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How Involved are MU Students in Political Issues?

LAUREN NIESZ
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COPY EDITOR

For something so important to the country and its wellbeing, college students seem to lack the care and/or knowledge of why their democratic system is so important. They do not realize the impact of their vote and how it can make a difference. It isn't just our vote matters, it is the message that that vote carries—it says

"I am here" and "I care about our country's future." With the upcoming presidential election, it is a good idea to step back and reevaluate the ideals of our age group according to the US Census.

According to the Census, 46 percent of young adults vote in New Jersey elections. In 2012, the age group of 18-29 year olds voted at lower levels than any other age group nationally. That means that less than half of young are voting in any election. For such an opinionated demo-

graphic, they are not utilizing the tools available, such as voting, to get their points across.

On campus there is a lot of push to get students involved and aware of the elections, registering to vote, and pledging to vote. Monmouth holds on campus events, like Rock the Vote to keep students involved. Furthermore, the political science club hosts viewings for every debate with food and friends to have a great time and get informed on

Political Involvement cont on pg. 16



PHOTO TAKEN by Jasmine Ramos

18-29 year-olds make up the lowest voter level nationally, meaning less than half of young adults are voting, according to the US Census.

Administration Trying to Minimize Construction Disruption

KERRY BREEN
COPY EDITOR

Construction has continued to take place in Edison and Howard Halls, disrupting some classes around the construction site and the flow of student traffic around cam-

pus, especially as the construction is ongoing.

that students have to plan alternate routes to classes. "Advance notice will be given to members of the University Community."

The ever-expanding construction has been a sore spot for many members of the University, especially as they are told again and



PHOTO TAKEN by Kiera Lanni

Ongoing construction is causing a few minor inconveniences for students such as student traffic and accessing Pollak Theater.

pus, especially as the construction is ongoing.

According to Patti Swannack, Vice President for Administrative Services, the construction between the buildings will be completed by December 2017. However, until then, it seems like it will continue to disrupt students and classes in the area.

"For a very brief period of time [the construction will expand], to tie in lateral lines and pave the area that was disturbed," said Swannack, referring to how the construction has expanded and cut off access to buildings from their standard entrances. This means

again that they will have to take longer, more annoying routes to get to Pollak Theatre, which is currently being used as the entrance to Howard Hall, due to the other entrances being blocked by the construction fence.

"If I want to get to any of my classes in Howard Hall, it always takes forever to get there," said a sophomore chemistry student who wished to remain anonymous. "It was bad enough know how long it's going to take to get to class."

According to Swannack, the ex-

Construction cont. on pg. 3

MU Hosts International Scholar-In-Residence

JAMILAH MCMILLAN
ASSISTANT NEWS EDITOR

Shariful Islam is an International Scholar-in-Residence in the Department of Philosophy, Religion, and Interdisciplinary Studies at the University. His fully sponsored residency at the University began on Feb. 6 and he will be returning to his family in Bangladesh on April 27.

The International Scholar-in-Residence program allows scholars from other countries to apply for a fully sponsored residency at the University. Islam was referred to the International Scholar-in-Resident program at Monmouth University by fellow Bengali scholars who had participated in the program in the past.

"International Scholar-in-Residence is a unique program for our students and the University to learn about first

hand experiences and knowledge, and insights that scholars bring to our University from across the world. Shariful Islam is a brilliant scholar, teacher, and human rights activist," said Golam Mathbor, the Chair of the Department of Philosophy, Religion, and Interdisciplinary Stud-

"One day when I was a pre-university student I wrote on my notebook my name, and under that I wrote Professor of Political Science at the University of Dhaka. When my friends saw this they burst into laughter. 'Oh my God, why would you write this?' they asked. 'You

"Shariful Islam is a brilliant scholar, teacher, and human rights activist."

GOLAM MATHBOR

Chair of the Department of Philosophy, Religion and Interdisciplinary Studies

ies.

Islam was born and raised in the southeastern district of Dhaka, Bangladesh in Jessore. His parents had five children and he was their firstborn. Long before being accepted into a university, Islam had his future planned out.

don't know if you will ever get into the University of Dhaka, and how are you so sure that you will be selected for political science?" said Islam.

In Bangladesh, students are provided an academic major depending on their competitive

exam score. The University of Dhaka is also the most prestigious university in Bangladesh according to thetop10.com. With those factors stacked against Islam, his friends found his certainty comical.

However, to his own amusement the following year, Islam was selected for political science at the University of Dhaka.

As a university student, Islam was educated in a country where many scholars have gained fame in the international arena. "Bangladesh is hugely successful in many areas of development. For example we have many sons and daughters of Bangladesh who have been noted around the world, like Muhammad Yunus who was awarded the Nobel Peace Prize for founding Grameen Bank, and Satyendra Nath Bose, whose work as a physicist provided the foundation for Bose-

Einstein Statistics," said Islam.

In 1996, Islam graduated with a Bachelor of Social Sciences in Political Science. He would then return and graduate a year later with his masters in political science.

Islam has spent much of his adulthood researching antidotes for the flaws that he sees in his country. He said, "I have waged a war against corruption in my state, and I have committed myself to doing research not for my own professional goals, rather to recommend solutions for the flaws in my state. As an academic I think that it is part of my responsibility, alongside my professional goals to address the issues that my people are experiencing each and every day. That's why most of my research addresses institutions, corruption, human rights, and

Scholar-In-Residence cont. on pg 2

University Hosts International Scholar-in-Residence

Scholar-In-Residence cont. from pg. 1

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Islam has authored one book, and edited another; his first book titled, *Politics-Corruption Nexus in Bangladesh* and published in 2010 addresses the harsh realities of institutional corruption in Bangladesh. His edited work, *Human*

Rights and Governance Bangladesh was published in 2013, and was used as a supporting statement at the 14th Session of the United Nations Human Rights Council.

As Islam’s expertise in the field of public policy and human rights grew, doors began opening for him abroad. “Before coming to Monmouth University as an International Scholar-in-Residence I came to the US twice,” said Islam.

In 2002, Islam visited the United States as a US Department Scholar in the Democracy and American Political Process Program. As a US Department Scholar under the Bush administration Islam gave many presentations at different universities, and he was exposed to important political institutions, and the political science departments of many different universities. He visited the White House, and met many governors and mayors. During his residency

he learned much about democracy, political institutions, and cultures.

In 2010, Islam obtained his Master of Laws in Human Rights from the University of Hong Kong.

Five years later in 2015, Islam was selected again to participate in a US State Department program. This time he was placed at the University of California Santa Barbara where he studied religious pluralism in the United States. He was exposed to many religious institutions, and was able to compare his own religious background with his American counterparts at universities such as Southern California State University and Georgetown University.

As an International Scholar-in-Residence, Islam continues to share his knowledge, and experiences with students outside of the the department of philosophy, religion, and interdisciplinary studies at the University. “I am scheduled for guest lectures in other depart-

ments such as the social work department, political science department, and criminal science department,” he said.

Islam has had a number of interactions with University students. “I have been guest lecturing in classes here at Monmouth, and I found that in the faces of the students there is a reflection of satisfaction.”

“I think that it is great for Monmouth to be hosting Shariful Islam as our International Scholar,” said Momna Ayub, a senior chemistry student. “Having studied and taught in Bangladesh, Dr. Islam brings a unique and enlightening perspective to our campus community and adds to its growing diversity. As one of the panelists at the MSA’s (Muslim Student Association) recent interfaith event, he spoke eloquently about people of all faiths and backgrounds peacefully coming together to affect positive change. In this way, he is

a great asset to Monmouth and I’m glad to have met him.”

Islam does not suppose that he would have written *Professor of Political Science* on his notebook so many years ago if it were not for his grandparents. “They sensitized me, and encouraged me to work in the human rights field. Whenever I do something that involves human rights I feel their presence in my heart,” he said.

It is Islam’s advice to the student community that reflects his passion for humankind. “With all the benefits and opportunities that Monmouth students are enjoying at this University, I would advise that they always take others into consideration. The common goal of humanity is not to see ourselves in a certain degree of success but to generate advancements that benefit all the people of the world. So compassion and sensitivity for humanity is very important for students to have.”



PHOTO TAKEN by Jamilah McMillan

Shariful Islam is an International Scholar-in-Residence in the Department of Philosophy, Religion, and Interdisciplinary Studies.

Annual Phi Eta Sigma Induction Ceremony

L. CARUSO
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

Parents, relatives and students gathered to witness 187 Monmouth University first year students receive the honor of induction into the prestigious Phi Eta Sigma National Honor Society, which took place at Pollak Theatre on Saturday, Mar. 26, 2016 and opened to a packed house.

Phi Eta Sigma faculty advisor, Dr. Golam Mathbor provided the welcoming remarks and thanked all for attending on behalf of President Paul Brown, Provost Laura Moriarty and Monmouth University. The event was organized by Lisa Henry, Pattiann Heimbuch, and Danielle Schrama from the First Year Advising office.

The history of Phi Eta Sigma dates back to 1923 and has over 370 chapters throughout the United States. Phi Eta Sigma inductees were required to earn grade point averages of at least 3.5 during their first semester at Monmouth. In her speech, Vice President Carolina Carvalho emphasized the

important personal qualities which members are expected to possess. She stated, “Vigor and discipline of mind; care and respect for the body; and above all, nobility and generosity of character.”

This year the guest speaker was Dr. Gary Lewandowski

from Monmouth University’s Department of Psychology. Dr. Lewandowski’s speech centered on the importance of obtaining a higher education and how to succeed professionally by working hard, avoiding shortcuts and making the right choices in life. His interesting theory on

the formula for achieving success was both informative and inspiring. He asserted that being successful actually boils down to five main things: luck, historical timing, cultural background, family circumstances and being in the right place at the right time. He stressed the

fact that having the right combination of these things along with hard work and critical thinking skills, enables individuals to achieve success. He also stressed the fact that contrary to popular belief, the purpose of college is not to help students find employment but rather to expose students to new ideas, meet new people, and change the way students view the world. He ended by stating, “Remember, the great equalizer in life is hard work.”

The ceremony concluded with the presentation of the certificates and Dr. Mathbor gave the closing remarks. He stressed the important role that good character plays when it comes to selecting a responsible leader. Dr. Mathbor noted, “Character lacking competence is insufficient, and competence without character is our greatest threat. Remember your character is your destiny.” This statement was met with a round of applause as he continued and stated, “Citizens of competence and character are the greatest gifts of mankind.”



PHOTO COURTESY of Anthony Cosentino

A total of 187 Monmouth University first year students became members of the Phi Eta Sigma National Honor Society for having great academic standing in their first year at the University.

SGA Looks to Receive Student Votes in Coming Election

RICHARD FELICETTI
ASSOCIATE NEWS EDITOR

With annual elections around the corner, members of the Student Government Association (SGA) urge the student body to get on the computer and vote.

SGA is the governing body of all the student clubs and organizations on campus; currently, they are overseeing over 100, however more continue to be added each year. As a whole, SGA works to support University events both promotionally and financially. This semester, the student body will have the opportunity to vote for new members of the SGA Senate. The Senate is comprised of a President and Vice President, six Senior Senators, six Junior Senators, six Sophomore Senators, six Freshmen Senators, four Senators At-Large, and two Commuter Senators. After elections have culminated, the President and Vice President will also select Senators and students to serve on the Executive Board.

The Executive Board includes the Chief Justice, Finance, Historian, Parliamentarian, Treasurer, Attorney General, President Pro Tempore, the Vice President, and President. Executive Board members who have been appointed by the President and Vice President, but were not elected by the student body do not have voting rights on SGA.

On Apr. 4, those running in the election began to campaign for positions. Beginning Apr. 12 at noon, students can log on to my.monmouth.edu and access their



IMAGE TAKEN from <http://www.monmouth.edu/>

Voting opens for SGA beginning Apr. 12 at noon.

voting portal, where they can digitally check the candidates for which they are voting.

Austin Skelton, elections and recruitment co-chair, and sophomore political science student, said that voting for SGA candidates is an incredibly important aspect of being an MU student.

"It's important to vote because it gives students the opportunity for their voice to be heard and for them to choose who they want to represent them. No matter how big or small the election, voting matters," said Skelton.

With SGA being the governing body of the students, they have tremendous pull on many aspects of the University. For example, they were pivotal in the decision to implement Gourmet Dining Services. Therefore, it is imperative that students actively participate in the voting process, so they have a definitive say in who represents the student

body.

"It's important for students to vote for SGA because our purpose on the Senate is to represent the Monmouth student body so it's essential that these elections are taken seriously and considered with great thought," said Vincent Welch, a sophomore business student and member of SGA. "Many of us have served on senate since freshman year so it's important that we have experienced senators keeping their voting rights so they can continue to pursue the current agenda and accomplish all our future goals. It shouldn't be a popularity contest it should be based off who has a good track record and will be able to create positive change for Monmouth."

According to the MU official website, "It is the responsibility of the elected members of the Senate to actively represent the needs, concerns and ideas of the students for which they serve. Senators have

an obligation to become actively engaged with the regular business of the Senate. This would include attending all scheduled meetings, programs, and events, as well as serving as a member of one of the many committees sponsored by SGA."

SGA advisors Vaughn Clay and Amanda Brockriede agreed that voting for Senate members allows students to choose who they want to be represented by.

Additionally, Emely Diaz, co-chair of the Academic Affairs Committee and a sophomore political science and history major, said that many candidates have similar views to the entire student body, so it is important for students to capitalize on the opportunity to vote, as they can make a real difference in the university.

"It is important for students to vote because through the election of members of the Monmouth community who might share similar views as them they'll be able to ensure that issues that they feel strongly about are addressed," said Diaz.

With new members being elected, they will surely bring about change to the university in order to make life as an MU student a more enjoyable overall experience. Welch elaborated on the future goals of SGA in the coming semesters.

"Future goals for SGA are to develop relationships with the community and work with prominent people here at Monmouth, so they can contribute to the change and understand the issues we are faced with as students so we can effectively resolve them," said Welch.

Students Organize Fundraiser for Organ Donation Charity 'NJ Sharing Network'

JEREMY MANCINO
STAFF WRITER

Under the guidance of communication lecturer Shannon Hokanson, University students have organized several service learning projects, one of which involves a fundraiser at the popular Stingers Burger Bar to benefit the NJ Sharing Network.

Occurring from 9:30 p.m. to 11:30 p.m. on Thursday, April 14 at Stingers Burger Bar in Long Branch, the fundraiser promises to draw in both Monmouth students and casual bar-goers alike.

"There's a lot of scholarly literature that indicates that service learning helps students grasp concepts and theories, as well as assists them by letting them put these theories into practice," said Hokanson, who helped organize this and several other events with her CO/SO-320, small group communication class. "It also connects students with the community; it's great because it encourages them to become citizens of the world through civic participation."

Her goal, as the latest professor to teach the class, was to allow the concepts taught in the course to come to life so that students could better understand them. So far it has been a success. "This is the first time I've taught the course, and I'm excited by how the students are doing," she said. "They've surpassed my expectations."

Part of the reason why the students have been able to ef-

fectively coordinate the events has been due to the connections they've all made. Kate Latkovich, a senior music industry student, was the one responsible for coming up with the concept. It would have been impossible, she said, without her ties to Stingers' DJ and promoter,

"I developed an enlarged heart at 11-years-old. I started taking medication, but 10 months after I was diagnosed I went into cardiac arrest."
JOE DISANTO
Senior Business Student

Brandon Alex.

"I go to Stingers every week with my boyfriend, and since we tended to arrive early we would often chat with [Brandon]. In January, I started a blog about bars in New Jersey called "NJ Bar Hop", and he was instrumental in helping to support and promote it," she said. "When the opportunity for a fundraiser started, Stingers was the first place I thought of."

Along with a group of four other classmates, Latkovich worked throughout the semester to bring the idea to life. One of her fellow group members was Joe DiSanto, a senior business student who was responsible for involving the New Jersey Sharing Network in their project. They are a non-profit charity dedicated to saving lives

through organ and tissue donation. DiSanto has had a long history with them, partly because he himself was once in need of a heart transplant.

