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News

Chuckleball performs at Monmouth

This comedy group made MU students laugh with its sports humor.

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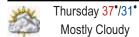
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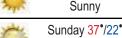
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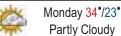






Saturday 39°/25°







Above and beyond

LAUREN BENEDETTI

Majoring in Biology, achieving a player on the University's women's soccer team and a leadership peer educator can be a handful, especially the week before finals. But junior Sarah VanCuren managed the heavy workload while traveling to Katrina's disaster area and lending a hand to the people that needed it most.

Missing the classes that are considered somewhat vital to many professors wasn't going to keep Van Curen from doing something she deeply loves. "I felt that this trip would be something that I would look back on in 20 years and say 'wow, I did something really good,' not something I would say, 'oh man, I missed some class." VanCuren says that her professors have been understanding and have provided extra time to sit down and review what is necessary for final exams.

VanCuren a resident of Marlboro, New Jersey, took time out of her busy schedule last week and traveled south to help members of Habitat for Humanity, a nonprofit Christian housing organization that builds simple, decent, and affordable housing in partnership with people in need. Unfortunately, when VanCuren arrived, it was to her surprise that Habitat wasn't in need for assistance at the time, so her and the group she was working with traveled to the city



PHOTO COURTESY of Sarah VanCuren

Junior biology major Sarah

VanCuren travled to Katrina's
disaster area Decmeber 3-10 to
assist in the rebuilding of victims
homes.

of D'Iberville, Mississippi and assisted a volunteer group organized by a Presbyterian church.

"It is extremely disorganized down there still. The work that is actually getting done is being organized by church groups and volunteers." VanCuren and her group offered help wherever they could. Nevertheless, "It was hard to see these people need so much and not be able to give them all they needed."

Volunteer continued on pg. 2



PHOTO COURTESY of Sarah VanCuren Sarah VanCuren uses a sledge hammer to dismantle part of a Hurricane victims house.

NJ inmates discuss consequences of alcohol and drug abuse

KATELYN MIRABELLI

As a part of Drunk Driving Awareness Month, the Substance Awareness Department sponsored a presentation ran by the New Jersey Department of Corrections titled Project Pride. The program was held at 5 p.m. on Dec. 6 in Pollak Theatre. Project Pride stands for Promoting Responsibility in Drug Education.

Three inmates were brought to Monmouth University to discuss how choices in their past involving drugs and/or alcohol will affect them forever. Approximately 200 Greeks, athletes, students, faculty, and staff attended the powerful presentation. The audience was given the opportunity to hear stories about seemingly normal people who made some poor choices early on in life, and are now paying the consequences.

Michael Ritter, the Coordinator of Special Programs for the NJ Department of Corrections, was the host for the evening. He stated that Project Pride began in 1998. He also included some shocking statistics about jail and its correlation with drugs and alcohol. Currently, 27,000 men and women in the U.S. are in a prison facility. Of those people, 80 percent of them are in jail because of charges related to drugs or alcohol.

Ritter added that Gang Awareness and Prevention, or GAP, is another program ran by the department in order to lower the prevalence of gang-related activities in New Jersey. Finally, he introduced and presented several public service announcements which employed the tagline, "Be Smart, Choose Freedom," in order to get their message to the public.

The first speaker, O'Neil, came from an average American family, and grew up in Plainfield, N.J. As a kid, he enjoyed playing basketball and often went to a local basketball court to practice. However, on his trip to the basketball court, he would pass a hang out spot for drug dealers. He gradually got pulled into this crowd, and began to drink alcohol and use drugs at a young age. Eventually, he started to sell drugs. He said he reached "celebrity status," and lived a life of luxury.

However, his poor choices caught up with him in May 2004, when he was arrested for his activities. O'Neil was charged with one count of distribution of drugs, and one count of distribution of drugs on school property. He is currently serving a minimum five year sentence in prison. He stated that now he gets paid \$1.40 per day, and has \$32.00 in his account as a 35-year-old man.

O'Neil said that he does not recommend drinking at all, to anyone, and that being put into jail "reconstructed his thinking." O'Neil said that he would not take back his arrest because, according to him, "I knew right from wrong, but I didn't understand that I was acting wrong."

The next speaker was Rose, a 42-year-old woman who was never in trouble with the law before her arrest. She grew up in Morris County, with a good family and she attended a private school. She has two older brothers and one younger sister. However, as an adolescent, she never felt good enough, and suffered from low self-esteem. She was shy and overweight.

Consequences continued on pg. 17

Students pack up for holiday

LAUREN BENEDETTI EDITOR IN CHIEF

On Thursday, December 22 Monmouth University may be one of the emptiest parking lots in town as students leave for their winter break and head home to spend time with family and friends. The Outlook was curious to know are students feeling the "winter blues?"

"It's going to feel great to not have class for a month especially since this semester was a "blur," said Business Marketing and Management senior, Robert Foose.

Senior Daniel Winick, a business management major, expressed his feelings of the mid-year break as "a great time to get away from the norm of stress and relax for a few weeks. Just about when vacation's over it's about time you miss school and want to go back."

Across the board students replied that their semester break would be a combination of sleep, work and quality time with the people they hadn't seen during the last few critical weeks of school.

"Over break I plan on relaxing with my friends and working. One word to sum up this semester would be, stressful and I feel relieved that the semester is over," said Hagan Sniffen a sophomore, criminal jus-

tice major.

For some students, this winter break is the longest break they may ever see and perhaps the last one.

"I'm graduating this month and it feels strange to be done," said Corey Zymet a psychology/business major. "I have been a student my entire life and now I'm at the end of the childhood 'line,' I must become an adult. During my time off, I will be searching for, and will hopefully find a worthwhile job."

Other students are not only looking forward to the break but the return to school as it will mark the last of the long haul to graduation.

"Over winter break I just plan on

going to bars with home and college friends," said senior Communication-PR/Journalism Major, Julianne Mackey. "This is the last break before all of us get 'serious.' jobs. It feels really weird to know that we have one more semester left. It's pretty sad but exciting at the same time."

If students are not out doing some of the things they have not had a chance to do during the fall semester then there's a good chance they might have not peeled themselves out of bed. Junior chemistry major Lisa Salvemini who summed up the semester as, "difficult" said it best, "I'm sleeping until January 16th."

DuBois had a duo of two songs

where Professor Gillette played the violin and Professor DuBois played the piano. The two songs

they performed were A Christmas Carol and What Child is This.

tant Dean Michael Thomas per-

formed a poetry reading. He read "Pastoral Symphony" from the

Messiah written by G.F. Handel.

Thomas' poetry reading was ac-

companied by a musical perfor-

mance. The finale of the concert

was the song written by J.S. Bach

by the name of Wachet auf, ruft

uns die Stimme, which is translat-

ed as 'Sleeper's Awake, the Voice

According to the program, the cantatas Bach wrote alternate choruses, solos, duets, trios, and are

often based on a chorale (hymn)

tune. This was demonstrated by a

soprano Raya Gonen, a tenor Neil

Brown, and a baritone Kris Zook.

The three vocalists were all vocal coaches at Monmouth University.

Stephanie Mandra, a fresh-

commented on the performance.

"While I was watching the per-formance," Mandra said, "I for-got that I was at a college holiday

concert. I almost thought I was at

is Calling.

After the intermission, Assis-

MU holiday concert in Wilson Hall



Members of the Monmouth University Chorus perform in Wilson Hall.

MARINA WAGNER STAFF WRITER

On Thursday night, December 8, the Monmouth University Chorus displayed their talent on the steps of Woodrow Wilson Hall.

Wilson Hall was elegantly decorated with Christmas trees and lights covering the railings. Monmouth student Paige Sodano, who attended the concert, said, "The decorations made the building look even more beautiful." The stage was set up with the chorus on the grand stairway with the band and orchestra situated in front of them.

The concert opened with a solo performance by Nicole Catogge, a sophomore at Monmouth University. Nicole sang Gesu Bambino which was written by Pietro Yon. The next performance was a solo performance as well. Jessica Henig, a sophomore and music education major, sang Y'mey Hahanuka, a traditional Hebrew song, and also Judas Maccabae-

Other songs that the chorus sang included Carol of the Bells, Hodie, Christus Natus Est, Pat-A-Pan, What Sweeter Music, and Ocho Kandelikas. Brittany Powell, a freshman involved in chorus, revealed that, "Chorus is a lot of work, memorizing all those songs can be tough, especially when they aren't even in man at Monmouth University, English."

To accompany the chorus, there was a band hired. The band included some music teachers from Monmouth University. Professors Michael Gillette and Laura a show in the city."

Professor Du Bois played the piano accompanied by Professor Gillette playing violin.

Student volunteer

Volunteer continued from pg. 1

came from the Student Government Association who provided VanCurren with \$500 of special event funding. The money covered VanCurren's air fair, hotel, and travel expenses. The money VanCurren received was greatly appreciated due to the fact that the special opportunity fundbe pulled together in time and own money.

member from Monmouth University wasn't by herself. She had the opportunity to work alongside three other women, two of which were retired and one who had a grandchild. The four women met last year while they were building a house in Neptune, New Jersey. "It was an interesting group of women and we all brought difgroup."

After situating herself with the volunteer group VanCuren arrived at the camp on Monday where she would spending her nights. At the camp site crete front steps. Although VanCuren's trip was VanCuren slept in what she devolunteer work, it didn't come scribes as a "cardboard/plastic cheap. Funding for the trip type tent that folded up like an standing in a puddle, water that accordion." Each tent held two people with army cots and a heating system.

> camp was on a baseball field which made it very interesting, really sad and it kept going on especially as I was studying by the ball field lights."

The trip to New Orleans was ing she looked into could not a real eye opener for Van Curen, "I thought it was so devastating. it meant spending some of her There were no people or businesses open. The houses were VanCuren although the only mostly standing but were badly damaged and many would obviously need to be torn down."

The conditions VanCuren described in Lousinia were horrific but she felt the damage she saw in Mississippi was worse. She mentioned that many of the houses were completely done, it was "like the hurricane just swept the houses away."

VanCuren noted the sight on ferent, important things to the the 17th street canal (where the levee broke). "It was so sad to

see these houses virtually the same as when people evacuated, the only difference was they were now across the street or broken in half or missing half."

According to VanCuren all homes hit by Katrina were con- people had nothing left."

where VanCuren remembers was still remaining from the storm, in the middle of a street.

"As I was looking around I "It really wasn't too bad. The saw half a house to my left and the other half to my right. It was for miles and miles and town after town."

> Most of VanCurren's trip was spent helping an elderly women named, Henrietta Jones a victim with no homeowners insurance and a house that was flooded to be rebuilt it was VanCurren and other volunteers job to gut it out. "I spent those days ripping down sheetrock, ripping up flooring, and swinging a sledge hammer-it was great, very tiring but so worthwhile."

what the house was like prior to the Hurricane and how it impor- important to be flexible, detertant it was seeing that Jones's mined and have an open mind.

MU IN THE KNOW: WEEK IN REVIEW

NATALIE B. ANZAROUTH

Explosion at oil repository in UK:

Outbursts in one of England's leading oil repositories injured 43 people at approximately 6 a.m. on Sunday, in a region north of London, according to a Dec. 12 report by the Washington Post. Two men were hospitalized under serious injuries.

The Buncefield storage facility in Hemel Hempstead, England suffered multiple

explosions in an area with about, "20 gasoline storage tanks that each hold 3 million gallons of fuel," damaging homes, and causing dark smoke to rise in the

The explosion resulted in the closing of M1, a major highway. Police reportedly said the explosions were an "accident."

U.S. suspects North Korea produced fake U.S. bills:

The U.S. is investigating the possible production of forged money in Pyongyang, North Korea, according to a Los Angeles Times report on Dec. 12.

A chemist from North Korea, who appeared anonymous in the *Times* report, said he was involved with producing fake U.S. \$100 bills. According to the article, these bills were created, "Using equipment from Japan, paper from Hong Kong and ink from France.' Although the U.S. changed the format of U.S. currency, in order to limit duplications, officials say that this has been going on since 1989, calling the "indistinguishable" bills "supernotes."

The chemist alleged that people from countries including China, Hong Kong, Japan and others, dispersed these bills, asserting that counterfeit money is being illegally transported into the U.S.

The U.S. is concerned with money being used to make and sell nuclear weapons to terrorists, according to the article. The Justice Department is investigating three criminal cases that mention the involvement of a foreign country that the U.S. believes to be North Korea.

President Bush speaks in Philadelphia:

adelphia's Park Hyatt hotel, reported on Dec. 12.

During his speech he com- can casualties. mented on the difficulties that

President Bush recently face a society working towards made a speech in Phil-democracy.

Mr. Bush engaged in a queshighlighting the parliamenta- tion and answer segment, ry election that began in Iraq where he said approximately Monday, the *New York Times* 30,000 Iraqi citizens have died, with about 2,140 Ameri-

father built it. Prior to leaving Jones hugged the volunteers, with tears in her eyes and expressed her appreciation. "To be there was amazing. I was struck that it really happened to people, that was left to many of the it was hard to believe that these

VanCuren is already planning There was a point in the trip her next trip in January when she leaves to go back to Mississippi and Louisiana. Although victims of Katrina appreciate anything they are given Van-Curen noted, "they have more than enough food but are in dire need of building supplies and (wo)man-power.'

Anyone who is interest in going with Sarah can contact her at s0507280@monmouth.edu.

Costs for the trip will be minimal, just the plane ticket and rental car.

In addition, Sarah will be with approximately 10 feet of looking for sponsorship and water. In order for the house funding from anyone who is interested in contributing. "I think it is very important for people to help others, especially people who really need it and appreci-

In order to be a volunteer of Habitat for Humanity training During her time at Jones's isn't necessary, but "a desire to house VanCurren heard about help and work hard is important," said VanCuren. It's also

A day in the life of a volunteer

6:45 am: wake up call

7:30: Travel to command center in D'Iberville, Mis sissippi - where volunteers cook, serve and clean up breakfast.

9:00 am: Arrive at work site (VanCurren's job involved dismantling cabinets and the kitchen. "It was exhausting but fun." -VanCurren

12:30 pm: a red cross truck delivered hot lunch for victims and volunteers.

> 1:30-5:00 pm: back to work

5:00 pm: Dinner for volunteers

6:00 pm: Back to camp to pick up shower supplies then a 20 minute drive to a local gym to shower.

10:30 pm: bed time

Chuckleball entertains MU students at Wilson Auditorium



PHOTO BY Dan Roth

The comedy group Chuckleball performed at Monmouth University December 6 in Wilson Auditorium.

DAN ROTH ASSOCIATE OPINION EDITOR

Offering a unique take on sports comedy, local group Chuckleball entertained Monmouth University students on Tuesday, December 6 in Wilson Auditorium. After a delayed start due in part to a last minute change of venue from Anacon Hall to Wilson Auditorium, Chuckleball got started with a bang as they opened with a sports parody sung to the tune of "Grease."

Chuckleball, a group founded by Jason Goldstein, takes recent sports news and turns it into songs. Goldstein said the group was started, "Because everyone was roasting Broadway plays and such, but no one was roasting Derek Jeter, Terrell Owens, etc." After have to understand sports to get testing the show locally, Goldstein it." moved the routine to New York, where they have made numerous performances.

Goldstein founded the company after being the head of the Rutgers Student Activities Board. While in that position, he watched how and why they picked different acts to perform at the school. After seerealized that there really wasn't that many great acts out there that did that kind of work. Upon analyzing the situation, he came up with the idea for Chuckleball.

First Baseman Rafael Palmiero of Poker Number.

and his representation of Viagra, Lance Armstrong and how France accused him of cheating, Peyton Manning not winning the big one (received the most laughter), old wrestlers, and others.

For the Student Activities Board [SAB], who sponsored the event, Chuckleball was a change of pace. According to Nicole Basile, "It's different because we usually have individual comedians; this is more of a group of comedians, which is completely different than we are used to."

The audience seemed to enjoy the show, according to SAB President Christine Schumann.

"I think the show itself is really original. I like that they take songs, both old and new, and change the lyrics around. It's funny.

Schumann added, "I think you

Goldstein offered commententary on why people would want to see the show.

'The show is really made for a niche audience. It incorporates sport, music, theater, and comedy, so our target audience is anyone who enjoys any one of the four. If you're a sports buff, you're getting ing students' reactions, Goldstein all the jokes. If you're into comedy, there is something silly about the costumes, etc."

As for the future, it will be, "continuing to market the show on the road." In January, they will be The four cast members per- back in New York for a 10 show formed an hour and a half set with stay. They are also in the proa 15 minute intermission. Some cess of writing some news songs, of the songs offered well-known which will highlight the Terrell topics, such as Baltimore Orioles Owens saga and the World Series



PHOTO BY Dan Roth

Chuckleball's act was based on sports humor and included skits about wellknown athletes.

Inclement Weather Information

A REMINDER OF THE UNIVERSITY'S STORM ANNOUNCEMENT AND CLOSING POLICY.

SHOULD SEVERE WEATHER CONDITIONS AFFECT OUR AREA THE UNIVERSITY WILL MAKE EVERY ATTEMPT TO NOTIFY STUDENTS AND EMPLOYEES OF ANY ALTERATIONS WHICH MUST BE MADE TO CLASS AND WORK SCHEDULES.

