continue publication until 1992.

The origins of many folk traditions and characters have been lost forever within the mists of the past. Yet no matter what journey stories such as *Cinderella* or *Punch and Judy* made throughout the ages, to reach us during our present age (and no matter where this journey will ultimately lead in the future), one certainty is that the vast wealth of folklore has its ultimate source as the creative product of the human mind; a testament to the artistic temperament which has always driven individuals to share the endless workings of their imagination. This is the true meaning which these figures symbolize, and which they shall forever celebrate.



The iconic folk character Mr. Punch by the famous artist George Cruikshank

ters handed down from faded antiquity, the unique figure of Mr. Punch continues to possess the

soon made the character their own, recreating him as Mr. Punch of Punch and Judy fame.

Social Work Lecture

Lecture continued from pg. 1

doorstep of a house that is empty.”

Interesting statistics were also mentioned during the lecture.

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Singing for Survival

Singing continued from pg. 1

seem to be many helping hands who worked together to prepare this concert on campus.”

Many students attended the concert for one of their course classes. Chris Gaglione, a sophomore, business major, stated that he was attending the concert for his Music Appreciation class. He also said how he was looking forward to hearing the music and the piano playing of the presentation.

The evening began, at 7:30 p.m., with Dr. Simonelli, welcoming the many guests in the audience and thanking them for their attendance. Dr. Simonelli introduced Dr. Sarsar, who also stated his excitement of the large turnout. Dr. Sarsar introduced himself and addressed the many parties responsible for the night’s appearance. He expressed his feelings about the Holocaust; “it was a horrible occurrence but we have come so far since then, and hopefully nothing to that extent will ever happen in the future.”

The concert consisted of Dean Thomas narrating the event, Professor Gonen singing along after Dean Thomas spoke and Laura DuBois, the pianist of the evening, accompanying Professor Gonen’s Soprano voice.

After the narration, singing and piano playing of 9 pieces, the audience was given a quick intermission.

Quinn Gilly, a senior, History major stated that it was very haunting to hear the music that was composed during the Holocaust.

“This presentation is moving,” Julia Soynova, a senior, Elementary Education and Anthropology major said during the break. “It’s very sad and brings a tear to my eye.”

Andrea Clearfield, one of the composers of the evening, stated that it was wonderful to hear the pieces being played. Andrea traveled from Philadelphia to attend the concert, and she stated that it was well worth the trip.

After the break, Dr. Simonelli reintroduced the performers of the evening and stated to the audience how this was the very first appearance “in the world” of the concert.

The evening’s 3 main performers, Thomas, Gonen and DuBois, took the stage and the night’s routine continued.

The concert came to an end at 9:30 p.m. The audience gave a loud applause, and the performers were all presented with bouquets. “Tonight was truly an evening of hope,” Dr. Simonelli said.

“Professor Raya Gonen sang beautifully,” Taylor Porter, a senior, Communications, Journalism and Public Relations major, announced. “The songs were elegant, Professor Gonen’s voice was lovely and the piano playing was superb; the night was spectacular.”

Dr. Sarsar stated that this presentation was so powerful and moving. “To move to hope, we need to all work together and build trust. Much liberation was shown tonight,” said Sarsar.

“This presentation brought the fears of the Holocaust to me,” Laure Dubois said. “The danger and the horrible effects.”

“I definitely enjoyed singing this mission. I feel like I have done some good to prevent this from ever happening again,” Raya said, after her performance. “I am very thankful to Pasquale and everyone else who helped to host this program. It is very important to be shown.”

“This beautiful recital rekindled the memories of atrocities that should never be forgotten. It is through the media of those lyrics and music (some of which were offered in world premiere), that the suffering of millions can be shared with the new generation.” Dr. Simonelli said. “Through the emotions awakened by that fine art and the cathartic state that ensued we may learn to dispel the crimes of the past to create a future world of love, hope and compassion.”

Becoming an American Citizen

Citizen continued from pg. 7

of the United States says the Citizenship and Naturalization Form Services. The ways in which one becomes an American are either by law or by birth. There are no other ways to become a citizen of the United States of America. No action on your part is generally required to become an American, if you are a citizen by birth. However, if one is not born in America, the process by which these people, from foreign countries, become U.S. citizens is called naturalization, says the Immigration Law Center, L.L.C.

In the naturalization, administrative process, which is strictly governed by the Immigration and Nationality Act (INA), one is required to take some necessary actions. There are three steps in the process to become a United States citizen. The first step that one must take is the action of filling out an application. Secondly, one is required to take and pass a naturalization examination. When this assessment has been approved, lastly, participation in an Oath Ceremony labels you as a citizen of the United States of America. There are only three steps, but the lines and waiting for these three steps to be fully accepted takes such a long time to accomplish.

Not everyone, however, is eligible to become a naturalized U.S. citizen, by passing these three “simple” steps. The Learning Booth for Becoming a Citizen clearly maps out the guidelines to become an American citizen. Anyone who desires to become a citizen must meet certain requirements. They must be at least 18 years old, be a lawful permanent resident for five years or more, be a person of good moral character, be able to understand, read, write, and speak basic English, they must possess a basic understanding of United States government and history, and one must be willing to take an oath of allegiance to the United States of America.

Becoming a citizen of the United States of America, one of the greatest countries in the world, is a big step, but it takes several years to accomplish, says the Citizenship and Naturalization Form Services. Depending on where and during what time of year one decides to

fill out an application to become a citizen, the period of time between sending in the completed application and the interview to become a United States Citizen can differ from five months to more than two long years.

I believe that it should be much easier, for honest, hardworking people, to receive an American citizenship; two years is such a long time to wait for citizenship to a country which you are already a resident of. I agree with the Learning Booth for Becoming a Citizen. A person who requests to be converted into an American citizen needs to pass necessary requirements. A non American citizen must wait until they are at least 18 years old before they become a citizen. One who is here illegally obviously desperately wants to become an American, so they should be permitted to earn their citizenship, if they are hard-working. Hopefully anyone who would want to become a legal American citizen is a person of good moral character, but there are always ways in which to check to see if the person has any past records of criminal activity. One must be able to understand, read, write, and speak basic English to live in America, since this is our main language, and it is always good to know your country’s background, so I’m sure that any moral person who wants to become a citizen of the United States will possess a basic understanding of its government and history, and they will be willing to take an oath of allegiance to the United States of America.

I do not think it is necessary that a person must live in the United States for X number of years, until they are granted the right to earn the American title. I strongly believe that one should earn the title of an American as soon as they begin to reside on the U.S.A.’s land and pay taxes to the American government. There is no reason for an American resident to be acknowledged as an “Alien” to the American land.

Personally, I have lived on the American soil for 15+ years. I have a green card, and I need to carry this with me when I travel; this is a ridiculous rule. I am referred to, by the Government, as an “Alien” to the United States. I hate this term,

and I refuse to be acknowledged as this term. I refuse to wait in a line to receive an American citizenship; this is ludicrous. It is outrageous that I cannot vote for the leader of the country which I live in. I am a good, honest human; I believe that the Government should not require tests to become an American citizen. I believe that honest, hardworking residents, such as me, should be granted this wish, and allowed citizenship.

I am asking all representatives to support Legislation that would facilitate the process to become a legal American citizen quicker for those who live in America, but do not receive all of the perks of being an American citizen.

Need An Ex Ed Placement?

Experiential Education Opportunities

Listings Provided By
The Office of Service Learning and Community Programs & Cooperative Education

International Aid Intern

Responsibilities include implementing projects to raise funds for international humanitarian needs and coordinating outreach and educational projects for the American Red Cross. Interns will gain in-depth experience in international aid programs. Interest in international aid and public affairs is a must.

Located in Tinton Falls, NJ
Contact Marilyn Ward

Promotions Intern

An exciting internship is available for students interested in the world of advertising. This company boasts a notable client list. You will help write inspiring headlines and place ads in the national media.

Located in Woodbridge NJ
Contact Kathy Kennedy

Marketing Intern for Private Investigation Firm

A paid internship. Responsibilities include helping develop and promote company’s services. Knowledge of Criminal Justice system and investigative work a plus.

Located in Marlboro NJ
Contact Kathy Kennedy

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

Kathy Kennedy
732-571-3582
kkennedy@monmouth.edu

For more information and listings please visit: <http://www.monmouth.edu/academics/LCAC/EXED/default.asp>



LIVE MUSIC TAKES OVER MONMOUTH UNIVERSITY

MEGAN LABRUNA

ENTERTAINMENT/STUDY ABROAD EDITOR

If you have class in the Plangere building Monday nights, then you know M2 Live has been rocking hard this past semester. The last two shows brought in a well known band from Asbury Park known as Status Green along with the rockers from NYC, Kelsey and the Chaos. M2 Live started out late in the semester with it's first show featuring End of An Era, and has increased it's energy and excitement with each new show performed.