"I developed an enlarged heart at 11-years-old," DiSanto explained. "I started taking medication, but 10 months af-

ter I was diagnosed I went into cardiac arrest. Fortunately, I had been in the hospital when it happened, and they were able to save me through 40 minutes of chest compressions." That is longer than typically needed, and so doctors were forced to be extra careful. As soon as he was strong enough he was transported to Columbia Presbyterian Hospital in New York, where after spending three months on a heart machine he was able to obtain a transplant. On July 8, 2006 he was granted a second chance at life; after months of physical therapy he started volunteering with the New Jersey Sharing Network.

"It's been great," he said. "The people there are incredible, the staff is great, and it feels good to give back to an

organization that helped me and my family when we needed it." According to the United Network for Organ Sharing, as of now over 121,000 people in the United States are waiting for a lifesaving transplant. Twenty-two of these die each day, and one more person in need is added to the national transplant waiting list every 10 minutes. Faced with such numbers, it is not surprising that many people have chosen to become organ donors. Although no event can possibly hope to solve the problem, any one person who is influenced by this event and chooses to be an organ donor or lends money to the cause can make all the difference. Considering the amount of people who go to Stingers on Thursdays (when the bar turns into one of Monmouth County's hottest nightspots), it is very likely that many will donate.

The fundraiser at Stingers is only one fundraiser being conducted by Hokanson's class. Other groups are working with the JR Smith Youth Foundation, Make-A-Wish New Jersey, and the Monmouth County SPCA. Hokanson herself is elated by the success, noting that not only will these groups receive help, but students will gain much needed experience.

"This isn't charity, as not only does the community benefit, but the students learn much as well. Everybody wins."

In depth info on the Stingers event can also be found on njbarhop.wordpress.com when it becomes available.

Howard and Edison Update

Construction cont. from pg. 1

pansions have taken place in order to install water and sewer lines that will be beneficial to the entire campus.

"We know it's noisy, dirty, and sometimes smelly," said Swannack. "We do attempt to do the worst of these tasks while students are out of the buildings and we are grateful for the cooperation that we have received from everyone involved."

In addition to expanding construction, the classrooms themselves have also been affected by the construction. The construction is also loud and disruptive, with students being able to hear the sounds of ongoing work and interactions between the construction workers. The construction has also, obviously, removed the link between Edison and Howard Halls, something that many students appreciated.

"It was so much easier to get back and forth to classes, and you didn't have to go outside in the freezing cold," said the anonymous student. "Now, you have to go out through Pollak [Theatre] and then go all the way around to Edison, or walk out the back doors of Howard and make a loop around the building. It's just annoying."

According to Swannack, at the end of the renovations, the two halls will be connected again.

"It is harder to explain and easier to visualize, but both buildings will enter the lobby, which is the new entrance," she explained. "This area is currently under construction and replaces the old link. It is substantially longer."

The construction also mars Monmouth University's campus, which is highly praised for its beauty and appearance.

"I'm just not sure about it," said Ashley Ford, prospective freshman who was on a recent tour. "I'm sure once they have it all fixed up it will look nice. But right now it's a huge mess. And I'm sure after this there will probably be some new construction project that'll do the same thing."

The end product of the construction will also include increased safety measures for the building, such as new fire protection systems. There will also be new and higher-capacity electric distribution systems, and the replacement of 50-year-old oil-fired boilers. There will also be increased fresh air flows, including a more than doubling of the available fume hoods, which are used for learning and research.

The buildings house both traditional and seminar classrooms, as well as computer labs. Classrooms can hold up to 40 students; labs can seat up to 35, according to Monmouth University's website.

The construction is being done by Torcon Inc. Their previous projects have included building Monmouth University's MAC. According to Swannack, they have also performed renovations to hospitals while services, including operating rooms, have remained open.

THE OUTLOOK

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Be Prepared

An Outlook Staff Opinion on How Prepared We Feel About Potential Terrorist Attacks in Light of Recent Events Around the World

THE OUTLOOK STAFF OPINION

We hear about terrorism almost everyday. Whether we are scrolling through our Twitter feed, receiving an update from an app on our phone, flipping through the channels on the television, or having a conversation with friends and family. However, is terrorism really talked about on campus? *The Outlook* staff has found that conversations regarding terrorism rarely occur on our college campus, which is strange considering the mass amounts of school shootings our country has suffered through. These events prove that being among those affected by a terrorist attack can happen to any of us no matter where we are.

With that being said, the University should take effective measures to train and educate students on evacuation procedures during the time of an emergency such as school shootings and terrorist attacks. While no one can be fully prepared for a life-threatening situation, basic knowledge of emergency procedures could be beneficial. Most editors believe they do not know what to do if a terrorist attack were to occur on campus or in our surrounding area and therefore, more preparation is necessary.

One editor said, “I think that campus should talk more about what the evacuation procedure would be if there were an attack. It would be safe not just for a terrorist attack, but shootings happen on college campuses all the time and we should be prepared for any type of emergency.”

Although we can take measures to protect ourselves, it is difficult

to prepare for something that we don’t expect. “I dont think it is really something you can prepare for unless it has happened previously, for example I think NYC is always on edge because of 9/11,” said one editor.

With Monmouth University being a short commute to New York City, many students have found themselves taking the train day in and day out to an internship or similar opportunity. Some editors feel nervous and consider the possibility of a threat among the large crowds of diverse people as they walk the streets of the city and others do not; however, big cities are not the only target for terrorist attacks. As a country, we should be prepared anywhere for the possibility of an attack. If we put all of our focus into the big cities such as New York, we are leaving the door open for smaller towns like our own to be attacked.

“Terrorism’s main goal is to make people paranoid; if we succumb to the paranoia, we are letting them win,” said one editor, who is not nervous when applying to internships or visiting the city. Growing up with a father who worked in homeland security, this editor is trained for an emergency situation.

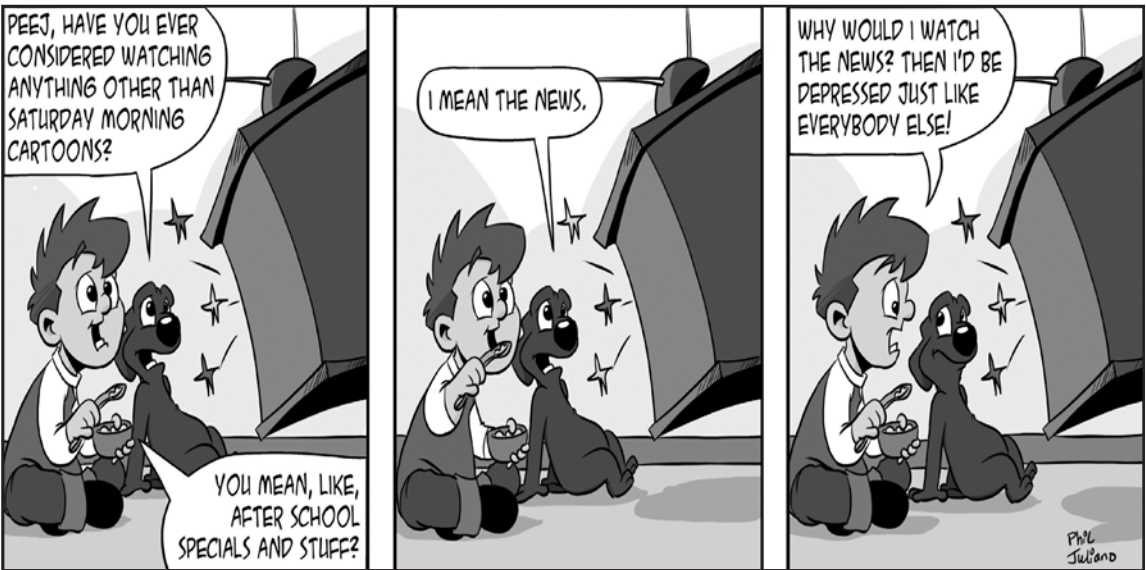
Being a country that has suffered due to a large terrorist attack, *The Outlook* staff believes that September 11th evoked fear among our country while bringing our citizens together. On that day, we did in fact become *The United States of America*. Since that day, the government has issued higher security measures in places such as airports or theme parks where large

amounts of individual’s gather at once. Due to this, our country has progressed in terrorism procedures. Our country talks about terrorism now more than ever, especially after the San Bernardino attacks, which were another wake up call for Americans.

As our country became united, so did the world. Terrorism does not affect one specific group of people, but our world as a whole. With each attack that occurs, we realize it truly happens anywhere and for reasons out of human control. In times of terrorist attacks, social media has evoked a movement among citizens all across the globe. Many people use social media as a news outlet with talk of terrorism occurring across platforms and informing users of what has been taking place. On the contrary, social media can glorify terrorism rather than encouraging people to actually make a change and do something about it.

A few editors believe that social media allows the world to stand together in times of pain and suffering while another editor feels that the media causes a divide among the world rather than standing together.

Lastly, one editor feels that in times of terrorist attacks, no one truly knows how to help. Some individuals turn to social media because they feel it is the least they can do. “We all feel helpless after stuff like that [terrorist attacks] happens and I guess it gives some people peace of mind. Whether or not it’s actually beneficial to anyone is an entirely different issue, but I think people are just trying to do what they think is right,” the editor said.



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Mother Should I Trust The Government?

BRETT O'GRADY
OPINION EDITOR

Quite recently, it has been discovered that the government has easy, convenient access to the private lives of basically all citizens of the United States. There is said to be a massive building in Utah where the government monitors everyone's social media, webcams, cell phone text messages, calls and other data. While there is much speculation and debate on the subject, the government should have every right to peer into any individual's Internet use, or private cell phone information.

To start off, it is well known that there is a sizable party against the National Security Agency (commonly referred to as NSA) being able to access to United States citizen's personal information. There is a very negative connotation that comes with a government viewing conversations and information. A lot of people relate it to George Orwell's famous 'Big Brother' character in his novel *1984*. Some might argue that this is an outrage and an invasion of privacy. However, I find all these uncertainties and fears are ridiculous. The only people that should be worried are the people that are involved in any kind of suspicious activity; people who are abiding by the law should have nothing to hide. Ben Franklin once said, "They that can give up essential liberty to obtain a little temporary safety deserve neither liberty nor safety," and while it may have been relevant and true in the seventeen hundreds, it is not now. We live in an entirely different day and age with all our technology and advancements. The people are not giving up their liberty, and the safety is permanent, not temporary anymore.

The fourth amendment states, "The right of the people to be secure in their persons, houses, papers and effects" and the gov-

ernment is only enforcing the statement. The NSA is just going to greater measures to ensure the security of the people. They are not looking in regular citizens' personal information, just to find their dirty secrets and laugh about them with their own friends. That is not the point of this. It is the NSA's job to be professional and secure the nation. It is a federal right and promise to keep the citizens safe.

Now think back to the disastrous morning of Sept. 11, 2001, a devastating morning followed by a never-ending period of suffering that still lingers to this day. During that clear skies morning, a series of four coordinated terrorist attacks, planned by the Islamic terrorist group called Al-Qaeda, were initiated upon the United States in New York City and Washington, D.C. The attacks killed close to 3,000 people and caused at least \$10 billion in property and infrastructure damage. The United States has seen terrorist attacks before. The country has felt the devastation that 9/11 brought with it. With the NSA having the easy access they do to private information, this creates a great ability to be able to prevent any more terrorist attacks taking place.

When you analyze the benefits and also the drawbacks of the NSA's "spying," you find that the benefits outweigh the drawbacks. The government having access to peer into any individual's Internet use, or private cell phone conversation and information could keep the nation so much safer. Citizens can live with a real sense of security rather than a false one. The people of the United States need to just come to terms with the fact that the NSA is just the big brother that walks you home from school and makes sure to hold your hand as you cross the street.

is more than acceptable. However, I feel that when people are constantly posting pictures of themselves it becomes an issue. If a person's Instagram consists only of pictures of themselves, their selfie privileges should be revoked.

Taking a picture should commemorate a special moment or milestone in your life. I hate to break it to most people, but no one wants to see you snap a picture of yourself bored while waiting for the bus. There are some moments that are relevant enough to share with the world and there are others that are best kept behind closed doors.

Selves are merely a waste of our time. That moment you spent taking a picture of yourself when you looked good, felt bored, did homework or even were in a class occupied time from your day. Filling up these spaces in our day with a picture of ourselves disturbs up the moments of everyday life.

I feel that selfies have had a negative impact on our generation. I will admit that I have taken an occasional selfie on a good hair day. But there is a lot of stress in getting an ideal image of one's self. There are countless steps that go into capturing a so-called "perfect" selfie. First, the lighting must be perfect. Secondly, the angle must be just right. Lastly, the facial expression you

AMANDA GANGIDINO
LIFESTYLE EDITOR

A “selfie” is defined as a picture of yourself, typically taken by yourself. They date back centuries when great leaders of our world had their self-portraits painted. Nowadays, our self-portraits have taken on a different form and have become quite an epidemic. Candid photos, duck faces, bathroom mirror pictures, and many other poses that are taken with a front-camera are regularly strung across our feeds on a variety of social media platforms. Wherever you go, there are constantly people using their front camera to snap a picture of their “good face day.” Millennials have been renamed the “selfie generation” due to the high level of narcissism that is present within our society.

Selfies have been deemed responsible for more deaths than shark attacks. This may be due to the fact that most individuals take pictures of themselves while driving or even walking across the street. It really is just that important to get that perfect snap of your face while swerving in and out of traffic or almost getting hit by a car.

Personally, I do not have an issue with selfies in moderation. Taking a picture of yourself when you have a good hair day, at an event, or even on a holiday

But First... Let Me Take A Selfie



HOROSCOPES

ARIES

MAR. 21 - APR. 19

You might be inspired to aim for a diplomatic solution rather than tell it like it is this week. However, it could be tempting to argue with someone, especially if he or she refuses to see your point of view.

TAURUS

APR. 20 - MAY 20

You might need to resolve a conflict of beliefs that lies at the heart of a present difficulty. Change is in the air, but you could be resisting it, which will likely cause further frustration. You might as well go with it.

GEMINI

MAY 21 - JUNE 20

Your social life perks up as Venus sashays into your party sector this week, bringing opportunities for good times. Success could lie in shaking off an outmoded mindset and adopting a more flexible way of viewing the situation.

CANCER

JUNE 21 - JULY 22

Mercury hikes into your sector of long-term dreams and goals, so you may be mulling over an idea whose time has come. Meeting with like-minded people could help you bring it to fruition sooner rather than later. You have better things to do than listen to naysayers.

LEO

JULY 23 - AUG. 22

Don't try so hard when you really don't need to. In fact, you might be better off turning your attention to more relaxing activities this week. If you're focused on obtaining a particular outcome in a matter, it can make you oblivious to other areas of life.

VIRGO

AUG. 23 - SEPT. 22

Family members may be more supportive than you give them credit for, particularly if they can see that you're struggling with a project or business enterprise. Although you may loath to share your troubles, it could be worthwhile.

LIBRA

SEPT. 23 - OCT. 22

If you're honest, you might have to concede that someone close is getting on your nerves, but with Venus dancing into your relationship sector, it might be better to recognize it and have the kind of conversation that you've been meaning to have for some time.

SCORPIO

OCT. 23 - NOV. 21

Work and health are important issues this week, though if you're eager to advance, you might need to change your mindset. The New Moon on April 7 highlights a perspective that may no longer be working for you and could be actively holding you back. It's time for a change.

SAGITTARIUS

NOV. 22 - DEC. 21

You deserve some time out to enjoy yourself, but you may feel guilty about doing so. The chances are good that you've been working harder than usual lately. This can be draining unless you learn to pace yourself.

CAPRICORN

DEC. 22 - JAN. 19

In your heart of hearts, you know what your course of action should be and yet you may be resisting this knowledge. The current planetary backdrop encourages you to face it. Your intuition is correct now, and you'd be wise to follow its guidance

AQUARIUS

JAN. 20 - FEB. 18

As Venus enters your communication sector it could encourage you to negotiate more. Your communication sector could also entice you to take action, but in this instance you might want to resolve a certain matter once and for all.