IN THE EVENT THAT A WEATHER CONDITION WARRANTS THE CANCELLATION OF CLASSES AND/OR THE EARLY DISMISSAL OF EMPLOYEES EVERY EFFORT WILL BE MADE TO MAKE THE CLOSING DECISION AND ANNOUNCEMENT AS EARLY AND QUICKLY AS POSSIBLE. CLOSING AND CANCELLATION INFORMATION WILL BE COMMUNICATED TO FACULTY, STUDENTS AND EMPLOYEES BY VARIOUS METHODS. THEY INCLUDE:

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- THE UNIVERSITY'S EMERGENCY INFORMATION TELEPHONE LINE WILL BE UPDATED WITH PER-TINENT INFORMATION. STUDENTS AND EMPLOYEES MAY CALL 732-263-5900 TO HEAR RECORDED INFOR-MATION REGARDING THE UNIVERSITY'S STATUS. THE EMERGENCY INFORMATION TELEPHONE LINE IS OPERATIONAL 24 HOURS PER DAY/7 DAYS PER WEEK/365 DAYS PER YEAR.
- THE UNIVERSITY'S WEB PAGE WILL BE UPDATED TO INCLUDE INFORMATION REGARDING THE STATUS OF UNIVERSITY ACTIVITIES.
- WHEN POSSIBLE, THE ELECTRONIC SIGN AT THE LARCHWOOD AVENUE ENTRANCE TO CAMPUS WILL HAVE THE UNIVERSITY'S OPERATIONAL STATUS POSTED TO IT.
- CLOSING AND/OR CANCELLATION INFORMATION WILL BE COMMUNICATED TO THE FOLLOWING FM RADIO STATIONS: 94.3 - WJLK; 95.9-WRAT; 98.3 WMGQ; 98.5- NEW BRUNSWICK; 98.5 WJLK- (OCEAN CTY.); 88.9 (WMCX); 92.7 - WOBM; 101.5- WKXW; 107.1 - THE BREEZE; AM RADIO STATIONS 1310 -WJLK; 1010 - WINS; 1450 - WCTC, AND NEW JERSEY NEWS CHANNEL 12.

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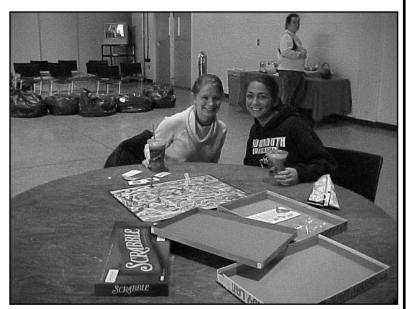
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Destress Fest helps students relax before upcoming finals



Monmouth students Krystle Hinds and Debra Cagliostro (from left to right) enjoy free smoothies and a game of Candyland at the semiannual DeStress Fest located in Anacon Hall.

CHAD ESPOSITO

On December 7, Monmouth University held its semi-annual Destress Fest in Anacon Hall. The Destress Fest, coordinated by Counseling and Psychological Services, is held at the end of every semester right before finals to give the students a chance to relax and enjoy some free games, movies, food and even free massages before finals week kicks in.

It was hoped that students could go back and remember how much they loved these movies, and have a smile brought to their faces. The popcorn was a nice touch as well, as were the games, which consisted of classics such as Candy Land, Jenga, Operation, and Sorry, in addition to other board games.

The students had to sign a waiver for the massages but with professional masseuses taking control of the event, the massages were excellent and refreshing.

"The event was fantabolous," said

"The event gives students a chance to throw back and relax for a few hours before finals."

DR. FRANCA MANCINI

Director for Counseling and Psychological Services

The event has taken place semi- Monmouth University junior Janice annually for the last two years.

tions that contributed to the event. do this every semester." Some of these were Residential ties, who supplied the popcorn, and Monmouth University student. the Center for Therapeutic Massage of the free massages.

The movies that were played were mostly classic Disney movies. seling and Psychological Services.

Laguerre. "I feel like I'm ready to There were many other organiza- take a test right now. They should

"Free food, free games, free Life, Dean Jackson, ARA, who do- popcorn, free massages, it was nated a fruit basket, Student Activi- great!" said Dave Saged, another

"The event gives students a School which, of course, took care chance to throw back and relax for a few hours before finals," stated Dr. Mancini, the director for Coun-



Phi Sigma Kappa hosts dance competition Joe Raimondi wins "So You Can Dance?"

COURTNEY MUIR STAFF WRITER

Joe Raimondi of the Monmouth University Hockey team won the first "So You Can Dance?" competition, hosted by Phi Sigma Kappa on December 7 at 10 p.m. in Pollak Theatre.

"It was a fun competition. Everyone was good. I just got lucky," stated Raimondi after the results were tallied.

"The whole thing took about a month to organize," stated Steve Cohen, a brother of Phi Sigma Kappa. "While brainstorming, one of the brothers decided that since they loved to dance, that they all should do a dance-off competition." All proceeds are going to UNICEF, which was being sent to the Hurricane Katrina relief fund.

The competition was hosted by Phi Sigma Kappa brother Tyler Wright, and assisting him was Delta Phi Epsilon's Tina Igle- to dance to their own choice of host Tyler Wright.

was Greek advisor Tyler Havens, George Papanier, Jen Schultz and Lou Dimarco. The following event had nine other competitors: freshmen Sade Edghill, Melissa Visco and Erica Osterlo, Zeta Tau Alpha's Karima Bouyahi, Julie Rios and Alyson Goode, and Delta Phi Epsilon's Marissa Sclafani and Janelle Kennedy, and Sal Binder. Each competitor had their own unique style ranging from Michael Jackson to ballet dancing giving the audience a wide variety of dancing to enjoy, along with the witty comments that were made by the hosts and judges.

"I found out about this competition when the boys from Phi Sigma Kappa approached me in the student center and asked me to be in this competition. I was very flattered, and thought it would be a great time," claimed Sclafani.

sias. Judging the competition music, and was then rated on a scale from one through 10 by each judge, individually based on variety and originality. Whoever made it to the top four were then placed into the second round, where they competed for first, second, and third place to whatever music was playing. A pairing of Sclafini and Raimondi started off the second round.

After a very close round, Raimondi advanced to the position of first or second. The next to compete against each other were Edghill and Goode, with Edghill advancing to the following round. The final results awarded first place to Raimondi, second place to Edghill, and third place to Goode.

"Basically, I was nervous whether or not anyone would show up tonight. But after seeing this crowd, and how much support is here for Katrina, made me feel much better Each competitor had a minute about going to this school," stated

SAB hosts "Stuff IT & Shake IT"



MU students particpate in the Student Activities Board [SAB] sponsored event "Stuff IT and Shake IT" on December 9 in Anacon Hall

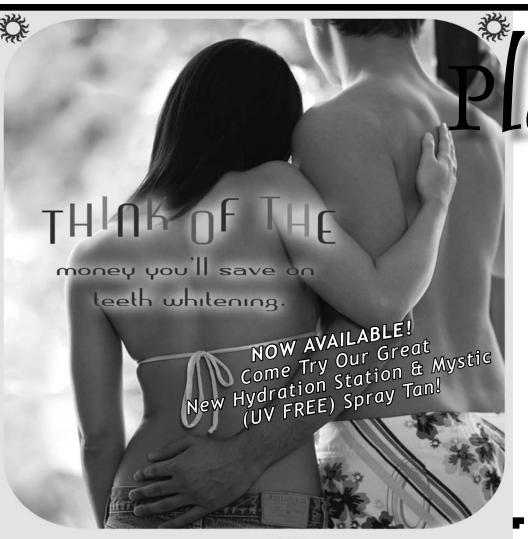
MEGAN SHAW

On Friday, December 9, Student Activities Board [SAB] hosted a Stuff IT & Shake IT event. Students went to Anacon Hall at the Student Center to build their own free stuffed animals while listening to a group from Massachusetts, Orange Crush, who sang 1980s music and even took requests from the audience. Students could choose from a variety of animals such as bears, cats, turtles, cows, and giraffes. To add a little spice to the animals, students chose outfits for them to wear. A few choices ranged from a doctor, Santa, a baseball player, and a firefighter. When their stuffed animals were finished, students could fill out a birth certificate with a date of birth, name, what the animal was filled with, the eye color, and whom it belongs to, and could then sign their name as the head bear master. While some students where there to make the animals for themselves, others had a different approach in mind. That approach was to use the animals as Christmas presents. "The bears make a really nice gift; you help make them yourselves, so it's more special than an ordinary stuffed animal," said Nicole Stevens, a freshman Education major.



PHOTO BY Megan Shaw

Nicole Stevens, Katie Galligan, and Dave Dragotti (from left to right) hold up their animals after they were completed at the "Stuff IT and Shake IT" event.



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NVOLVED

A SAMPLE OF EVENTS FOR SPRING 2006

Tuesday, January 17 Friday, January 20 Saturday, January 21 Wed., January 25 Tuesday, January 31 Wednesday, February 8 USA Breakdancers Saturday, February 11 Winterball Saturday, February 25 Wednesday, March 1 Tuesday, March 14 Saturday, March 25 Thursday, March 30 Wednesday, April 5 Saturday, April 8 Saturday, April 22 Friday, April 28 Sunday, April 30

First Day of Classes The Evasons Mindreaders Totally 80s Night MLK Jr. Childrens Festival Meet the Greeks Wednesday, February 1 Student Involvement Fair

Fashion Show Vagina Monologues **SGA Auction** Murder Mystery Dinner Take Back the Night **Preacher Moss** International Festival Community Day **Outdoor Movie**

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White break activities at activities activities and activities and

DEBRA PANCHUKI

So here we are, at the end of the semester, and winter break draws nearer and nearer by the minute. Although all those days off from school are great, many students end up feeling "stir crazy" from staying inside day after day due to the cold weather.

Once you've finally caught up on all that sleep that you've deprived yourself of for the last four months, keep yourself from coming down with cabin fever this year by engaging in any of the following activities, which will add a little festivity to the winter vacation that you've worked so hard to earn.

Skiing: According to www.recreate.com, skiing is pure recreation. It is very different from what we do in "normal life," making it a great opportunity to escape from our day-to-day efforts and challenges. In addition, skiing is an outdoor sport that offers some of the most spectacular scenery NJ landscapes have to offer.

And whether you're a cross-country skier, expert competitor, or have never even seen a ski before, there are a number of slopes and trails throughout N.J. that are perfect for beginning and advanced skiers alike. Check out www.funnewjersey.com for a complete list of ski resorts in New Jersey, as well as useful information on choosing a slope that is right for you.

Winter Carnival: Winter carnivals are usually held from mid-December to the end of January, and offer all the traditional festivity of summer carnivals such as food, games, and prizes. Often, they are held in schools and churches, but some towns hold the seasonal event in local parks, providing for an authentic, outdoor winter activity

Find a winter carnival in your area by Googling "Winter Carnival NJ 2006," along with the town you live in. Or, take a trip to Morristown, which annually hosts eagerly anticipated, extravagant winter carnivals in the town square.

Ice Skating: So, you're not a figure skater. Big deal! You don't have to pull off a double axle on the ice in order to have a great time with friends, family or both. In fact, watching each other bust their behinds on the ice is much more entertaining than sitting at home watching Michelle Kwan skate away in a tiny sequined outfit.

For those who'd really like to learn how to do it, ice skating lessons are available at a number of locations. See www.funnewjersey.com for ice rink locations and other details.

Snow Play: We've already had to deal with getting to and from classes in the snow once already this semester, a bitter reminder to snowball fights.

IMAGE PROVIDED by Goog

According to www.centralpark2000.com, the most popular outdoor ice-skating rink in New York City is the Central Park Wollman Rink. Situated northwest of the Pond, the 33,000-square-foot rink offers skaters of all ages and skills many hours gliding across the ice in a spectacular location. As the music plays, skaters test their dance moves as they twirl around the Rink.

that growing up isn't always all that it's cracked up to be. If there's snow over winter break, get in touch with your inner fourth grader and do what's really meant to be done during a snowfall: play!

It's both free and fun, and an excellent opportunity to make an unlimited amount of authentic snow cones with some Kool-Aid packets (and maybe a little Bacardi for those over 21), not to mention snow angels, snow men, and of course, the ever-awesome snow fort for waging old school-style snowball fights.

Holiday Lights Spectacular: Students commuting from North Jersey know that each year, the

PNC Bank Arts Center at exit 116 on the Parkway hosts their annual "Holiday Lights Spectacular." The drive-through, animated light display features over one million lights in an array of themes and structures. Visit www.artscenter.com for more de-

How to stay fit over winter break



It's that time of year again; when every magazine and newspaper in the country offers advice on holiday eating, and what foods to avoid to keep from packing on the pounds.

Here at The Outlook, we say, "Go for that extra helping of Mom's famous angel food cake!"
As long as you receive a decent amount of exercise, you can have your cake and eat it, too. Check out the following ways to burn calories naturally, by doing the things that you'll likely be doing over winter break, anyway.

Shoveling Snow: According to www.coolnurse.com, you can burn between 7.9 and 12.5 calories per minute shoveling light snow, depending on your body weight. For heavier snow shoveling jobs, you can burn anywhere from 13.8 to 20.5 calories a minute.

Essentially, you need not feel guilty about indulging in that angel food cake after all, as long as there's snow to shovel: a slice of the cake, which generally contains 660 calories, can be worked off in an hour's worth of shoveling, depending on your weight.

Building a Snowman:

Shoveling snow can be hard work! Take a fun little break from it while still burning approximately 285 calories by building a snowman in your front yard. Think you really overdid it at that holiday feast? Build an entire snow family, and burn up to 1700 calories at the same time!

Clearing the Table/
Washing Dishes: No one has to know that you're helping to clean up after your family's holiday bash for selfish reasons! Earn brownie points by helping out your parents; lose calories by clearing the table and

washing the dishes!
On average, spending
20 minutes doing these
light chores will burn
approximately 164 calories
(that's about 16 minutes less
you'll have to shovel that
snow tomorrow!)

Chopping Wood: If your family has a fireplace in the home, you've got an excellent reason to chop wood and burn calories while you do so. Burn an approximate 428 calories by chopping wood for the fire. Burn an additional 357 calories by carrying it over to the side of the house and stacking it up there.

Dancing: Attending a holiday party with friends or for work this year? Feel free to load up your dinner plate if you're planning on getting out on the dance floor afterwards. Cut up the rug and burn about 321 calories per hour while doing so.









DAN ROTH

For most, the holiday time is a rejuvenating period where families get together to share warm memories and mugs filled with hot chocolate around the fire. It is a celebration in which gifts are given and received with the anticipation and excitement.

However, not everyone joins in on the fun and joy that typically signifies this time of year. College students home from school often have a hard time adjusting to the stresses and complications they face without the freedom and solace that they find while at school, as well as

According to the National Mental Health Association, "Many factors can cause the 'holiday blues': stress, fatigue, unrealistic expectations, over-commercialization, financial constraints, and the inability to be with one's family and friends. The demands of shopping, parties, family reunions, and house guests also contribute to feelings of tension."

With this only adding to the already detrimental angst brought on by finals, it is easy to recognize why the holiday time is when psychologists are at their busiest (according to studies done by the National Psychological

There are many symptoms that will identify whether or not you suffer from the holiday blues. In accordance with the University of Maryland Medical Center some symptoms are, "inability to sleep, sleeping too much, changes in appetite causing weight loss or gain, agitation and anxiety, excessive or inappropriate feelings of guilt, diminished ability to think clearly and concentrate, and decreased interest in activities that usually bring pleasure.'

This would indicate that even in the month or so that a college student has off, they do not have the ability to relax or relieve the tensions that have caused their problems. Hence, when they go back to school they are not reenergized, something that could ultimately lead to a breakdown.

There are ways to avoid these problems that arise from the holiday season. According to the National Mental Health Association, as well as medicinenet.com, some keys to avoiding stress and depression during the holidays are "to keep expectations for the holiday season manageable, just because it's the holidays it doesn't mean you can't be sad, leave the past behind you and look toward the future, spend time with friends, be aware that drinking will only increase your feelings of depression, try something new, and make sure to save time for yourself."

These tips help explain that while excessive depression is negative, it, by no means, denounces the idea that people at times are going to be upset or sad during the holidays. Sometimes those feelings are just natural. The idea is to harness them and use socialization to increase the positives in order to escape

It also points out that while the holiday time is universally considered a time to spend with family, it does not mean the entire time. A college student's alone time is very valuable and generally helps to alleviate stress.

The holiday blues are no little problem. Depression caused by these symptoms can take months or in some cases years to fix. If you or someone you know is suffering then please advise them to seek help. No one should have to suffer during a time that is supposed to bring out the joy in peoples hearts.



Holiday funk quiz: Are you in the holiday spirit?

Take the following quiz to assess what kind of mindset you are in during the holidays



DAN ROTHASSOCIATE OPINION EDITOR

1. When it comes to doing my holiday shopping, I tend to:

o find the ritual completely overwhelming -- no one likes my gifts, so why buy them?

o hit the mall months in advance, eager and excited to

for others. o feel stressed out, and have

2. New Year's Eve celebrations are:

o usually a big, fat disappointment. o always a waste of time --

what's there to celebrate? o fabulous, fun, and full of ex-

citement. with the right people.

3. If my company has a probably:

o put on a Santa hat and lead everyone in Christmas carols.

o celebrate with my co-workers and catch up on the office

o be dragged there by a coworker, but only stay for half an hour.

o not attend -- it's not like I'll be missed.

4. When I come face to face with a holiday buffet table full of treats, I tend to:

o enjoy a small sampling of desserts, but allow myself a seco generally enjoy buying gifts ond slice of the yule log (it is the holidays, after all).

o pile my plate high with cake trouble motivating myself to and candies -- I already feel fat,

so what's a few more pounds? o not eat a thing -- the holidays make me lose my appetite.

o see the beauty of the holidays reflected in every sprinkle on every perfect cookie and cake. Who has time to eat?