The second edition of the show was shot the Monday before the thanksgiving break, featuring Status Green, getting everyone into the holiday spirit, by playing such a great show and leaving the crowd hungry for more. The guys were pulling double duty that night, not only playing here at Monmouth, but also interviewing with channel 9 News who came to the Plangere Building to cover Status Green's cancelled Toys for Tots show. Lou M?, lead singer and guitar player for the band shared the story. "Originally we were playing Dec. 6 at The Stone Pony, but it's closed down till 2009 and we were doing a Toys for Tots toy drive, so now we're looking for a new place."

The band performed songs off of their album *Greatest Hits Volume 1* as well as all the songs off of their new EP, some of which were "Juggling Knives", "Heaven I think", and "Firebombs". Status Green's drummer, Mike Montalto, mentioned that while Lou writes many of the lyrics and hooks for the band, everyone helps arrange the music, which al-

lows each member to throw in their own little twists.

Someone so and so for the Status Green mentioned his favorite song to perform live "everybody loves you, it's a slow song, but it's the most intense and from the crowd you really feel the energy." He couldn't be more right. Status Green had a full audience in the studio that night, and the energy of the crowd could be felt radiating through the walls as they were singing along with the catchy tunes.

Jenna Guadio, Floor Manager for the show can attest to the energy. "The crowd loved them and the band was really fun to watch. The show is always a little hectic, but the audience seemed to keep up with the energy". Second time director of the show, Ed Hollema shared the ups and downs of filming a live show. "It's pretty crazy, once you start going it's pretty much just constant chaos. With 5 cameras you're just trying to keep up with the pace."

In the words of so and so, "the show was awesome, the hosts were entertaining, and hopefully we reached out to all the kids". Status Green most definitely infected the crowd and crew that night, and have had people humming their tunes ever since. To check out their music you can visit www.myspace.com/statusgreen.

Following that end of November show, came the last M2 Live episode of the semester, this past Monday

night. A little band called Kelsey and The Chaos blew away all in attendance with the powerful vocals of their lead singer Kelsey Merritt. This group may have formed less than a year ago, but they are certainly strides ahead of others in the business.



PHOTO COURTESY OF www.myspace.com

Catch Kelsey and The Chaos touring in early January 2009 on the Just Surrender tour.

Since their conception in early 2008, the band has been on tours such as Van's Warped Tour and Bret Michaels, Rock of Love Tour. But, Nick Rotunno, drummer for the band shared his favorite live performance "the MTV 2 show (Rock Battle NYC) was the best, because we played to the most people." Although Monmouth

wasn't his favorite, he still had some good things to say about their performance that night "the sound was great, going from show to show there's a good chance there's bad sound, so it's nice to come somewhere where you all really know what your doing." Guitarist Brian Bascoe agreed, "the show went great and it was a good time. I enjoy this school a lot, you've got great hosts, the sandwiches were delicious! You guys have a great thing going on here."

M2 Live is a great experience for all in attendance, because it allows Monmouth students to not only listen to a free live show, but also encourages them to take part in everything from booking the band to running the actual show. These productions wouldn't be possible without the help of several dedicated faculty members, one of which, Professor Chris Cavallaro shares why he enjoys taking part in the process. "I love listening to live music and being part of making it. You never know what's going to happen. This semester has gone really well, we've had some great bands, we've done some experimenting with camera angles this semester and sometimes it's a little rough since it's the first time we've tried it, but that's what we're here for." Courtney Flores, a junior at Monmouth and Producer of M2 Live agrees, "We've had all different genres of music this semester which is great. Monmouth has a really eclectic taste in music, and that's what we need to keep doing, not having the same sound but instead keep having different bands. And, the fact that we got 3 bands to come every other week was really great, it's

something we can rarely do due to time crunch."

Kelsey and the Chaos, though not having as big a turnout as the first two shows, managed to stir up a monstrous amount of energy and enthusiasm from both the audience and the crew. They performed songs off of their EP *Against The Wall* including their high energy song (and Kelsey's favorite) "Wrapped Around Your Finger" as well as the title track "Against The Wall". Newest member Rich Skibinsky mentioned that his favorite song to play live, "it's probably "You Can't Stop", because I have a little bass solo and I'm cocky like that." And he can be with good reason, because after listening to their music, one can't help but want to hear more!

The band will be taking part in the Just Surrender tour in January 2009, which guitarist Justin Stabler is looking forward to. "My favorite part of touring is meeting new bands. Everyone's striving for the same thing so it's like one big family." Aside from that, what does the future hold in store for this fabulous quintet? Kelsey says "I see big things. Right now we've only been a band for almost a year and we've already done a lot of things that most bands don't accomplish in years of times. We're going to keep doing what we're doing and hope something happens, you just gotta keep trying."

To hear more of these NYC natives, check out their music at www.myspace.com/kelseyandthechaos. Also, be sure to keep an eye out for more exciting live performances here at Monmouth University, when M2 Live starts up again next semester!

Brandy's Take On Being Human

RAYMOND GIROLAMO

STAFF WRITER

On her latest studio effort, Brandy is setting herself free and encouraging others to do the same on *Human*.

Human, released on Tuesday, is the ultimate R&B/pop experience. With its highly produced ballads and touching lyrics, the album will satisfy modern consumers who enjoy this kind of material. *Human* has a dance-feel to it, with most of the tracks being up-tempo with an electronic vibe.

The album features a total of twenty producers, which is a lot of input and possible directions for the album to take. Although there were a lot of drivers behind the wheel, the album's theme and feel remains consistent throughout.

The first track on the album is a speaking intro, called *Human Intro*. Here, Brandy talks about what being human means to her, and how people should not care about what others think about them at the risk of not being themselves.

The first single, "Right Here (Departed)" has brought Brandy right back onto the charts. The song has reached number 1 on the U.S. Hot Dance Club Play chart. The lyrics describe someone who is showing their love and support for a loved-one or friend who has experienced a loss. Although

the song is highly produced, and in some ways, very commercialized for radio, it does show off Brandy's compassionate vocal style. The songs fit in well with the current direct of contemporary top 40 radio, and represent the rest of the album's style quite well.

The second single is "Long Distance." Preceding "Long Distance" on the album track list is the "Long Distance Interlude."



PHOTO COURESTY OF www.rapup.com

R&B singer, Brandy, is back with her new album *Human* in stores

The interlude in essence introduces the forthcoming track with a scenario where Brandy is on the phone with someone who she is having a long distance relationship with. The song itself describes someone who is having trouble staying in a long distance

relationship, because not seeing the person they love is becoming unbearable.

With masterfully written songs, the top producers in the business today, and singles that are representing the album well, *Human* will surely be a hit for Brandy, and is a great addition to her recording catalogue.

The album is also Brandy's debut on Epic Records, as all of her previous albums have been released on Atlantic Records. Brandy is currently one of the top-selling artists in pop music, having sold over 25 million albums worldwide.

She has won one Grammy Award, and has been nominated for fourteen since the beginning of her musical career. Brandy started her musical career in the early nineties, and became a notable addition to the pop and R&B music scene well before the likes of Rihanna and Ciara.

As a singer/songwriter, producer and actress, Brandy has become a stand out presence, because of her abilities in different areas in the worlds of music and acting.

With a resume that is full of successful undertakings in music and acting, multiple award nominations, and millions upon millions of fans around the world, Brandy has proven her longevity in an ever-changing business. She can add *Human* as another one of her accomplished works to that resume.

THE DAY THE EARTH STOOD STILL HITS THEATERS...AGAIN

MEGAN LABRUNA

ENTERTAINMENT/STUDY ABROAD EDITOR

TAYLOR CORVINO

ENTERTAINMENT EDITOR

As you embark on your holiday shopping and trek through the congested mall full of sale crazed shoppers, imagine what would happen if a flying saucer landed right on top of your favorite stores. This is exactly what happens in Keanu Reeves remake of the movie *The Day The Earth Stood Still* due out in theaters December 12th.

Reeves reminisces of the time he saw the first version back when he was a child. "When I was a kid, I saw it on a black and white television. How about that? And then when I saw the film later in life, some of its kind of political context, some of its humor and irony, became much more apparent to me."

Keanu Reeves' character, Klaatu, is an alien who lands on Earth with his indestructible robot comrade Gort. Klaatu immediately wants to learn as much as he can about this new world he has landed on but is immediately rushed to the hospital after being shot by military soldiers upon landing. Later Reeves meets up with another character named Helen Benson, played by Jennifer Connelly and her step son Bobby, played by Jaden Smith.

Together they begin to show Klaatu around Washington DC and give him a better understanding about planet Earth. Eventually the two become suspicious about Klaatu's origin and he eventually confides in them that

he is in fact an alien. He also reveals that his partner Gort is a member of a race of super-robot enforcers invented to keep the peace of the galaxy and will destroy the Earth if provoked.

In a strange turn of events, Klaatu is hunted down by the military and is killed. Before dying, Klaatu instructs Helen to find Glato and say the words, "Klaatu barada nikto" to him. If she does not reach Gort in time, he will go head and destroy planet Earth.

Once Helen finds Gort she repeatedly says the phrase with no luck. Gort then takes her captive on to his space ship. Gort later fiends the remains of the deceased Klaatu and with the help of outer space science, he is able to resurrect Klaatu.

