



# THE OUTLOOK

MONMOUTH UNIVERSITY'S  
STUDENT-RUN NEWSPAPER SINCE 1933

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## Students Compete in Model UN *First Time Position Paper Award Winners*



PHOTO COURTESY of Kevin Dooley

Fourteen University political science students attended Model UN in New York City, bringing home an award for the first time.

JAMILAH MCMILLAN  
MANAGING/NEWS EDITOR

A delegation of 14 University students simulated the United Nations (UN) at the National Model United Nations Conference (NMUN) in New York from Sunday, April 9 to Thurs-

day, April 13.

NMUN is the world's largest international college-level experiential learning program in which participants cooperate to discuss and brainstorm solutions to global concerns faced by diplomats of the United Nations, according to their site.

For the first time the delegation from the University returned with a Position Paper Award. The award was won by Liam Coffey, a junior political science and history student.

Five thousand students from

UN continued on pg. 3

## School of Social Work Launches New Initiative *Suicide Prevention Research*

JEREMY MANCINO  
STAFF WRITER

The School of Social Work has announced its new initiative to continue their efforts in spreading awareness about suicide prevention by launching the SRF Suicide Prevention and Training Project.

"This recent development is the latest in a long line of projects the School of Social Work has undertaken, but it is only the most recent one, as well as a culmination of a lot of efforts over the years," said Janine Vasconcelos, Assistant Director of Professional Education and Special Projects.

According to Robin Mama, Dean of the School of Social Work, the project has several aims. It seeks to establish training sessions around the issue of suicide in schools and colleges, as well as curriculum development, research, and evaluation

efforts on suicide prevention, intervention, and what happens afterwards.

The goals of the project emerged through research discovered by Dr. Michelle Scott, associate professor in the school of social work, who is considered a leading expert on suicide and suicide prevention. According to Scott, about 42,000 Americans take their own lives every year; this means a suicide occurs in America every 13 seconds.

"Suicide is the second leading cause of death among college students," said Scott. "Individuals can be at increased risk for suicide when they experience a confluence of risk factors such as depression, anxiety, substance use, as well as prior suicidal behavior and a trigger event which may be a loss or transition," Scott added.

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## The Outlook Wins National Award

COURTNEY BUELL  
CLUB & GREEK EDITOR

The Outlook, the University's student-run newspaper, was ranked 8<sup>th</sup> in the Nation for "Best of Show Four-Year Weekly Newspaper," by the Associated Collegiate Press (ACP) at the Mid-winter National College Journalism Convention in San Francisco, California.

An issue of The Outlook was submitted in the "Best of Show Four-Year Weekly Newspaper" category and was reviewed by a panel of judges. Judges reviewed submissions from multiple colleges throughout the United States and established a National top ten out of all entries.

Placement was based on the number of entries and overall convention attendance. Over 750 schools attended the Convention this year. The Best of Show award does not signify a ranking of national excellence, but rather overall excellence among the attendees and entries, according to the ACP.

Danielle Schipani, senior communication student and current Editor-In-Chief of The Outlook was honored to be a part of an award winning paper and commended the work of rest of the editorial staff and their contributions. "Every member of the editorial staff has worked tirelessly all year to ensure that we are printing a quality paper for the campus community," she said.

"Our adviser, Professor Morano, has acted as an integral part of the production of this paper. His expertise has guided the staff and helped us all become excellent reporters. Being nationally recognized is incredible and I am so proud of everyone who helped make this possible," Schipani continued.

Professor John Morano, the paper's faculty advisor believes that while The Outlook doesn't produce their paper with the intention of winning any awards, he believes that the students earn such accreditation by efficiently

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## Dr. Waters Selected for Guggenheim Fellowship

JAMILAH MCMILLAN  
MANAGING/NEWS EDITOR

MEHDI HUSAINI  
ASSISTANT NEWS EDITOR

Dr. Michael Waters, an English professor, is amongst 173 artists and scholars selected from over 3,000 applicants for the prestigious 2017 Guggenheim Fellowship. Waters was awarded \$50,000 for his long-standing poetic experience from the yearlong fellowship that begins in Jan. 2018.

Fellows are selected from the United States and Canada for demonstrating exceptional skill in productive scholarship or exceptional creative ability in the arts, according to gf.org.

Waters explained that the award was based on the quality of his past work, and his plans for future work. He said, "In my application I said that I would continue to write poems that would connect the old world in Eastern Europe to the new world. An example of that would be a poem about a monk



PHOTO COURTESY of Annie Kim

Dr. Waters was selected for the 2017 Guggenheim Fellowship out of 3,000 applicants.

at monastery blessing the engine of new car."