5. At holiday time, when I think of friends and famo usually a good time, if shared $\,$ ily members that I have lost, I

o overwhelmed by despair, holiday party this year, I will and unable to celebrate the holidays without them.

o secure that they are looking down upon me, while drinking eggnog somewhere in heaven. o a little misty-eyed, but thank-

ful for the wonderful people that are still in my life

o nostalgic and lonely.

6. On a Saturday morning in December, I usually:

o feel rested, energized, and eager to start the day

o feel tempted to stay in bed a little bit longer before getting productive.

o sleep until noon, because I couldn't sleep the night before

o sleep all day because there is no good reason to get up

7. When choosing what wear to an important holiday party, I usually:

o throw on any old thing -- nobody will look twice at me anyway, so it doesn't really matter what I wear

o throw a wreath around my neck or carry a menorah

o wear something special, and maybe buy something new for the occasion

o find something in my closet to wear, then spend the rest of the night wishing I looked more like everyone else at the party

8. When I see the first house on my street decorated for the holidays, I:

o smile at the thought that the

holidays are approaching.

o dread the domino effect that is to come -- decorating is such a stupid tradition.

o go home and cry -- the holidays always make me feel so

o run home to put up my decorations -- maybe some people will think mine were up first!

9. Sending holiday greeting cards:

o is something I never do -- I have nothing good to tell any-

o is one of my favorite activities of the year -- what better way is there to stay in touch with all the people in my life?

o can sometimes be a stressful task, but I try my best to send them every year.

o is an annoying, draining, and awkward task.

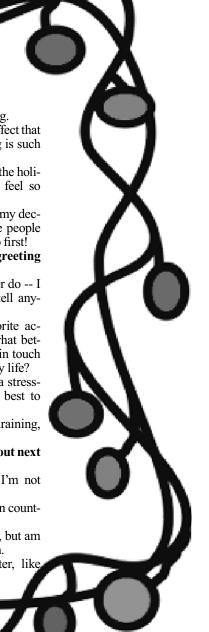
10. When I think about next year's holiday season:

o I often wish that I'm not alive to see it.

o I'm tempted to begin counting down the days.

o I look forward to it, but am in no rush for it to begin.

o I already feel bitter, lik Scrooge himself.



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Make it something else

Editorial

LAUREN BENEDETTI EDITOR IN CHIEF

ow is the time of year when everyone smiles a little brighter, hugs instead of shaking hands, and generally acts as if they give a damn. The homeless and the needy are greeted with food and shelter. Television screens will be bombarded with staged images of various community organizations trying to out-kind each other with their good will. In between all these acts of generosity an aggressive onslaught of advertising will crush the levees of sensibility, flooding us all with holiday sales of gizmos, gadgets and cashmere V-neck sweaters.

The challenge for everyone this time of year is to try and figure out what is really important in life, and then ask why we only acknowledge it once a year. Do the homeless and poor families have jobs during the other 10 non-holiday months of the year? Do actors and politicians feed the poor during the rest of the year? Probably not, but who would know?

The truth is that most of us struggle throughout the year. This is nowhere close to the struggles of the truly needy, but there are struggles. We have tuition and book price hikes. We have credit card hacks conning us with free paper shredders in exchange for our credit. Then if this is the way it is then what are we to do. We can play the Grinch and brush it all off. Or we can make the best of this opportunity and do some-

thing that can bring a smile to anyone's face, including the Grinch.

Maybe once a year is all we can muster to dedicate to those in need, and if that is the case, then make it count. I promise you that your girlfriends, boyfriends, par-

The challenge for everyone this time of year is to try and figure out what is really important in life, and then ask why we only acknowledge it once a year.

ents, siblings and those co-workers you don't really like don't need any more material possessions. Walk down the streets of any downtown area during the holiday and see if anyone asks you for

change. Feel free to walk into any children's hospital on Christmas day and see if the place is empty.

There are plenty of people who could really use your compassion. There are plenty of opportunities available to students to give a hand to those not fortunate enough to be in our situations. Studying for final exams in the library isn't the worse place to be. If you prefer to conduct your good

will in the shadows, next time you're in the mall walk past the Footlocker and into a toy store. Pick up some toys for children you have never met in your life. You don't need to go on a huge shopping spree just spread it out over the weeks and convince your girlfriend or boyfriend to match you. Why give each other gifts when the two of you can give other people so much more.

You have the rest of the year to concentrate on each other: Valentine's Day is just around the corner. I can tell you that on Christmas Eve, when you walk into the lobby of a children's hospital with bags full of toys, someone will be more than grateful to receive them. You won't meet the kids, you won't see them receive your gifts, but I promise you won't need to.

The holiday season is full of reasons to bring out the Grinch in all of us, but it's OK. The best feeling derives from showing a little compassion towards others. If we do it right this holiday season, those empty hugs and smiles will become genuine expressions of human joy.



BY: CHRIS NETTA



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Growing up is not easy

Thinking back to my

a smile from creeping

up on my face.

I often find myself saying I wish these are supposed to be the best years of my life, I wonder why I want so strongly to go back to that period of time. Some may say ignorance is bliss, claiming as a child one is ignorant of the events they still contained that innocent As adults many of us having closed

naivety only a child holds.

Thinking back to my childhood I cannot stop a smile from creeping up on my face.

I look at kids all the time, outside ing how we feel because we are playing, without a worry in the world and wish to myself we could all hold on to that time for just a a connection with someone do we little longer. Facing reality for some is extremely tough, so tough that some choose to look the other way. So who says when childhood is over and facing reality begins?

Growing up most kids idolize their parents, I know I did and was your typical Daddy's girl. Being young you don't look for things to be wrong because you haven't become that jaded. So things that we saw as perfect years ago in reality probably weren't. As we get older it becomes impossible not to realize that our parents, just like the rest of us, aren't perfect. I do look back now and could point things out that I would have never guessed back than. I can't help but wish we could all be protected from the harsh truth, even as

to do was play outside with my friends. I look back to how I was than and I realize what I truly miss the most. Simplicity. One word with such a strong meaning that we often loose track of. There wasn't drama, everyone got along, and nothing was complicated. It wasn't hard for me to say how I felt and I had no problem trusting anyone who wanted to be in my life. I was a complete open book

to anyone and now I feel like there is a few chapters in that book that are so sealed shut it's impossible for some to read.

As a child I definitely had a I was a little kid again. Being that few "crushes" call them what you please. The wonderful thing about being little is having a crush doesn't mean you'll end up with a broken heart. Most of the crushes I had, our idea of a date was playing waffle ball and maybe pecking going on around them. However, each other on the cheek. There was I don't support that claim, people no long talks, no walls to break would be a lot more optimistic if down, and no fights to be fought.

> the door on having a relationship due to past childhood I cannot stop experiences. A lot of the time have trouble

> > scared of rejection or just plain scared. Why now, when you feel choose to run, possibly missing out on something great?

Why is it so difficult for us to see more positive aspects in our lives compared to the negative ones? How come trust is a big issue for some people and most of us set out expecting to be disappointed? Why, when we feel something for someone do we have so much trouble saying it out loud to that person and even ourselves? Some may say a certain age ends the era of childhood. Others may say when a child finds out the truth about Santa Claus, they're growing up, but what makes us stop believing? I try hard to hold on to the child in me because, no doubt, life is tough and it's easy to sometimes just want to give up being positive. I've been told a number Being little my favorite thing of times that I'm extremely optimistic and at times naïve. When did trying to be happy come hand in hand with being naïve? As much as I may wish it to be possible, I'm not magically going to transport back to being 5 years old. Yet, in a world filled with so much negativity, I could still try to find the bright spot on a dark day, and never ever let that child like part of me grow up.

Holiday returns: Check your policies carefully

Many stores are

changing their return

rules, getting stricter

and limiting the time

frame for getting your

money back.

CINDY KRISHNER GOODMAN

You may cringe over the tacky

holidays but just wait until you try to return it. You could be in for a rude surprise.

Many stores are changing their return rules,

time frame for getting your monwrapping paper and decide the gift chandise," says Joseph LaRocca, inside is not what you wanted, here is a bit of advice: race to the store to return it.

Many retailers have new policies that limit the time frame for returns. Deadlines range from seven to 90 days for the majority of merchantie your grandma gives you for the dise. To avoid getting tripped up by

> check out the policies usually spelled out on the back of your receipt or on the retail-Web er's site.

the rules,

"Retailers have

getting stricter and limiting the been adjusting their return policies on a semi-annual and annual basis ev back. So, after you rip off the just like their assortment of mer-

Returns continued on pg. 11

Stark Raving Bland

Weekly observations and ravings

REUVEN FELDMAN

Why exactly do we not have time between the end of classes and finals? Yes, I've heard the stock answer about Labor Day a few times, but are we then supposed to magically study the entire semester's material while keeping up with everything else school related and this whole life thing? I just don't get it... (sigh)

"Oh cheer up; I'm sure you'll do fine. Isn't that right Wellington?" Wellington looks up at me with a mixture of a big tongue and a bigger smile that says "yes, I have a bow in my hair and will now have to walk around outside without any clothes on, but this is the 2nd winter that I haven't been neutered." "Fantastic Wellington, I'm really happy for you, I bet you are the "big dog" around this place." I don't say this last line, but it's so corny that it comes to life in my head anyways. The elevator we are riding in chimes as we reach the ground floor and discharges its contents: a small dog, its small, elderly owner, and a college student who is now mentally berating himself for complaining to random strangers who have nothing better to do then spend their social security checks on little dogs that bark like they have just discovered that they can and are terribly thrilled with it.

"You all set dude?" asks my waiting brother. I nod and toss a "yup" to him which is caught and played with by the wind till it reaches him, some several seconds later. We get in my car and pull away from Pier Village where I have just moved all of my belongings from home. My brother has been nice enough to come and help me move to my new home by the shore, which actually, isn't such a big deal as he lives in Manhattan and has not seen clear water for some time, unless it comes in a bottle and costs \$3 on the corner or his block.

Just thinking about the whole moving process sends me into a flashback that would even have Quentin Tarantino dizzy...

I make my way up to the attic and to the two duffel bags I have used since I was big enough to carry them. They have been with me everywhere I've gone and are at least ten years old. (There is no doubt in my mind that in Korea, where the bags are made, "Eddie Bauer" means "Well Made.") I pull off the plastic covering the bags, mentally

> I start with my closets and empty out everything. Books, writing that never made it, vitamins, and everything else that is me, goes in these bags and several others until it's enough for a first trip.

appreciating the last token of good thinking done by my mother. I start with my closets and empty out everything. Books, writing that never made it, vitamins, and everything else that is me, goes in these bags and several others until it's enough for a first trip.

We stop off at the Brick Wal-Mart as though Wal-Mart is a world wide fixture, it oddly has not made it to West Long Branch yet. We get everything and then wait on line which in this time of year is only slightly more enjoyable then watching Wellington getting neutered in slow motion. I look around; "Nick y Jessica Divorcio!" says the tabloid competing with another's caption of "Jesus Seen Battling Satan Over Texas" which I'm not sure if I should understand in some sort of political way. The man in front of me has a painted, tired looking wife and his attitude pierced into his chin. Quiet Spanish people and baby clothes, behind me. Garth Brooks uses his eyebrows and a heavy handed makeup job to sell his CD's. A slender businesswoman waits on the line next to me, holding resume paper, and eyeing the king size Reese's bar. She is about to make a decision when the man in front of me clears his throat which possibly due to the piece of metal lodged in his upper chin, causes the entire line to move a little towards the general direction of Connecticut. Another magazine promises his wife that she can loose 30 pounds by Christmas. And then it hits me this, not some internet company is America on Line. After paying and thanking the cashier who still had the same hair style as when she was in high school, we load the car as I put on the radio. Metallica asks me for "Fuel, Fire" and "that which I desire" and I'm sure that Wal-Mart

All that is now in my apartment and out of my mind as we park in front of the boardwalk. My brother sets out just like Wellington would do, right for the waters edge. I look around; three guys are badly throwing around a football like advanced epileptics. I lean against the cold wood railing of the boardwalk as the wind fights for its ownership of the winter season while the sun refuses to give up its share in summer. Past the ball players, I see my brother on the edge of the waves. He is wearing an old jacket which keeps him sheltered from the winds and the coldness of the day. And then it hits me, this ocean, this beach, the lone figure by the waves – these all symbolize the finals. We arrive at the waters edge, standing here today because of our own strength and the help of others that allowed us just to make this far in the semester. We pause before we attempt to go into the roaring waves just for a bit, just to get beyond them, to finish the semester strongly and reach that serenity at the distant horizon that we are all hoping for.

"Hey! Get down here! What are you doing up there?"

I head down to the crashing waves and join my brother as we watch them, hoping that we can do this.

> Wishing you all a successful and happy New Year,

> > -Reuven



""I live in racist America and I'm uneducated, yet a lot of people love me and like what I do, and I can make a living from it. You can't do much better than that."

> Richard Pryor (1940-2005)

"Since fear and love can hardly exist together, if we must chose between them, it is far safer to be feared than loved."

> Niccolo Machiavelli (1469-1527)

"It is the mark of an educated mind to be able to entertain a thought without accepting it."

> Aristotle (384-322 B.C.E,)

"The greater the ignorance the greater the dogmatism."

William Osler (1849-1919)

"I do not know whether I was then a man dreaming I was a butterfly, or whether I am now a butterfly dreaming I am a man."

> Plato (428-348 BCE)

"It is to a thinking being quite impossible to think himself non-existent, ceasing to think and live; so far does every one carry in himself the proof of immortality, and quite spontaneously."

> Herbert Spencer (1820-1903)

"Can one thus resume one's self? Can one know one's self? Is one ever somebody? I don't know anything about it any more. It now seems to me that one changes from day to day and that every few years one becomes a new being."

> George Sand (1804-1876)

"Men will never be free until the last king is strangled with the entrails of the last priest."

> Denis Diderot (1713-1784)

"The probability that we may fail in the struggle ought not to deter us from the support of a cause we believe to be just."

> Abraham Lincoln (1809-1865)

All quotes taken from www.junkfoodforthought.com



President Bush's poll ratings plummeted in the last month but have recently risen.

"To what do you attribute this resurgence in the polls?"



Jason iunior "The ratings are still incredibly low for any president. For a president to have an approval rating below 50% is rare."



Jenna freshman "There hasn't been a definitive incident but the reports of soldiers returning home definitely helps things



Todd freshman "My guess would be the improvement in Iraq.'



Corey super senior "Because of the Tookie Williams trial, the genitals of religious conservatives were stimulated. Since they are his constituency and they now have heightened interest in political affairs, Bush's name is back in the limelight."



Pete sophomore "Anyone ever think the guy is doing a good job for the situation he's in? Give the man a break."

America: Love it or take your **SUV** elsewhere

RYAN SCALLY PHOTO EDITOR

Driving in the Toms River area, I often find myself frustrated behind the wheel by people that disregard laws and common courtesy, but over the last weekend I found myself aggravated behind the wheel for another reason.

This weekend I was driving

route 37 in Toms River and was cut off by a soccer mom in her minivan on steroids, otherwise known as a Suburban.

I am upset by the fact that so many people do not know how good they have it

She was pulling out of the Mc Donald's exit with a truck full of children and without even looking or stopping pulled out on to the busy highway. I had to hit my brakes and skid to avoid hitting the back of her SUV. Upset by what just happened I then laid on my horn and to my surprise she then flicked me off, but this was not what upset enough to write this article. We then proceeded to a stop light where I was behind her. What really up set me were the bumper stickers that were on her vehicle. The first one that caught my eye was one that read "Stop Terrorism, Stop Our Government" and there were many more, each one stating another reason that the United States is a horrible country.

I am upset by the fact that so many people do not know how good they have it. The fact that someone can drive around with statements of how the United States is such a horrible place

in themselves almost proves those bumper sticker statements wrong. There are some places in this world that a person could be jailed and even put to death for speaking against their country and government. I am not stating that the United States is a perfect or that our government is either, but when compared to other places in the world and other systems, I feel that I am luck that I can live in such a place. No government or system is perfect and there will

always be people abusing The question would have liked to ask the driver of the SUV is,

if the United States is such a horrible place, why do so many people give up everything and many times risk their lives to get to our shores? I can say with almost certainty that if you went in an urban area and conducted a survey of immigrants and their feelings about the United States compared to the native country, most would answer they prefer it here. And they funny part of is a significant percentage are probably not even citizens and not even receive all of the rights that a United State citizen is receiving.

I do not blame this person for having these negative feelings about our country; to me it just shows how ignorant some people can be. It is hard to see how good we have without having those rights taken away. And the last question I would have liked to ask the driver is, why have so many other nations modeled their own governments after ours, if it is such a horrible system?

Renouncing torture strengthens **United States**

THE MIAMI HERALD

Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice's visit to Europe last week had a salutary effect on both sides of the Atlantic. It produced the administration's most forthright declaration against the use of torture, a presumed clarification of the U.S. position that helped to avert a potential crisis in U.S.-European relations. Unfortunately, it wasn't enough, and now the administration needs to go one step further: Support Sen. John McCain's bill to ban the use of torture.

Faced with a virtual rebellion by allied leaders regarding U.S. policy on the treatment of enemy suspects, America's top diplomat said American forces operating overseas are prohibited from resorting to practices banned under the Convention Against Torture. This was interpreted as a welcome shift in the administration's position that this prohibition applied only to U.S. territory. But White House spokesman Scott McClellan was quick to insist that Secretary Rice's statements did not represent any change at all.