Since this movie deals with several computer graphics, at times the cast had to fake certain scenes. Jennifer Connelly shares of how this was done. "The worst thing I had to deal with was like a little bit of green screen, where you're trying to pretend you're having this really frightening experience, but you're just looking at a green curtain with some pink tape on it, which is a little weird."

So does the cast believe in extra-terrestrial life after filming a movie such as *The Day The Earth Stood Still*? Jon Hamm shares "I believed it before doing a film like this, and I certainly haven't changed. I think that the numbers are such that there has gotta be. I just hope they're nice to us."

Hopefully that's the case for the cast in the upcoming Sci-Fi thriller *The Day After Tomorrow*, in theaters this Friday.

THE GROUND FLOOR

"WE'RE GETTING CLOSE NOW—DON'T TURN AWAY!"

FRANKIE MORALIES
STAFF WRITER

Just because the *Outlook* has taken a little break does not mean that the infinite playlist known as *The Ground Floor* has stopped playing out the latest shenanigans of your favorite artists or created entries for the new artists to flood your ear pieces. Especially at this time of year, there's so much music going around, can't you just hear it? All the harmony, the bells, and the whistles, it's so common for this time of year. No, I don't mean holiday carols, I mean the announcement of festival line-ups! It's the sound that brings cheers to the hearts of good boys and girls and jeers to the naughty ones. One festival in particular that has demonstrated this sort of power time and again is sure to leave many of its followers believing it's the best holiday season ever or wishing they had received coal instead.

This time, one semester from now, the Bamboozle Festival will return for its fifth installment of the annual event and has so far created plenty of noise with its announced line-up. Saturday May 2nd, to the behest of many "too-cool-for-school" music lovers and to the shrilling delight of others, will see the return of Fall Out Boy to the main stage, headlining as they once had back in 2006. On the flip side of that, on Sunday night May 3rd, the Jersey skyline will be accompanied by the sounds of California, as the main stage will play home to the return of Orange County sweethearts, No Doubt. That's right, Gwen and her boys are back in all their glory, particularly Adrian Young, who usually sits at his drum set in all HIS glory. This announcement comes on the heels of the band also acknowledging that they are working on an album set to be released in the first half of 2009. Guitarist Tom Dumont, Bassist Tony Kanal, and Young all began work on the album while Gwen was with her second child.

Also taking part in the festivities this May, as announced in Bamboozle's 24 bands in 12 hours Pre-Thanksgiving blitz are the likes of New Found Glory—who will be

dropping *Not Without a Fight* on March 10, 2009, The Bloodhound Gang and the newly-reformed Get Up Kids. The festival will also provide some of the newest bands on the scene including Fueled by Ramen's newest act, Hey Monday, the South Texas-based Forever the Sickest Kids and pop-rock powerhouses All Time Low. The Bamboozle's Friday night counterpart, the Hoodwink, has also announced some of its act in what is referred to this year as a tribute fest. This year, NFG will play the music of Green Day, while Badfish will do what they do best, honoring the spirit of Sublime. Also rumored

making its way from Bamboozle Left in Irvine, California, the tour will be headlined, according to sources, by We The Kings. The complete line-up of bands anticipated to join the tour has not yet been released, but one band that has definitely been confirmed are the newest clients of the Bamboozle's LincStar Records, Mercy Mercedes.

If neon colors, sweatbands and catchy beats aren't your style, then I'll see you next semester, however, if you're looking for a band of the powerpop/rock/electronica persuasion to become infatuated with then here they are. Coming out of Greensboro, North Carolina, the quintet is the latest in the newest trend of pop-punk inspired music. The band has recently released *1.21 Gigawatts*, which is reflective of the electricity emitted from their performance on said EP. Leading off with the single "The Perfect Scene," the band etches its niche, singing about what this writer determines the longing support of a significant other while pursuing your dreams and having the best of both worlds being the "perfect scene."

Although the band seems to maintain an image carried by many in the genre today, including Sing It Loud, Forever the Sickest Kids, and All Time Low, the vocals are what set the band apart. Nate Smith, the band's vocalist, puts inflection and pitch into his songs that aren't what one would expect just looking at him. From song to song, he has to ability to mold

his voice to deliver the song's message, and although he can sound like Alex G as part of ATL on songs such as Dr. Huxtable (a nod to Bill Cosby, no doubt), he will turn it around on other songs such as "Get It Darlin." Now, don't get me wrong, these aren't revolutionary vocals that will set him light years apart from others in the genre, but it produces enough to give Mercy Mercedes their identity in a heavily fluctuated genre.

The band has also kept their use of electronica at a minimum, resorting to reverbs on the vocals every so often, not in the obnoxious vein that many pop-punk bands are drawing their blood from. This can also be noticed in that the 5 primary members of the band only fulfill the primary functions of rock: guitars, bass, drums and vocals. They also have the ability to translate well into producing song varying in message and tempo. "Dan, You're the Best," (which judging by the band's MySpace is a nod to television show, Roseanne) does a brilliant job to provide a ballad-like tempo and simply avoid producing the same song with different lyrics.

Only time will tell if this band becomes one the powerhouses in its genre, given the competition it faces. However, when time comes for the band to formulate their full-length album, follow-



PHOTO COURTESY of www.sodahead.com

Fall Out Boy will return to the Bamboozle Festival this coming May after headlining the main stage for the first time back in 2006.



PHOTO COURTESY of forums.nodoubt.com

No Doubt will reunite on the main stage of Bamboozle just in time to promote the release of their new album due out in 2009.

to be heard at the Hoodwink are the stylings of Britney Spears, although by who is unknown, and perhaps Andrew McMahon of Something Corporate and Jack's Mannequin fame performing some Billy Joel hits.

If that isn't enough hype for the New Jersey festival, then there's always the Bamboozle Roadshow to look forward to. Hitting cities across the United States and

ing a tour stint and performing at the Bamboozle itself, the band will find more to set itself apart. I, for one, will agree, however, that the first step is to avoid falling into the neon sunglasses and clothing closet. Nonetheless, following the success of their first band, Lydia, who was signed to major label, Universal, LincStar Records maybe on to something with Mercy Mercedes.

As for you guys, you all might be on to something by joining me here at *The Ground Floor* this past semester. Although our time here has come to a close for now, get in line, the pre-sale is underway, because I will be back next semester to bring you the latest, greatest and debated of the music world. Until then, send me all your suggestions. I'll be checking out new bands all break long to mix it up a bit once we return. Until then, enjoy your holiday season and keep looking for the music that leaves you floored.

PUNISHER: WAR ZONE REVIEWED

FRANK GOGOL
EDITOR IN CHIEF

The movie *Punisher: War Zone*, starring Ray Stevenson, Dominic West, and Julie Benz, opened in theaters this past weekend.

The movie follows the vigilante activities of Frank Castle (Stevenson), a.k.a. The Punisher, as he wages his one man war on crime and corruption. This movie is a departure from the franchise of the 2004 movie *The Punisher*, starring Thomas Jane.

At the onset of the movie, Castle is in the sixth year of his crime fighting campaign as opposed to at the beginning of his story.

The murder of his family, which is the catalyst for his reign of punishment, is told through flashbacks instead of wasting the first thirty minutes of the movie, which was

nice.

Castle brutally breaks up a mob gathering, killing most of the people in attendance, including an undercover FBI agent. He also tries to kill mobster Billy Russoti, but only disfigures him.

As a result of killing the agent, the FBI puts together the "Punisher Task Force," a group highly trained agents to take Castle in once and for all. In the mean time, Russoti recovers with vengeance on his mind and starts to build an army of gangbangers, psychotic killers, and mobsters. Castle, however, is distraught with the fact that he has killed an innocent man and is ready to end his campaign until Russoti, now calling himself Jigsaw, kidnaps that family of the dead FBI agent.

I knew that once I was Stevenson months ago, that he definitely had the perfect look



PHOTO COURTESY of Lions Gate Media

Movie poster for *Punisher: War Zone*, in theaters now.

for the Punisher, but I wasn't so sure that he act the part. I was a big fan of Thomas Jane's performance in 2004 movie and went in to this one expecting to be disappointed. I was wrong. Stevenson owned the part much in the same way that Robey Downey Jr. owned the role of Tony Stark in *Iron Man* earlier in the year. He was nothing short of perfect.

The action sequences are phenomenal. Most of it was comprised violence, explosions, and death, but it was all done with imagination and grit, which is something I can appreciate.

There were a couple of weak points in the movie, though. The acting left a lot to be desired. Stevenson's acting should be applauded especially because he conveyed some of his character's motivations and emotions while having only a handful of lines in the entire movie. Dominick was disappointing in this movie. At times he was menacing and played his part very well, but at other times he was almost goofy.

Minor characters in the movie had unbelievably flat dialog at times too. There was a point where a guy was dying and a character said, "Don't you die on me." Very cliché.

Overall, I say that the movie was a success. I would rank it higher than the 2004 movie, and certainly higher than the 1989 movie, but some bad acting and bad dialog definitely took away from the movie overall.