"I thought that it was something I would have 40 years ago when I didn't deserve it. Now

that it has come I am just very happy for the acknowledgment," said Waters.

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# University Plans to Redevelop Sustainability Council

JOY MORGAN  
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

The University will be redeveloping its Sustainability Council with faculty and students, and forming a detailed ten-year plan to improve Monmouth University's green initiatives according to Patricia Swannack, Vice President for Administrative Services.

The Monmouth University Sustainability Council was formed in 2009. It originally was a group of 30 volunteers comprised of students, faculty, staff and administrators whose mission was to promote environmental awareness and encourage development of an environmentally responsible campus community, according to the University website.

However, some students recently noticed that the Sustainability Council was no longer active at the University. "Some peers and I were looking at the Monmouth website online a couple of weeks ago, at the Sustainability Council page, and noticed that the a few members of the faculty listed don't work here anymore," said Carly Miller a junior homeland security student. "We were so surprised how outdated our sustainability page was. Especially because it was online for the public to see. The site has since been updated, but the last notable edit on the page prior to the site removal, was around Earth Day 2015," continued Miller.

In response to student interest, Swannack has agreed to reform the Sustainability Council. Swannack said that before the end of the semester she will be sending an e-mail inviting the University community to attend a round table discussion where interested parties may share goals and potential actions to make Monmouth a front-runner in sustainable practices.

University President Grey Dimenna said, "Universities should be a resource to surrounding communities in terms of education, culture and issues of importance to society. We should lead by example as well sharing our knowledge and education for surrounding communities including taking action to protect our environment."

"The protection of our environment is a world-wide issue. While students attend Monmouth they are laying the foundation for who they will become as an adult. If the University is green hopefully we can influence students so when they leave they have a

sense of the importance of protecting the environment," Dimenna continued.

Swannack shares those beliefs. As a faculty member of the University since 1975, Swannack said that she has encouraged multiple plans that have simultaneously reduced energy costs and consumption on campus, such as water refill stations, electric car charging stations, a shuttle service, electric carts, and a community garden.

According to Swannack, Monmouth is the first private University in the state to sign a comprehensive green operation agreement with the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA). As part of the agreement, the University had to align its campus planning efforts with the State Development and Redevelopment Plan and Monmouth County's Growth Management Guide, as stated in the University website.

Today, members of the University community may notice recyclables and trash being disposed of together. Swannack explained that this is because the University utilizes a single stream recycling system in an effort to recycle in a cost effective manner. In theory all recyclable items are collected together and then sorted at the landfill.

However, a member of the current inactive sustainably council, who would like to remain anonymous, explained that single stream recycling may be a problematic choice. He/she said that a piece of garbage thrown into the recycling can contaminate the recyclables, and that is why they are then collectively disposed of as garbage.

The same individual also expressed displeasure in the productivity of the failed attempt at the first sustainability council at the University. He/she said that after forming the council a follow-up meeting never happened. It is his/her hope that faculty and students alike develop a council with a checks-and-balances system of both faculty and students, as well as the development of a detailed goal oriented plan so that the sustainability of Monmouth will exponentially advance in the years to come.

All students and faculty are encouraged to email Swannack at [pswannac@monmouth.edu](mailto:pswannac@monmouth.edu) if they would like to be a member of the council, or contribute any thoughts on this matter. President Dimenna also expresses openness to students to have discussions about the future

# School of Social Work Reveals Suicide Research Initiatives



PHOTO TAKEN by Alexandria Afanador

The School of Social Work announced that it will be developing a new project on suicide prevention research.

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The project is in its infancy and the school is presently in the process of building a "steering committee" to guide the effort. A number of individuals have been asked to join the committee; among their number is Katie Rizman, a counselor at Monmouth's Counseling and Psychological Services.

"Mental health is a rising issue across the nation; suicide is the third leading cause of death for people aged 15-24," said Rizman. "As of yet I'm unsure what role I will have on the project, other than my placement on the committee. As a counselor, part of my job is to promote suicide awareness initiatives. I think the project is simply about supplying students with an awareness of suicide prevention awareness, and to help them be advocates for suicide prevention."

According to Scott additional funding for the present project came from suicide-prevention

advocate and retired professor R. Scott Fritz, as well as the Palermo-Ravich Foundation.

"We hope to engage with campus and community partners to disseminate the best evidence-based practice knowledge and training so that everyone knows their role in protecting themselves and others," said Scott.