PISCES

FEB. 19 - MAR. 20

If you're trying to build your confidence, then the negative effect of a jealous friend might not be helping. However, if you wait until the weekend, you might be able to settle this in a way that enables you to appreciate one another's unqualities.

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pose with reveals a lot about you, so choose wisely. Sounds like an anxiety-ridden process, right? The worst part is waiting to see how many Instagram “likes” your photo will get. This picture of yourself could quite possibly be a confidence booster or simply a huge disappointment.

Selfies create unnecessary anxiety and reinforce our generation's sense of narcissism. We are constantly concerned with our self-image and our own successes. We quantify our happiness with the number of likes a photo of ourselves accumulates online, rather than enjoying life's simple pleasures. I think that the so-called "selfie generation" is extremely self-absorbed and egotistical. We must revert back to a time when posting a great selfie was not looked at as an accomplishment, but simply as a waste of time. Rather than attempting to capture every moment with a photograph, try to simply live it.

Those that have thousands of followers on Instagram and plenty of Snapchat friends pride themselves on having such a strong presence on social media. Perhaps, they should become more concerned with their presence within their physical world. Personally, I think taking a photo of yourself is harmless in moderation, but it has become a way of life for many millen-

nials. We all need an ego boost at times, but we should not allow the gratification of a like on our Instagram selfie control our lives. Try to only take a picture of yourself or others to capture

Selfies are not a new thing, and can be dated back centuries with historic self portraits; it is actually the term "selfie" that is new to society.

a real memory rather than an insignificant detail from your everyday life. Begin to enjoy the minute details of your life and refrain from disrupting them with a photo of yourself.

IMAGE TAKEN from timthumb.com

Lisa: The Seeing Eye Pup in Training

LAUREN NIESZ
HEAD COPY EDITOR

It's early in the morning and little paws are running around the backyard and being walked down the street in preparation for a long day ahead. These little paws belong to Seeing Eye dog in training, Lisa Kretsch.

Lisa needs plenty of activity in the morning if she will be spending the day at the University with her trainer, Chair of the Computer Science and Software Engineering Department, Jamie Kretsch. Her next few morning routine steps include breakfast, picking a Seeing Eye vest or scarf, and saying goodbye to her brother Buddy and sister Enya at home.

When at the University, she recognizes many faces of her "special friends" on campus, including many people from the Computer Science and Software Engineering Department, the Math Department, and First Year Advising.

Lisa is currently 11 months old and will be staying with Kretsch until she is one year old; Kretsch has plenty of experience in training dogs for The Seeing Eye; Lisa is the fourth dog that Kretsch has raised for the cause. Kretsch is a leader for the Monmouth County Seeing Eye Club and has been a participant in puppy raising for the society since 2003.

Being that Kretsch has been exposed to many different dogs in training and is in contact with canine graduates of the program, it is safe to say that when she says that Lisa's progress is beautiful, we can take her word for it.

"She handles everything with utmost poise and dignity; she's amazing," Kretsch gushed about Lisa's progress. "Lisa is gentle and seems to understand what

appropriate behavior would be necessary for where she is," continued Kretsch.

She further explained that when Lisa is at home and sees a familiar face she allows herself to get excited and go right up to her friends, but when she is at "work" at the University, friendly faces are greeted with a tail wag — a professional reaction. She is able to delineate between work and home, which is an outstanding trait.

The University seems to be one of Lisa's favorite places. "Lisa loves coming to campus... she loves being in the classroom, where she usually sprawls in the back near my instructor's podium [during class]," said Kretsch. "She loves the Student Center because there are so many students around...she wags her tail until they [students] greet her."

Lisa is a "people dog;" her favorite places are where she can come in contact with the most people and make new friends.

Madelyn Arecchi, an English and education student who works in First Year Advising and is in frequent contact with Lisa, said, "I've had the pleasure of meeting Lisa in First Year Advising and she always brightens everyone's day. I admire Professor Kretsch for training Lisa and other Seeing Eye dogs."

Kretsch said that she doesn't see many students without a smile on their faces when they see Lisa. Every time Lisa is on campus, someone will bend down to hug her and exclaim, "This is exactly what I needed."

These potential new friends that Lisa sees are just as happy to see her as she is to see them. Kretsch explained, "Everybody

loves the idea that she is being raised for The Seeing Eye and for this bigger purpose."

Callie VanWallendael, a social work student at the University that has a seeing eye dog on campus, Misty, said of her guide dog, "Misty has always been there for me. When I'm having a hard or bad day, I can just pet her and that usually gets her to kiss me. Misty loves me unconditionally, and that really helps when I'm having a bad day."

She continued, "One thing I want students to realize about Misty is [that] she's there to help me, but don't hesitate to come up and talk to me."

Guide dogs are assigned to people in order to help him/her get around, but also make affectionate and wonderful companions. They may be working when they have their harnesses on, but

that should not deter anyone from talking to the person with the dog.

We can learn a lot from Lisa about The Seeing Eye and from this journey that she is taking. "Monmouth can learn that sometimes we have to do tough things for a good reason to benefit others. We can't be selfish," said Kretsch, who got emotional thinking about the process.

Kretsch's strength and selflessness are traits that a raiser for The Seeing Eye must have in order to participate in such a difficult, yet necessary task. It truly takes a special person, such as Kretsch, to do such a service.

Through her emotion, Kretsch was able to say, "You raise them, you housebreak them, you teach them right from wrong, you teach them to respond to love — so, this puppy does things for me because she knows I love her and for the praise I give her; she doesn't get treats as a reward, she just gets my love, and she knows that."

Lisa's reception to people and responsiveness to love are pivotal in her training and she shows that she is very capable of all things asked of her.

"I know what we did is going to change the most important part of someone's life; she's going to be someone's eyes. She is going to let somebody do something that they wouldn't be able to do," explained Kretsch.

Lisa's journey growing up at the University has been a joy for students, faculty, and staff alike to witness. It is fitting that such an extraordinary dog walks such an extraordinary campus. Kretsch would like to extend appreciation to the University on behalf of herself and The Seeing Eye that the dogs are welcome with open arms on campus.



PHOTOS COURTESY of Lauren Niesz

Seeing Eye puppy Lisa Kretsch takes a quick nap before getting on with her daily training at the University.

Holly Migliaccio's Quest for Happiness Leads to Rook Coffee

JAMES ROMANO
STAFF WRITER

A coffee lover can walk into any of the 10 locations with the prestigiously known black crow imprinted on the doorway as they are hit with the positively potent aroma of brewing coffee infused with a bit of charisma and joy.

Rook, the popular local brand of coffee that can be commonly found in the hands of University students at any time during the day, belongs to the entrepreneurial visionary, Holly Migliaccio. Migliaccio, the co-founder and owner of Rook Coffee, said that Rook focuses on three aspects: quality, simplicity, and experience.

"We are constantly trying to get the product to be better and better and better," Migliaccio said. "We want to make sure that its product is always at its best." Not only does Migliaccio and her business partner and co-founder of Rook, Shawn Kingsley, focus on quality coffee, but they also emphasize the importance of quality relationships with their customers and even the farmers who supply the coffee beans.

Migliaccio believes that staying focused as business owners on exactly what they are good at is key in terms of simplicity. "We are good at coffee," Migliaccio said. "It's a very, very simple process. It's all about Rook, all about the coffee, all about the conversation."

Migliaccio and Kingsley do not wholesale their coffee even though

they receive hundreds upon hundreds of requests for its vending in grocery stores, restaurants, etcetera. "We are good at serving a cup of coffee over the counter in a retail setting. We want to open more stores, spread our footprint, and do what we know how to do."

Rook staffers and Migliaccio are dedicated to the 'over-the-top experience' upon entering any of the Rook locations. She hires individuals who are friendly, nice, and want to have a conversation. Michael Morse, a junior business student at the University, goes to Rook every single day and most often orders the cold brew New Orleans. "Aside from the coffee, the employees always greet me by name and make me feel like I'm more of a friend than customer," Morse said. Migliaccio said that Rook fosters excellence in product, service, and overall experience.

Christine DiBiase, a senior English education student, said that she was 'blown away' by how much better Rook was than what she would normally purchase at other coffee chains. "It doesn't taste artificial," she said. You can tell it's handcrafted with a dedication that you don't get at other places." DiBiase believes that the atmosphere the coffee shop itself expresses the same authenticity, with a homey feel and friendly employees.

Migliaccio, born in Oceanport, NJ, attended college at the University of Delaware, where she received a degree in education. Prior to Rook, she worked sales at

Hotjobs.com as well as Yahoo. She decided that a change needed to be made so she could achieve happiness.

After quitting her job in July 2008 with no plan, Migliaccio traveled to different places before she met up with her childhood friend, Kingsley, in San Francisco, CA. Together, the duo brainstormed day in and day out for nine months before opening their first Rook location in Oakhurst in January 2010.

Before they decided on their

current locations within the area, Migliaccio and Kingsley wanted to start the business in Brooklyn. Even though their plans changed and the project moved to Monmouth County, the name, Rook, stuck. Coincidentally, a rook is a black crow. Sketches began and the logo was created.

When asked if Rook was even a thought five to 10 years before its grand opening when Migliaccio was still at her sales job, the answer was absolutely not. However,

she did have this "entrepreneurial itch." "As an entrepreneur, you are using your skill sets to do whatever you would like," said Migliaccio. "I love coffee and I'm super passionate about it."

With wit, creativity, and a big idea, anything is possible if one trusts in their abilities, talents, and their support system. This outlook seems to have worked out pretty well for Migliaccio as she continues to invest her time and diligence into her passion.



IMAGE TAKEN from nj.com

Shawn Kingsley and Holly Migliaccio pose at the grand opening of one of Rook's newest locations in Red Bank, NJ.

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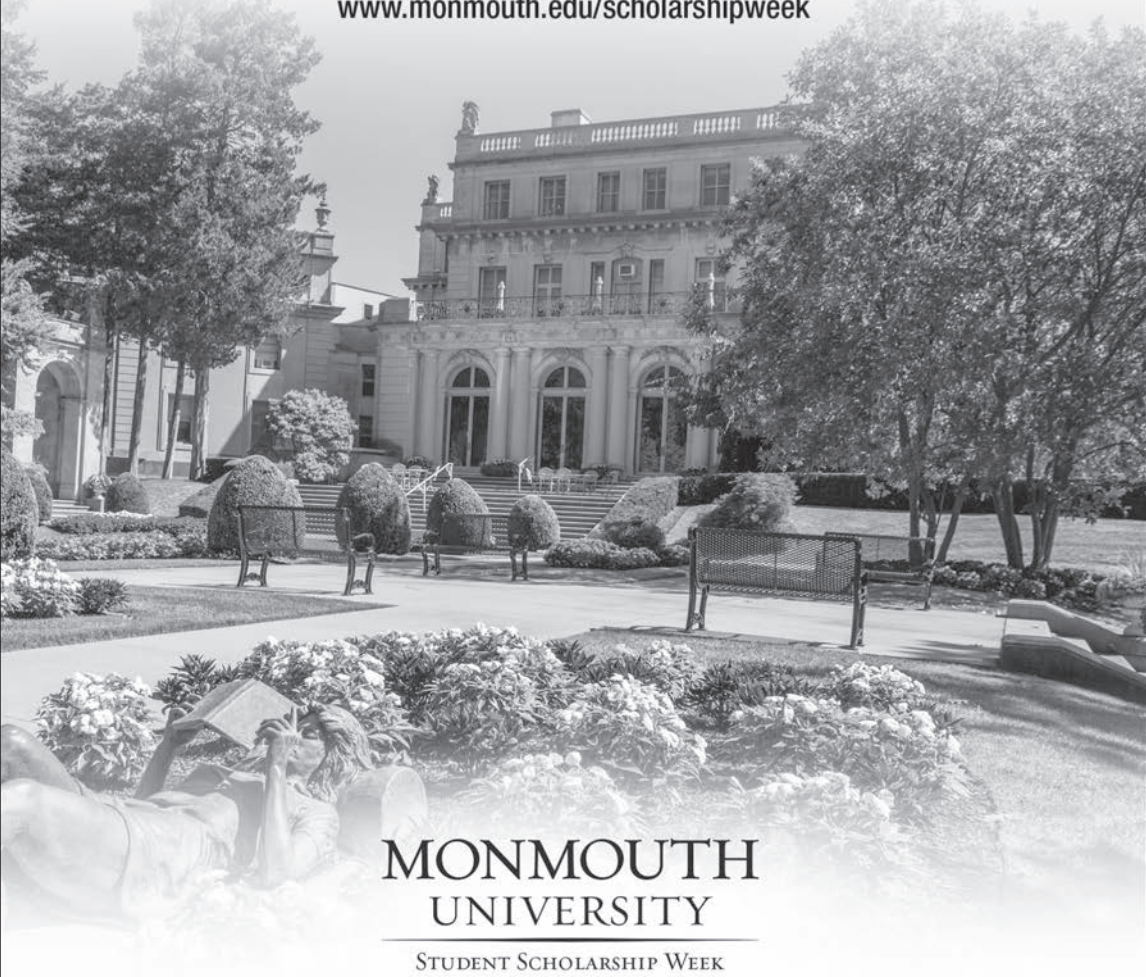
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WHERE THERE IS A “WILL” THERE IS A WAY

AMANDA DRENNAN
COPY EDITOR

As college students, it’s more than obvious that we’re all struggling just to afford another cup of Easy Mac. With a college student’s slow income of money, how are we supposed to control ourselves when it comes to clothes shopping compulsions and the expanding of our wardrobes? Before you even notice it, you can be spending an entire paycheck on just one shopping spree.

Communication professor, Claude Taylor, said, “I am a huge fan of Goodwill and consignment, they’re an ethical way of shopping. Shopping at thrift stores is a stretch from a cultural norm that everyone should have new things all the time, which I disagree with. There’s value in recycling, things still have a use they’re just not new. The fact the someone else couldn’t use it, doesn’t mean it can’t be used.”

Thrift stores such as Goodwill carry a variety of clothes and basically anything you can think of, and it’s all cheap too. If you’re anything like me, the first thing you think about when you hear the word thrift

shop is Macklemore. Besides him, thrift stores are great places for college students to shop when we are ballin’ on a budget.

Shopping at a thrift store also leaves a lot of opportunity to be creative. There are endless pages of crafty products you can find on Pinterest, and a thrift store is a great way to buy all of your supplies to start a project.

Sophomore English student, Ally Afandor, said, “I think being able to become thrifty is always a benefit as college kids are known to be a lot more savvy with cheaper deals.”

If you’re unfamiliar with Goodwill and thrift stores, they’re pretty easy to understand. Basically, people drop off things they don’t want (clothes, furniture, toys, etc.) and they’re sold to shoppers for a pretty reasonable price. These stores are good for helping our environment too. In just New York and New Jersey, donors to the Goodwill stores have kept an estimated 117 million pounds of unwanted goods out of landfills in just this past year. One of the goal of thrift stores in to decrease what’s in landfills.

Goodwill carries more than just

clothes. They even have furniture, movies, and pretty much anything else you can think of. Almost anything that is donated to the store is sold to the customers. If you’re living off campus and need furniture, Goodwill is the perfect place to shop. Instead of spending on a brand new couch, a thrift store couch can be just as useful for even half the price. Junior Communication student Kristin Harrison said, “I like going to Goodwill stores when I’m looking for furniture.

Sometimes there are a lot of vintage pieces that I like to buy and touch up. I always seem to find a lot of unique things.”

Not only are the prices cheap, but they also offer a student discount. What could be better than another discount at an already cheap store?

At any location in New Jersey or New York, you can show your Monmouth ID any day Monday through Friday and get an additional 10 percent off the already low prices. The cheap prices allow

a college student to have a shopping spree and splurge on themselves a little, but not feel bad about it.