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Writing Proficiency Examination (WPE)

The Writing Proficiency Examination will be offered next on
Thursday, December 11, from 9:45 AM to 12:00 PM
Friday, December 12, from 5:15 PM to 7:30 PM

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

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

Eligibility Requirements for the Exam

In general, you are eligible to take the December 2008 WPE if and only if you meet all three of the following conditions:

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

Requirements for Attempting the Exam

The required reading set for the WPE will be available at the University Bookstore for a minimal fee beginning Monday, November 24, 2008. Students must purchase and read the reading set before the exam, and must bring the reading set to the exam.

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

Resources for Preparing for the Exam

To prepare for the examination, students should pick up and read the Writing Proficiency Requirement Preparation Manual, available for no charge at the Writing Office or online at http://www.monmouth.edu/writing_office.

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

The information sessions will be held on the following dates:

Wednesday, December 3, from 2:30 to 4 PM
 Thursday, December 4, from 4:30 to 6 PM
 Monday, December 8, from 6:00 to 7:30 PM

All information sessions will be held in the Rebecca Stafford Student Center, 202B

Additional information is available from the WPE Information Line at 732-263-5491 and from the Writing Office in Wilson Annex Room 510.

Mass followed by food & fellowship
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Rosary
Mondays at 9 PM

Daily Mass
Mondays, Tuesdays and Thursdays at 12 PM in Wilson Hall
Chapel (downstairs)
Wednesdays at 7 PM at the Catholic Ctr.

Eucharistic Adoration
Wednesdays from 2:30-4 PM

Men's and Women's Bible Study
Wednesdays at 7:30 PM

Activities Night
Tuesday, Nov. 4 at 7:30 PM

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Thursday, Dec. 11 at 7:30 PM

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Volunteer Corner

Giving Tree Program:

The holiday season is right around the corner, and what better way to get into the holiday spirit than to start it off by giving to others? The Office of Service Learning and Community Programs will be working with the Student Government Association in a campus-wide giving tree program. Trees are located in the Student Center, Plangere Center, and the Dining Hall.



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What are You Looking Forward to Most Over Your Winter Break?

COMPILED BY: SARAH ALYSE JAMIESON



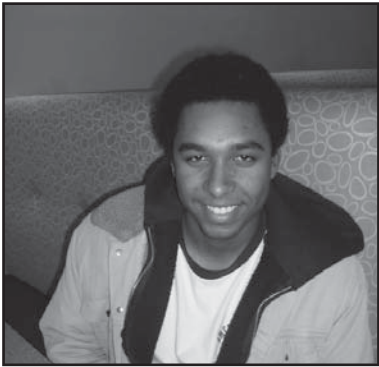
*Katie
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"I cannot wait to spend time with my friends and family in South Jersey."



*Courtney
senior*

"I'm psyched to not have school work for a whole month."



*Kyle
freshman*

"I can't wait to travel to Boston and visit my girlfriend, Alissar."



*Eddie
junior*

"I'm looking forward to the Christmas season!"



*Ashley
freshman*

"I'll be working at CVS to make money to travel to New York City."



*Elly
freshman*

"I'm going to Key West the day after Christmas, and I cannot wait for that."



*Mike
freshman*

"Partying with my old and new MU friends."



*Drew
junior*

"I'm looking forward to relaxing after one long semester."



*Damaris
freshman*

"I cannot wait to receive all of my Christmas gifts."



*Victor
junior*

"I can't wait to go home to Florida and see my parents there."

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"Toys for Tots" Campaign • Bring in new, unwrapped toys • Barrels police headquarters

The Catholic Centre Mass every Mon., Tues., & Thurs. • 12:05 PM • Withey Chapel (lower-level of Wilson Hall) Wednesdays Mass •7:00 PM •Catholic Centre (16 Beechwood Avenue)

Senior Arts Exhibit • 12/5- 12/12 • Ice House Gallery

MU Library Extended Hours • Dec. 3, 4, 8, 9, 10, 11: 8 AM- 1 AM • Dec. 5: 8 AM- 7PM • Dec. 6: 9AM- 6PM • Dec. 7: Noon-1AM • Dec. 12: 8AM-8PM • Dec. 13: 9AM-Midnight • Dec. 14: 11AM-1AM

Student Center Opened 24 Hours During Finals on December 10, 11, 14, 15 &16

Study Nights at the Catholic Center • Dec 10th-16th. • 7pm-11pm.

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 10

Last Day of Classes

24 Hour Quiet Hours • Residence Halls

Study Night • 7:00-11:00 PM • Catholic Center

Kwanzaa Festival/ African Dance and Drum Ensemble •8:30 pm • Pollak

Late Night Breakfast • 9:30 PM-11PM • Magill • (Goody Bags Handed out by the Alumni Association)

Pictures with Santa • 11 am to 2:30 pm • Plangere Center Lobby. The cost is \$5 per picture.

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 11

First Day of Exams

DeStress Fest • 2:00-5:00 PM • Anacon

Christmas Party • 7:30 PM • Catholic Center Food and Cut-throat Pollyanna! If you wish to participate bring a \$10 gift.

Halls Close: 4 pm

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 12

Ice Hawks vs. Richard Stockton • 8:00 PM • Wall Sports

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 13

Men's Basketball vs. Colgate • 7:00 PM • Boylan

Free Shuttle to the Jersey Shore Outlets! See ad above!

To have your campus-wide events included, send an e-mail to hkelly@monmouth.edu.



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1 Large 1 Topping \$10⁵⁰ plus tax free delivery expires 10/15/08	2 Large Plain Pies \$15⁹⁹ plus tax free delivery expires 10/15/08
2 Baked Pasta Dishes Only \$14⁹⁹ plus tax free delivery Reg. 19.99 expires 10/15/08 <small>*Does not include Seafood Dishes*</small>	★1 Large 1 Topping Pizza Only ★1 Order Buffalo Wings ★1 Large Tossed Salad \$15⁷⁵ plus tax free delivery Reg. 19.99 expires 10/15/08

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December Is Drunk Driving Awareness Month




Santa Says...
"Have a Holiday Bash, Not a Holiday Crash!"

Tips for the Holiday Host:

- ♦ Take car keys from those planning to drink
- ♦ Provide a safe way home or a place to stay
- ♦ Do NOT serve alcohol to anyone under 21
- ♦ Have non-alcoholic beverage options
- ♦ Make sure to serve food!!

*Taking a Cab
is Always an
Option!!!*



Ensign John R. Elliott
HERO Campaign
for Designated Drivers®

Be a Hero, Be a Designated Driver!

Happy Holidays!! From the Office of Substance Awareness

Shore Cab: 732-222-6688
Paramount: 732-222-5300



CLUB and GREEK

SIGMA TAU GAMMA

Sigma Tau Gamma would like to invite all the members of the Monmouth Community out to our Fraternity’s new music event “Don’t Forget the Lyrics”. The event will be based on the popular show seen on the Fox Network. “Don’t Forget the Lyrics” will be held on January 28th at 10 p.m. at Pollack Theatre. Tickets will be sold when we return from Winter break on January 22nd and the 26th-28th inside the Rebecca Stafford Student Center and inside the Dining Hall. Be sure to look out for members of Sigma Tau Gamma in these locations in order to buy your ticket to a unique experience. Tickets will be \$5 in the Student Center and Dining Hall prior to the event, and \$7 at the door. Be sure to come check it out, and see if you know the lyrics to everyone’s favorite songs!

CIRCLE K

There is a new opportunity for fun at MU! There are also opportunities for fun, service and growth! The Circle K of Monmouth University has just been approved as one of the newest clubs at MU. Circle K is the largest student led collegiate organization in the world, with clubs in 17 nations and with over 13,500 members. Mark your calendars for Circle K meeting January 22 at 3:50! Look for the weekly activity schedule and The Outlook for more details.