Call this playing word games, tortured logic or simply obfuscation it all adds up to the same thing: more confusion. The statement by Rice, among other things, was less than clear about whether this is a self-imposed policy option, which the administration can reject or waive whenever it chooses, or something more constrain-

Recall the last time Attorney General Alberto Gonzales spoke on the subject on Capitol Hill, in October. He, too, pledged to uphold provisions of the Convention Against Torture here and overseas, but he added that such compliance "is not legally required."

This caveat is of a piece with the entire administration position on the use of torture. It is confusing, and at times contradictory. On the one hand, President Bush himself has insisted that "we do not torture." On the other, the administration has offered definitions of torture that go beyond conventional notions of acceptable practice. The president also has threatened to veto the McCain bill, which would require Defense Department interrogation techniques to be standardized and included in

America continued on pg. 11

DAN: Unleashed and Uncensored

DAN ROTH

Hello everybody! Welcome to the last edition of this column (cheers). Last week I said my goodbyes so this week I am going to give all of you yet another rant about the holiday season. Every comic I have ever seen has done a holiday rant; Denis Leary, Chris Rock, The Ying Ling Twins, it's practically a tradition. While I do not consider myself a comic, I will go on a rant about everything I hate about the holidays. Let me preempt this by saying this is still Dan: Unleashed and Uncensored, nothing in the following

umn is meant to offend any religion, or sect. If you are in a cult and I say something that offends you, please don't kill me.

While I love the holidays and the family and togetherness it represents there is one thing I can't stand, it is holiday music. Maybe that is in part due to the fact that not all holidays are represented in the songs. Even though the last 20

has years been good in that there been have an increase Jewish, in Norwegian, and Kwanza songs, there are still not enough. mean how many times can you hear about Ru-

dolph and his big red nose before you feel the cere gift has to be picked in perurge to get a heavy duty bow and son. The other negative aspect arrow and make some Rudolph of the large crowds is that there stew? How about the worshiping of the big fat man? Not that I mind fat people or have anything personally against them, but it is seriously worship. Oh and what is with the milk and cookies? In a country in which almost 50 percent of people are overweight, is it really appropriate to be celebrating Santa's obesity? Why not offer him some Metamucil cookies with some lactaid milk on the side? Would that not be a healthier option? Maybe old Saint Nick would hate you at first but when he realizes it's easier getting down those chimneys's he's sure to have a change of heart.

Another thing about the holidays that I don't like is Christmas Carolers. I wouldn't really mind if they came, sang a song and left but they stay for hours. I mean these people just won't leave. Do they expect a tip or something? It's sweet music but if I didn't technically invite you

to sing, then I am not paying you for it. After all, this is not the Red Cross. Some of them have actually gotten so bad that now I freeze some matzo balls and at times I will have to throw them into the crowd from the upstairs bedroom in order to get them to

On a softer note, holidays can also be a very somber time. It is fantastic if you have a loved one to spend the time with or if you're a child, but what about the rest of us? Everything you see is either love, or presents. It's not easy knowing that you are missing out on the best part of the holiday season. Hanging out with 'ol mom and dad can only go so far before it makes you even more depressed than you originally

For those of you that do have someone special in your life, you Carolers...Do they will expect a tip or all about the next thing I something? It's hate the holidays, sweet music but if shopping. Unless you I didn't technically are a genius and invite you to sing, your sweetie a gift over the summer, this time of year paying you for it... this is not the Red hell. it's great that are lower but the crowds

about

bought

absolute

Yeah

prices

those

make shop-

ping almost

unbearable.

geniuses

shopping

online is a

good idea,

gift gets to

your house

a week after

Christmas,

all I have to

say is "haha

that

when

loser."

truly



I don't like

Christmas

then I am not

Cross

IMAGE CREATED by Chris Netta

mate and sinwill be at least 10-20 of you all wanting that last tiffany's necklace. Now being in the doghouse for missing a four month anniversary is one thing, but if you miss Christmas your looking at a jail cell comparable to that of the rock.

There are so many things about the holidays that truly stink and if I focused in on Christmas, I sincerely apologize, as that was not my intent at all. The fact of the matter is that as I said last week this is the last edition of this column and I wanted it to go out the same way it came in, as offensive with some dry humor. It has been my pleasure writing for all of you and I hope you follow me to my new column next semester. This week's words of wisdom are "drinking before finals is as wise as an obese man eating another donut." Have a great holiday season everybody. I look forward to seeing all of you next semester.

Return Policies

Returns continued from pg. 9

tion at the National Retail Federation. "They don't want to discourage business but they need to control their assets (the abuse)."

Dillard's, for example, required merchandise be returned within 30 days of purchase in its original condition. You must have the original receipt or a proof of purchase label.

Best Buy gives you until Jan. 24 to return anything bought between Nov. 1 and Dec. 24, relaxing its strict 30-day return period a bit for holiday shoppers. However, it remains stern on its 14day return policy for computers and laptops.

"If you're going to buy a laptop or computer you want to buy it as close to Christmas as possible," said Dawn Bryant, a spokeswomen for Best Buy.

Major retailers such as Costco, Nordstrom and Macy's have more liberal return policies. They allow you to return any item any time, although Costco recently limited computer returns to six months. Catalog merchants such as L.L. Bean and Lands' End require only that you have the original packaging slip, although you incur the cost of shipping the item back. (Lands' End allows you to return merchandise to Sears stores.)

Daniel Therault of Dania Beach, Fla., said Costco's return policy is major reason he shops there. Waiting at the return desk to return a Little Tikes toy, Therault said, "Costco's return policy is the best. They ask very few questions. There's just an understanding that it's OK to bring it back."

Denise Siegel of Plantation, Fla., finds strict return policies a turnoff. "Sometimes I need more than a week to decide if I want to keep something.'

Siegel says her own bad experiences with returns have turned her into a kinder gift giver. "Now I make sure I include gift receipts."

Without the original or gift receipt, that tie your grandma paid \$20 for may be worth only \$10 in store credit when you try to take it back. Some stores permit returns without receipts, but expect a store credit for the lowest price the item sold for, often drastically reduced after Christmas day. This is another area where speed helps. Without a receipt, the longer you wait, you increase your

vice president of loss preven- risk of markdowns as the stores clear out holiday merchandise.

> Target offers gift receipts with every sale. A store clerk, however, can look up most purchases made by credit card, debit card, Target GiftCard or check, in its system within 90 days of purchase. If you don't have a receipt, Target will allow you only to exchange the merchandise for a similar item in the same depart-

> Here's the catch: The clerk will ask for identification when processing the return and you will be limited in the number of exchanges made without a receipt. Like Target, many big retailers now use software to track return behavior and even reject people seeking refunds too often.

If you contemplate returning a gift, that Garth Brooks CD or the DVD of Star Wars you already have in your collection, resist the temptation to tear apart the packaging or yank off tags. Retailers like Target, Spec's and Barnes and Noble will refuse them without the wrappers. Others like Best Buy, Circuit City and Target will charge a restocking fee of about 15 percent on certain products if the packaging is opened, unless the item is defective.

Online retailer Amazon.com has an online Returns Center to guide you through the returns process. Bear in mind, it has restrictions too. It will give you only a partial refund for items that are opened or returned after Jan. 31, 2006 and you probably will have to cover postage your-

Gift cards, gaining in popularity, come with their return headaches. If you are jazzed by the gift card you received to The Gap but Abercrombie is more your style, you won't have much luck returning it. Most stores refuse to refund a gift card. Some will give you a small amount of change back, usually less than

Still, gift cards appear to have cut down on returns. A survey released last week by the National Retail Federation shows 66 percent never made a return during the 2004 holiday season. LaRocca attributes that in part to more gift cards.

Realize that retailers walk a fine line between good customer service and curbing theft and

Modern technologies education shape

JODI S. COHEN

After lecturing for 45 minutes about different ways to clear trees from a forest, environmental biology instructor Cindy Trombino decided it was time to see if her students had been listen-

So with a few clicks on her keyboard, she displayed a multiple-choice question and four possible answers _ on a large screen in front of the classroom: Which of the following harvesting methods is the least disruptive?"

Twenty students lifted their arms, aimed a blue remote control at the wall, and pushed a button like they were changing the channel on a television. Seconds later, a bar graph appeared on

the screen showing that 17 students picked D, "selective cutting" _ the correct answer.

"Good. ... Now we'll see how you're keeping up," Trombino said before giving them a question from last week's lecture.

College instructors increasingly

are using wireless "personal response systems," known better as "clickers," to instantly find out whether students are paying attention and understanding the material. The clickers also are used to take attendance and administer exams

One company reports that 600 colleges nationwide are using the systems, double the number from a year ago, while another manufacturer says 705 campuses are hooked up to their version. While some professors have used them for several years, the technology has taken off in the last 18 months, experts said

Most popular in college lecture halls, the clickers also are in elementary and high school classrooms, with about 5,000 schools wired with one company's technology, according to Texas-based eInstruction.

Although there has been little research on whether the clickers improve student performance, professors say attendance and class participation are up and students appreciate the quick feedback. For the first time, the technology lets professors know immediately if students _ even those sitting in the back of the lecture hall really

understand what they're saying. The system works like this: Stu-

dents answer questions by pressing one of the buttons on their clicker, similar in size and shape to a television remote control. Through infrared or radio signals, their answers are sent to fed to a computer. A summary of the responses can be displayed instantly as a graphic.

The clickers have unique identification numbers so instructors can track student responses during the semester and put together individual study

Some colleges provide the clickers, while at others, students buy them new or used from the campus bookstore for about \$15 to \$40, depending on which device is purchased and whether it comes bundled with a textbook. The software and classroom equipment runs about \$250, though tially created more work for her, with

Calculus professor Martina Bode, who started using them about a year ago, has a set in her classroom so the 80 students don't have to buy them. After introducing a new calculus cona receiver mounted on a wall and then cept, she asks a few questions to gauge whether students understand. At the end of the class, she throws out a few more questions.

> "I have built my lessons around the clickers," Bode said, adding that the student responses can lead to changes in the day's lecture. "Any time you have 20 or 30 percent of the correct responses, you know you have to adjust your lesson plan and spend more time on the topic. This is sometimes interesting because you ask the question and you expect 100 percent correct responses but you don't get it.'

> She said that using the clickers ini-

College instructors increasingly are using wireless "personal response systems," known better as "clickers," to instantly find out whether students are paying attention and understanding the material.

some companies donate that portion an extra one or two hours spent preand rely on the purchase of clickers for paring the questions. With the system

Maria Santoyo, who is taking the environmental biology class at Illinois' College of Lake County, said she initially was skeptical about the benefits of the system but said it helps her know what to study. During a recent class, she got about half the answers correct and took notes on the questions she got wrong.

their revenue.

"It helps me to see how I am doing in relation to everyone else," Santoyo

Other students said they like the anonymity.

"Nobody feels awkward about not getting it right," said Jordan Davis, 18. "She asks a question and without pointing fingers, knows how much we know.'

"And how much we're listening," added Rachel Evaristo, 19, noting that there is one problem with the system.

"I sometimes forget mine," she said. Trombino's students aren't graded on their responses but on whether they remember to bring them to class.

At Northwestern University, about five professors use the devices in calculus, physics and bio-thermodynamics classes.

now in place, she just tinkers with the

questions before each lecture.

In a survey last semester of 59 students, Bode found about 85 percent said the systems made them more actively involved in class. About 90 percent said Bode seemed more aware of their learning difficulties.

"It's a wonderful tool because it's an interactive classroom," Bode said. "If you have 80 students in the class, it is usually more of a lecture. This way you can actually interact with the students. It becomes a more lively classroom."

That's also true at Henking Elementary School, which has had the clickers for about four years. The school has one set, and teachers take turns using them for vocabulary review and math

"In a paper and pencil test, (pupils) just get back a grade or a smiley or a sticker," said Caryl Doetsch, the elementary school's technology instructor. "With this, you are reteaching at the moment the kids need it."

While most professors use the system as a teaching tool, University of Illinois at Chicago marketing professor Charles King said he uses it for random 10-minute quizzes that account for about 40 percent of a student's final grade. Students also use the clickers at the beginning of class to register their attendance, which was previously difficult to track because of the large class

King said the system, manufactured by Maryland-based Inter-Write PRS, has cut down on paperwork since he doesn't have to manually grade the quizzes.

Eric Mazur, a Harvard University physics professor, was among the first to try a wireless clicker system about seven years ago and has written a book on the subject. He predicts the clickers are a precursor to a time when students will use their cell phones or other personal technologies to respond to professors' questions. For now, he uses the clickers during every physics class and says it has transformed the traditional lecture hall.

"I adopted it to solve a problem in my own class. I was giving them information thinking they understood it only to find out they didn't," Mazur said. "I would never imagine the proportions it would have taken on. I mean, beyond my wildest expectations."

S. and torture The U.

America continued from pg. 9

the Army Field Manual.

One reason that the Senate approved the McCain amendment 90 to 9 is that the administration has failed to make a credible case that exceptions to conventional rules on torture are needed. Also, in the words of another prominent conservative, Sen. Lindsey Graham, R-S.C., enactment of the torture ban will mean that "our troops will know what's in and out of bounds." Right now, they don't, principally because the White House has tried to have it both ways by paying lip-service to the rejection

of torture but refusing to support a binding law that leaves no doubt. No one can doubt that the United

States is engaged in an all-out war

against homicidal fanatics who want to ers torture is the antithesis of those kill Americans. But there is no contradiction between maintaining aggressive those such as the Nazis whose uncondetention and war-prosecution policies

One reason that the Senate approved the McCain amendment 90 to 9 is that the administration has failed to make a credible case that exceptions are needed.

> and holding fast to the universal values to live up to our own military regulathat Americans have long considered part of the national ethos.

Cruel, inhumane treatment of prison-

values. We have fought wars against strained use of torture was one reason

> they were deemed to be not only our enemies, but the enemies of all civilized peoples.

> At last word, the White House was still negotiating with Sen. McCain over the language of the amendment. The administration seeks to create an exemption that would protect some intelligence operatives from prosecution i.e., a loophole.

> McCain should continue to resist such efforts. It should not be necessary to go through such a difficult process to produce a law that merely requires all concerned

tions and international treaty obligations...and the American idea of civilized behavior.

U.S. in Iraq

As of 12/13, America has been in Iraq for 1,000 days, with an average of 2.1 casualties a day.

Adnan Ihsan Saeed al-Haideri, who testfied that Saddam had weapons of mass destruction, failed a polygraph test in 2001. His fabricated testimony was the basis for Colin **Powell's famous UN** speech.

According to President Bush over 30,000 Iragis have died in the combat.

No chemical, biological or nuclear weapons were ever found in Iraq.



PICTURES WITH

SANTA



WEDNESDAY
DECEMBER
7 & 14

9:30 AM

TO

2:30 PM

PLANGERE CENTER LOBBY

Residential Life sponsors pizza party for Pier Village residents

BECKY MORTON STAFF WRITER

Students of the Pier Village community ventured out into the cold, snowy night on December 5 to attend a pizza party sponsored by Residential Life, in an effort to help these students become acquainted with one another. The party began at 7 p.m. in Michael Angelo's Pizzeria located in Pier Village.

Jennifer Gradzki, a Residential Life Administrator, explained that in campus resident halls, the resident advisors plan programs for the students to get together. Residential Life decided to bring a program to those living in Pier Village.

"It's a good time for it, too," said Gradzki, "right before finals and the holidays. People are in the mood to celebrate.'

Senior Biology major Theresa Johnson said in regards to meeting people at Pier Village, "I've noticed that you don't bump into any people in the halls, not even non-students. The only people I see are my roommates and the security people downstairs."

Jessica Chapman, also a senior Biology major, agreed with Johnson. "We're too spread out here. Some people live on the complete opposite side of the building, and we never get to see them.'

When asked if she thought the event would bring the students closer together Gradzki said, "It may not bring them closer, but it will help them recognize one another. This way they may say hi in passing."

Tracy Losinski, a senior Biol- next year," said Gradzki.

ogy student, said, "It didn't necessarily help me to meet new people, because I already knew most of the people who showed up. That's because they are the students who are involved in campus activities."

Patrick Guaschino, a junior Communication student and resident of Pier Village, did not attend the pizza party. "I have a ton of work to get done for my classes right now, but should there be another one, I will definitely attend," said Guaschino.

When asked if she enjoyed herself at the party, Chapman said, "Yeah, it was fun hanging out with everyone, and Michael Angelo's has wicked good

Over 20 people came in and out, including Graduate Assistants Jennifer Buskirk and Leanne Smith, and Assistant Director Raymond Gonzalez. "If 10 people show up to a program in the resident halls, you're lucky. So, we're very happy with our turnout," said Gradzki.

Both Buskirk and Smith are planning another program for the residents to take place sometime during the spring semester. Gradzki said, "We want to use the local businesses to create good relations with them.

Upon hearing that another event is in the works, Johnson said she would attend that one

The University and the Management Office at Pier Village are both happy with the students in residence and have no complaints according to Gradzki. "The university has acquired four additional apartments for

Monmouth University professor receives Caring Heart award

Press Release

Monmouth University announced today that Dr. Michael A. Palladino, associate professor of Biology, received the New Jersey Association for Biomedical Research 2005 Caring Heart Award at the 2nd Annual "Thank You Research" Gala held on November 17, 2005 at the Palace at Somerset Park. The award was presented to Dr. Palladino for his outstanding contributions as a teacher reflecting his deep commitment to advancing science literacy and to stimulating interest in biotechnology among students and peers. Founded in 1989 by stakeholders with a deep commitment to continuing advances in public health, The New Jersey Association for Biomedical Research is a comprehensive resource center for students and educators, government, the media, the public, and New Jersey's research community.