The purpose of these stores is to recycle perfectly good items that we just don’t want anymore, instead of just throwing them out. It’s the perfect place for a college student to shop because all of their prices are so affordable, and the extra discount definitely doesn’t hurt. Thrift stores, like Goodwill, are the perfect example of, “One man’s trash is another man’s treasure.”



IMAGE TAKEN from www.mtv.com

If you are balling on a budget Goodwill stores may be the best place for your next shopping spree.

10 Items That Will CHILL Your Space

CHELSEIE TROMBETTA
STAFF WRITER

With the end of spring semester approaching, our stress levels start to skyrocket. All of your assignments start to pile up and then it is time to study for finals. One way to help alleviate some of that stress is by creating a more serene atmosphere in your space.

There are many cost efficient items one can purchase for their room to make it a calm and relaxing environment. Here are 10 inexpensive items that are the perfect addition to any room.

1) One of the most well-known items associated with relaxing is incense. Chaeli Marinelli, a Senior communications student said, “Incense are really cheap and smell great. They also don’t take up a lot of space in your room.”

Incense can be found in most stores, even at Five Below, and there are a variety of different scents, so you can pick the one that you like the most.*disclimer* Incense is not allowed in the dorms.

2) Along with incense, oil sprays also help to create a soothing environment. Mary Harris, a specialist

professor of public relations said, “Essential oil sprays in scents like lavender, are very relaxing and smell great.” They don’t cost too much either.

Colby Mura, a senior communications student, said “I make my own room sprays and find that sprays and keeping rooms simple

with clean white walls can create a relaxing atmosphere.”

3) Marinelli also suggests pillows as a great addition to any room saying, “They are really comfy and make any room cozy.”

Pillows are soft and decorative but depending on where you buy them they can also be an inexpensive way



IMAGE TAKEN from www.pinterest.com

Candles are a cheap item that adds ambiance to your space and help you relax.

to add some comfort to your space.

4) Candles are a staple when creating a tranquil environment. You don’t have to spend an outrageous amount of money on them either. You can find nice smelling candles for cheaper prices at any store. Harris said, “White candles make a room the most relaxing.”*Disclaimer* Candles are also not allowed in the dorms.

5) When you’re really stressed out, music can be the best outlet. Whether it’s playing your favorite Spotify playlist or listening to soothing soundscapes, you will discover that you are more relaxed listening to the music that you love, especially when it is free.

6) If you have a quote that you really like or find it to be inspiring, chances are that you can find it online or in stores painted on a canvas or wooden sign. These add decoration to your room and serve as reminders to relax and power through those stressful times in your life.

7) Rock garden fountains that you simply fill with water and plug into an outlet to circulate the water are extremely relaxing. They come in a variety of shapes and sizes and they are very cheap.

8) Flowers also enhance the tranquility of a space. They can brighten up a room and also make it smell really nice too. If you do not feel like taking care of flowers or have the time to; purchasing fake ones to set up on your desk still adds some nice decoration to your room.

9) Keeping your room clean is a simple and cost free way to make your room relaxing. It’s easy for rooms to accumulate clutter. Once you eliminate of all that clutter, your stress levels will decrease.

10) Lastly, lighting is a major influence on the atmosphere in a room. Great investments that provide both a relaxing atmosphere as well as decoration for your room are string lights. They have many different styles of stringed lights that match any room or personality. These lights are a cheap and fun way to light up any space.

These are just some suggestions of items that will help to create a tranquil environment in your space.

On a college student’s budget it is sometimes difficult to allocate funds to decorating your space, but purchasing some items is sure to help relieve some of your stress for the rest of the semester.

Student Guide to Managing Stress in College

AMANDA GANGIDINO
LIFESTYLE EDITOR

Stress- a six letter word that most college students become too familiar with during their four years of higher education. With a student’s responsibilities weighing down on them, it is understandable why most are constantly on the verge of a mental breakdown across campus.

Experiencing stress is inevitable, but there are some ways to manage the pressures of being a college student.

1) **Take a Breath**

This tip may seem obvious, but when most of us become stressed we forget to take time to be mindful of our breathing. Whenever you feel overwhelmed, take a moment to breathe in and out. Upon exhaling your breath, a wave of calmness will come over you.

2) **Sleep**

We all have an occasional all-nighter, but is important to get enough sleep. Studies show that

when a person has a full night’s sleep s/he are more productive. To lead a healthy life without stress it is vital to have about 8-9 hours of sleep a night.

3) **Get to the Gym**

Walking around campus or doing a quick 30-minute exercise in your dorm will help. Exercise will not only distract you from the pressures of your everyday, but it will also better your health.

4) **Make a To-Do List**

Writing out all of your assignments and checking them off will allow you to become more organized. Checking tasks off of your to-do list will give you a sense of accomplishment. Nicole Gallagher, sophomore psychology student, firmly believes in to-do lists, “I am constantly writing down my objectives for the week. My lists make it easier to keep track of my assignments.”

5) **Spend time with your friends and family**

Being with your friends and family will allow you to escape the stress. Laughter is the best medicine and by surrounding yourself with those that

make you giggle; your stress level is bound to decrease.

6) **Aromatherapy**

Aromatherapy is one of the easiest and most effective ways to relieve stress. Bath & Body Works’ aromatherapy stress relief collection does the trick. The scented oils are known for their ability to decrease anxiety.

When you feel that you have too much to accomplish, light up a stress relief candle and allow your pressures to melt away.

Nicole Meissner, a sophomore business student loves the eucalyptus spearmint candle, “The scent from this candle always calms me down when I feel stressed.”

7) **Eat well**

Incorporating fruits and vegetables into your diet will increase your energy to complete your tasks.

8) **Take a step back**

Allocate time for your hobbies throughout your day. Painting or baking might be just what you need to reduce your stress level.

9) **Alone Time**

Find a place on campus where you can be alone. Take this time to sit and reflect on your own about how

to delegate your time and the origins of your stress. Use this time to focus on yourself and check out from the rest of the world.

10) **Do Not Stress About Being Stressed**

Try to not become fixated on your feelings of stress. Constantly being stressed will distract you from actually enjoying your life. Do not allow stress to control your life, but learn how to manage and overcome it.

Implementing these tips into your daily life will help decrease your stress level during your four years at Monmouth. It is essential to take care of your health and manage your time when you experience a wave of anxiety.

Andrew Lee, Director of Counseling and Psychological Services says, “College is a time of competing demands. As such, students often feel that there is no time to rest, rejuvenate, or relax, with all of the various pressures on them.”

It is a part of our human nature to allow stress to run our lives, but it is important to remember that worrying will decrease our quality of life and deprive us of our happiness.



IMAGE TAKEN from www.maristmy575.com

Making a to-do list helps to lower one’s stress level because it helps you stay organized and get your work done.

BLUE HAWK RECORDS:

Artists of the Week

GABRIELLA SOROKA
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

Blue Hawk Records is Monmouth University's student-run record label. Each semester, the club works with the Applied Music Industry class to produce a compilation CD that features Monmouth's aspiring musicians. This semester, students and faculty members auditioned for the label and six artists were chosen to be on the new CD. The artists are recording their original songs in a professional setting at Lakehouse Recording Studios in Asbury Park. The album will be released on April 20, and a release show will be held on that date. For more information about the artists, visit the blog at bluehawkrecords.wordpress.com, or follow Blue Hawk Records on social media.



PHOTO COURTESY of Gabriella Soroka

Taylor Puccio

From: Trumbull, CT
Genre: Pop/Country
What got you interested in music?

My mom always told me I sang before I talked, so I kind of just grew up loving to sing. Then I started writing lyrics, and then I started playing guitar so I could put music to my lyrics.

How long have you been making your own music?

I started writing songs with guitar and lyrics around my freshman year of high school.

What has been your biggest musical accomplishment so far? Have you had any big gigs?

No big gigs yet, but I was in the Connecticut All-State Choir and I got signed to Blue Hawk Records.

What do you hope to accomplish in the future regarding music?

I want to make an album.

What artists have influenced you?

Taylor Swift, Ed Sheeran, and Demi Lovato.

Dream Collaboration: Ed Sheeran

Dream Venue: Madison Square Garden



PHOTO COURTESY of Gabriella Soroka

The Carousers

Members: Joey Affatato – vocals/guitar/songwriter, Andrew Jackle – drums

Genre: Punk/Alternative/Rock

How did you guys decide to form a band?

Andrew: Well, we've been buddies since freshman year. [Joey] was actually the fourth member of my first college band, but that only lasted for one show, and then he quit that to pursue his solo career, and then Joey felt that his solo career had really taken him as far as he could go, so he looked around for the best drummer he could find and didn't have to look any farther than his own home because we live in the same house, and that's how we started jamming.

Joey: He actually came over my house during winter break last year. I remember we were jamming and I was like "We should definitely form a band."

What artists have influenced you?

Andrew: The Front Bottoms, The Clash, The Gaslight Anthem.

Joey: Green Day, The Ramones, The Menzingers, Misfits.

The Carousers: The Menzingers, Weezer, FIDLAR.

What has been your biggest musical accomplishment so far? Have you had any big gigs?

Andrew: We actually haven't played any shows yet.

Joey: None. We're kind of more of a recording band right now.

Andrew: Yeah, I would say our biggest accomplishment is that we've made probably dozens of home demos all of the same three songs, but practice makes perfect, so we're just really hammering those in.

Joey: It's getting tight as a band too because even though you practice a lot of the same songs, I feel like it just establishes a tightness in the group, so we're getting really tight for future performances and for the studio coming up.

What do you hope to accomplish in the future regarding music?

Andrew: I'd like to be a rock star and go on tours and see the world with this guy by my side.

Joey: Yeah, I'd like to play a lot of shows and go on tour as well.

Dream Collaboration:

Joey: Rancid.

Andrew: It would be very cool to work with Emily Youth Project.

Dream Venue:

Joey: Starland Ballroom.

Andrew: Red Rocks Amphitheatre.

Favorite Song:

Andrew: "Hex" by Lvl Up.

Joey: "Church on Sunday" and "Macy's Day Parade" by Green Day.

Is there anything else you guys want people to know about you?

Joey: We're an up-and-coming rock duo right now, hopefully trio soon.

Andrew: We emphasize "up-and-coming" because like we said, we haven't actually played any shows yet, so this is still in the infantile stages, but it's going to be growing up very quickly.

Facebook:

Blue Hawk Records

YouTube:

Blue Hawk Records

Snapchat:

bluehawkrecords

Twitter:

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Instagram:

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IMAGE TAKEN from Blue Hawk Records Facebook

"The Walking Dead" Concludes with Cliffhanger

RYAN GALLAGHER
STAFF WRITER

Producer Denise Huth was asked to describe the season finale of *The Walking Dead* in one word. She replied, "Negan." Negan, played by Jeffrey Dean Morgan, bears the nauseating name, which has evoked excitement from various viewers and complete despair from others. The episode delivered on Huth's promise. Season 6, episode 16 was as tense as it was unsatisfying.

Approaching this season finale, the characters show complete disregard to the protection of the safe-zone community Alexandria. From Carol's (Melissa McBride) annoying hide and seek attempt, to Darryl's (Norman Reedus) quest for revenge, Alexandria is more dead than the walkers gnawing on its walls. Tell Father Gabriel (Seth Gilliam) to say a prayer and hang a vacancy sign on the front gate.

In the episode, director Greg Nicotero shows multiple vantage points. The viewer follows Rick's

(Andrew Lincoln) crew as well as Carol and Morgan (Lennie James) through their individual travels. Unbeknownst to Rick and the rest of the group, the previous episode revealed that key players in the "Team Alexandria" fighting force were taken by a group of people called "The Saviors." So, with half the group gone or taken captive and Maggie (Lauren Cohan) having painful pregnancy issues, Rick makes the call to leave in search of a doctor.

The idea of laying low is completely thrown out of the RV's rear window as the gang piles in. While Rick's unit heads to their allies in the Hilltop, Morgan searches for and finds Carol. Carol will not comply with Morgan's pleas for her to return to Alexandria, insisting that Morgan leave immediately. The writer, Robert Kirkman, does a great job pairing this character combination and highlighting the fact that their beliefs differ on so many levels.

Trouble ensues and Carol comes face-to-face with the sole survivor from last episode's roadside shoot-

out. In a final scene with Morgan, Carol, and a wounded Savior, one character's belief system is proved obsolete and alternative action is required.

While Carol and Morgan's fate is still unknown, the other half of the episode leaves only more questions for Rick's crew. The destination they seek is the Hilltop community. There is a doctor there and Maggie is in desperate need. In the early hours of their voyage, Rick promises Maggie that, "We can do anything." Almost immediately after this statement, it becomes obvious that Rick is very wrong.

The group's path is obstructed in multiple ways by large groups of Savivors and in one instance a roadblock of walkers tied together. Jamie Kelman (makeup director) and the rest of the team produce a gruesome string of walkers, sinisterly bound by a metal chain. What's more, director Robert Kirkman and the costume department place articles of clothing from captured Alexandrians along with a lock of Michonne's (Danai

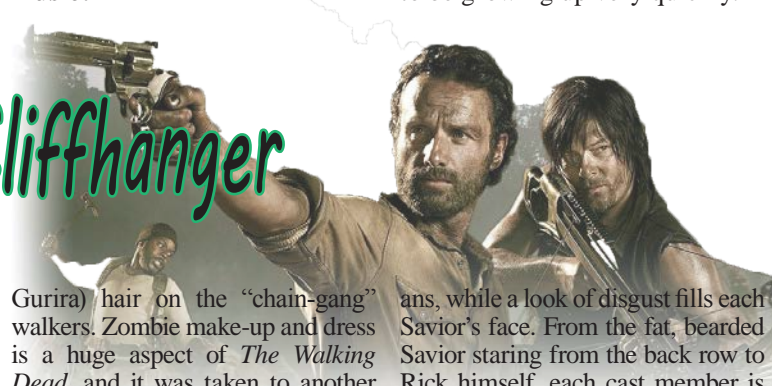
Gurira) hair on the "chain-gang" walkers. Zombie make-up and dress is a huge aspect of *The Walking Dead*, and it was taken to another level in this episode. It is apparent that the Alexandrians are targets of a Savior plan as Abraham (Michael Cudlitz) plainly states, "We are neck deep in sh-t's creek with our mouths wide open."

In one last desperate attempt, the group flees on foot to the Hilltop community as night falls. Luck has not been on the Alexandrians' side, and it does not change here. The deafening whistle of the Savivors is heard loud and clear—the group has walked in to Negan's trap.

Leather jacket-clad, sporting Lucille, his baseball bat wrapped in barbed wire—Negan is badass. In his first appearance on *The Walking Dead*, Jeffrey Dean Morgan delivers a speech that leaves Rick and global viewers quivering. The scene is performed perfectly as hundreds of Savivors surround the crew of kneeling Alexandrians. Hatred and fear emanate from the Alexandri-

ans, while a look of disgust fills each Savior's face. From the fat, bearded Savior staring from the back row to Rick himself, each cast member is fully tuned in to Negan's bone-chilling speech. The viewer has never seen the group in more of a helpless position and Nicotero as well as the entire cast does a fantastic job in illustrating this fact.

The finale gives no hints to when or if the group will return. Someone has been beaten by Lucille and now lays dead, though we do not know who. Father Gabriel will stand guard wondering why his home is empty with good reason. Rick truly believed that their group could handle whatever was thrown at them. However, Rick's ignorance sealed the group's fate. More questions are asked than answered in this season finale, leaving Season 7 of *The Walking Dead* in the hands of a new villain. Rick is forced to reconsider all that he thought was true as Negan says, "Sucks don't it, the moment you realize you don't know sh-t..."



“BLACK DESERT ONLINE”: A TIME-SAVING TIME SINK

JOHN MORANO
STAFF WRITER

MMORPGs, or massively multiplayer online role playing games, are often thought of as “time sinks.” Games in this genre typically expect players to sink hundreds of hours into them (perhaps thousands, in some rare cases). *Black Desert Online* is an entirely different animal in that it expects the average player to log over 1000 hours, and quite quickly. *Black Desert* has been designed to accommodate players with limited free time; due to several innovative new systems it allows one to accomplish hours of work with minutes of play. I personally feel that these features make *Black Desert* an ideal MMORPG for college students, but more on that later.