DELTA PHI EPSILON

D Phi E wishes everyone a wonderful Thanksgiving! Be safe:) I LoVe yOu BIG CouturE::Manhattan loves her Mojito<3::Thank you for being there for me this weekend, gliMMer, INDULgENCE, and AdORE<3NirvanaH::<3 you NirvanaH - gliMMer::so sad this semester is ending. Have a wonderful holiday break. Get ready for voting xoxo<3 the President:: yayy deephers! I love you all! Finals are coming up, good luck <3 AphroDiTy::Deephers are sexy. Love you all!<3 fabuloUS::I’m going to miss you girls ... so, so, much! Little, you make my life complete! I love you! Love Always, VoguE::little I love you! girls i love all of you! <3 glitZ::glitZ, real girls eat meat<3Jewelz::VENICE i love running through the streets with you. Happy Birthday Mor! <3 Lake Ave. Jewelz got your cool-aid?<3 CoCo:I love you crazy deephers<3DeVotion:: We roll DEEPH! - CELEBRITY::Happy Turkey Day my beautiful sisters!<3AphroDiTy::Turkey Turkey in dphie’s belly. Happy Thanksgiving!<3Utopia!::Happy Birthday Little!<3Vegas-Thanks for all you do. Happy Thanksgiving!::If I could write what just happened, I would, but it’s a had to be there moment. But I love you lushious!Happy thanksgiving girls - <3dolce::Mojito and glitZ i love you.triple threat - ShinE::Happy Birthday Mairin!Have a great thanksgiving girls!<3NirvanaH::VENICE,CELEB,VEGAS,glitZ,Solace,ShinE you know what i will say haha love you guys <3 lushious::

HERO

Attention Monmouth University! If you’re interested in helping make a difference on campus and in the community than Hero at Monmouth wants you! The HERO Campaign was formed when Ensign John Elliott was killed by a drunk driver in 2000; his parents started the HERO Campaign to help bring awareness about drunk driving. HERO at Monmouth began in 2007, with the mission to bring awareness and promote safe, sober driving to prevent drunken driving tragedies. The HERO Campaign Committee works with several local bars and taverns to promote safe driving by offering free cab vouchers and free soda to designated drivers. Look for an email soon about HERO’s upcoming events, like the 08/09 Kickoff Party, and the Designated Drivers Appreciation contest! If you are interested in joining HERO at Monmouth, or have any questions, contact Suanne Schaad at sschaad@monmouth.edu

TAU KAPPA EPSILON

Hello, my name is Tom Fagan and I am the new President of Tau Kappa Epsilon here at Monmouth University. I wanted to inform everyone about the different fund raising activities we have been doing for Alzheimer’s, our national philanthropy. I was hoping you would consider publishing this in the Monmouth Newspaper to make everyone aware of the various activities we are doing and to increase future support for Alzheimer’s. In November, which is National Alzheimer’s Month, we raised over \$500 for Alzheimer’s research through a fund raiser at Surf Taco located in Long Branch, Papa John’s Pizza in West Long Branch, and a donation table we had at the student center with information about the disease. This upcoming weekend Saturday December the 6th, we are cleaning up part of Norwood Avenue in front of the Monmouth Police Department in correlation with the Adport-a-Highway program. The following day Sunday December the 7th we are working at Shop Rite bagging groceries for donations to our cause as well. This Chapter of Tau Kappa Epsilon has been involved with such charitable causes for quite some time and vow to continue with our efforts in the years to come. We are planning many more fund raisers in the Spring semester, especially the highly anticipated, highly successful, Battle of the Bands which will be held in the latter part of the Spring. Until then I wish a happy and prosperous holidays to you and yours.

WMCX

WANTED!! WMCX 88.9FM is looking for DJs insanely interested in ROCK MUSIC, Strange Vibrations, being a member of a state of the art Radio Station. Get hands on experience in a real radio station by joining WMCX to become a DJ. For two hours a week you get the chance to broadcast your voice and the inner-workings of your mind while playing the latest Modern Rock bands. We are looking for New and Existing DJs to apply, regardless of their major. Remember, a love of music and interesting personalities are always a PLUS. For those interested, come to WMCX’s first meeting of the Spring Semester on Wednesday, January 21 in room 236 in the Jules Plangere Building at 3:00PM.

PEP BAND

Hello Pep Banders!
Our final rehearsal for the semester is Wednesday, December 10th from 7:30 – 9:00 PM on the 3rd floor of the Student Center. Our next basketball game is Saturday, December 13 at 6:15 PM in Boylan Gym. We have many games over the break; if you need housing of any kind, please let Aimee or one of our officers know as soon as possible! The Pep Band is trying something new for next semester! We plan to perform combo music (small jazz ensemble), and are looking for people willing to perform solos or in the rhythm section. We have parts available for: C solo, Bb solo, Eb solo, guitar, bass guitar, keyboard, and drum set. This will be an auditioned group within the pep band, so if you or anyone else is interested in performing, please pick up music from us to practice over winter break! Stop by our Wednesday rehearsal or e-mail Matt at s0691475@monmouth.edu for more information. Don’t forget, the pep band is always looking for more members; if you or anyone else is interested in joining, please stop by at any of our rehearsals or come out and join us at one of the basketball games! Good luck to everyone with finals - study, study, study!

STUDY ABROAD CLUB

Study Abroad Club is looking to get involved in campus events. For the MLK Children’s Festival, •We will be doing a “Please Touch” booth featuring souvenirs from around the world. Also, there will be a large world map for the kids to match the souvenirs up with their country. Please email Michelle.Majeski@monmouth.edu, if you would like to volunteer or have souvenirs. May 2nd is the first annual Study Abroad Reunion so be sure to mark your calenders!! There will be food, cash bar (hopefully), dancing and entertainment throughout the evening. This event will be opened to the whole university as well as Study Abroad Alumni from the past 8 years. This is our biggest event for our club and we want to make it a great success. We need your help! Our biggest tasks right now are fundraising and spreading the word. We have a communication, Alumni, fundraising, food and drink, entertainment committees-email s0603942@monmouth.edu if interested. This Wednesday is our last meeting/pizza party, so come join us Fireside by Java City at 2:30. Have a great break!

Join the Monmouth University Pep Band!

•Free raffles, free t-shirts, free food provided

•Earn credit hours for Music Industry Majors

•Scholarships



Photo: MU Pep Band in the Long Branch Columbus Day Parade, October 2008

- Pep Band is a Student Government Association Club & is also sponsored by Athletics

- Pep Band has a designated Drum Line

- MU students, alumni & staff welcome

Upcoming Events:

- 23 men's & women's home basketball games

- South Amboy St. Patrick's Day Parade

- MU's Relay for Life

For more information please contact:
Aimee Parks, Pep Band Director 732-571-3569
aedmunds@monmouth.edu

or Matthew Monkan, Pep Band President
s0691475@monmouth.edu

AM

12:00 MORE LIKE AWESOMEVISION

12:30 PROPER REALITY

1:00 MONTHLY MOVIE SELECTION

3:00 MONTHLY MOVIE SELECTION

5:00 MORE LIKE AWESOMEVISION

5:30 WHAT'S THE DISH?

6:00 NEWS

6:30 M2/M2 LIVE

7:30 EXTRA POINT

8:00 MONTHLY MOVIE CHOICE

10:30 HAWK TV NEWS

11:00 DEMOCRACY NOW

CHANNEL 12

HAWK

12 TV

GUIDE

PM

12:00 WHAT'S THE DISH?

1:00 PROPER REALITY

1:30 M2 / M2 LIVE

2:30 EXTRA POINT

3:00 MONTHLY MOVIE SELECTION

5:00 M2/M2 LIVE

6:00 HAWK TV NEWS

7:00 WHAT'S THE DISH?

7:30 EXTRA POINT

8:00 MONTHLY MOVIE SELECTION

10:00 M2/ M2 LIVE

10:30 PROPER REALITY

11:00 HAWK TV NEWS

11:30 THE EXTRA POINT

Horoscopes

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

♈ Aries • (Mar. 21 - April 19) - This week is an 8
You've been moving at warped speed. Take it easy before you run yourself over! It may be time to let go of the past so talk to people more experienced than you and get some good advice for your up and coming rollercoaster of a life! Enjoy the ride.

♉ Taurus • (April 20 - May 20) - This week is a 9
Well aren't you the social butterfly? Everyone wants to talk to you and you have the power to woo anyone just about. Good for you! Harness that social power and have some fun. A well planned out risk is totally worth it. Don't be afraid to take chances as the weekend arrives.

♊ Gemini • (May 21 - June 21) - This week is an 8
Stop worrying about everyone else and focus on yourself! It's important to identify what you want short term and long. Start small and work your way up. This weekend you've got the power so go with it.

♋ Cancer • (June 22 - July 22) - This week is a 10
You are not always the most eloquent person but this week, after a rough Monday, you seem to have figured out how to use those words. Now that you've figured out how to sway people, use your power for good! You have no problems with awkward situations; as a matter of fact, you are great at connecting with just about anyone. Congrats.

♌ Leo • (July 23- Aug. 22) - This week is a 7
You have been working far too hard lately and now it's finally getting to you. A tough situation at work really isn't that bad. Look at it from a different perspective and then it'll all make sense. This weekend you realize your power of communication is your greatest strength so spend the weekend surrounded by people. It will promise a good time.

♍ Virgo • (Aug 23 - Sept. 22) - This week is a 7
Although dealing with people is usually a strength, it is driving you crazy. There are only so many situations you can smooth over before you lose your mind. Go out and get away! Road trips are always fun (even if they're short ones). Positivity finally returns to you as the week closes. Make sure you contribute and keep things flowing..

♎ Libra • (Sept. 23 - Oct. 23) - This week is an 8
Things haven't been easy on you emotionally as of late. Because of this you are reverting back to the arts, whether it be music or otherwise and finding joy in a passion you once forgot. Now, spend time with family as the holidays near to keep your head free and clear.

♏ Scorpio • (Oct. 23 - Nov. 21) - This week is a 4
Fighting with the world this week seems to be your fate. If it is going really bad, just walk away. It's not worth digging yourself deeper. Try to make better of the situation and then reapproach the person who the conflict was with later. You'll be much better off. Also pay very close attention to the details. They are what really matter.