"Mike is one of our state's great-

est educational assets. He really cares about promoting science to Line, a series of internet-based the general public and wants to attract the brightest and best into the science. His enthusiasm for teaching is infectious and his own research is important, making Mike a Project and recently co-authored wonderful role model for students, Introduction to Biotechnology, an colleagues and everyone fortunate undergraduate textbook used in the enough to know and work with him," said Jayne Mackta, president of New Jersey Association for Biomedical Research.

Dr. Palladino is an internationally acclaimed researcher, author and educator. His research focuses on the cellular and molecular biology of male reproductive organs. Dr. Palladino has published many peer-reviewed papers in both research and education journals and has taught a wide range of undergraduate courses. He currently teaches undergraduate courses in biotechnology, genetics, and laboratory in molecular cell biology. Since arriving at Monmouth University in 1999, he has served student researchers.

A co-author of BiologyLabs Onlabs used at more than 300 colleges and universities internationally, Dr. Palladino also authored Understanding the Human Genome United States, Canada, The United Kingdom, Australia, New Zealand, India, Pakistan, and China.

Frequently recognized for his contributions to the field, Dr. Palladino's awards for research and teaching include the 2005 Distinguished Teacher Award from Monmouth University and the 1993 New Investigator Award from the American Society of Andrology.

Dr. Palladino received his B.S. in Biology from Trenton State College (now known as The College of New Jersey), and his Ph.D. in Anatomy and Cell Biology from the University of Virginia in 1994. He lives in Howell with his wife, Cindy, daughters Elizabeth, 12, as a mentor for 49 undergraduate and Lauren, 10, and son Michael,

Winners of essay contest announced

SUZANNE GUARINO

This past week, in an effort to raise awareness on campus, students were asked to send Suanne Schaad, Substance Awareness Coordinator, short stories about a time when they were a designated driver, or how they thank their designated driver. Three top stories won \$100, \$75, and \$50 on their declining balance student card. "I received many great stories from students, and it was a difficult choice," stated Suanne Schaad, MA, LCADC.

In first place, winning \$100 on his declining balance, was junior Terrence Anderson. Second place, winning \$75 on his declining balplace, winning \$50 on her declin-cember 15 from 9-11pm in the Stuing balance, was Nicole Pavlonnis.

December is Drunk Driving Awareness Month. Other events during this month included Project Pride, TNA (Thursday Night Alternatives: Open Mic Night), the Crashed Car and Cab/Cell phone Incentive (entering a cab company phone number into your cell phone to enter to win \$50 on declining balance). The winner of the drawing for the Cab/ Cell phone Incentive was sophomore Samantha

SIPS and the Substance Awareness Department will be hosting this semester's Exam Break on Thursday, December 15 from 9:30-11pm. There will be a raffle to win

ance, was Mark Schneider. In third an Exam Kit. On Thursday, Dedent Center.

> **Buy Exam Break Lollipops** and you will be entered to win the **Exam Kit.**

Scholarship established at Monmouth University in memory of Pamela **Alexis Markowitz**

Fundraising Event Sponsored by TGI Fridays Raises More Than \$5,000 for Scholarship

Press Release

On Monday, November 28, Friday's in Eatontown, and Gail and John Markowitz presented ty's vice president of university advancement, with a check for \$5,128 for the Pamela Alexis Markowitz Memorial Scholarship.

sponsored by TGI Friday's on July 27, 2005, for more than 200 friends family. Pamela was a waitress at TGI Fridays for three years while attending Monmouth University.

TGI Friday's employees and management also donated money to purchase a memorial stone for Pamela, which is located in the restaurant's garden.

mela Alexis Markowitz Memorial Scholarship in June 2005, in memory of their daughter. 2005, representatives from TGI Pamela, who was killed in an automobile accident on July 3, 2004, was a Monmouth Univer-Jeff Mills, Monmouth Universi- sity criminal justice student.

The scholarship provides monetary awards each year to Monmouth University criminal justice female undergraduate students. The money was raised at an event In addition to the scholarship fund, the faculty members of the criminal justice department, along with and relatives of the Markowitz the Markowitz family, have established a separate award to honor Pamela by choosing a student each semester who most exemplifies her qualities, including team work, enthusiasm for learning, a friendly personality, an exceptional work ethic, and a strong spirit.

The student's name is list-Gail and John Markowitz of ed on a plaque displayed in the Carteret established the Pa- Criminal Justice Department. Commworks, Hawk TV, The Outlook, PRSSA and WMCX present a Fashion Show

Interested in modeling? Come to the WMCX lobby tonight between 7:30 and 9:30 to try out.

ADVENT MUSICAL PRESENTATION

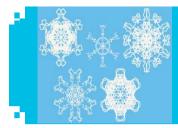
On Sun., Dec. 18, at 10:30AM, Old First Church will present a special service of Advent Music that will include trumpet, saxaphone, and flute as well as a liturgical dance enititled "Nativity." Laura Simone, who has toured nationally with the Christian musical group,

"The Continentals", will be the lead dancer. Old First Church is located at 69 Kings Highway, Middletown,NJ 07748 For more information, call at 732-671-1905









No Day But Today To See Rent



NATALIE B. ANZAROUTH

There are few times when a great Broadway musical translates into as great of a film. There are perhaps even fewer times when most of the original cast performs in the movie. But with the magnificent and powerful music of Jonathan Larson, how can you go wrong?

Directed brilliantly by Chris Columbus, with screenplay by Stephen Chbosky, Rent brings sheer character and vibrancy to the screen without straying from the musicals intimate tone. From the moment the film begins with the cast singing "Season's of love" in an empty theater, you just know you are about to see something amazing.

Set in downtown New York, 1988, the film traces the lives and experiences of a group of friends over the course of a year. "Mark Cohen" (Anthony Rapp), a struggling film maker and his room mate "Roger Davis" (Adam Pascal), a "has been" rock star, find themselves at the face of eviction by their tenant, and white collar friend, "Benjamin Coffin III" (Taye Diggs). Mimi Marques (Rosario Dawson), an exotic dancer with a struggling drug habit, meets "Roger" when the electricity is cut off in their apartment building. They break into the seductive song, "Light my candle," where Mimi makes sexual advances to the introverted "Roger." But the film goes against the prototypical male/female relationship with boyfriends "Tom Collins"

(Jesse L. Martin) and the vibrant "Angel" (Wilson Jermaine Heredia), who suffers from aids. In their first encounter, "Angel" finds "Collins" beaten up in an ally, and explains that he has to leave for a life support meeting. "It's for people with aids. People like me," he says. Collins answers, "Me too."

The film tracks the emotions and hearts of each character through their daily activities, which is spent mostly struggling to make ends meet-but always ends with a good time, and most of all love.

Rosario Dawson, one out of two characters that was not part of the original Broadway cast, showed her incredible vocal ability as "Mimi." Also joining the film is Tracie Thoms, who does a brilliant job as "Joanne Jefferson," a successful lawyer who captures the heart of "Maureen Johnson" (Idina Menzel), who finds new taste for women and dumps "Mark."

Returning cast members Anthony Rapp (Mark), Adam Pascal (Roger), Jesse Martin (Collins), Wilson Heredia (Angel), Idina Menzel (Maureen), and Taye Diggs (Benjamin), all give outstanding performances, with undeniable on screen chemistry between Dawson and Pascal.

Throughout the film, the music leaps from jazz to soul and to rock with underlying messages of defining time as limitless, with phrases like, "525,600 minutes... how do you measure a year...how about love... Seasons of love."

about whether or not this film was going to capture how unbelievable this show was on Broadway, but it surprisingly maintains the raw emotion that is felt during a live performance, and provides the audience with great camera angles that are just not possible in a theater show. One scene, where members of the support group dissolve from the screen amidst the song "There's only us, there's only this..." in particular, shows the deathly reality of

Certain times Rent feels like a film, and other times it makes good transitions to the musical performances. "La Vie Bohem," a soulful song with a great beat, is one of the most entertaining scenes to watch. The set design of this film (as well as the show) is somewhat different from other movies. All the wiring and steel bars that would usually be hidden in the back of a theater or a control room are visible to the audience, similar to emotions of the characters in the film. They learn not to hide things from themselves and others. Homosexuality, aids, death, life, interracial relationships, religion, poverty, ambition, capitalism, iconoclasts, love, and hate are just a few aspects of the movie.

Stephen Goldblatt's cinematography provides an intimate lighting that makes the characters accessible to the audience.

The costumes are also well suited for each of the characters, as they faced the bitter cold of New York in the holiday season. "Mimi" is I have to admit I had my doubts the ultimate Bohemian with her cut

up tights, short skirts, knee high live you. Something I realized afboots, and eccentric accessories.

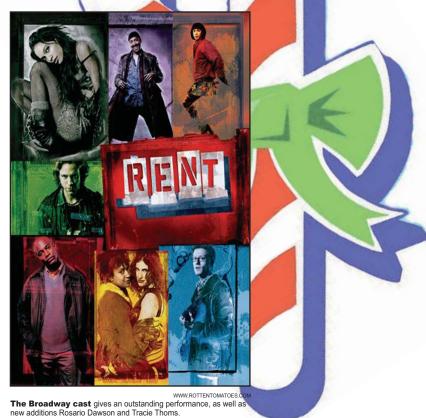
Comedian Sarah Silverman makes a comical cameo appearance as Alexi Darling, a television executive who gives "Mark" a job who will not be moved by at least in corporate America.

and a half hours, and a PG-13 rating, there is not one moment that you will look at your watch. The film is a commentary on liv-theater thinking about friendship, ing your life, not letting your life life, death, and most of all love.

ter viewing the film was that the title, Rent, is symbolic of time constraint, rules, and greed.

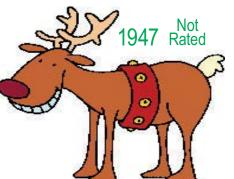
I just cannot think of a person one aspect of this story. "There is With a running time of two no future, there is no past... No day but today.

There is 'No day but today' to this film. You will leave the



1 A Christmas Story 1983 PG **Movies**

2 Miracle on 34th Street



3 Nightmare Before Christmas



Lyric Lounge



98 Degrees Christmas album, This Christmas was released in 1999 but is still worth listening to this Christmas. This album provided 98 Degrees one Christmas hit, "This Gift" but that was it. Although the album was well put together and there is an excellent selection of songs, there isn't a truly unique or amazingly redone Christmas hit. The album had a few better tracks, but nothing brilliant. The only song that stands out on this album is 98 Degrees' version of the holiday classic, "God Rest Ye Merry Gentlemen." With their strong, smooth, deep vocals, this song was done very well. This cannot be said for the rest of their album, which is mostly mediocre. The selection of songs on the album range "I'll Be Home for Christmas" to "Silent Night" and even "Ave Maria." The album begins with the track, "If Everyday Could Be Christmas," which is sung well; however, no track really shines. The only other track worth listening to is "I'll Be Home for Christmas" because the vocals again are solid. All in all, this is a Christmas album of the past. There are a few tracks worth listening to today, but all in all; this 90's pop album should stay in the 90's.

Christina Aguilera has arguably the best voice since Whitney Houston and her Christmas album, My Kind of Christmas, demonstrates the range and skill she was born with. Her vocals on this entire album are amazing. Christina Aguilera's inspired version of "Angels We Have Heard on High," is by far the best version of the Christmas classic to date. Also on the album are other classic tracks like "Have Yourself a Merry Merry Christmas," "O Holy Night" and an out of this world rendition of "The Christmas Song." Christina Aguilera is by far one of the most talented vocalists of recent years and deserves credit. Finally there is a Christmas album worth listening to over and over again, year after year. The song, "These are the Special Times," is one of the best on the album. In fact, there isn't a low point or poor track on this record. Every song is a quality rendition. The only song that is new and definitely different is "XTINA's Song." However, if you are looking for the originals or classic type music this album has it as well, but with a Christina Aguilera twist. Unlike most people putting their own touch to Christmas albums, Aguilera's touch actually improves the song. This is, overall, a fantastically done Christmas album.

Admit it, the one song you cannot wait to hear every Christmas season (at least since 1994) is "All I Want for Christmas is You" as sung by Mariah Carey. Merry Christmas contains many classic Christmas hits which Mariah Carey sings very nicely, however, it's sometimes nice to listen to a song sung straight without running your voice up and down like on her version of "Silent Night." One classic song she sings beautifully is "O Holy Night." She sings the song with such power and it is really something to hear. "Christmas (Baby Please Come Home)" is almost as addicting as "All I Want For Christmas is You." It is an cheerful optimistic dance track. Her version of "Joy to the World" is slightly different than the normal version of the song, but it works. Her slower Christmas songs are okay but the more upbeat and fun they are, the more effectual they are. If you want to get in the Christmas mood, listen to her fun songs like "Santa Claus is Comin' to Town." The cheery songs on this album really capture the mood of Christmas. Her best slower track on the album is "Hark! The Herald Angels Sing." This album is great and certainly has staying power - it has been around for over a decade now. If you don't own it, get it!

*NSYNC is a pop group that I never liked, however, their Christmas album, Home For Christmas is a must have. Since the album came out in 1998, they have had two hit singles, "Merry Christmas Happy Holidays," and "Kiss Me at Midnight." As much as it pains me to say this, the rest of the album is also done quite well. Aside from the cheesy low sung words by Lance Bass in "The Only Gift," the song is harmonized and written well. One really catchy amazing song on the album is "I Don't Want to Spend One More Christmas Without You." "I Never Knew the Meaning of Christmas" is a typical *NSYNC love ballad but in Christmas fashion. It's a fun song to play and sing along to as are most tracks on this album. Another romantic track on the album is "Love's in Our Hearts on Christmas Day." The strangest song on the album is "All I Want Is You This Christmas" because it begins with a bit of a jazz feel to the actual music and then turns into, finally, a unique Christmas tune which is something most albums are lacking. It isn't the best Christmas song but it's something and more importantly, something to hear. This album has been around for a few years now and is still holding strong as one of the better pop Christmas albums. It's worth listening to if you haven't yet.





































BECK IS BACK

RUSSELL CARSTENS STAFF WRITER

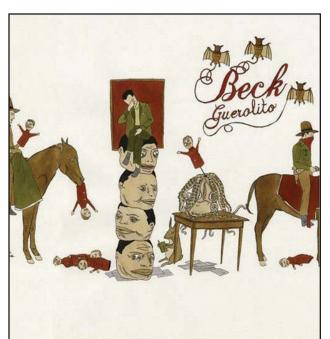
seem to run out of ideas. Whether it's track to track genre hopping on his alon the futon, there's a kid drinking (Yellow Sweat)" stayed true to Beck's bums or sometimes inane music video fire," on the song "Cyanide Breath home-recording roots, being recordideas, it's almost always something Mint." In routine Beck fashion, the ed on his four track reel-to-reel ma-

of his latest record Guero will be released, titled Geurolito.

Some of the more well -known artists who provided remixes are Air (on the song "Missing,") and Scottish electronic duo Boards of Canada (on the song "Broken Drum"). Other contributing artists are Ad Rock, Subtle and 8-Bit. Marcel Dzama, who did Guero's cover art, redid the art on the remix package.

Beck has touched a myriad of areas musically. One of his earliest albums, One Foot in the Grave, was recorded in late 1993 and early 1994 by Calvin Johnson, leader of a lo-fi and childlike musical movement in the college town of Olym-

pia, Washington, Nirvana's true hometown until 1991. It's a collec-Musical modulator Beck doesn't tion of bizarre-o folk and acoustic blues with lyrics like, "there's blood fresh. On December 13, a remix album record is genuine and hilarious.



WWW.AMAZON.COM **Beck's** humor and talent shine on *Guerolito*.

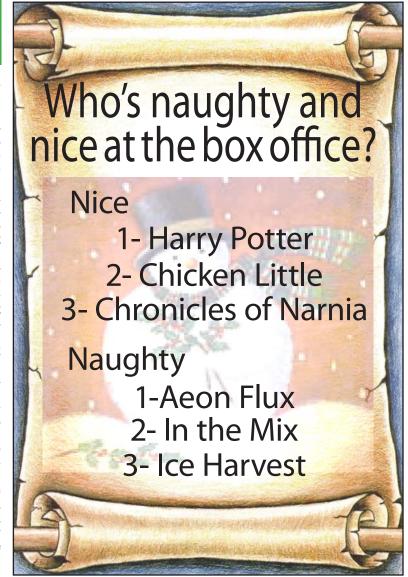
The mid-nineties saw the blow up of Mellow Gold, which had the hit, "Loser." This song and others like, "Truckdrivin Neighbors Downstairs chine. The latter tune captured a ran-

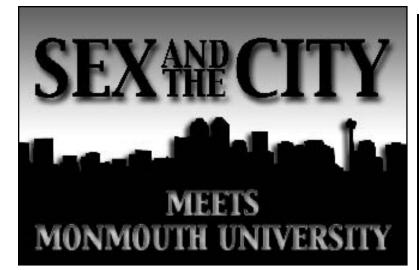
dom argument between some rowdy neighbors that only the spontaneous spirit of home recording can capture.

Odelay in 1996 was more modern and produced by the Dust Brothers, known for working on the Beastie Boy's sample-laden classic, Paul's Boutique. Beck has even done a somber, moody breakup album with 2002's Sea Change.

The collections mentioned here are examples of Beck's record output, which is as unpredictable as albums by Frank Zappa and John Frusciante.

Geurolito will more than likely be accepted by music fans that would like to see a brand new spin on some unique numbers.





I work in

retail and

although this

time of year

always makes

my sales

extremely

happy and

easier to work

with, it is

possibly the

most torturous

for all.