Similar to the popular *Guild Wars: 2* and *TERA*, *Black Desert* is an action MMORPG in a high-fantasy setting. In terms of quality, it's on a level of its own; *Black Desert* is hands-down the best-looking MMORPG on the market today but still manages to be very well optimized. The sound is also praiseworthy, containing a number of orchestral tracks, all deliberately lacking vocals so as to increase longevity. Two of *Black Desert*'s shortcomings are the voice acting and story, even though this is pretty standard in MMORPGs (particularly ones translated from Korean). As such, I was personally willing to give *Black Desert* a pass on this, although some might not.

Moving onto the gameplay, action combat in MMORPGs is notoriously clunky and imprecise, but *Black Desert* is by far the best I've ever seen. There is no comparison between *Black Desert* to others in its genre, and the quality of

its combat is closer to what I would expect from an *Assassin's Creed* title. Gameplay in *Black Desert* isn't limited to combat though, as there are a number of occupations in game called “life skills.” These include fishing, cooking, hunting with a rifle, alchemy, taming horses, trading and more. It's perfectly viable to neglect combat somewhat in favor of sharpening your life skills.

Most MMORPGs have something called “afk timers.” This means they keep an eye on you and lock you out if you are inactive or “afk” (away from keyboard). There are a number of reasons one may want to leave the game running and go afk, especially in a game like *Black Desert*. For instance, I'm actually afk from *Black Desert* while writing this review, and while I'm sitting here typing, my workers are gathering me things like grapes and chicken to be used in cooking later; they wouldn't be doing this if my game were closed. *Black Desert*'s developers (Daum) recognize this, and have opted to eliminate afk timers so that players may do exactly what I am doing. These afk rules allow us to play *Black Desert* much more casually, and to sink a little bit of time into it when you would otherwise be unable to.

It isn't just the prominent features that have impressed me; the amount of fine detail that went into *Black Desert* is stunning. As I was walking through a wheat field fighting ghouls, I noticed that my sword was actually cutting down the wheat where the blade made contact with the crop, not just warping through it. Later, after I had been running around a battlefield, fighting cultists, I noticed that my character had built

up a layer of sweat on his body (it dried after a while out of combat). If you waded through a river or get rained on, your clothes and body will actually drip water until they dry. My armor also became more visually damaged as its durability decreased, with a plate eventually falling off and leaving my shoulder exposed; this was not only immersive, but also a helpful visual hint informing me that I needed to get that fixed.

All these features are great, but if I had to pick a favorite, it would be the contribution system. By playing the game and completing various tasks, you get something called “contribution points,” which allow you to make use of land and dwellings in game. Using these, I can turn an in-game building into a refinery, storage, a shipyard, etc. I could also opt to use it as my own house, within which I place furniture, cooking utensils, and store my pets (most of this affects gameplay, and few facets of this game are purely cosmetic). Or maybe I instead put my points into a farm. I can then set one of my workers to harvest from that farm regularly and bring me materials to be used in cooking. Workers will continue to work while I am afk, so long as I am online they have beer for energy (yes, you pay your workers in beer). Another effective use of contribution points is investing in different nodes and chaining them together, making a trade route.

Black Desert is the perfect action MMORPG in so many ways, but it does have what some would call a fatal flaw: pricing. *Black Desert* costs \$30 to buy, and if that were all, I'd stop right here, slap a 10/10 on it, and beg my readers to buy it (this is a must-play for MMORPG fans). Unfortunately, it's a bit more



IMAGE COURTESY of www.mmorpg.com

“Black Desert Online” is a high-fantasy game with impressive attention to detail.

complicated than that, as *Black Desert* suffers from Free-To-Play syndrome (despite being buy-to-play). *Black Desert* has a cash shop along with the aforementioned entry fee which sells in-game content for real money. While none of this content is absolutely necessary, much of it cannot be acquired through normal gameplay. While this is fairly standard unfortunately some of the items, such as pets, are quite useful. According to Daum this business model will allow all future DLC to be released for free. This has worked as promised in the Korean version of the game for several years now, with numerous DLC expansions being released at no cost to the players.

Perhaps for some this promise will make the cash shop's presence more tolerable.

When all is said and done, *Black Desert* is a 10/10 game, if one ignores its business model. For some lucky gamers the business model won't be a concern, and in this circumstance *Black Desert* gets my highest of recommendations. The rest of us need to consider how much money we are willing to spend, and whether or not we are willing to tolerate the presence of this cash shop content. Personally, I've found *Black Desert*'s virtues to outweigh this admittedly serious flaw, but I can certainly sympathize with those who feel otherwise.

Record Store Day Rolls Around

JACOB TURCHI
STAFF WRITER

The third Saturday of every April marks an annual event that is well known to every novelty collector and hipster across the country: Record Store Day. Record Store Day is a celebration of purchasing vinyl recordings, the oldest and most official way of collecting music. On Record Store Day, musicians and record labels release exclusive copies of their work on vinyl (either a 12-inch

or a 7-inch), CDs, or even taped recordings. Musicians will also make appearances, host Q&As, and even perform at local store in celebration of this event. The first Record Store Day occurred on April 19, 2008, and has been a massive success in the following years. It has expanded to over 1,400 independent record stores in the United States and has been catching on across several continents.

It is worth noting that all stores that participate on this day are independently owned,

meaning they are not under control by any major record label. The stores partake in this event because of their passion for music and their love of this format. That being said, not all record stores will have every release that is mentioned on the official list, which turns the event into an Easter egg hunt with everyone going in to search for the most exclusive of releases.

The idea of Record Store Day was conceived by groups of independent record stores in the country after the big vinyl revival in 2006. Music labels have seen a dramatic spike in vinyl and record sales in the past 10 years. In 2006, it was estimated that only around 900,000 vinyl records were sold in the United States, taking in an estimate of \$36 million. Every year since, the number of sales and the amount of money generated has only gone up. In 2015, it was calculated that over 12 million records were sold in the U.S., which is a 30 percent increase from the 9.19 million that were sold the year prior.

Many believe that the growing popularity and sales of records is due to the new integrated “hipster” culture, as the time of their arrival to mainstream culture is similar to the time that vinyl sales saw their first big jump 10 years ago. And why do hipsters love

to buy vinyl? Because hipster culture values two things predominantly: first, dedication, to any type of art form whether it be music, film, or literature; and second, being ‘retro.’ And since music is one of the biggest labels to hipster culture, vinyl saw a huge growth in popularity. In fact, last year the new Jack White album, *Lazaretto*, was the first album in 22 years to hit number one on the Billboard Top 100 due to vinyl record sales. The last album to do so was *Vitalogy* by Pearl Jam in 1994.

With all of this being said, I am an avid music lover and I also love to add to my own personal record collection when possible. So here are just some of the releases that I will be looking out for this upcoming Record Store Day and what I consider to be the highlights of the release list.

- The French psychedelic pop group “AIR” is putting out a 12-inch of their single “Casanova 70” from one of their very first EPs.

- Multiple David Bowie works are being put out, but the best one by far is a picture disk record of his album *The Man Who Sold the World*.

- Scottish Synth-pop trio “CHVRCHES” is putting out a 12-inch remix of their latest album *Every Open Eye*.

- Classic experimental rock band “Frank Zappa & The

Mothers of Invention” are re-releasing for the first time a 7-inch of two songs “My Guitar” and “Dog Breath.”

- Patti Smith, one of the most important women in punk history, did an entire recreation of her album *Horses* live at the Electric Lady Studios; the performance will be released on a double LP.

- A 7-inch release of “Happy Together” by the Turtles.

- The classic old school hip-hop track “Planet Rock” by Afrika Bambaataa & Soulsonic Force is being put out on a 12-inch.

- One of the greatest psychedelic bands from the 1960s, “The 13th Floor Elevators,” has a 10-inch of their single “You're Gonna Miss Me” with a B-side track “Tried to Hide.”

- A picture 12-inch disk of “Never Mind the Bollocks” by the Sex Pistols.

- The 10-year anniversary of one of my favorite punk rock albums of the 21st century, *Blood Visions* by Jay Retard, is being put out on LP.

- “At Last,” the classic jazz tune and album by Etta James is getting a 12-inch release.

If any of these releases interest you, you should check out the complete list of albums on www.recordstoreday.com, and get out to one of the 45 record stores in the state of New Jersey that will be participating on this day.



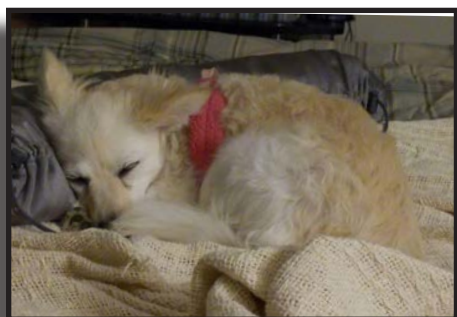
IMAGE COURTESY of www.jambase.com

Record Store Day will be held this year on April 16, 2016.

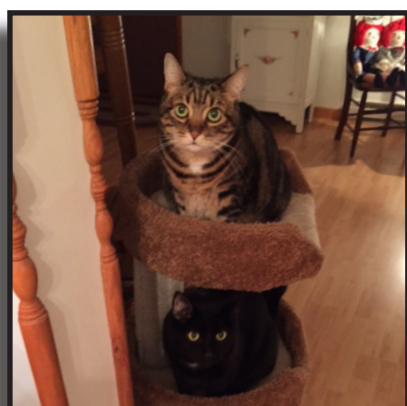
PETS OF Monmouth



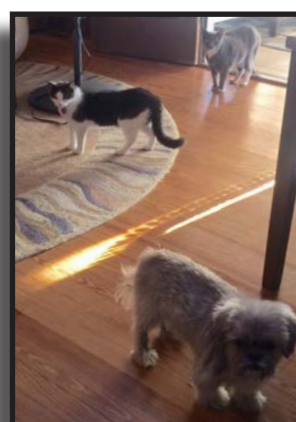
EDITION I



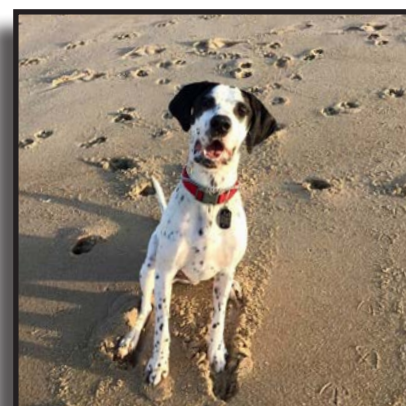
ELSA:
Elsa snuggling up after a long day. (Photo Courtesy of Amberly Buehl)



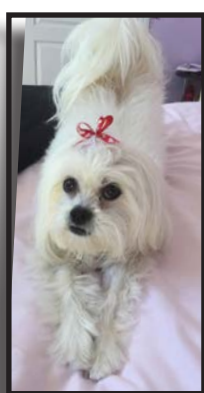
JASMINE AND O'MALLEY:
Erin's cats hanging around. (Photo Courtesy of Erin Covely)



Brian's Three Musketeers. (Photo Courtesy of Brian Gutierrez)



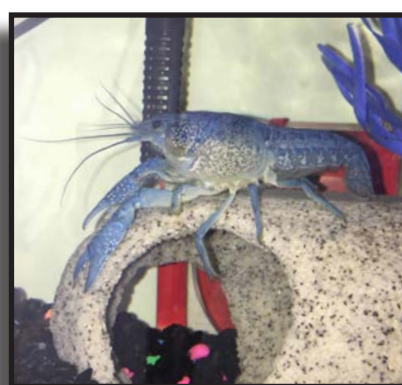
COPPER:
A year and 4 months old. He is a mix between German Short Haired pointer and English setter. (Photo Courtesy of Dimitri Gravanis)



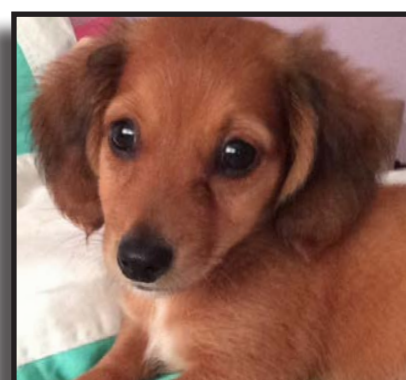
AMY:
Amanda says she looks super sweet but is actually Satan's demon child! (Photo Courtesy of Amanda Nuse)



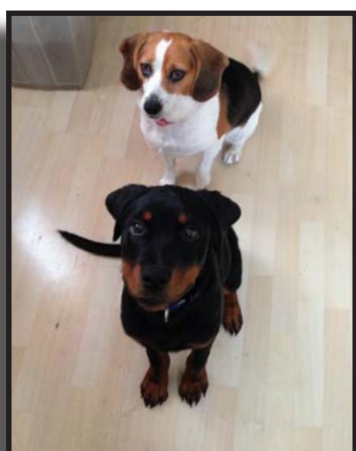
MADDIE:
"There is nothing better than a girl, her dog, and her car" (Photo Courtesy of Heather Wells)



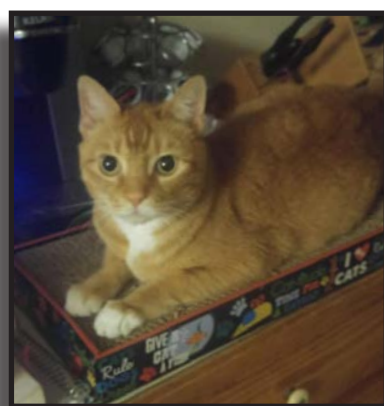
DR. CLAW:
Dr. Claw is a blue crayfish. He is only 2 years old and can live up to 20 years. (Photo Courtesy of Tyra Ward)



GIZMO:
Samantha's dachshund when he was 3 months old! (Photo Courtesy of Samantha Fortier)



BAILEY AND BRODY:
Bailey is a beagle, 7, and Brody is a Rottweiler, 2. (Photo Courtesy of Samantha Marella)



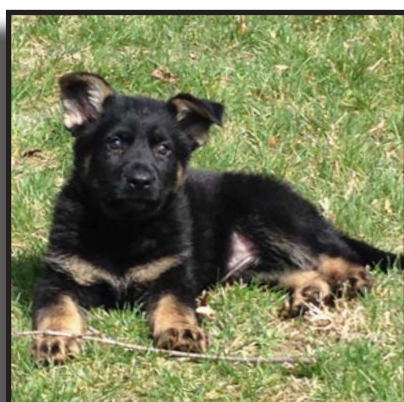
MOOSE:
Moose likes playing with a laser pointer and sneaking outside when no one is looking (Photo Courtesy of Jessica Murray)



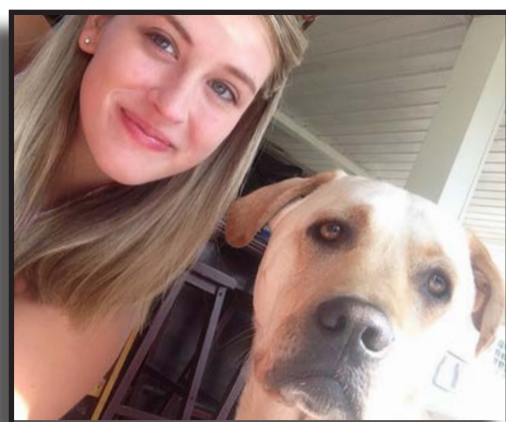
BLUE:
Blue likes taking naps, eating, making a mess, & helping with homework (Photo Courtesy of Lauren McMahon)



BAILEY:
Bailey is 5 1/2 years old. He loves the beach and finding huge sticks to play with, no matter how big they are! (Photo Courtesy of Samantha Hammond)



KACEY:
Kacey is an 8 week old German Shepherd. She's very adventurous and she loves to play, but also loves to snuggle up with her owner, Jennifer. (Photo Courtesy of Jennifer Urmston)



ALLEN:
Lauren and her dog Allen, a Pitbull/Labrador mix. (Photo Courtesy of Lauren Niesz)




RILEY:
Riley's a ten year old golden retriever who loves food, food, and food. (Photo Courtesy of Corey Wisler)



ROXIE:
Roxie is a certified therapy dog who brings smiles to children at hospitals and children who are survivors of domestic violence. (Photo Courtesy of Christine Giachetti)





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April 22nd

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• Performed with Kelly Clarkson
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2:00-6:00 pm

Where:
Residential Life Quad




Paws on the Quad

You are invited to a fundraising event to raise money for the Monmouth County SPCA. Come and enjoy food, music, volleyball, and quality time with puppies. Team sign ups for beach volleyball are on April 5th from 1-4 in the Student Center and April 7th from 12-3 in the Dining Hall. 4-8 players a team and \$5 per person to participate and have the possibility to earn an array of prizes from gift cards to gift baskets! We hope to see you there!