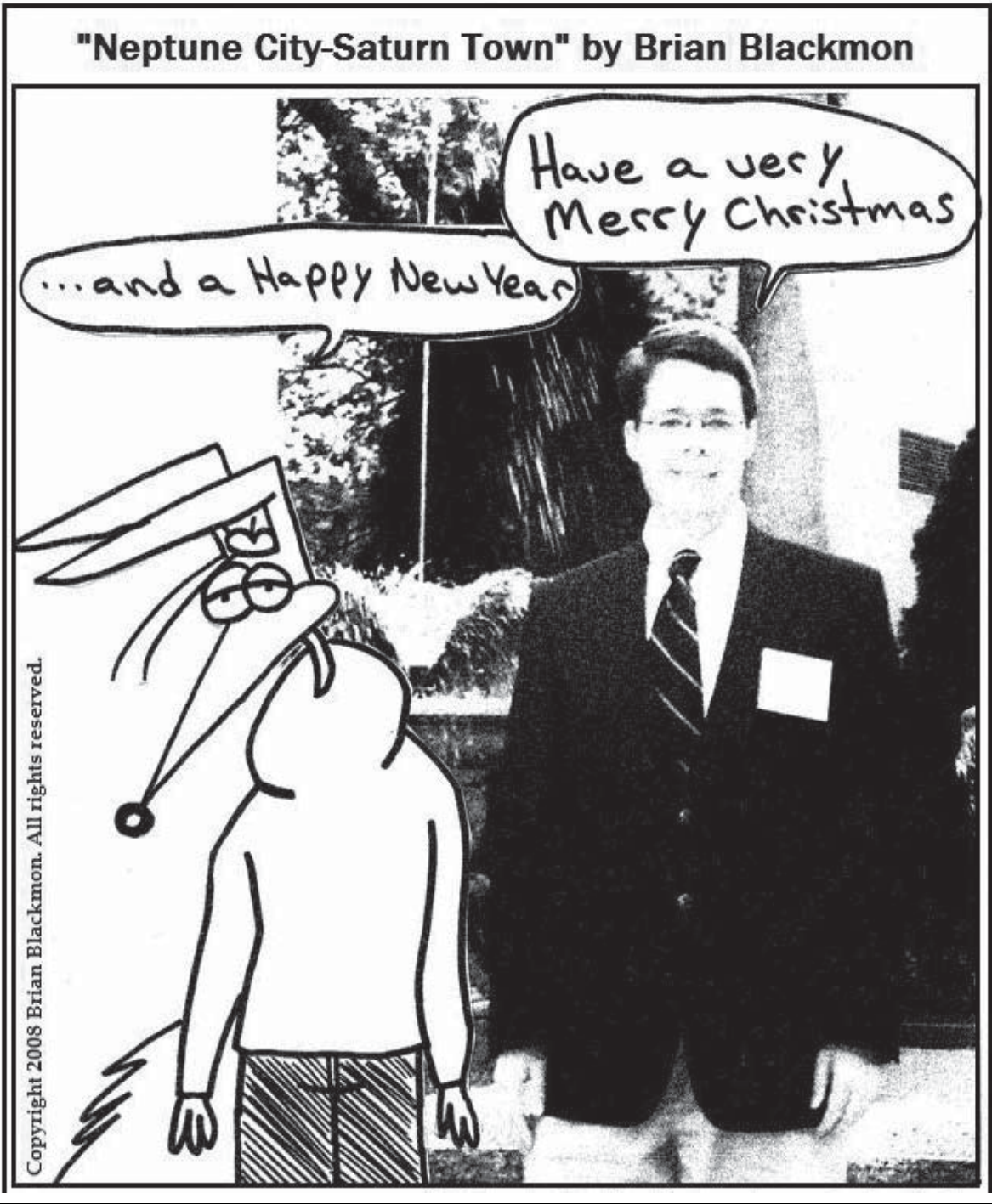
♐ Sagittarius • (Nov. 22 - Dec. 21) -This week is a 7
Brain power is your superpower of the week. Use your mind to figure out long stressing questions. You've got the means to sort it all out this week. This weekend, however, your communication skills are slightly lacking and you may find you have difficulty in talking with people. Take it easy on them.

♑ Capricorn • (Dec. 22 - Jan. 19) - This week is an 9
Lucky in love and lucky in life this week. Now is the time to move things along. You're focused this weekend so stick with likeminded people or else you are bound to be annoyed. Sunday something clicks. Go with that.

♒ Aquarius • (Jan. 20 - Feb. 18) - This week is an 8
As this week is going on you realize that the world seems to be in slow motion. Use this time to work on finals This Sunday, however, is a time to stick to the plan. Your initial instincts were right. Do not change your mind.

♓ Pisces • (Feb. 19 - Mar. 20) This week is a 6
Focusing is important. You may have felt a bit offbeat as this week began but as long as you're paying attention now you can pull it together. You may feel as though people are demanding a lot from you but you can handle it. Take a deep breath and dive in. Success is almost a guarantee as long as you are paying attention.

HOROSCOPES ARE STRICTLY FOR ENTERTAINMENT PURPOSES.



GOODBYE MONMOUTH HELLO COLLEGE DEBT

MEGAN LABRUNA
ENTERTAINMENT/STUDY ABROAD EDITOR

These past four and a half years have taught me a lot, both about myself and about life in general. I changed my major from something that I wanted to be since I was ten to a different field and realized that my true love and calling lie in the extra-curricular clubs that I have participated in. Go figure. Honestly though, I am very sorry that I did not discover how much fun it is to participate in things on campus. I wish I could have found that I love writing for the newspaper earlier, or that I enjoy interviewing bands on WMCX and helping behind the scenes at Hawk TV. At least I can walk away with two years of amazing memories from those clubs, not to say that I didn't do anything worth-while during my freshman and sophomore years here. My sophomore year I had the opportunity to study abroad in Australia, and I cannot say enough wonderful things about the experience. It is one that everyone should have if they get the opportunity. If I can leave one peice of advice for those of you just entering college, it's to get involved in anything and everything. You never know who you'll meet or what you'll decide you really enjoy doing. Make all of your time here at Monmouth count! Embarking on this new journey of my life, I am confident that I have the tools to at least start me off in the direction that I would like my life to end up, so thank you Monmouth University and everyone I have met along the way. I appreciate all that you have

taught me, both the good and the bad. My roommates- Alyssa, Jamie, and Lisa- Some of my best college memories involve all of you. Thanks for dealing with my crap corner!! And thanks especially to Lisa for dragging me into the outlook office last year so I could realize how much I really enjoy doing this. I have had a blast with you since I met you in Australia and I am seriously going to miss your awesome music constantly blaring, although I can't say I'll miss that song from *Enchanted* or your current Trapt song! Frank- Thanks for being a pain in the butt, seriously though the paper looks fantastic and you've done a great job this year. I am actually going to miss your sarcastic comments...but I'm sure I'll be back visiting, so I won't miss them too much. Sandy- You are so wonderful. Thanks for helping us out each week! Chrissy- You are too freaking cute. I'm going to miss talking One Tree Hill. Although next season looks insane!!! Paige- Thanks for the CD's they're awesome. I listen to them all the time. I hope you get a job out of working so hard at your internship, and have a blast with your senior year! Sarah- You're always in the know. You could possibly be the most involved student I have ever met. Keep it up girl! Eric/Guns (I hate that nickname) and Andrew/Chedder head/Guns Jr.- Always the pleasure! Thanks for helping me with my sports picks each week. Ps. Andrew you've got madd wrapping skills, don't let anyone tell you

different. Taylor- I'm going to miss you!! It's been way fun in entertainment this year, between all the last minute filler and seeing ASHER ROTH!!! Haha. Good luck with the section! Gina- our littlest editor, best of luck with your time here, I know you will do great things! Leslie, Ron, Pete- I feel like I saw you all the least in the office (sad face) Pete's almost done now too so whooo hoo go us! Leslie and Ron, best of luck with the rest of your classes! Netta- don't worry I didn't forget you! Thanks for dealing with all of our questions. I'm going to miss talking music with you. Let me know if you hear of any good bands! Frankie- Ohh my music writer, how I love thee for writing every week. I'm pretty sure you've officially taken over everything here at Monmouth! Let me know when you're out so we can start some sort of record label, or talk show, or production studio. I'm pretty sure it would be the bomb. Courtney- BREATH!! You do fabulous work. I have loved working with you this past semester. You will go far in whatever you do. Oh and fyi Kelsey is not a boy! To all my writers- thank you for helping Taylor and me to fill the pages of the entertainment section and the Study Abroad section. You all are such a big help to the paper and I hope to see you continue to participate during your time here at Monmouth! Of course thanks to all my teachers and advisors and others I didn't have room to mention. Thank you for helping me to learn and grow from my time here at Monmouth. Now wish me good luck in finding a job!!