REBECCA HEYDON COLUMINST

"It's the holiday spirit..." to become short-tempered, impatient, spend too much money, and attempt to beat out the other customer for that last DVD that you must get for your father for Christmas? The holidays seem to have become complete madness. Don't get me wrong, I absolutely love the holidays. As much as I hear Christmas music, I can't get sick of it. At the

same time, woah people! Calm down! It's only one month out of 12 others you get every year of your life!

I work in retail and although this time of year always makes my sales representatives extremely happy and easier to work with, it is possibly the representatives most torturous for all. We are open unimaginable hours and aren't those even as long as the mall hours. We all end up having to do overtime, which helps with pay-ing bills developed from this giving system, but also puts extra strain on us all. In addition, customers are never the most

enjoyable, which is completely understandable, because I'm sure I used to get like that. After spending eight hours running around to two different malls, five different shopping centers, waiting on hours of lines, and still not ending up with all gifts needed to be gotten? Yeah, I'd be a little snippy too. And I observe this day in and day out of December, I can't help but wondermonth working longer hours, sitting in more traffic, spending more money, and driving ourselves nuts, for one holiday?

What if we didn't spend all this time in December driving ourselves crazy with holidays? Would we spread it out throughout the year? Drive ourselves half as crazy twice a year, or a third crazy four times a year? Probably not. Unless there is a reason, like "'Tis the Season" we won't go to anywhere near these extravagant extremes just to celebrate each other. At first this seems like a bad thing, a bad sign of the way human nature is going. Is this what people think is important, running around buying things for people? Spending money they don't have to prove to the people they love, that they really love them? That can't possibly be a good thing. And what about requiring businesses to be open long hours? Our race has evolved to a group of people who must be able to get what they need, when they need it? And what about the holiday vacation time that used

to exist? Most people I know have to work till about 6 p.m. on Christmas Eve and are then there at 7 a.m. on the day after Christmas...Also, forget having more than a day off if you celebrate something other than Christmas! What ever happened to the holidays being about the extra vacation time to spend with family and friends? When seeing through this looking glass, December seems to be a symptom of a terrible future for America....But maybe it really is a good thing, if you turn

the looking glass around?

Yes, we spend one month absolutely driving ourselves insane, but what do we do with the other 11 months of every year? That's the point. Most of us, no matter how much we love the holidays, can't wait for them to be over. Once New Year's is over, we can all go back to not searching for the perfect gift and being out till 11:30 at night, at a store. Why else can we not wait for them to be over? Because we would much rather spend the time as "down" time, with ourselves, friends, or family. And after the holidays are over, that's what happens. We all go back to our regular schedule of hanging out more with

whoever is around. Maybe then, the fact that we only go crazy celebrating people with gifts, once a year, is a fabulous thing! It implies that we realize that materialistic things don't really matter and that the time spent with people is much more important.

And although we all do want to buy things for the people we love, simply because it's a nice thing to why? Why do we spend one entire do, we realize it's only necessary once a year. That's why spend one month driving ourselves crazy and 11 months enjoying anything else.

> So, in your running around to every shop in town, enjoy it, as you only have/feel the need to do it once a year, which means you're doing something right, and remember that soon enough you will be back to relaxing and enjoying the company of everyone important to



Alcoholism

LINDSAY WEISS COLUMINST

of teenagers entering rehabilitation clinics due to alcoholism, your weight, and a study conductand celebrities such as Drew ed by the University of Washing-Barrymore entering a rehab fa- ton found that people who regucility at the young age of thirteen. Alcohol is prevalent in row starting at age 13 were much our society, and plays a crucial more likely to be overweight or role in special occasions and have high blood pressure by age in our everyday lives. Alcohol 16 the state of age in our everyday lives. Alcohol 16 the state of age in our everyday lives. Alcohol 16 the state of age in our everyday lives. Alcohol 16 the state of age in our everyday lives.

affected by binge drinking, and individuals who consume large amounts of alcohol are more likely to be sexually active and engage in unprotected sex. Unwanted pregnancies and sexually transmitted diseases can change or even end lives. The risk of injuring yourself is increased when We have all heard the stories you are under the influence. Alcohol consumption can impact is a depressant, which means it If you believe that you have a

Your health can be affected by binge drinking, and individuals who consume large amounts of alcohol are more likely to be sexually active and engage in unprotected sex. Unwanted pregnancies and sexually transmitted diseases can change or even end lives.

slows the function of the central drinking problem, seek help as sumed in a short period of time, lem and seek help. If you have

nervous system. This impairs a soon as possible. The best apperson's perceptions, emotions, proach is to talk to an adult you movement, vision, and hearing. trust. It can be difficult to speak In very small amounts, alco- to an adult about alcoholism, but hol can help a person feel more a supportive individual in a posirelaxed or less anxious. How- tion to help can refer students to ever, if alcohol is abused, it can a drug and alcohol counselor for cause greater changes in the evaluation and treatment. Alcobrain, resulting in intoxication. holism is an illness that needs to Depending on the person, intoxi- be treated just like other illnesscation can make someone very es. Individuals who are battling friendly and talkative or very a drinking problem cannot stop aggressive and angry. When drinking until they are ready large amounts of alcohol are con- to admit that they have a prob-

Alcoholism is an illness that needs to be treated just like other illnesses. Individuals who are battling a drinking problem cannot stop drinking until they are ready to admit that they have a problem and seek help.

alcohol poisoning can result. The a friend whose drinking conwith school. Your health can be health and safety.

ody becomes poisoned by large cerns you make sure he or she amounts of alcohol, and vomiting stays safe. Don't let your friend is usually the first symptom of al- drink and drive, and do not get cohol poisoning, as the body tries into a car with someone who is to rid itself of the alcohol. You under the influence. Substance may experience extreme uncon- abuse is usually just a step away sciousness, difficulty breathing, from addiction, and it is imperadangerously low blood sugar, sei- tive that individuals who are zures, and even death may result. dependent on alcohol seek the Although it's illegal to consume help they need. It is possible to alcohol in the United States un- enjoy yourself at a social event til you are 21 years of age, most without alcohol. You do not need teenagers have access to it. In to rely on a substance to mask addition to the possibility of be- your inhibitions, because just coming addicted, there are sev- by being yourself you will have eral negative aspects to drinking. an even better time as opposed Remember the adage "don't drink to being incoherent, and drunk. and drive"? Individuals who If you're getting upset because drink place themselves at risk for friends or family members are obvious problems with the law accusing you of having a drink-(it is illegal, and you can get ar- ing or drug problem, you may be rested). Individuals who drink in denial. This means that you are also more likely to become could have a problem, but eiinvolved in fights and commit ther you don't fully realize it or crimes than those who do not aren't ready to deal with it. Keep consume large amounts of alco- in mind that the people who care hol. People who drink on a regu- about you aren't trying to control lar basis often have problems you - they're looking out for your

Love



Doctors The Love Doctors Are In... Cleaning

LINDSAY WEISS COLUMINST

Your Act

Why Do I feel as if I am working harder at satisfying my boyfriend than I do at my job? Lately, it feels as if dating has become a chore, or a job that I do not get paid for. I have been in a committed four-month relationship and my boyfriend calls me when he finds the time, and only sees me on the weekend. Is this a healthy relationship or am I headed for the heartbreak hotel?

Sincerely, Dazed & Confused

Dear Dazed,

This is very common in relationships. The age-old question arises, "how soon is too soon before I utter those three magical words..."I love you?" The answer is not as simple as saying this phrase. Most men seem to be frightened by these words and head for the hills as soon as a girl even breathes the "L" word. I was dating someone for several months and felt that the mood was right, and decided to go for it. His pale white face said it all, and after leaving messages on his voicemail I got the hint. Test the waters before you dive in head first. There are always signs that you boyfriend or girlfriend will send your way to let you know that he or she is "into you." If you are bad with directions read the book.

Sometimes a relationship feels like a full time job except you are not being paid. If you have been burnt and have dealt with too many bad dates do not feel bad, because you did get a free meal out of it. Dating has become a chore and it should not be this much work. What happened to the care-free days when guys would call you the next day or buy you flowers and candy? Is chivalry dead, and have we become so disillusioned with dating? My advice to you men and women out there is to get back in the game and have a fun-filled dating experience. Try to look at dating in a positive way, instead of becoming frustrated if he does not call you the next day. If he was able to move on so quickly shouldn't you be able to do the same? A bad date is like a tax write off, or an old pair of shoes, after you are threw with them you throw them away. If you are unhappy with your current boyfriend then take the initiative and go out and find a shiny new guy to replace your old one. Think of guys as shoes, because they look great at first and everything fits into place, but several months later they become worn and do not fit into place the way they used to.

Do some housekeeping, clean your closet, and your relationship stats and buy a new pair of shoes to go with your incredibly amazing ensemble. Have a night out on the town with your friends, and in search of the new guy to replace

the old one.

appointment.

Prisoners speak to MU students

Consequences continued from pg. 1

The first time she drank, she recalled, was at a high school dance. Rose said that this experience made her feel, "not as awkward." She began to drink more often. When she was 15 years old, she almost died from alcohol poisoning. When she was 17 years old, her dad had a serious concern that she was an alcoholic. However, she continued on in life, graduated from high school, and entered the workforce. She became very successful in her job and "from the outside" she said, "it looked like I had everything, but I was never happy.'

When she was 20 years old, she entered an abusive relationship, which lasted three years. After this ended, Rose became a "blackout drinker" and drank every day for the next 20 years of her life. She would usually drink alone, because she was embarrassed of her problem. Marijuana eventually became part of her life as well.

After all of her destructive behavior, her life finally took a turn for the worse on November 25, 1998. After much persuasion, she

miss her family the most while serving time.

The final speaker was a man named Darren. He, too, had a good family and upbringing, and he also was a very talented football player. His father was a very well-known superintendent in Patterson, N.J. After he graduated high school, he got scholarships to Division I schools to play football, but decided to attend Winston-Salem State University, which was a Division II school. He said that he never drank or smoked before college because of his father. However, it was not long before Darren began to drink alcohol, and eventually experimented with drugs like cocaine and heroin. He left college because of a gun-related incident, before he would face being kicked out.

After leaving, he attended William Patterson University, a Division III school, where he dominated on the football field while still supporting his heroin addiction. Darren said that when he got home, he was up to 20 bags of heroin a day. There was some hope in his future, however; the Philadelphia Eagles offered him a tryout because he was doing so well athletically.

To celebrate this accomplishdecided to go to a bar with a friend ment, Darren and his friends used and have a few beers. Then, when all the drugs they could get their she was driving home, she dropped hands on one night. He said that a cigarette in her car. When she at this point in his life, "I needed

"If students hear these young people's stories, some students may think twice about future decisions around drugs or alcohol, it may be the decision that could save their life or their future."

SUANNE SHAAD

Substance Abuse Awareness Counselor

reached down to grab it, she hit heroin to function." what she thought was a deer, and her windshield cracked. When she arrived at her home, she saw blood on the windshield, and got a terrible feeling. She had a friend drive her back to the scene of the accident.

Upon arriving at the scene, she saw ambulances and police cars. She went back to her home, realpolice arrived soon thereafter. She she ever had in her lifetime.

Finally, she was charged with count possession because she had a dime bag in her car, and one count of drug paraphernalia in January 2001. Rose is currently facing a minimum seven year prison sen-

was ironic because she did not have life or their future." to drive that night, she could have easily called someone for a ride, and that she had driven before a lot worse than she was that night. However, she stated, "My real sentence is knowing that I made a choice that I didn't have to make," and that, "I made one bad choice speakers." in the eyes of the law, but I made a lifetime of mistakes in my soul."

carcerated." She is finally proud of

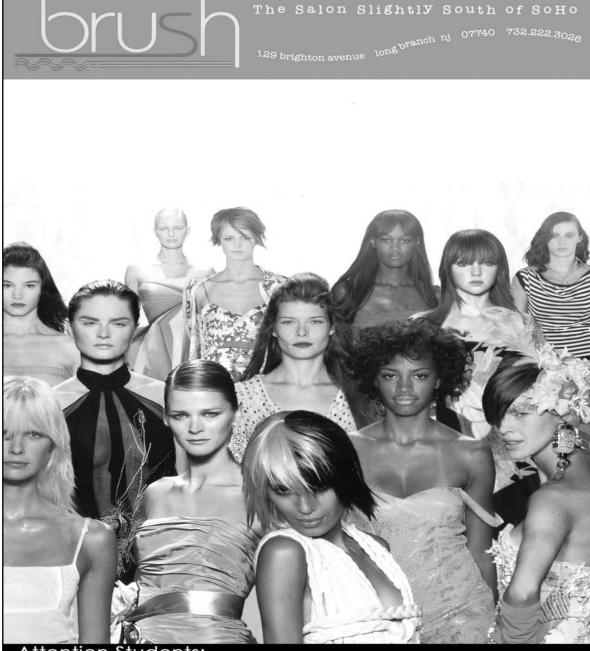
Darren's luck ran out on December 11, 1996, which was the last day he was home. Darren and his friends went to get more drugs at 4:30 a.m., and he was the "lookout man," armed with weapons.

The police arrested the group, and they all put the blame on Darren. He said, "I went from hero to izing what she had done, and the zero in a matter of days," and that, "One bad choice can get you where was arrested for the murder of a 45- I am." He is currently serving a year-old man, and awaited her trial minimum 16 year sentence for refor two years. In those two years, ceiving stolen property, robbery, she drank and did more drugs than and unlawful possession of weapons and firearms.

Suanne Shaad, an organizer of one count of motor vehicle offens- the event stated, "I requested Projes, one count death by auto, one ect Pride to visit MU because I believe 'peer to peer' is a great way to get the message across to students. If students hear these young people's stories, some students may think twice about future decisions around drugs or alcohol. It may be Rose said that her experience the decision that could save their

In reaction to the evening, many students thought that the presentation had a really strong message and influence. One freshman in attendance. Jen Hillis, a social work major, said, "It was very informative, and I learned a lot from the

Furthermore, students learned about the importance of good de-Further, Rose stated, "In many cision making. For instance, Gina ways prison has saved my life...I Lapi, a freshman Communication was in prison long before I was in- major, stated, "The presentation really made me aware of the dangers of herself because of her involvement drunk driving, and influenced me to in Project Pride, and continues to make better decisions in the future."



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66

THAT'S GOOD,

BECAUSE I'VE

HAD ALL I CAN

TAKE.

63

HOROSCOPES

By Linda C. Black, Tribune Media Services

Today's Birthday (Dec. 14th)

You're learning how to get along well with others this year it seems. This doesn't mean you let them run all over you, by the way.

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

Aries • (Mar. 21 - April 19) - Today is a 8

Continue to gather information, from both near and far. Each answer leads to a new question. Exceptional patience is required.

Taurus • (April 20 - May 20) - Today is a 5

You have good natural tendencies to save, but unfortunately you could be watching the pennies while the dollars get away. Take care.

Gemini • (May 21 - June 21) - Today is a 8
Don't avoid an argument, it will help you refine your position. Having the facts at your

fingertips wouldn't hurt, either.

Cancer • (June 22 - July 22) - Today is a 5 You're gaining experience, wit and wisdom. You may also discover that you've barely

scratched the surface. Keep asking questions.

Leo • (July 23- Aug. 22) - Today is a 8
The dilemma you're facing is about logistics _ how to be in two places at one time. Your problem is, you're too popular. Fancy footwork is required.

Virgo • (Aug 23 - Sept. 22) - Today is a 6
It's always good to have a plan prepared well in advance. Hopefully, with all the distrac-

tions, you've brought it along with you.

Libra • (Sept. 23 - Oct. 23) - Today is a 9
Your letter writing talent is blossoming now, so use it to contact distant friends. Travel-

ing in person to all of them would be difficult, at best.

Scorpio • (Oct. 23 - Nov. 21) - Today is an 5 Keep your eye on the money. It'll be moving around faster than the old shell game. Winner takes all.

Sagittarius • (Nov. 22 - Dec. 21) Today is a 8 Choose your words very carefully, and be charming throughout. You can win the heart

of the person who's giving you the most trouble.

Capricorn • (Dec. 22 - Jan. 19) - Today is an 5 Paperwork isn't your favorite chore, but you'll find it satisfying. You're also liable to find something valuable in there.

Aquarius • (Jan. 20 - Feb. 18) Today is a 8
You may have to choose between friends and family. You hate it when this happens. If you can't find a way to be with both, choose family.

Pisces • (Feb. 19 - Mar. 20) Today is an 5 Move things around until you have them just the way you want. This goes for your career, as well as your furniture.

MU Students: Interested in Comic

Get your own comic published in the Outlook! Call 732-571-3481

PAUL

ACROSS

- Swiss range
- _brillig... Sir Rudolf and Dave

COMICS N MORE

- Ringlike earring
- Botanical anchor
- Florida city
- Novelist Ferber Writer Quindlen
- Element 54
- 20 MO
- Ultimate math degree?
- Mythical bird
- "Murder, __ Wrote"
- Play divisions
- Esprit de corps
- Pretensions
- La Scala highlight Entertainer Blades
- MO
- Happen again
- 45 Entreaty
- Sharpen 46
- Person on a soapbox
- Personal play space
- Cincy athlete Classic opener?
- Pledge
- 56 MO
- 65 No socialite
- Sch. with a Berkeley campus 66
- Gumbo staple
- Thunderstorm by-product Hospital supplies
- Jack Sprat's diet
- Money owed 71
- 72 While lead-in
- Boundary

DOWN

- Throaty break-in
- Polliwog's place
- Rubbish collector
- Refuses
- First-class
- 1969 CCR hit
- Give rise to

- **Two Dudes**



College Girl Named Joe

I CAN'T BELIEVE I DID SO HORRIBLE ON THAT TEST. I KNEW I DIDN'T ACE IT, BUT HOW COULD I HAVE MESSED UP SO BADLY?!