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Tuesday, April 12th
1pm - 4pm
Anacon Hall
(2nd Floor, Student Center)

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Monmouth University Fights Back at Relay for Life



KENDAL ADAMS
STAFF WRITER

Students, faculty, friends, fighters, survivors, and loved ones filled the Multi-Purpose Activity Center (MAC) on Fri. April 1 for Monmouth University's Relay for Life. Monmouth University has been hosting an American Cancer Society sponsored campus-wide Relay for Life event, along with the help of the Colleges Against Cancer club on campus, to help fight back and find a cure for cancer.

The American Cancer Society website claims that the Relay for Life movement is the world's largest and most impactful fundraising event to end cancer. It unites communities across the globe to celebrate people who have battled cancer, remember loved ones lost, and take action to finish the fight once and for all. The relay is an overnight event where participants "camp out", listen to music, visit fundraising tables, and take turns walking around the MAC track to raise funds to fight cancer. This year's theme was One World, One Hope, in honor of the national Relay for Life theme of Paint Your World Purple. The theme is to spread awareness of the available support and programs around the world from the ACS. The American Cancer Society's slogan is "Celebrate, Remember, and Fight Back."

In order to host a successful event, the details and planning of the event were not overnight. "Plan-

ning Relay for Life is a year-long process. It takes countless hours, numerous brainstorming and working sessions, and endless amounts of time and dedication from our Event Leadership Team and Executive Board. The planning process can be very tedious, but we push through because we know we are going to be the generation that ends cancer, once and for all," says Courtney Mottola, President of Colleges Against Cancer and junior education student. The event's CAC committee worked with Zach Sayre, an ACS staff partner, who helped provide resources that enabled the club to raise cancer awareness. Kathy Stein and LuAnn Russell, CAC's faculty advisors, also played a crucial part in the planning of this event. Stein said, "Relay for Life is such a great event for all involved. The students work extremely hard and the issue is a personal one to so many involved. I am proud to be a part of the Monmouth University Relay for Life and the Colleges Against Cancer Student Group is to be commended on a job well done."

"For the amount of work that goes into the event, the night of Relay for Life seems to come and go in the blink-of-an-eye. However, after having time to reflect on the event, I feel so incredibly grateful to all of the 934 participants, volunteers, staff members, faculty, administration, and committee members who helped raise and donate over \$36,000 to The American Cancer Society," said Mottola. "The most impactful moment of the night was

the open mic during the Fight Back ceremony. The people who decided to voluntarily come up and share their stories of hope were so brave and they are the reason that provides us with the strength to put together Relay for Life every year."

The night was jam-packed with various fundraising events, musical acts, and "themed laps" around the track. Blue Hawk Records Artists kicked off the show at 5 p.m. while all groups arrived to set up camp. Many Greek life organizations participate in relay, including Sigma Pi, which was the Top Fundraising Team of the night.

"We are immensely proud of the efforts that our organization and the University made towards fundraising and donations for the fight against cancer. Since most of us have been affected by cancer in one way or another, we saw it as a personal goal to help the fight. The event had an awesome turnout again and we truly are happy to have made an impact," said Mike Stigliano, President of Sigma Pi.

Each year, every Greek organization attends the event and helps out as much as possible by raising money and hosting an on-site fundraiser. This year, the ladies of Phi Sigma and Alpha Sigma Tau hosted a bake sale, while brothers of Sigma Tau Gamma hosted "Pie a Sig Tau". Members of Tau Kappa Epsilon hosted "Ballin' with TKE", where participants could shoot some hoops for the cause.

There were many activities throughout the night for participants.



PHOTO COURTESY of Kendal Adams

Colleges Against Cancer helped to raise \$36,000 for the ACS.

Meghan Wheeler, junior education student, sister of Alpha Omicron Pi, and cancer survivor, stated, "Relay for Life this year was breathtakingly beautiful. The support from so many organizations and people filled me with overwhelming joy. To be able to share my personal survivor story in front of so many people made me realize how truly blessed I am."

At 10 p.m. the Luminaria Ceremony lit up the track as those lost to cancer were remembered by a silent lap. The Fight Back Ceremony followed with volunteers sharing personal stories of their fight. Chris

Doheney, a brother of TDP and senior homeland security student said, "As a survivor, Relay for Life is more than just a fundraising and awareness event. It is a time where I can reflect on my past and celebrate my triumphs, while spreading hope that there is life beyond cancer." After a rockin' singing and dance party, the night came to a close around 5 a.m. with the total money raised being \$36,000 that will be put toward research, education, advocacy, and patient services to help end the fight against cancer.



ERIN SHEVLIN
STAFF WRITER

Karaoke For A Cause Raises \$2,100 For Autism Speaks



With Light It Up Blue week just around the corner, the sisters of Alpha Xi Delta at Monmouth University began their month of fundraising at their annual Karaoke for a Cause event on Wednesday Mar. 30, 2016.

Keith Lee, a junior political science major and brother of Alpha Kappa Psi Fraternity, blew the crowd away with his performance of Nelly's "So Sick" and secured his first place spot in the competition.

"All of the acts were really great and entertaining but Keith Lee really killed up there on stage and stole the hearts of everyone in the audience," said senior education

student Kathleen Fabio.

The event consisted of 10 acts from students in the Monmouth community. DJ Forest Taylor from Delta Tau Delta provided his musical expertise for the night while Maddie Conroy, Bryce Petracorro, and Paul Matt hosted. Matthew Cox from Phi Kappa Psi, Chris Carter from Delta Tau Delta, and Bri Musco were the judges for the night.

"The event went very well. The acts were amazing and I am so grateful for them to perform. Honestly I love this philanthropy and everything we do. I volunteered with children with autism so being philanthropy chair and organizing an event which raised around \$2,100 is awesome and a privilege to be a part of," said

Kristen Kennett a sophomore health studies student and the philanthropy chair for Alpha Xi Delta.

To kick off the event, Lauren Gandulla from Autism Speaks came to speak to the audience about the work being done at Autism Speaks. "Autism costs a family over \$60,000 a year with 1 in 68 children being diagnosed. It is the fastest growing developmental disorder in the U.S. and we are so excited about our new partnership with Alpha Xi Delta Fraternity," said Gandulla director of field development for the NJ Shore chapters of Autism Speaks. "I was thrilled when Kristen invited me to speak and help your school kick off Light it Up Blue week for Autism Awareness month."

Michele Kaplan the assistant director of student activities for fraternity and sorority life on campus said "I think it was really beneficial to have Lauren come to the event and give a short speech on the work being done at Autism Speaks because it really puts into perspective the impact these events do actually have on the organizations that each chapter raises money for."

As of this past year, Alpha Xi Delta is the official sponsor of Autism Speaks. Together they have raised over \$3 billion since their partnership began in 2009. April is Autism Awareness month and Alpha Xi Delta at Monmouth will continue the national organizations efforts to raise money and awareness to the disorder and or-

ganization.

The chapter will be tabling Tuesday and Thursday in the Rebecca Stafford Student Center to raise awareness for Autism Speaks. They will be handing out ribbons, baked goods, and have several events throughout the week to raise money for their philanthropy. To end the week, the chapter will be going to the Children's Center of Monmouth County to hold a rose buddy ceremony in which women with disabilities will be initiated into the sisterhood of the Iota Nu chapter.

For more information about Autism Speaks and ways to get involved, stop by the student center this week or follow Alpha Xi Delta on social media @axid_iotanu.

ON and OFF CAMPUS ANNOUNCEMENTS

MUPNA

The Monmouth University Professional Nurses Association (MUPNA) which includes all MU nursing students and is organized by the elected executive board, will be raising funds and collecting donations for this trip.

MUPNA has created two donation boxes which are located in McAllan Hall (3rd floor School of Nursing Office) and Birch Hall (room 104).

They are looking for supplies to provide hygiene kits for the patients they will see in Haiti. Hygiene kits include bars of soap, washcloths, toothpastes, toothbrushes, hand sanitizers, dental floss, and any other personal hygiene items.

Please consider donating for this wonderful organization. We thank you for your help!

The Outlook

The Outlook is looking for students interested in writing for the student-run newspaper. Sections include News, Opinion, Politics, Lifestyles, Features, Entertainment, Club & Greek, and Sports. No prior experience is necessary. The Outlook fulfills practicum requirements for communication majors, however, being a communication major is not required to write for The Outlook.

HR Club

The HR Club will host their final meeting of the semester April 13 in SC 202A at 2:45. The club will discuss ideas for the fall and are looking for potential e-board members. Anyone and everyone is welcomed.

Cinema Club

Check out the Cinema Club every Tuesday and Wednesday in Plangere. For more information, email sl003573@monmouth.edu.

MOCC

The Monmouth Oral Communication Center invites you to take advantage of free peer tutoring for presentations and public speaking!

Our walk-in schedule is posted outside of JP 203, or you can contact Kevin Moedt at s0879290@monmouth.edu for an appointment. Interested? Join us in JP 135 on Wednesday's at 2:45 p.m. to see what we are all about!

Red Bank Hosts March For Bernie Sanders

JASMINE RAMOS
POLITICS CO-EDITOR

N.J. supporters of Democratic Presidential Candidate Bernie Sanders gathered in Red Bank to march on April 2. Over 400 individuals were in attendance to bring awareness about the candidate for the upcoming election.

Organizers Kate Triggiano and Boris Kofman, with the help of others, planned for about a month in advance after being inspired by the similar acts that happened in Asbury Park a couple months prior.

Pat Dunn, an avid Sanders supporter, was the inspiration behind the march in Red Bank. Marc Adamo, who is a labor activist and participated in “Occupy Wall Street”, explained how the idea of the march started. In Asbury Park, Dunn was able to bring together 200 people to come out to support Sanders on the boardwalk, on very short notice.

Dunn explained on Facebook, “I was sitting home & saw the marches happening all over, yet nothing seemed to be going on in N.J. I’m just some guy. I picked a day/place/time and threw it on Facebook. [I] didn’t know what to expect at all. Before long, people I didn’t know were responding in no small way. I received more help and enthusiasm than I could have anticipated.”

He continued, “Asbury Park was wonderful. It came from one person’s idea and 100s of folks I never met came out and yelled and marched with joyful purpose. Kate took that and followed suit and built an amazing event in Red Bank!”

Triggiano wondered how much more successful another march would be if there was a bit more planning behind it. Using her experience as concert booker, and with the help of other, the march in Red Bank was organized.

The event began at noon, meet-

ing at the Red Bank Train Station, and ending around 2 p.m in Riverside Garden Park. It concluded with speeches from six different individuals, each telling their story about why they believed Sanders was a better fit for the presidency.

Various held signs to draw attention, with sayings such as “Feel the Bern”, “Join the Revolution”, and “Grannies for Bernie.” At first, the march began very quietly with small chats coming in and dying out, but it quickly picked up momentum when it reached main streets.

Janet Smuga, a retired educator, and the creator of the sign “Grannies for Bernie” expresses why she went out that day. “When I was looking for stuff that would be of interest, that would be relevant, to my students, one of the things I came across was information about the wealth gap. Bernie is really the one person that has stood up consistently to fight back. I think the wealth gap is the biggest risk to democracy in our country today.”

She has been a very active participant in marches since the 1960’s. When asked why this was so important to her, she said, “It brings us together as a community and it puts a face on things. These are human beings, right here in your town, standing up for something. And I think for the people who see it, that means something. Just like when in the 60’s or 70’s, when we marched for peace and civil rights, that showed people something. There were masses of people out there and if you were just observing, and you think, ‘Oh, that’s important. People care about it.’ I think it does make a difference.”

Red Bank residents would leave their businesses on Broad St., to view the march as it went on. Jeddi, a bystander during the march, said he found everything “very exciting.” “It’s nice to see him take a hold



PHOTO TAKEN by Jasmine Ramos

Over 400 supporters came out to march in favor of Bernie Sanders for President, in Red Bank, N.J.

on Red Bank and see everyone get together.”

Once the march concluded in Riverside Garden Park, Triggiano began to introduce several speakers. The first speech began by talking about climate change. Jim Walsh explained that Sanders was opposed of the Keystone Pipeline from the very beginning, in comparison to his competitors. He said, “This is about the future. Should we talk about what is pragmatic or about what we really need?”

A Montclair senior education student that aspires to be a social studies teacher talked about student debt. He said, “What could be more important than cultivating the youth with knowledge? [...] This campaign is about saying no more.”

One of the last speakers was a Monmouth Alumni of 2014, named Adam Black. “This is the first rally that I have ever been to, but it also is an incredible political revolution that’s going on. I think that every-

one is so passionate about Sanders, is something you don’t really see with the other candidates in a positive matter. And I think that’s what makes Sanders so special. We are here, we are protesting, but we’re doing it peacefully. We’re doing it honorably.”

When speaking about why he believed Sanders appears to college students, “I think a lot happens to be linked with what President Obama experienced in 2008. That gathering and empowering the young vote, you can win any election. Just as Obama won, Sanders is speaking to the young people. He is the only candidate that is specifically speaking to the youth vote and includes them, which is why I think he is so important.”

When asked about why these marches were so important, Triggiano said it brings awareness to those who do not get highlighted in the news. “This brings visibility. After the Asbury Park march,

we were on the Sunday edition of *Asbury Park Press*. We would have never gotten that coverage if we would have not had the march.”

Many of these marches have been prominent for Sander’s campaign, but have not been aired by the media. In Jan., the first ever nationwide march for any presidential candidate thus far, took place in over 35 cities, naming it the “March for Bernie.” Despite bringing over 500 to 1,000 people per march, and going viral on social media, many national corporate-owned media outlets did not give it any airtime. Many of these marches even took place in blizzard conditions.

To Triggiano, the event went very successfully, despite the weather conditions. “I feel as if, when it is rainy, it makes a more powerful statement when peopel come out.”

Other marches for Sanders in N.J. are being planned, such as in Newark and Hoboken within the next couple of months.

My Experience with March For Bernie Sanders

JASMINE RAMOS
POLITICS CO-EDITOR

Before this event, I had never experienced being a part of a political march. So it was to my excitement to go out and experience it about 20 minutes away from campus.

Before the March

A week before the march, I added myself to the “Red Bank N.J. March for Bernie Sanders” group page on Facebook. There, I had realized that this march was being planned out for over a month. The organizers, Kate Triggiano and Boris Kofman, were very active in answering people’s questions and keeping everyone up to date.

Nights before the march, people began to post pictures of their posters and signs and others commented being supportive. They bounced ideas off of each other, and they were getting rather creative with slogans and paints.

One of the biggest reminders that was mentioned on the page was that during the march, the most important thing was to remain peaceful. The organizers wanted to make sure that the message that was being evoked was positive. They suggested not to litter or be rowdy, to shop in the local stores, and eat at the local restaurants. Most of all, support Red Bank in the best way possible.

This was great to hear since the news has been putting a negative spin on several rallies and marches throughout the current election. The march having a positive message and being able to demonstrate that through actions is really im-

portant to attract voters.