Mama mentioned that some of the SAMHSA grant also went toward developing an app called PWR Monmouth University. "The app, when downloaded, gives people the resources to properly identify warning signs, as well as telling its users where to go to get them help and how to build mental resiliency." Mama explained.

Amy Doffont, a graduate social work student, explained her stance on suicide prevention. "On campus, the best way to go about it is to both spread awareness and advocate for individuals who either know or knew of someone who took their own lives," she said.

According to Scott there are many ways to deal with the issue of suicide in America, but above all else those contemplating the act must know that no matter how bad things are, they are never truly alone.

"College campuses present many opportunities to protect individuals from suicide such as through the building of strong connections with others and by seeking help and support services when needed, from a friend, professor, advisor, or counseling, or health and substance abuse services," said Dr. Scott.

"It is important to know that if anyone sees these risk factors in themselves or others to seek support and help either from one of these services or the National Suicide Prevention Lifeline 1-800-273-TALK," Scott continued.

If you or someone you know is currently contemplating suicide, call the National Suicide Hotline at 1-800-273-8255, or seek assistance from Counseling Services.

# Dr. Waters Awarded \$50,000

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University President Grey Dimenna, applauds Waters for his newfound success. "Guggenheim Fellowships are one of academia's highest honors, and we are all proud that Dr. Waters joins the ranks of the gifted scholars, writers, and artists who have received the award in its 92-year history," Dimenna said.

"His recognition by a panel of former Guggenheim fellows following a rigorous selection process underscores our commitment to faculty who are leaders in their field, and Dr. Waters' students are certainly the beneficiaries," Dimenna continued.

"I will use the money during that year to travel and write poems for my next book of poetry," said Waters. "However, the award does not mean that my time at the University will be impacted." As of now, Waters is unsure if he will take time off from teaching at the University.

Dr. Susan Goulding, Chair of the Department of English, said, "The Department of English is very proud of the recognition Dr. Waters has received in being named a Guggenheim Fellow. This is an extraordinary accomplishment, earned through a highly competitive process. It is clearly an award of distinction,

and we congratulate Dr. Waters on this honor."

According to Waters, the Fellowship came from practicing his craft since he was a teenager. "During my sophomore year of college I knew that that was what I would be, a poet. However, at that time I didn't know that I would become a university professor and teach poetry writing, but that's how it turned out."

Waters first major break occurred when he was still a student. "When I was a senior in college I spent the year abroad in England. I was a winner in the 1971 National Poetry Competition. It was a monetary award, and was allowed to read my poetry at the Poetry Society in London," he said. "This led to the publication of my first collection of poems in England in 1972. I was 22 at the time, and I have been writing ever since."

"Dr. Waters has been the most influential teacher of my life," said Martyna Dobkiewicz, an alumni of the University. "He has taught me how to read critically and write poetry with purpose, each line holding its own weight. His latest achievement is the result of a lifetime of commitment to craft, an accumulation of decades chasing the right words. This is an inspiration to the Monmouth community, encouraging all of us to pursue our own dreams with faith and grit."

Waters latest book of poems,

Celestial Joyride, was published in the U.S. in 2016. Last month it was published in England. He traveled to England for ten days and gave readings in 4 different cities to launch his book. He said, "The poems [in Celestial Joyride] are set in Romania, and the last section has to do with visiting Romania and the gypsies that live there."

Waters exclaimed that he has a new book of poems titled, "Dean of Discipline," to be released in 2018, by the University of Pittsburgh Press. "Metaphorically it ('Dean of Discipline') refers to whatever it is that drives us to the next thing," he said. "The poems remind us to not stay in our comfort zones, and that just when we think that we know all we need to know, we should know that there is still more to learn. It reminds us to stay curious about the world."

Waters would encourage aspiring writers to read and write voraciously. He said, "What writers do is write. Put a lot of words down, and keep doing it, and do it in conjunction with reading other poets, prose writers, and fiction."

All in all, Waters is appreciative; for his award, and his standing at the University. "I am grateful for my association with Monmouth University which has been so supportive in terms of my creative work," he said.



PHOTO TAKEN by Jamilah McMillan

The University will be redeveloping the Sustainability Council with students and faculty.



# Political Science Students Participate in Model UN

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six continents participated in the 2017 NMUN conference, and 55 percent of the participants were non-U.S. residents, according to [nmun.org](http://nmun.org).

Participants from the University were enrolled in Model UN Conference course, PS-383, taught by Dr. Kevin Dooley, an associate professor of political science. The delegation represented the Kingdom of Belgium.

“I think attending the NMUN is beneficial to our students because it provides them with an opportunity to discuss important global issues with others from around the world. It brings international relations to life,” said Dooley.