Brenda or Ringo

Ballgame record

Anna Sten movie

Language: suff.

Compos mentis

Schedule abbr. de plume

Iliac intro

Employer Author Jong

Golf hazard

Book after Judges

Foolish

Loathe

Sierra

ITHINK

EVERYTHING

WILL BE OKAY.

Finished

"Rhyme Pays" rapper





Sooty matter

Call a game

Certain mine products

Physician, familiarly

Express astonishment about

Offshore

Practical

Trudge

Seep

Undivided

Patronizing one Camp shelter

Cake decorator

Automobiles

Scratched out

Rugged rock

Citizen of Hollywood?

MY FEMININE

SIDE HAS A SPLITTING

HEADACHE.

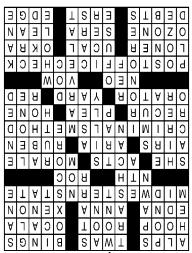
by Aaron Warner

OUR NEXT DECEMBER GRADUATE: KNOX PALOM.









Wednesday's Puzzle Solved











"What's on your wishlist this holiday season?"

BY: SUZANNE GUARINO





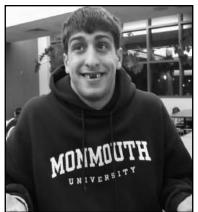
Josh super senior

"I would rather give than receive, however, if you want to get me something, let it be an Acura RSX."



Fallon junior

"I already got what I wanted.. an iMAC G5 (a.k.a. a really nice computer) and Corey Zymet."



Brian junior

"All I want for Christmas is my two front teeth."



Lisa junior

"Money, giftcards, and a new musical keyboard so i can start a band."



Greg sophomore

"Equality for all those who blatantly don't get it."



Aidan senior

"I was hoping for an Ipod but thanks to the \$30,000 a year tuition here, I've downgraded to an 8-track."



Jenna junior

"For ice to be removed from the entrance of the Dining Hall so accidents like this won't happen again."



Patrick junior

"Dragon Quest VIII, Ratchet and Clank, clothes."



Katie junior

"A hot tub."



Marcus sophomore

"Peace, love, and happiness."



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Monmouth celebrates the holidays





The first snow of the winter season covers Monmouth University.

ATTENTION: FINANCIAL AID STUDENTS

IF YOU HAVE HAD A FEDERAL DIRECT SUBSIDIZED/ UN-SUBSIDIZED STAFFORD LOAN AND WILL BE GRADUATING IN JANUARY AND HAVE NOT YET COMPLETED YOUR EXIT LOAN COUNSELING PLEASE GO TO:

HTTP://WWW.DLSSONLINE.COM/EXITCOUNSELING/ECEC-MAIN.ASP

IF YOUR GRADUATION DATE IS INCORRECT, PLEASE **CONTACT THE FINANCIAL AID OFFICE AT** (732) 571-3463 OR VIA E-MAIL AT DORSEY@MONMOUTH.EDU, OR YOU MAY VISIT US IN PERSON IN WILSON HALL, ROOM 108.



Woodrow Wilson Hall is decorated to prepare for the arrival of the holiday

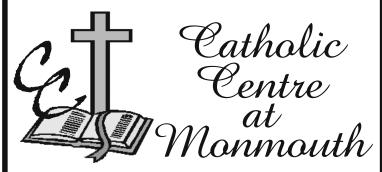
Orthodox Christian Fellowship

Beginning his 22nd year as Greek Orthodox Chaplain at Monmouth University, Archimandrite Father Ephraem extends his personal blessing to all Eastern Orthodox students, faculty, and staff for a prolific scholastic year and hopes all will be active in the Orthodox Christian Fellowship. Father is available at any time to minister to the spiritual needs of all Orthodox Christians on a 24-hour basis, for



prayer, confession, or just someone to talk to.

Father Ephraem can be found on campus, or he can be reached by calling: 732-671-5932



Please join us every week!

Weekly Mass

Every Sunday 7 pm

Eucharistic Adoration Every Wednesday 6-8pm

Decorate the Christmas Tree and pick an Angel for needy families

Sunday, Dec. 4, 8pm

Men's & Women's Bible Study Every Wednesday 8pm

ASL (American Sign Language) Class Every Chursday 7:30pm

Understanding Your Faith Series

Fr. Joe Farrell talks about the book of Genesis: Science or Myth?

Monday, Dec. 5, 7pm

Mass on Campus

(Wilson Auditorium)

The Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary, Holy Day of Coligation December 8, 1:10pm

> Christmas Party Friday, December 9, 7pm

Wrap gifts for needy families Sunday, December 11, 8pm

Study for exams Every Night During Finals

www.mucatholic.org

Watch for our special events during the semester!

Food Always Served! Catholic Centre at Monmouth University 16 Beechwood Avenue

Gate to our house is located in the rear corner of Lot 4, next to the

Call us at 732-229-9300



Items for your holiday wish list

Being chic isn't all about clothing...



mobiBLU Gube 1998
mp3 player - One inch in
size and one ounce in weight,
this device plays and records
FM radio and downloaded
music. Also comes with sleep
timer, calendar, clock and date
display, voice recorder, and a
USB 2.0 flash drive. \$129.72
Walmart online special!



Spa gift certificate-

Relieve your holiday stress
by relaxing at a spa. Good
for males and females
alike, choose from a
massage, hair treatment,
manicures and pedicures, etc.



Luxury car rental- A

great idea for someone who
feels the need for speed!
Rent a Lamborginhini,
Lorsche, Ferrari, Bentley or
other exotic car for the fun of
being behind the
wheel of a powerful machine.
See www.gothamdreamcars.
com for more information.

double button blazer, \$54.99



Festive fashions: The 2005 holiday season gift and attire guide



Te's the holiday season and that means countless parties and celebrations. Many of the office parties and house parties people will attend will call for dressy attire to make the evening that much more special. Depending upon where the party will take place depends on what you should wear.

If you're attending a house party then chances are women can get away with black pants or a simple skirt with a fun, flirty top. Men can pull on some khakis or dress pants with a layered look of a button down with either a sweater or half zip quality sweater.

If you're going to a restaurant for an office party and its a night time gathering this calls for some glam. Ladies, a cocktail dress is the most appropriate outfit to wear. There are always countless holiday red dresses out around this time of year so take advantage. Silk dresses are another must have around the holidays, bringing class and sophistication with a hint of playfulness to the look. Contrary to what your mothers may say, it's okay to not wear pantyhose with your dress, just be sure you're comfortable in whatever you choose to wear or not wear. If you plan on going sans hosiery and have fair skin then try a tanning session or self tanning lotion. For men, a suit and tie are appropriate. To make a statement, try wearing the same color shirt suit jacket and pants and then accent it with a bright, bold tie. A nice overcoat and matching gloves and scarf duo will finish off the outfit.

J.Crew,

Gap,

stressfree dobby stripe shirt, \$44.50



Winter dos...

Every girl
should own a pair of
cropped pants for winter.
Just add a pair of knee high
boots and a sweater to finish the
look. Do realize that the cropped
pants and capris you were wearing in summer should not be worn
now. Instead, look for pants made
from heavier winter materials
like wool, as well as darker
colors.

Guys, it's
all about facial
hair. If there's a perfect time to go scruffy it's
winter. Go ahead and be lazy
with shaving and try growing
a beard, goatee or mustache.
For those of you with short hair
try growing it a little longer
too. Wild, untamed shouldn't
be the goal so keep that
facial hair in line if you
decide to grow it
out.

Winter
whites are a must!
The soft color of white on any sweater, especially cashmere, just oozes comfort and coziness during the winter months. Just because it gets darker outside earlier now does not mean fresh colors need to be packed away for the spring. Dry clean most whites if possible to ensure true color.

...& donts

As tempting as it may be to roll out of bed for 8:30am class, or worse, lpm class, wearing pajamas, it looks lazy and dirty. Just because you aren't a morning person doesn't mean you cant muster up energy to just throw on a hoody and sweatpants! FYI UGGs coupled with PJs will not make the outfit any better.

There is such a thing as going 'layer happy'. Yes, it's cold outside and the layering effect is cute, but don't go too crazy with it. You wont be able to put your arms at your side if you're wearing 3 shirts, 2 sweaters, a peacoat and a ski jacket. If you're that chilly, stay inside or invest in some thermal underwear.

Don't get
lazy during the winter months. It's very easy to stay inside and hibernate during this time of year, but more there is an inkling of spring weather you'll be putting yourself through a boot camp of exercise pregimes. Even just a few hours of cardio during the week will help you beat the winter blues.

SGA President's Corner

Greetings Monmouth!

but indeed December and Ugg Happier New Year!!! boots have taken over. Where did the semester go? The last a moment to think about what SGA Auction. we are thankful for, especially in this time of the year. With Contributing canned goods, the giving tree or Toys for Tots Wish you all the best of Luck! all made a difference. We all need to step back and apprewe have. With winter break, SEASON comes the celebration of a semester well done, holiday and New Year's parties and with that we ask that everyone

have fun and relax, but be safe and responsible. At Monmouth It feels like we should still be we should watch after one anin the early days of September, other and be conscientious of our wearing flip flops and going surroundings and situations at to the beach, but then reality all times. So with that in mind sets in and it is not September have a Great Holiday and an even

When returning to Monmouth day of classes is near, finals next Semester look for our are approaching even quicker, elections. They are being held and we all will be heading Wednesday January 25th in the home soon to spend time with SGA Suite, RSSC. So if you our families and loved ones. want to be part of student gov-But before we get all caught ernment come out and join. We up in the moment of trying to have a lot to look forward to for get that paper in for an 8:30 or the New Year, take advantage of staying up all night studying the events that Monmouth has for a final exam, let's all take to offer like the Spring Fest and

Last but not least we would this I would like to say thanks like to say good-bye to all those to all the students and faculty who will be leaving the senate that have put countless hours this semester: Jamie Szeliga who into making sure that those is graduating from Monmouth less fortunate will have a this semester, Erin Williams who warm and safe holiday season. will be student teaching, and Bob Danhardt who is studying abroad coats or clothing, donating to in London next semester. We

SGA WISHES YOU ALL A ciate our University and what SAFE AND HAPPY HOLIDAY

> -Lynsey White **SGA Vice President**

Wishing the Monmouth University Community a happy and healthy New Year.

from The Outlook

Fall 2005 Writing Proficiency Examination (WPE)

The Writing Proficiency Examination will be offered next on Thursday, December 15, 2005, from 9:45 a.m. to 12:00 p.m., and Friday, December 16, 2005, from 5:15 p.m. to 7:30 p.m.

Check-in for the December 15th exam will begin at 8:45 a.m. Check-in for the December 16th exam will begin at 4:15 p.m.

Check-in for both exams will be held in the lobby of Pollak Theatre.

Eligibility Requirements for the Exam

In general, you are eligible to take the December 2005 WPE if and only if you meet all three of the following conditions:

- 1. you are a current student at the time of the exam (that is, you have a start date that falls before the date of the exam),
- 2. you have previously completed 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 mandatory **reading set** for the WPE will be available at the University Bookstore for a minimal fee, beginning Wednesday, November 30, 2005. Before the exam, students must purchase and read the reading set, and must bring it to the examination.

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 Rebecca Stafford 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 (Wilson Annex Room 510) or online at http://bluehawk.monmouth.edu/~eng/wpr.pdf.

The Writing Office will offer three information sessions about the WPE at which the format and expectations of the exam are explained and at which you can ask questions in person. The sessions will be held on Thursday, December 1, from 4:30 to 6:00 p.m.; Wednesday, December 7, from 2:30 to 4:00 p.m.; and Monday, December 12, from 6:00 to 7:30 p.m. All sessions will be held in the Rebecca Stafford Student Center, room 202B.



Editor Note: The Club and Greek page contains articles written by the student members of these organizations. The Outlook is not responsible for the content of these articles.

Tau Kappa Epsilon

Ay-yo washu doin? You had me at degrade- Quailman. Penguin creates golden ocean in the kitchen and Chewy wants to impregnate someone. Mr. Shaggy Slave Hasselhoff aka Bundt Cakes definitely screen looks, but Sherminator is still the worst-Penguin. Hamburgler = Grimmy Gus Gus. Quagmire, Master Wok, and Charlie burn while Shrek and Eeyore get spooked-Pee Wee. HAHAHAH Jokes on you Quailman and Wiggum- Mr. Shaggy Slave Hasselhoff aka Bundt Cakes. Congrats everyone and let's end this semester on a good note. CHECK IS GOOD!!!

Delta Phi Epsilon

Jaime Caracappa is really funny,

I know this because I am Jaime Caracappa! Venus-nice thinking you are an elephant at the cottagelove you lilDiViniDy. TriniDyyou rock my world- Love your Big- Where's the saltpseud? I heart you-Roxie. Sparkles- I'm joining the nunnery this week. I love you what goes on in our lives? Lwood + Painter-holler at gibbles andyour prostate!-Martini Oh my Martini haha, what does go on? Way to regain your pimp status! I love your parties and your life! xox-Sparkles Have funat Formal Deephers! Kcos and Saraaa- I'll be there in memory. One Love-SPectacl* I can't wait for formal, Starlets gonna get crazy! and to the Halloween B. Marley- I love our levels. Can't wait 4 Formal Sweethearts!xoxo Radiance. Martini, J'Adore, Calypso, Skyy and SESTIni and my lovelysecret perfect! Love-Riley Thanks sisters for coming to watch me

shake itat the dance of, I love you girls. Roomie, delirium has set in and I loveit! I enjoyed our N.A.B.

Day! Love us, -Solaia. Saturdays- So much fun! Thanks for the words you had with him Heavenli- you're the best! Roomie, NAB I heart you! Where would I be w. out you? -StarliGHt. Formal TimeGALZ! Dec 29th- party at

TimeGALZ! Dec 29th- party at Caliente's, navaeh's and serendipity's-be there!Congrats Corina on Ms.People's choice! ETERNIDi hearts EXTREME! We are pretty much the greatest dynamic duo.

L-Wood: Holler at Gibble!

Alpha Sigma Tau

Thank you to all of those that came out to watch out Variety Show lastnight, especially Alpha Chi Rho, Sigma Tau

Gamma, Phi Sigma Sigma, ThetaXi, Alpha Xi Delta, Lamda Theta Phi, LTA, and Theta Phi Alpha (sorry if we missed anyone). Thank you for those who performed, and congrats to LauraEveland from Theta Phi Alpha, Janet Miller from Alpha Sigma Tau, and ChrisRamos. Great job with the dance girls! Wonderful job with pulling everything off last night Pearl & Firecracker. Love ya!!! Congrats newe-board!! Best of luck on finals and have a great break everyone.

Alpha Chi Rho

Yay Conclave 02! Good times with good Bro's! Big Red gets the shaft while Blue gets the 4-1-1 on the nasty; Love You Big! Foose zips it up while Tuna zips it out! Gump's rollerblading adventures prove him to be the only person, besides Fester, to have ever flashed a nun. "Don't crash your moped Bacon!"

Crockett has his way with the goat.Binger watches. Hey Dollar Tree! Cosby called.he wants his sweaters back! Zero-Cool and Cochese make a time machine and steal John Connor's hair. Gorman's like Splinter. Hyde's Snoopy video leaks out to the

FCC. Porkchop and Squints harvest the corn; "Just like Mom used to make, right?" Diggler's doo is under your sink. Doylee's lamb-shank dinner woo's the local-H babes; "hats off" to you, sir. What's up with Wee Man's computer-skills? He's like a caveman at the monolith. Dog Show it up at the Boston Insurance Seminar; polyester

suits and guy's handin' out cards with their names on them; NED RYERSON IS MY HERO! Deuce takes his Michael Keaton DVD collection to an entirely new level. Goomba gets the "Griswold Lighting Ceremony" award after he "splits wires" with Kramer. Even Gus Chiggins cries at Pryor's funeral, right Huck? You old ragamuffin.

BE MEN -Skeet



THE POWER TRIP: ED VS. MADMAN

Celebrating 4 years on the air at WMCX, 88.9 FM. Listen Wednesday's 9-12 pm.





PHOTOS BY Lauren Benedett Ed Occhipinti and Matt Siciliano (pictured above left to right) celebrated 4 years on the air at WMCX on Wednesday, December 7. Guests included Station Advisor Aaron Furgason and X personalities. Local bands voiced their support: Spiraling, Assume Nothing, The Grillers, DWI, Stand and more.

COMMWORKS

An organization dedicated to performance

presents their Holiday reading Hour.

Today at 1:00 p.m. in room 235 of the Jules Plangere Building.

Want your organization's information on this page?