Arriving at the meeting site, I realized that there was a lot more people than I expected. This march was hosted on a Saturday, a day people would rather sleep in and relax, yet, people were out in the cold and rain, ready to let their voices be heard. I was eager to see where this would take me.

During the March

The course of the march went on for about a mile and a half. Once the march began, it was very quiet. Chants were started but they easily died out, leaving everyone laughing at the awkwardness. This opened up the opportunity for people to become more acquainted with one another. People began to discuss the reasons why they were there and what they believed in, with no judgment.

It quickly became louder and the chants became more constant, from “Feel The Bern,” to “A Living Wage for All.” The awkward phase was over and everyone began to remember that the reason they were out there was to spread the word about who they thought was the better presidential candidate.

While marching down the streets of Red Bank, I met an older gentleman, who was holding up a sign about education. I wanted to know his story since it was too cold of a morning for someone his age to be out. He proceeded to tell me that he was out in the march in honor of his friend. She had been a “red diaper baby,” meaning she was born during the rise of communism around the world. Because of this, she became a very present

activist, and whenever she could go out and rally, she would. However, she was very ill on Saturday and this gentleman was out in her honor.

Once we got to the main streets, residents of Red Bank noticed our presence. Several would come out of their shops and record videos on their phone, intrigued in what was taking place.

The march ended at Riverside Garden Park, where Triggiano and others began to set up speakers to take turns and talk about their reasons on why they thought Sanders was best suited presidential candidate to take office. The speakers did not project very loudly, yet the people would listen attentively without making too much noise in order not to disturb others trying to listen.

The one person whose words spoke to me the most were those of a young man named Kevin, who is from Honduras, where I am from as well. He spoke about the myths about illegal immigration and focused on how illegal immigrants unlike popular belief, do pay taxes through their tax identification numbers. He mentioned that they contribute over \$2.2 million in revenue in just California alone. To discuss the issues and misconstructions of illegal immigration publicly, especially in a time of oppression in the political world, is so brave and he really inspired me.

The people in the crowd were so willing to take pictures with their signs and talk to one another. My one friend, Janaya Lewinski, a junior political science student, was able to meet a woman that had a

sign that said “I am a Black Jewish Woman for Bernie”. Lewinski, who is a black Jewish woman as well, has not been able to meet many women like her before this because of how rare the combination of cultres is. Yet, that day, she was able to bond and embrace a woman similar to her, and talk about their experiences.

After the March

I had the great opportunity to speak to Triggiano, and really get to know why she got involved in this cause to elect Sanders. She is an extraordinary women that is passionate about what she cares

about. You could tell that she was very genuine when she tried to go around saying hello to everyone and trying to get to know them. She even took the time to talk to many other members.

I got to meet so many fabulous people and really engage myself in an important aspect of the political process. One thing that really stood out to me is that even though the media only focuses on the millennial support for Sanders, there were so many people of different ages, ethnicities and backgrounds, all trying to achieve a form of equality for all. Hopefully, this will not be the last one.



PHOTO TAKEN by Jasmine Ramos

Bernie Sanders supporters got creative with their signs during the march in Red Bank.

How Involved are MU Students in Political Issues?

Political Involvement cont. from Front

the election.

Our university is also home to a polling institute, which was put into place to display public opinion on important state and national issues. The Monmouth University Polling Institute has established three core missions: The institute hopes to provide contract research services to policymakers in government and private organizations to assist with program planning and assessment, to collaborate with faculty and students to enhance research and training opportunities, and to monitor public opinion on current issue. With the University itself being so heavily involved and highly esteemed in New Jersey, it is a shame that the actual student body of the University is not as interested.

It seems that students on campus are aware of voting and the potential candidates, but when it comes to going into detail with that, that's where most lose interest. It's a lot to watch debates and really educate yourself on every possible candidate and be a full time student. Furthermore, the debates can be a bit too cerebral for the common college student to comprehend, especially if that student has no interest and doesn't re-

ally understand the political lingo or process.

Adjunct professor of Political Science and Sociology, Ryan Tetro, says, "Students should become educated on the issues of the upcoming presidential election because, regardless of the outcome, these issues will impact their lives either directly or indirectly."

To the question of why it matters, Tetro says, "I admit that I sometimes struggle to explain why one vote does matter. However, being educated on the issues will at, at a minimum, give students the ability to understand how their lives, again either directly or indirectly, will be impacted by the issues. So, assuming arguendo, that their vote 'doesn't matter,' the knowledge obtained by becoming educated on the issues will provide the ability to navigate the ultimate resolution, if any, of the issues addressed by the successful candidate."

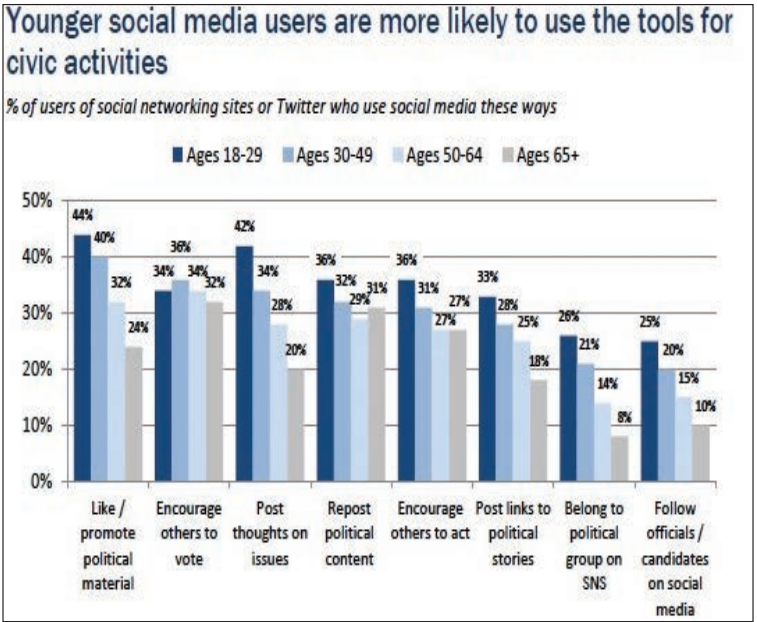
Junior English and education student, Maddie Arcocchi, said, "I'm planning on voting in the next election, but right now I am not very informed so I'll have to look on social media to see what the platforms are." While social media is a wonderful platform to get involved with for the upcoming elections, it shouldn't be our only outlet. It is great to laugh

about the potential candidates and the like, but it is one thing to be aware and another to be involved.

Students that want to be involved with elections, will be; others will wait until the selection is narrowed down to just two candidates from each party to start to get involved.

Erin Comiskey, junior health studies student, says, "I believe there is a lack of political involvement on campus as many students are preoccupied with their studies. I understand why students do this, as this was my thinking prior to studying abroad to Australia for a semester. There, I realized that America's politics have many repercussions to other nations, i.e. Australia. Thus, it was the cultural norm to talk politics at university." However, Comiskey is involved in the upcoming election, "I am involved in the political process as I am registered to vote for the upcoming primaries and general election."

Comiskey also comments on how we, as students, need to realize the impact of our involvement in politics. For her personally, Comiskey says, "As a person who is planning on joining the military, I find it crucial for me to be a part of the political process, as the next president will also be the next commander in chief, and will impact me directly. Ad-



This graph from Pew Research Center represents people of all ages and how social media affects their political activity.

ditionally, as an aspiring healthcare professional, the healthcare reforms currently taking place will affect my career."

Comiskey and Tetro have some really great points about getting involved with politics; it is all about our futures. We need to look out for the wellbeing of our country, and the first step in doing so is to exercise

our right to vote. Most of us, including the two of us writing, are uninterested in politics and don't think we matter, but after hearing from of our peers and professors, we understand the gravity of our input and vote. If that isn't convincing enough to get involved, Tetro jokes, "Isn't fun to feel like the smartest person at the dinner table?"

Debate: Capitalism vs. Democratic Socialism

BRENDAN GREVE
POLITICS CO-EDITOR

Much of America's youth has been "feeling the Bern" and have been gravitating towards the self-described "Democratic Socialist", Bernie Sanders. The Senator from Vermont is the first politician that has ever ran for President with the label of "Socialist" and it is shocking to me that he has made it so far. I believe that much of Mr. Sander's youthful supporters do not understand the ideas of socialism and how dangerous they are.

Let's start off with *Merriam-Webster's* definition of socialism. It is, "a way of organizing a society in which major industries are owned and controlled by the government rather than by individual people and companies." This is similar to th idea of communism, which is the form of government that has arguably brought the most pain and suffering to the world through terrible dictators like Joseph Stalin, Kim Jung-un, and Mao. Leftists believe that these horrible idea's of massive government control will somehow work in America, despite failing everywhere else. Why would anyone want to implement a system that would even remotely resemble the system that has brought on the atrocities like those of the North Korean and Soviet regimes that have consistently failed and brought devastation though out the history of mankind?

Socialist and communist thinkers value equality over success— no matter how low the bar is in order to meet equality. In 1985, Bernie Sanders defended the ruthless Dictator of Communist Cuba, Fidel Castro. Sanders said in an interview, "All the Cuban people were going to rise up in rebellion against Fidel Castro. They forgot that he educated their kids, gave them healthcare, totally transformed the society." What is so disturbing about Sanders defense of Castro is he fails to mention what kind of education he provided, or the quality of the healthcare, or whether the transformation of the society was good, bad, or even terrible.

What is even more disturbing is that what Bernie Sanders said about

Castro can be said about every ruthless dictator that ever lived. For example, Joseph Stalin—the leader of Communist Russia who killed even more of his citizens than Adolph Hitler— educated his people (with state sanctioned propaganda), provided healthcare (state sanctioned and poor), and transformed the society (By killing millions of people). This could be said about other dictators that have committed crimes against mankind such as Hitler, Mussolini, Mao, Kim Jong-Un, and many others. To counter Sanders point, I would rather be illiterate, have no healthcare, and live in a bland society and be free, than be literate but be told what to read, have healthcare but be told what to do with my body, and would rather live in a society where I am free to pursue education, healthcare, and change- even if it isn't given to me by the federal government. America has overcome wrongs and has strived because the political and economic process has been left to "we the people" not "we the government."

Now here is why capitalism has worked for so long in America. It is because it resembles human nature. It is human nature that we are self-interested and dissatisfied. As the classic philosopher Adam Smith said in his famous work, *The Wealth of Nations*, "It is not from the benevolence of the butcher, the brewer, or the baker that we expect our dinner, but from their regard to their own self-interest. We address ourselves not to their humanity but to their self-love, and never talk to them of our own necessities, but of their advantages." Milton Friedman also said, "The most important single central fact about a free market is that no exchange takes place unless both parties benefit."

Free-market capitalism is not thwarted by self-interest, it actually strives on it. I will also point out that it is never in someone's self-interest to be selfish in a capitalist system. For example, every business that someone opens has to cater to the consumer, not the owner. The owner is actually the last person to make a profit. Would you work at a new restaurant where the owner said

that he isn't going to pay you until he makes enough profit? Of course not. If a restaurant owner decided to bump up prices to gain more profit, less customers would eat there and his employees would find other jobs at restaurants that have more reasonable prices that get better business. So regardless of how selfish a business owner may be, it is in there self-interest to cater to the customer, to provide jobs for employees, and contribute to the local economy.

In a socialist society, people expect the government to supply benefits to them without working as hard. Is everyone getting their "fair share" when some people are working hard to earn benifits that everyone will get anyway. To the students that believe capitalism is unfair, wouldn't you be upset if you worked really hard on a group project and your partner did nothing, but you both got the same grade? Trying to work hard to earn more money is not as selfish as demanding to do less work and contributing less to the economy but demanding more benefits from it. That is the epitome of selfishness.

Lastly, dissatisfaction is another human instinct that capitalism thrives off of. The key is, no one is ever completely satisfied! I stress this point because socialist and even people on the left talk of this utopia in which somehow everyone has their every need met. This will never happen and if it did, it would be a disaster. Dissatisfaction is actually the cause of some of the greatest inventions and innovations that have been created by mankind. For example, it was dissatisfying that only the wealthy could afford cars.. Through that dissatisfaction, Henry Ford founded Ford Motors so middle class people can afford them. That created the auto industry in which millions and millions of people survive off of today. That is how most industries are started.

There will always be sustainability in a free-market capitalist system, because there will always be human nature. The experiment of socialism is inconsistent with human nature and that is why it has never succeeded and never will.

JASMINE RAMOS
POLITICS CO-EDITOR

With the recent election on its way, several concerns about the state of the country have been brought up for debate. Issues such as immigration to education have been fought hard by both parties to gain the success of whatever candidate they support. However, with Bernie Sanders as a contender for president, his socialist views on politics have been questioned.

First of all, I would like to clarify that Bernie Sanders considers himself social democratic, not a socialist. The reason why this is important is because socialism has not been implemented historically through free and fair elections. He, personally, believes in and would favor socialism to be chosen, freely and fairly, though and by the electorate.

Now where did the word "socialism" come from and what does it mean? The term has varied definition throughout the years, from religion to philosophy, the economical term came from *The Communist Manifesto*, written by Karl Marx and Friedrich Engels in 1848. After observing the terrible conditions brought on by the Industrial Revolution, Marx and Engles' observation of capitalism brought on what later developed to the public rather than private ownership of property and natural resources.

In socialism, it is said to believe that people do not live for or work in isolation, but live in cooperation with one another. Furthermore, everything that people produce is in some sense a social product and everyone who contributes to the production of a good is entitled to share in it.

Now, this might all seem confusing and scary, and you must be thinking "Why is the state taking part of what I earned when I worked hard on it?" This is where the concept of democratic socialism comes in.

Individuals and corporations will continue to own the capital and means of production, which means that a lot of wealth will be produced privately. That being said, taxation,

government spending, and regulation of the private sector are much heavier under social democracy. That way the money would circulate back to the people in need, balancing the wealth in a country a bit more.

And, just a reminder for those who believe that democratic socialism would hurt the free market, the American capitalism has never been a fully free economy. Yes, the majority of the enterprises in America are privately run and owned, meaning most of the money is privately produced. But, most of the wealth that is privately produced is spent by the government. According to the Organization for Economic Co-Operation and Development, 39% of the gross domestic product is spent in local, state, and federal government.

Now, business isn't the only way in which capitalism produces unfair outcomes. What happens to the student that did everything s/he needed to do to be successful, got into the right college and studied hard, yet cannot find a job? Is it fair the there are individuals that are so powerful because of the money they have, that they can influence the political process without consequences to themselves?

Seth Macfarlane, creator of Family Guy and worth \$150 million, said recently at a rally, "For years I have thought to myself, 'Alright, I am a capitalist.' I like eating at Sugar Fish and drinking Fiji water. [...] But doesn't it seem that things have swung so far in the other direction, with the top 1% of the country controlling more wealth than the other 99% combined?"

Many, like Macfarlane, have agreed with this, especially the younger generation. According to U.S. News, they found that 58% of young people choose socialism over capitalism, and 66% say corporate America embodies everything that is wrong with America. And who is to blame them when the average student debt loan is \$28,950, and they cannot land a job after college?

So, in the words of Macfarlane, is it crazy to believe that "just a little bit of democratic socialism isn't the worst idea?"

Five Smith Goals Propel Women's Lacrosse Past Niagra

CONNOR WHITE
SPORTS EDITOR

Behind five goals netted by sophomore attacker Alexa Smith, the MU women's lacrosse team defeated Niagra University 15-11 at Kessler field on Sunday, improving to 6-5 on the season and 2-0 in MAAC play.

"It's important to get a good start, and being 2-0 puts us in a good position," MU head coach Eileen Ghent said. "This conference is so competitive; it's really anyone's game, no matter who or where you're playing."

After going into the half down 7-6, the Hawks berated Niagra's defense for nine goals in the second period. Before this game, Niagra's defense was averaging 9.6 goals allowed per contest for the 2016 season.

"We just wanted to get pumped up at halftime," said Smith, who scored four of her game-high five goals in the second half. "We knew that we could come out on top."