Monmouth University Library



**Extended
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FALL 2008!**

Mon - Thurs., Dec. 8–11: 8AM - 1AM

Fri., Dec. 12: 8AM - 8PM

Sat., Dec. 13: 9AM - 12AM

Sun., Dec. 14: 11AM - 1AM



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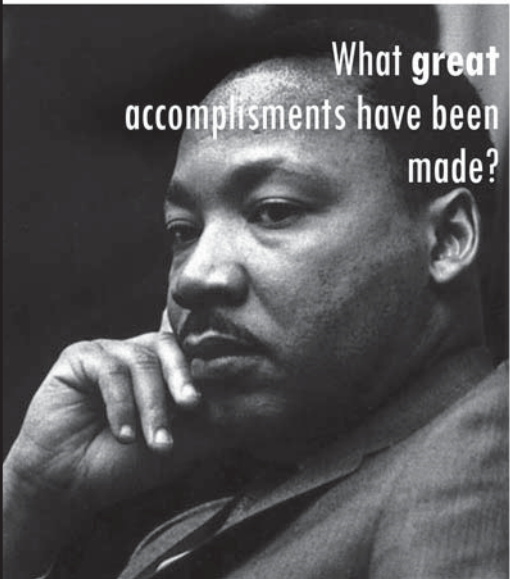
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On December 10th, celebrate Human Rights Day



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60 years later, how close have we come to achieving
UNIVERSAL HUMAN RIGHTS?



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Men's Basketball

Blue and White Outdueled by Knights

ERIC WALSH
SPORTS EDITOR

The early 2008/09 season for the Monmouth Hawks basketball team has been characterized by disappointment and failure. It all started during the first game of the season against FAU when star-player and senior Whitney Coleman went down with a torn MCL. Since then the Blue and White have only defeated one team, NJIT, arguably the worst college basketball team ever, going a record 0-29 just a season ago.

The team had a chance to turn the season around on Monday night, taking on NEC foe FDU at Boylan Gym, a game that was televised on the MSG Network. The game was also a scheduled "White Out" for Monmouth fans, but by the end of the game they wished they could white out the score board.

Monmouth, which led at the half for the first time all season, surrendered 46 second half points to Fairleigh Dickinson, as the Knights posted a 71-67 win.

Fairleigh Dickinson used a 14-3 run over a three minute span late in the game to overcome a 15-point deficit taking their first lead of the game with under 20 seconds to play.

Down by two with 1.6 seconds left and the ball, Monmouth was unable to get the inbound pass off cleanly, giving Fairleigh Dickinson its first win of the season. MU fell to 1-9 overall (0-2 NEC) with the loss, while FDU improved to 1-6 (1-1 NEC) with the victory.

With 1:21 showing on the clock, FDU's Cameron Tyler had a chance to take the lead for his team for the first time all game but missed his first of two free throws, tying the game at 67-67. With time winding down, Tyler put up a shot that rang soft off the rim but the shot was followed up by Terence Grier, putting FDU ahead 69-67 with 16.3 seconds left in regulation. Unable

to get a clear shot off, MU called a timeout with eight seconds left but Yaniv Simpson's three-pointer missed its mark and Alvin Mofunanya grabbed the rebound for the Knights and was fouled.

Monmouth continued its most impressive first half effort of the season into the second half, ex-

minutes to play in the game. A pair of George Barbour free throws reset the MU advantage to 10 but a traditional three point play by Mofunanya put his squad back seven with 9:47 left in the half.

The Knight run continued, with Tyler swiping the ball and tallying a fast break layup. After a MU

three point cushion over the next three minutes. Monmouth led 67-61 with 2:18 to play after Mike Myers Keitt converted a traditional three point play but FDU answered with five straight points to get to within one.

It took FDU to the 13:12 mark to earn their first points on a Baptiste three ball, as Monmouth built an 11-3 lead over that span. The Knights launched a seven point run to close to within three before freshman Travis Taylor hit layups on back to back trips to help the Hawks to a 15-10 lead with just over nine minutes to play in the first half. Baptiste cut the home lead to five when R.J. Rutledge brought the crowd to its feet with a back door dunk to push the Monmouth advantage to 22-15 with 5:46 on the clock.

A pair of free throws from Tyler closed the MU lead to three but the Hawks tore off seven points over a 65 second span to expand the score to 29-19. Hett started the run with a jumper before Simpson hit a three from the wing, with Myers Keitt ending the spree with another jumpshot. Hett and Simpson nailed three pointers on back to back possessions for the Blue & White, the second of which was answered with a trey from the hands of FDU's Baptiste. The opening half ended with MU holding a 35-25 advantage, the first halftime lead for the Hawks on the season.

Baptiste led all scorers with 23 points in the game, while Mofunanya tallied a career high 20 (and eight rebounds). Tyler finished with a season-high 17 points.

Myers Keitt tied his career high with 20 points, while senior Alex Nunner was the only other Hawk in double digits with 10 points. Dutch Gaitley led MU on the glass with eight rebounds.

Monmouth returns to action on Wednesday, December 12, when the Hawks travel to Rider, for a non-conference game at 7 p.m.



PHOTO COURTESY of MU Sports Information

Travis Taylor hit layups on back-to-back trips down the floor to open up a five point lead in the first half for the Hawks.

panding its 10-point halftime lead to as much as 15 before FDU hit back to back threes to cut the Hawk lead to 10. Knight guard Sean Baptiste registered a steal and a layup, scoring his 19th point of the game and getting his team to within eight with just over 10

turnover, Tyler hit a jumper and FDU found itself back by just one, 53-52, with 8:04 left in the half. With 6:26 to play, Tyler tied the game for the first time since the opening tip on two free throws. The Hawk offense picked up and Monmouth was able to keep a

Basketball
Upcoming
Schedule

10/10
at Rider
7:00

10/13
Colgate
7:00










































10/19
St. Peter's
7:00

10/21
Lehigh
1:00

1/3
Sacred Heart
7:00



Outlook's Weekly NFL Picks - Week 15

	Away	New York Giants	Buffalo Bills	Pittsburgh Steelers	Cleveland Browns	Denver Broncos	Tampa Bay Buccaneers	Minnesota Vikings	Tennessee Titans
	Home	Dallas Cowboys	New York Jets	Baltimore Ravens	Philadelphia Eagles	Carolina Panthers	Atlanta Falcons	Arizona Cardinals	Houston Texans
Eric (8-0 Last Wk) (53-34-1 Overall)									
Andrew (6-2 Last Wk) (56-31-1 Overall)									
Lisa (7-1 Last Wk) (46-41-1 Overall)									
Brian (7-1 Last Wk) (51-36-1 Overall)									
Frank and Meg (5-3 Last Wk) (48-39-1 Overall)									

Women's Basketball

Despite Valiant Comeback Hawks Lose in OT

ANDREW SCHETTER
ASSOCIATE SPORTS EDITOR

The Monmouth Women's basketball team mustered just nine points in the first half against Farleigh Dickinson and was in a 26-9 hole coming out of the locker room, in front of their home crowd. The Hawks would not go quietly in a game broadcasted on the MSG network, out scoring the Knights 40-14 in the second half to force overtime on their home court. However, FDU regrouped to outlast the Blue and White 60-56.

The Hawks, who fell to 4-4 on the season ad 0-2 in the NEC, did not look like the team that took home the UTEP Classic trophy earlier this year. Monmouth stumbled out of the gate thanks to some solid defense by the Knights, who probably looked better than they should have, with the home team shooting a dismal 12.5% from the field in the first frame. The nine points scored in the first half was the lowest point total in Hawks history. The previous record was 13 points in a 1992 contest with Long Island.

Down just 14-9 with just under eight minutes to play in the first half the Hawks cold spell began. FDU appeared to gain every loose ball and the frustrated home team could not make anything fall. To the Knights credit they did a nice job of limiting Monmouth's star center Jennifer Bender's scoring

opportunities as she finished the game with just seven points which is ten short of her season average.

Coach Gaitley, to her credit never showed signs of panicking and made some key adjustments for the second half of play. These adjustments helped the Hawks shoot an outstanding 54.4% from the field in the second half. As an impressive as the offense way scoring 31 more points then they did in the previous frame, the Monmouth defense was just as impressive.

The Blue and White held Knights to just 14 points in the second half by refusing to allow second chance points. The Hawks out rebounded the Knights 59-33 in the contest. Bender who did not have her best offensive night of the year, helped out by leading the team with 12 rebounds.

Monmouth came out of the locker room and scored a quick ten points in the first five minutes of play in the second half. The offensive spark was quickly put out by the Knights who went on a quick 7-2 run over the next three minutes. Down 35-23 with 11:52 to play the chances of victory looked bleak for the home team.

Several times after this the Hawks battled back to cut the lead to single digits at 9 but could not get under that mark, until a little mix of old and new school came together as senior guard Marisa Jimenez drained a 13 point jumper which was quickly followed by a three point bucket by freshman

guard Alexis Canady. The deficit was now four and the home fans in Boylan gym were rocking.