Contact The Outlook at outlook@monmouth.edu

Get your Information in by Monday at 12 pm



MU's student run television station's schedule Tune into channel 12. For more info x5274

	12:00 AM 1:00 A	VI 2:0	0 AM	3:00 AM	4:00 AM	5:00 AM	6:00AM	7:0	0 AM	800:AM	9:00 AM	10:00 AM	11:00 AM	Л
M/TH	The God	ather		Nat'l La	mpoon	Christma	Christmas Vacation			M-Squared	A Christi	mas Story	M-SQ-Live	
T/F	NATLAMPOON	M-S	Q-Live		Malcolm X		Nat'l Lampoons			Homeco	ming '05	News	M-Square	d
W/S	Christmas Vacation	M-S	Q-Live	NATLA	MPOON	A Christi	A Christmas Story			Crash		M-SQ-Live	M-Y	OU.
SAT	NATLAMPOON	M-You		A Christmas Story News		NATLA	MPOON	M-YOU	M-Sq	uared News	Home	coming	M-SQ-Live	/e

	12:00 PM		1:00 PM		2:00 PM		3:00 PM		4:00 PM		5:00 PM	6:00 PM		7:00 PM		8:00 PM		9:00 PM	10:00 PM	11:00 PM
M/TH	M-Sq	M-Squared Christr			as Vacation		M-YOU	News		M-Squ	ared M-YOU	Malcolm X				M-SQ-Live	Fashion Show	M-Squared		
T/F	M-You	M-SQ	M-SQ-Live News M-You M-Squared					uared		A Christm	nas Story	News	M-SC	-Live				The Godfather		M-YOU
W/S	News	lews Malcolm X							News	M-You	M-Squared	Christmas Vacation Ne			News	M-YOU	M-SQ-Live	A Christmas Story		
SAT	Nat'l Lampoon Christmas Vacation					M-Squared M-SQ-Live			The Godfather					M-SQ-Live	NATLAMPOON					

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Women's Basketball

Hawks play tough against No. 8 Maryland, drop NEC opener

CRAIG D'AMICO

For the first time in their history. the Monmouth Hawks women's basketball team opened the doors of Boylan Gymnasium for a nationally ranked opponent. Fresh off moving up from No. 9 to No. 8 in the ESPN/USA Today Coaches poll, the Maryland Terrapins visited West Long Branch last Wednes-

The Terps had been on a role, averaging 94 points per game on the year, and their lone loss on the season had been to No. 1 ranked Tennessee, by just five points.

the second half. The Terrapins shot as they committed 17 which were 63 percent from the field and 83.3 percent from 3-point range in the second half to stop and hopes of a Hawk upset.

The Terps escaped Boylan Gym with an 88-55 win, but perhaps got one of their biggest scares of the season as the Hawks played them tough. "It's one of those games in which we tell our players that we have nothing to lose," commented Hawks head coach Michele Baxter.

With Dwyer limited, sophomore guard Brianne Edwards led the Hawks with a career high 12 points. Ironically, Monmouth's players with local Maryland ties had good They had scored over 100 points in games. Zegowitz (Damascus, MD) each of their previous two games, had her best game of the season, 7

only two away from their season average for the entire forty min-

St. Francis had a 32-29 lead at the break and never relinquished it in half number two. Midway through the half, the Terriers began to pull away with a 10-2 run, extending their lead by as many as 11 points.

Monmouth would make one last charge as Veronica Randolph and Marissa Jimenez hit back to back three pointers, but the Terriers would make clutch free throws down the stretch to seal the win,

The win was only the fifth for the Terriers all time against the Hawks in this series that dates back to the 1980's, and ended a nine game Hawk win streak against St. Francis dating back to

"I thought we didn't come out and match their intensity," said Coach Baxter, "and obviously we didn't do a good job of holding on to the basketball, whenever you turn the ball over you're hurting your chances of winning.'

Randolph led the Hawks for the second time this season with 11 points, Ferdinand scored 9, Zegowitz and Edwards had 8, and Barber finished with 7. Monmouth fell to 1-6 on the season, having lost their last five in a row, and 0-1 in Northeast Conference play. The Hawks next conference game isn't for another month, when they host the four time defending champ, St. Francis PA, on January 7th. The rematch with the Terriers will come February 25th at Boylan Gym.

The 1-6 start is the team's worst start since the 1991-92 season, in which they also started at 1-6. The Hawks will round up their four game road trip over a three week span with games at St. Peter's on December 21st and at Rider on January 2nd

Monmouth's game Tuesday night at Columbia was too late for this edition of Outlook. For results go



PHOTO BY Jim Reme

Sophomore guard Brianne Edwards led the Hawks with a career high 12 pts against No. 8 ranked Maryland last Wednesday night at Boylan Gym.

"It's just one of those games in which we tell our players that we have nothing to lose..."

MICHELE BAXTER Head Coach

including a 102-53 win over fellow NEC member Mount St. Marv's.

Monmouth had a tall task ahead of them, but they proved to be up for it early on. Hawks senior Niamh Dwyer hit a three pointer just a minute and fifteen seconds into the game, to give the Hawks their first lead at 5-2. The Hawks then raced out to a 10-4 lead following a Lindsey Zegowitz three point play.

The Hawks held a 20-17 lead with nine minutes remaining in the first half, when Dwyer went down with a left ankle injury. The Hawks leading scorer had to leave the game, and the Terps heated up with a 21-7 run to close out the first half, to take a 38-27 lead into the locker room.

Dwyer was only able to return to play four minutes of the second half, as Maryland cruised toward victory. The Hawks got no closer than 13 points and the Terps were able to lead by as many as 35 in ever, turnovers killed the Hawks to www.monmouth.edu/athletics.

points and 6 rebounds, and LaKia Barber (Clinton, MD) came off of the bench with 9 points,

The Hawks tried to turn it around Saturday afternoon in their first conference game of the season, on the road, against the Terriers of St. Francis NY. The Hawks had won 13 NEC games last season, and were picked third in this fall's NEC pre-season coach's poll.

The first twelve points of the game were scored by the combination of Terrier sophomore Tiffany Hill (7) and Hawks freshman Rachel Ferdinand (5). Dwyer did not start this game, due to the heavily taped ankle that was still bothering her from the Wednesday game, but did play 20 minutes, scored 6 points, and dished out 4 assists coming off of the bench.

The game started out back and forth as the two teams traded the lead 15 times in the first half. How-

Track and field posts three wins at **Princeton New Years Invitational**

PRESS RELEASE

(Newark, Del./Hodgson Vocational and Technical), Monmouth bury, N.J./Woodbury) delivered University's men's and women's Monmouth's lone win on the indoor track and field squads women's side. Taylor won long posted three wins at the Princeton jump with a leap of 18'4". New Years Invitational at Jadwin Gymnasium over the weekend.

dash with a school-record time ies. He placed fourth in the 60meter dash finals with a time of mouth's top finish in the

the men's side was delivered at 11:22.45. by David Wiley (Monroeville, of 1:05.18 to win the 500-meter Cup.

dash. Teammate Chris Vuono (Wall, N.J./Christian Brothers) Led by senior Troy Dennis finished in fourth with a time of 1:06.36. Tisifenee Taylor (Wood-

On the track, Monmouth's women boasted four second-On the men's side, the Hawks place finishers. Taylor was the posted a pair of victories. Dennis runner-up in the 60-meter dash, paced the field in the 300-meter breaking the tape in 7.79. Toria Williams (Browns Mills, N.J.) of 34.90. Dennis also qualified was second best in the 500-mefor the IC4A Championships in ter dash with a time of 1:17.85. the 60-meter dash as he posted Katina Alexander (Pleasantville, a time of 6.98 in the preliminar- N.J./Pleasantville) was the runner up in the 1-mile run at 5:17.84. Teammate Malia Lyles (Marlton, 7.01. Dennis also recorded Mon- N.J./Cherokee) finished fourth with a time of 5:23.30. Jessica field as he placed third in the Jones (Wilkes-Barre, Pa./Dallas) long jump, bounding 23'4 3/4". registered a second-place run in The Hawks' other triumph on the 3000-meter run, clocking in

Monmouth returns to action on Pa/Gateway). Wiley clocked in January 13 as the Hawks travel to with an IC4A qualifying time New York City for the Gotham

Outlook's Weekly NFL Picks - Week 15



Away

Home

Tampa Bay Buccaneers

New England

Patriots

Kansas City Chiefs

New York

Giants

New York Jets

Miami

Dolphins

Philadelphia Eagles

St. Louis

Rams

Pittsburgh Steelers

Minnesota

Vikings

San Diego Chargers

Indianapolis

Colts

Dallas Cowboys

Washington

Redskins

Falcons

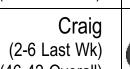
Chicago

Bears

Atlanta



Eddy (6-2 Last Wk) (58-30 Overall)





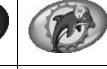




Alex (5-3 Last Wk) (59-29 Overall)































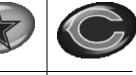




















Hawks early season struggles continue

MU drops pair of games to Seton Hall and Lehigh, fall to 1-7 on year

ED OCCHIPINTI

The early season woes continue for the Monmouth University men's basketball team as the Hawks dropped a pair of road contests to Seton Hall and Lehigh to fall to 1-7 on the season.

In their most recent action they dropped a 71-57 decision at Lehigh University this past Monday. In that game Monmouth trailed by 10 points at halftime and was never able to get any closer than eight points for the remainder of the game.

Lehigh took a 31-21 lead into the intermission behind the play of their leading scorer Jose Olivero and his backcourt mate Mitch Gilfillan. Olivero paced the Mountain Hawks with eight points and Gilfillan chipped in with seven in the first half.

Marques Alston and Dejan Delic kept the Hawks in the game in the first half as they each scored nine points. At one point, Monmouth was 7-22 from the floor, with Delic and Alston going 6-11 at that point and the rest of the team shooting 1-11.

In falling behind by 10 points in the first half, the Hawks were once again haunted by turnovers as they committed 14 miscues in the first half. In each of Monmouth's last three games, the Hawks have turned the ball over 10 or more times in the first half.

The second half proved much of Gym this Sunday. the same for the Hawks as they ended the game with 25 turnovers and 10 days for final exams before shot a meager 38 % from the floor and 25 % from three-point range.

Monmouth was led by Delic and Alston who finished with 14 points apiece. Corey Hallett added 12 points for Monmouth and Brent Wilson played a spirited second half en route to scoring six.

In their previous game, the birds of Boylan fell to in-state rival Seton Hall 61-45 at the Continental Airlines Arena. Monmouth committed 13 first-half turnovers and found itself down 38-21 at the intermission.

The Hawks cut the lead to 10 points midway through the second half, but could draw no closer. MU did outscore the Pirates 24-23 in the second half, but it was too little, too late and the Hawks left the arena still having never defeated their rival from up north.

The Hawks was led by Marques Alston with 10 points and eight rebounds. Freshman Whitney Coleman had eight points and eight rebounds in the losing effort as

Monmouth now turns their attention to another in-state rival and almost a mirror image of themselves in the Princeton Tigers. That game is tonight at 7:30 pm at Jadwin Gymnasium in Princeton.

After that game the Hawks have their first Northeast Conference clash of the season when they welcome the much-improved Sacred Heart Pioneers to Boylan

After that, Monmouth has resuming play on December 28 when they travel to Connecticut to take on Hartford.

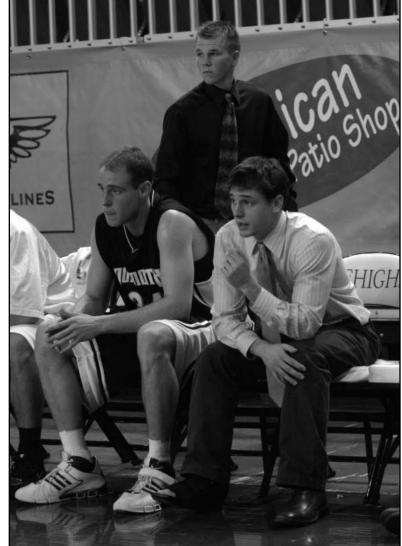
Slow starts are nothing new to the Hawks, as in the last few years they purposefully play a difficult non-conference schedule to get them ready for the NEC.

Three years ago they started 1-6. and last season they started 2-8. Factor in Tyler Azzarelli's injury, a slew of incoming freshmen and the suspensions that have affected the team, and Monmouth won't be at full strength until the start of the brunt of the NEC season.

As the Hawks head into winter break, they are led in scoring by Delic, who is averaging 12.5 ppg. Next on the team is Alston who is averaging 12.1 ppg and a team best 5.0 rebounds per contest. Coleman is third on the team with 7.9 ppg, and he is followed by Hallett's 7.4 ppg and Chris Kenny's 7.2. Azzarelli was averaging 15.0 ppg before his injury, which will keep him out until the end of the winter break, or mid-January.

Monmouth does have 11 players averaging double-digit minutes of playing time on the season, and all of those players have scored at least 10 points on the year. The Hawks are shooting 44 % from the floor as a team and 32 % from three-point range. They are being outrebounded by an average of eight per game so far this season.

Right now, Monmouth has the worst record in the NEC at 1-7. They have yet to play a conference game. Last season, Wagner started off the year 2-15 before winning 11 of their last 13 to ultimately reach the NEC Tournament Final. The Hawks will be looking for a similar, but not as drastic yet, turnaround this year.



Brent Wilson (left), team manager Mitch Stanley (standing) and the injured Tyler Azzarelli (right) look on as the Hawks fell to Lehigh 71-57. The defeat dropped Monmouth to 1-7 on the season.

On the air:

All Monmouth University men's basketball games can be heard live on WMCX, 88.9 fm, www.wmcx.com and www.sportsjuice. com. Pre-game coverage begins about 15 minutes prior to tip-off.

2005-2006 NEC Men's **Basketball Standings**

5-3, 2-0 NEC **FDU** 2 (t). CCSU 4-3, 1-0 (t) SHU 4-5, 1-0 (t) RMU 3-4, 1-0 5.(t) Wagner 5-1, 0-0 (t) MU 1-7, 0-08.(t) SFNY 2-5, 0-1(t) SFPA 2-6, 0-1(t) MSM 1-6, 0-111. QU 4-3, 0-2

For further Northeast statistics, schedules and news, go to www. northeastconference.org.



... every team has players that contribute to success without always receiving headline recognition...sometimes one play or player can change a game, or someone enjoys personal success under the radar, for them we recognize...

The Outlook Unsung Hero of the Week



Brent Wilson

Wilson injected the Hawks with some much-needed energy in the second half against Lehigh. He scored all six of his points during a stretch when Monmouth cut the Mountain Hawk lead to 10. He was also active on defense, diving to knock a ball away and forcing a Lehigh turnover.

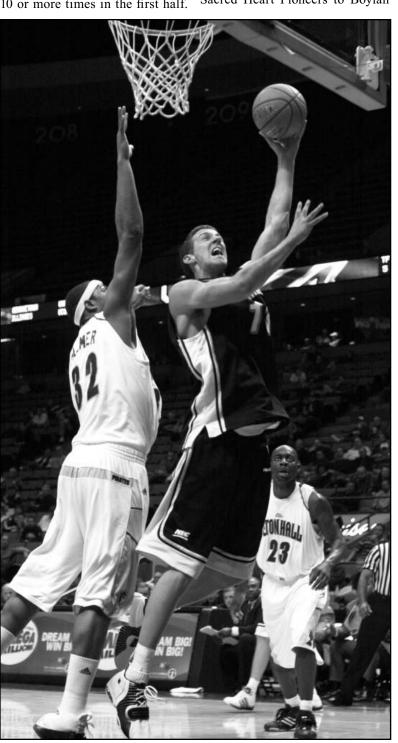
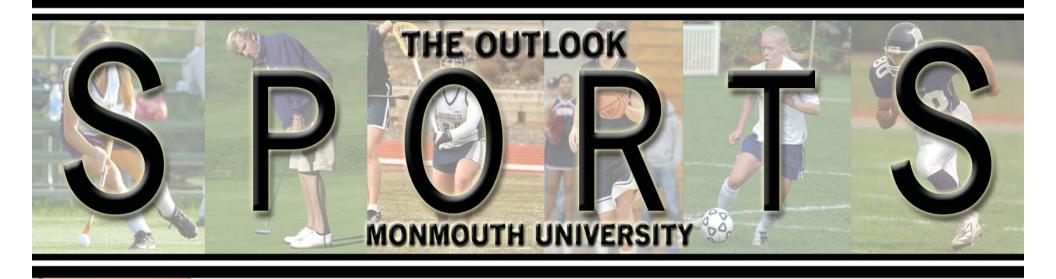
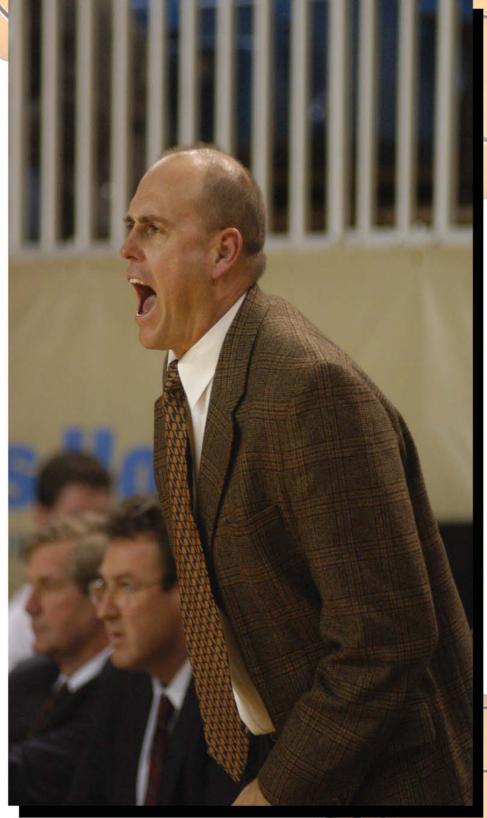


PHOTO BY Jim Reme

Center Corey Hallett puts up a turnaround shot against against Seton Hall. Hallett had 12 points and six rebounds against Lehigh. He is fourth on the Hawks in scoring averaging 7.4 ppg and third in rebounding



IT ALL STARTS AT THE FOR





Head Coach Dave Calloway and the men's basketball team (1-7) has to get back on track as they shoot for their third straight conference regular season title.

Men's basketball Coverageon pg. 27

Michele Baxter and the women's team (1-6) has toturn their season around as NEC play looms.

Women's basketball coverage on pg. 26

Photos-Jim Reme Concept-Ed Occhipinti Graphic Design-Nick Hernandez