The game began with a goal by Niagra leading scorer and freshman attacker Caroline Crump, which was quickly answered by a 3-0 Hawk run, containing goals by Smith, sophomore midfielder Caroline Corbliss, and senior midfielder Michelle Gonzales. However, the Purple Eagles would answer with a three-goal stint of their own, and after a senior attacker Marial Pierce goal at the 12:17 mark tied the game at four, Niagra would bounce back with three more unanswered goals, putting them up 7-4.



PHOTO COURTESY of Dan Stambaugh

Senior goalkeeper Caroline Huelster (right) recorded six saves in MU's victory over Niagra.

With just over two minutes to play in the first half, senior midfielder Kristina Vangeli scored an unassisted goal after winning a draw that would come to be a major momentum shifter for the Hawks in their victory.

"I think the turning point in the game was when Kristina was able to get the draw then finish it with a goal," Ghent said. "That was the momentum change that we needed."

Niagra junior attacker Taylor Wolf opened the second half

with her third goal of the game, giving the Purple Eagles an 8-6 advantage. Smith answered with her second goal of the day on a free position shot to make the score 8-7, but Niagra would follow with two goals netted by freshman attacker Rachel Mac-

Cheyne and senior midfielder Molly Gray, making the score 10-7.

In the ensuing five minutes, the Hawks would score the next five goals, two of those being recorded by Smith for her third and fourth goals of the day—putting MU ahead 12-10.

"She's just so consistent and reliable," Ghent said of Smith. "I know that every time she has the ball it's going to result in a goal or a smart decision."

An unassisted goal by Niagra sophomore midfielder Jillian Ford would bring the Purple Eagles within one, but it wouldn't be enough.

MU answered with three goals of their own by Smith, Gonzales and sophomore attacker Katlyn Ryan—giving the game its final score of 15-11.

MU led Niagra in shots, 25-22 and ground balls, 26-18. Senior goalie Caroline Huelster recorded six saves in the contest, and Ghent couldn't be happier with her goalie's first year as a starter after backing up Canadian National Team selection Katie Donohoe.

"She's amazing," Ghent said. "She's in a position no one else on the team has been. At a lot of other schools, she would have been the starter right away. She is changing the game for us."

"It's exciting," Huelster said. "I have a lot of trust in my team and that the offense will score, and I feed off of them."

The Hawks will return to play on Wednesday, Apr. 6 when they take on the Manhattan Jaspers in The Bronx, N.Y. The game is set to start at 3:00 p.m.

Baseball Takes Two of Three from Manhattan

JOHN SORCE
STAFF WRITER

The MU baseball team split two games against in-state rival Rutgers and took two out of three against MAAC conference opponent Manhattan last week.

MU traveled to Dutchess Stadium in Wappingers Falls, NY to take on Manhattan in a weekend series. The two teams split a doubleheader on Saturday, Apr. 2.

Senior southpaw Frank Trimarco got the ball in game one and gave up four runs on ten hits in six innings, but left the game with his team up by a run. Freshman Joe Molettiere came in the game in the seventh and pitched into the ninth, when he gave up two runs on a Jose Carrera double to tie the game at five and an RBI single by Fabian Pena gave the Jaspers game one.

"They're always tough," Ehehalt said about Manhattan. "They're kind of like we are. They're a scrappy team, they throw strikes and are tough outs at the plate and they have some guys who can really run. They had some injuries last year and their season didn't go quite as well as they wanted it to. They're a very talented team that is well coached."

The Hawks bounced back in game two defeating Manhattan 5-4 behind junior right hander Ricky Dennis, who allowed four runs [one earned] in five innings on six hits and five strikeouts. The Blue and White scored all five of their runs in the fifth. Freshman catcher Clay Koniencki led off with a single and advanced to third on singles

by senior shortstop Robbie Alessandrino and sophomore second baseman Justin Trochiano to load the bases. Back-to-back walks plated two run and cut the deficit in half and senior left fielder Dan Shea singled home two more runs to tie the game at four. Senior center fielder Cary Jacobson's sacrifice fly gave the Hawks a 5-4 lead they would not give up.

The final game of the series was moved to the MU Baseball Field due to weather and was played on Monday, Apr. 4, with MU downing Manhattan 7-3. Senior left hander Anthony Ciavarella struck out seven over 5.1 innings for his third win of the season, and the Hawks were led offensively by Jacobson's two RBI.

"Anthony Ciavarella did a great job and collectively our pitching was good today," Ehehalt said. "We showed the ability to capitalize and have a big inning, and [junior catcher] Ryan Bailey had a really good game throwing their catalyst [junior infielder Jose Carrera] out twice."

The Hawks scored six runs in the fifth inning when Jacobson's bases loaded single plated two runs and junior outfielder Chris Gaetano's grounder to first base was thrown into left field, bringing home two more runs. Senior outfielder Christian Holland drove in a run on a double and came around to score on a balk for the sixth run of the inning.

After falling 20-4 to the Scarlet Knights at Bainton Field in Piscataway on Tuesday, Mar. 29, the two teams made the 45 minute trip south to West Long



PHOTO COURTESY of Taylor Jackson

Junior Infielder Grant Lamberton delivered three hits and one RBI in MU's doubleheader Saturday.

Branch for the second game of the home-and-home series on Wednesday, Mar. 30 when the Hawks upended Rutgers 12-2.

Freshman right hander Tyler Ksiazek made his second collegiate start and gave head coach Dean Ehehalt seven innings, allowing one run on seven hits and five strikeouts.

Gaetano went 3-5 with two runs scored and three RBI while Koniencki, Alessandrino, and Holland all drove in two runs each.

"Yesterday was just one of those days and it didn't have anything to do with today," Ehehalt said. "Tyler Ksiazek set the tone and when you get good pitching, you always have a chance and that was the case today. Tyler was outstanding, he was a real bulldog out there and it was good to see him take the next step in his career as a guy who has kind of arrived as a starting pitcher."

Ehehalt noted that he only had two pitchers available for the Wednesday game, with freshman right hander Joe Molettiere coming in for the final two innings.

"He threw nicely at Hofstra by giving us a chance and he certainly took this situation and ran with it," Ehehalt said. "We only had two pitchers available today, and we were fortunate to get a great outing from Ksiazek."

Monmouth (14-13, 5-1 MAAC) returns to the diamond on Wednesday, Apr. 6 at Princeton followed by a three game road series against Saint Peter's on Apr. 9-10. They return home on Tuesday, Apr. 12 against Lafayette.

Riley K’s 10, Homers in Softball’s Win

PETER LAZZARO
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

The MU softball team defeated its hOURglass rivals, Rider, in back-to-back games on Saturday afternoon at MU Softball Park.

Both games ended in mercy-rule finishes in the 5th inning, as the Hawks were able to tally nine and 11 runs in each game respectively without letting up a single run in either. Senior catcher Jill Freese hit two home runs and had three RBI. Sophomore utility Katie Baron also homered, doubled twice and had three RBI for the offense of the Hawks.

MU pitchers Amanda Riley and Sydney Underhill each had complete game shutouts, with strikeout totals of ten and six respectively. Riley’s 10 K’s were good for a career-high as a Hawk, MU is now 13-11 (2-0 MAAC), as Rider falls to 3-21 (0-2 MAAC).

Baron finished the day 4-4, scoring every time she got on base. Sophomore outfielder Chloe Howerth, junior outfielder Justene Reyes, sophomore pitcher Amanda Riley, senior third baseman Ashalynn Umiamak, and Freese stacked up three hits each. Riley hit a homer, doubled twice, drove in three RBI and scored three runs. Reyes hit two doubles and scored twice, and senior utility Emma Hill had an RBI triple and scored three runs. Junior infielder Rachel Shotzbarger also drove in three runs with a bases-clearing double.

In game one, Riley struck out 10 out of 17 batters she faced. She let up one hit, and one hit-by-pitch in a complete game shutout. In the latter contest, Underhill allowed five hits and a walk in her outing, striking out six.

“It was great to come out in our first MAAC series and take two,” MU head coach Shannon Salsburg said. “It really sets the tone for what we need to do throughout the entire conference season.”

MU jumped out to a 3-0 lead in the bottom of the first inning of game one. Hill walked, followed by a Howerth single, and Shotzbarger loaded the bases with a base hit to left. Reyes followed up with a sacrifice fly down the right field line to score Hill, then Umiamaka singled to right to bring in Howerth and Shotzbarger.

In the second, Baron led off with a single through the left side, which led to her scoring as a result of Hill’s triple to right. On the play to third, the ball went over the Rider dugout allowing Hill to come in to score, making it 5-0 in favor of MU.

Freese led off in the bottom of the third with a home run down the left-field line, and Riley followed suit and took one out to the opposite field.

Riley got on with a double in the 5th, which set up Baron’s walk-off two-run homer to right.

“I think we did a good job,” Riley said. “A lot of us were aggressive at the plate and fielded well as well. It was a good start to our season and we should keep it at that level and to even improve.”

In the second game, the Hawks went up 10 runs in the bottom of the second inning alone. Reyes and Umiamaka each singled, but after the Hawks recorded the next two outs. Then Riley doubled bringing in two, and Baron doubled to bring home Riley.

Hill walked and Howerth singled to load the bases for Shotzbarger. Her double to deep center



PHOTO COURTESY of Monmouth Athletics

Sophomore Utility Katie Baron had a home run and three RBI in MU’s victories over Rider Saturday.

brought three more around to make it 6-0 Hawks. A Reyes double then extended the lead to 7-0, before Umiamaka singled to bring her home, making it 8-0.

Freese then touched them all for the second time of the day, driving a deep ball to right center to bring MU to a 10-0 lead after two.

Baron doubled in the third, took third on a groundout and scored off of Howerth’s two-out infield single to make it 11-0. Underhill had more than enough breathing room

to work with, as she struck out the side in the second and third innings and faced no more than four batters in any of her five innings pitched.

“It was a good way to start our season and get our first conference sweep of the year,” Baron said. “Now it just gets us ready for our next conference game which is Wednesday against Iona.”

The Hawks will play their next game on Wednesday, Apr. 5, with a doubleheader at Iona. First pitch is scheduled for noon.

Daly Leads MU Over Canisius, 11-6

TOM MORFORD
STAFF WRITER

Coming off back-to-back road games, the men’s lacrosse team defeated the Canisius Griffins 11-6 Saturday in Buffalo, N.Y.

Heading into Saturday’s game, both teams were 1-1 in conference play, but MU’s recent 10-5 win over Manhattan propelled them forward into with a positive attitude, and the win against Canisius puts them at an undefeated 5-0 on the road.

“As a staff, it felt great to see our guys take a big step forward today in our development,” head coach Brian Fisher said. “We really emphasized doing the little things this week and it really showed up today. Our veterans and leaders really stepped up, played well and set the tone with our focus all day.”

Canisius and Monmouth are the highest scoring teams in the conference. One factor going against another high scoring team is setting the pace of the game early and

stand out defense – both of which the Hawks accomplished against the Griffins.

“On the defensive end it was a total team effort,” Fisher said. “Our close defenders and defensive midfielders were all tough on the ball, which set the tone while [junior goalkeeper] Nick Hreshko played his best game this year and was excellent at the last line of defense.”

MU’s defense locked down Canisius’ top attackman Vince Gravino [who was recently drafted in the Major League Lacrosse by the Ohio Machine], holding him to one goal for the first half of the game.

MU is one of the best defensive units in the conference and they showed it on Saturday – not allowing a second-quarter goal.

In addition, Canisius had four chances to convert on extra man opportunities, and the Hawks only allowed one goal in those scenarios.

The Golden Griffins struggled to keep possession of the ball throughout the game and the Hawks exploited the fumbling Canisius offense. MU caused some steady caused turnovers at vital times of the game.

Junior defenseman Neil Rupert, redshirt sophomore midfielder Dylan Schulte, and sophomore midfielder Grier Wilson each had two caused turnovers on the day.

Hreshko stonewalled numerous shots right on crease consistently throughout the game. These point blank saves acted as immediate moral boosters propelling the hawks forward to victory.

Hreshko had 14 saves on the day (seven of which in the last quarter) and boasts .541 save percentage for the season.

Junior attacker Chris Daly led seven separate Hawk scorers with four goals on the day.

“On the offensive end, Chris Daly has been a consistent threat all year and was great again today,” Fisher said. “[Junior midfielder] Eric Berger was tough all over the field, [junior midfielder] Zach Schleicher has been great all week and was the glue with whoever he ran with today. [Graduate attacker] John Castellano was the QB of the group this afternoon as a lot of the offense went through him and I cannot say enough about Dylan Schulte and everything he does for us.”

The second quarter was hands down the best quarter for the Hawks, not allowing the Griffins to score and putting four goals in set a strong lead for the rest of the game.

Immediately following the second half faceoff Daly fired in a goal, and an MU bench canoe celebration ensued [taking a page out of the Basketball’s Bench Mob Stylebook], breathing life into the sideline.

Schulte blasted one in at the 12:47 mark in an unassisted transition goal resulting in a Canisius timeout and huddle to reevaluate. The Griffins scoring drought finally came to an end with Gravino’s third quarter goal at 7:42.

A slew of penalties littered the fourth quarter including slashing, illegal procedure and pushing calls, amounting to three penalty minutes for Monmouth and two for Canisius.

Both teams tallied 35 shots during the game, MU placed 23 of them on cage and only 20 were on target for Canisius. The Hawks turned the ball over 11 times to the Griffins’ 16 times. Both teams scooped up 27 ground balls.

MU is now 6-3 overall and 2-1 in the MAAC. The Hawks play their next game against Detroit Mercy at home on Saturday, Apr. 16 at 3:00 p.m.



PHOTO COURTESY of Taylor Jackson

Junior Chris Daly scored four goals on Saturday in the Hawks’ win against Canisius.

SIDE LINES

MBB Monmouth basketball head coach King Rice has been named John McLendon National Coach of the Year, his first national honor. The John McLendon award is presented annually to the top collegiate head coach, encompassing Division I, Division II, Division III, NAIA and JUCO. Rice, the MAAC, ECAC and NABC District I Coach of the Year, led MU to a program record 28 wins and an outright regular season title in 2015-16.

TRACK The men’s and women’s outdoor track and field teams of Monmouth University wrapped up a successful split road trip, with field competing in the High Point VertKlasse Meeting and track competing in the William & Mary Colonial Relays on Friday and Saturday. The weekend was highlighted by three school records on the women’s side, a new school record for the men, and multiple other top-10 finishes.

UPCOMING GAMES

- Wednesday, April 6**
SOFT at Iona (DH)*
New Rochelle, NY
Rice Oval Field

WLAX at Manhattan*
Bronx, NY 3:00pm
Gaelic Park

WTEN at Wagner
Staten Island, NY 3:00pm
Wagner Tennis Courts

BASE at Princeton
Princeton, NJ 3:30pm
Clarke Field

Friday, April 8
MT at Moravian Invitational
Bethlehem, PA All Day
Timothy Breidegam Track

WT at Moravian Invitational
Bethlehem, PA All Day
Timothy Breidegam Track

MSOC vs. Delaware
West Long Branch, NJ 7:00pm
The Great Lawn

Saturday, April 9
WSOC at Princeton/St. John’s
Princeton, NJ 11:00am
Roberts Stadium

SOFT at Quinnipiac (DH)*
New Haven, CT 12:00pm
Quinnipiac Softball Field

BASE at St. Peter’s (DH)*
Jersey City, NJ 12:00pm
Joseph J. Jaroschak Field

WLAX vs. Quinnipiac*
West Long Branch, NJ 1:00pm
Kessler Field

MTEN vs. Siena*
West Long Branch, NJ 1:00pm
Monmouth Tennis Courts

WTEN vs. Siena*
West Long Branch, NJ 1:00pm
Monmouth Tennis Courts

**Conference Games*



Queen of the DIAMOND

Sophomore Amanda Riley struck out 10 out of 17 batters in the first of two games against Rider University on Saturday, April 2. Riley was recently named MAAC Pitcher of the Week.

Full story on page 19

Photo Courtesy of Monmouth Athletics