It is hard to say that the Hawks should have won in regulation after being down 17 at half time but Monmouth shot just 56.6% from the charity stripe a number that came back to hurt them in the end. The Hawks also had a chance to score on the last possession of the game coming out of a timeout but came up short leaving the score knotted at 49 heading into the extra period.

In overtime after a frustrating night for Bender she put her team ahead with two free throws to take the lead with just over two minutes to play. Maryah Laury the star of the game for FDU answered right back with an off balance jumper that sailed through the basket knotting things back up at 54. The Knights showed why converting from the free throw line is so important as the next four points in the contest came from the line. Down four with just under a minute to go, Lakia Barber raced down the court and converted a quick two point basket. However, the Knights were able to convert the next two free throws and Monmouth could not get a basket to fall in the last 20 seconds, and in the process brought their losing streak to three.

The Hawks will look to get back on track as they return to action on Friday night at Princeton University.

Monmouth Track Opens Season on the Right Foot at

PRESS RELEASE

Monmouth's men's track team opened the season at the Princeton New Year Invitational on Saturday, with the Hawk freshman putting forth some impressive performances.

Rookie Kevin Merrigan tallied a first place finish in his first collegiate meet, taking home the gold in the 300m with a new freshman record of 35.24. Monmouth's Vincent Elardo turned in a IC4A qualifying mark of 53' 5 ½", which was good enough for second place in the shot put.

Junior Chris Taiwo also his a IC4A qualifying mark with his time of 6.98 in the 60m, which was fifth place overall.

A pair of rookie pole vaulters set the new school freshman record by clearing 14' 7". Freshmen Peter Matano and Jason Timmons now share the MU freshman pole vaulting record with their fourth place performance.

Junior Larry Lundy qualified for the IC4As with his shot put throw of 51' 6 ½" which was fifth overall. In the weight throw, Shawn Sabo tossed a mark of 52' 6 ½" which was also fifth. Freshman sprinter Chris Rutherford ran a time of 8.32 in the 60m hurdles, which was good enough for fifth overall.

Competing unattached were seniors Chris Vuono and Chris Keller who secured third place finishes. Vuono and Keller each have outdoor eligibility left.

The women's track & field team

also cranked up the 2008 indoor season with a number of solid performances.

Junior Michele Losey was the lone Hawk to win an event, finishing first in the 300m with a time of 40.52, a new school record.

Brittany Gibbs recorded a second place finish in the triple jump, clearing 37' 3", while Kelly Dantleychecked in with a fourth place performance n the high jump. Freshman Lindsay Walsh came up big in her first collegiate meet, earning second place in the high jump (5' 2 ¼").

Junior Jenn Tarsan registered three scoring performances, including her sixth place finish in the high jump. Tarsan also took fourth in the long jump (17' 3 ½") and wrapped up her day with a sixth place triple jump effort (35' 1").

Crystal Stein locked up the second best time in school history in the 600m, crossing the tape in 1:38.74. MU had a pair of top-six competitors in the pole vault in Christine Fatale and Laura Myers, who were fourth and fifth, respectively.

Freshman Ajda Dotday set the Monmouth freshman record in the 60m with her time of 7.89, which clocked in at fourth place. Rookie Symmone Fisher snagged fourth place in the weight throw, while Dantley, Fischer and Jessica Toritto all made the finals in the shot put. Dotday also ran the 300m in 42.31.

A small group of Hawks will be in action next Friday and Saturday at Fordham and Manhattan.

A Word on Sports Bowl Controversy Scenarios

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Year in and year out college football fans anxiously await the Bowl Selection Show. During this show, Division 1A teams around the nation either have their hopes crushed, or their dreams come true. This fate is decided by perhaps the three most controversial letters in the history of sports... BCS (Bowl Championship Series).

The BCS is selection system designed to give the top two teams in the nation a chance to compete for a National Championship. All of this seems fine and dandy. So you may be wondering, "How could the BCS be so controversial if it assists the NCAA in choosing the National Championship game?" If all the BCS did was "assist" the NCAA there would be no topic of discussion. The only problem is the BCS is the end all say all, through mathematical calculations and some believe a slight favoritism for prestigious programs, on what team plays in what bowl.

There are plenty of years that could be used as an example; however, for the most relevant case it may be best to take the most recent. Enter 2008; another exciting season of college football has nearly come to a close. Three teams sit atop the Big 12 South Conference. The three teams are Oklahoma, Texas and, surprise story, Texas Tech. On the national stage, the Big 12 South was comprised of three events. 1. Texas beats Oklahoma in a shootout at the Red River Rivalry. 2. Texas Tech shocks the nation in beating Texas on the last drive of the game. 3. Oklahoma lays the smack down on Texas Tech 65-21. In each of these games, both teams

were ranked in the top 10 in the nation. National Championship significance was present at all times for these teams.

Still don't see the controversy brewing? To get to the point, Oklahoma won the Big 12 South on the fifth tiebreaker. They were ranked better in the BCS rankings; therefore they were awarded a chance to play in the Big 12 championship game. It was a well known fact that all Oklahoma had to do was pull out a victory in the championship game, and they would be well on their way to a national title. Because of the primetime whooping they received, courtesy of Oklahoma, although Texas Tech was disappointed, they had little reason to dispute the decision. The BCS deciding factor did have Texas, the Longhorn faithfuls and college football fans scratching their heads. Nobody quite understood how the Longhorns, who had beaten both teams playing in the Big 12 championship game (Missouri, Oklahoma), could be left entirely out of the conversation.

Of the three teams, of course, Texas has the only beef. They had beaten Oklahoma straight up, on a neutral field (although the neutral field was in the state of Texas). However, they did lose to Texas Tech, a team which as mentioned earlier was dusted by a much better Oklahoma squad. The best explanation one could hope to receive would be that Oklahoma is the best of the three at this point in the season. They have scored the most points in a single season in the history of the FBS (Division 1A football). Their offense, led by probable Heisman favorite Sam Bradford, looks to be unstoppable. Come to think of it, the only team to somewhat stifle the Sooner offense was the Texas defense. But they are on the outside looking in.

The bottom line though is that the national championship matchup seems to be the best possible game that football fans could have hoped for. It pits the Big

12 champion, Oklahoma, against the SEC champion, Florida; the champions of the two strongest conferences in the nation this season. Both teams have powerful, high scoring offenses, which will make for an exciting, high-scoring game at the least. It could also feature the Heisman Trophy winner from last year (Tim Tebow) against his successor (Sam Bradford). But we'll have to wait until this Saturday to see if that prediction comes true.

Funnily enough, the one player with the outside chance of taking home the Heisman is a Texas player, junior quarterback Colt McCoy. He led his team to an 11-1 season, accounting for 42 touchdowns, while leading his team in passing and rushing. But the Heisman race looks very similar to the BCS, with Texas getting the short end of the stick. However if Texas can come out with motivation to prove to the BCS committee that they belonged in the national championship game, and put up a big number against OSU, they could gain a share of the national title much like USC did in 2004, sharing the title with LSU.

With so many football fans calling for a playoff among the top eight teams in the nation, I am one fan that will remain true to the BCS system. Bowl games are what make college football special. I know that critics say that the college regular season is not a playoff system, but I disagree. Every game counts. Every game holds the same amount of importance. No one can take a week off. While I think that there should definitely be more human interjection when it comes to the ranking system, I still stand by the system of #1 playing #2 in the BCS National Championship.

That's how it's been for the past ten years and that's how it should remain, controversy and all.

Men's Basketball and Greeks Join Fight Against Cancer

PRESS RELEASE

The Monmouth men's basketball team, in conjunction with the Greek community at the university, helped to support the St. Jude Children's Research Hospital at their home game on Monday against rival Fairleigh Dickinson. The Hawks and Greeks had a table set up in the lobby at the game for those who wished to contribute to the event.

"We are excited to be joining the Greeks in what we feel can be a huge campus wide effort towards helping in the fight

has joined along with the entire Monmouth University community in supporting the cause. The university also has a newly formed chapter of Colleges Against Cancer (CAC), which is a nationwide collaboration of college students, faculty, administration and staff dedicated to eliminating cancer by working to implement the programs and mission of the American Cancer Society.

With hundreds of chapters nationwide, CAC is showing the world that young people care and want to make a difference.

Last year Monmouth Univer-

"We are excited to be joining the Greeks in what we feel can be a huge campus wide effort towards helping in the fight against children's cancer."

DAVE CALLOWAY
Head Coach Men's Basketball

against children's cancer," said Monmouth head men's basketball coach Dave Calloway.

There was a table set up in the Boylan Gym lobby where those in attendance could receive information about the "Up 'til Dawn" program, including how to donate to the cause.

The men's basketball team

sity hosted their first Relay For Life in April, raising close to \$40,000. The Monmouth University Relay For Life 2009 will be held on Friday, April 17th.

There is still time to contribute. For more information, visit the university's Relay for Life website at www.relayforlife.org/monmouthuniversity.



LOOKING FOR ANSWERS



The men's basketball team squandered a 15-point second half lead to NEC rival FDU on Monday night at Boylan Gym. The Hawks are 1 – 9 on the season.