“Since each college has to represent a different country and each student is placed in a different UN committee, it allows every participant the opportunity to become experts in a range of issues. The NMUN mirrors the agendas of the real UN, so students get to see what the UN is actually debating,” Dooley said.

Coffey did not expect to receive any recognition at the conference,

I think attending the NMUN is beneficial to our students because it provides them with an opportunity to discuss important global issues with others from around the world. It brings international relations to life.

DR. KEVIN DOOLEY  
PROFESSOR

as it was his first time participating. He said, “It is such a competitive atmosphere when you go to the conference, and coupled with the amount of prestigious schools that attend, I just did not expect I would win anything the first time around. This conference was my first ever Model UN.”

“I was nervous going into it, especially when some students had been to six or even seven conferences before this. I went there with the mentality to learn the mechanics and to just do the best I could. Winning something was not the top priority for me,” Coffey added.

Dooley said, “I couldn’t be happier for Liam who won Monmouth’s first position paper award. Only about 10 percent of the students receive them at any conference. So Liam did something extraordinary. I am so proud of him.”

Next year the Political Science Department will run the Model UN program through the MUN club instead of through the class, and they are attempting to expand the conference choices to more lo-

cations abroad.

According to Dooley, preparation in class during the weeks before the conference was demanding in both research and performance. He said, “Students need to become experts in their committee’s topics because they need to speak about them with a high degree of confidence and negotiate their ideas with dozens of other students.”

The conference began Sunday night with opening committee sessions in the Sheraton and Hilton hotels in Times Square. After changing from travel clothes into western business attire the delegates broke off into their separate committees around 7:30 p.m. Sunday night.

“To be serious, one cannot truly prepare until you get into the first session on the first day,” said Coffey. “In the weeks leading up to the conference, though, all the students going to the conference practiced the mechanics of the conference. This would entail learning the correct phrases... and understanding the rules and procedure of the UN. We created speeches that we thought we would use at the conference, and practiced reading it in front of people, because some of the committees are huge.”

The event was a great learning experience according to Stephanie Lanculovici, a junior political science student. “I learned what different people think about certain topics that are issues worldwide and I was able to learn a lot about cultures by meeting so many people from different places around the world,” she said.

On Monday the group met for lunch before the delegates had to prepare for their second day committee sessions from 2 p.m. to 11 p.m. According to the conference program during these sessions students were creating alliances, giving speeches, and discussing solutions to problems outlined on their committees agenda.

According to Dooley these sessions are beneficial to students. He said, “The most interesting aspect of the Model UN is its ability to engage students in relevant issues; to teach them about diplomacy and negotiation; and to provide them with public speaking, and writing skills.”

Tuesday and Wednesday sessions were similar to one another. However, tensions got high as delegates competed for recognition within their committees.

The conference ended on Thursday after students attended the closing ceremony at the United Nations Headquarters. Students were able to sit in the seats where diplomats and politicians debate global issues on a weekly basis.

The NMUN conference, according to Coffey, was a memorable experience. He said, “The people you meet from all over the world makes the conference so interesting. I worked with kids that lived in France, Germany, India, and even Dubai. Even though the conference ended, I’m still talking to people that I became friends with.”

“Even if someone was on the fence and not sure if they wanted to go to a Model UN conference, I would tell them to try it. I was the same way in the weeks leading up to it, and after attending, I can honestly say it was worth it,” Coffey continued.

# Underpass Will Re-open After Recent Collapse



PHOTO TAKEN by Jamilah McMillan

The Monmouth University Police Department (MUPD) closed off the underpass connecting the dorms to the academic side of the University after it collapsed on Sunday, April 16.

DANIELLE SCHIPANI  
EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

The underpass tunnel that crosses over cedar avenue collapsed on Sunday April 16 and was discovered at 12:55 p.m. by a Residence Assistant (RA). There were no injuries and no one was in the underpass when the incident occurred.

The Monmouth University Police Department (MUPD) responded and notified Patricia Swannack, Vice President for Administrative Services, of the situation. Swannack was called and advised MUPD to close the underpass until they could assess the damage. The Facilities Management staff came in and removed the pieces that had fallen after its closure.

The underpass was closed from Sunday to Tuesday April 18 and during its closure the University placed a Safety Of-

ficer at the corner of Norwood and Cedar Avenue to assist pedestrians from 8 a.m. to 10 p.m. The underpass is expected to re-open the morning of Wednesday April 19, according to Swannack.

“The collapse has been a big inconvenience as it has increased my travel time to class by at least 10-15 minutes,” said Angela Ramos, senior communication student and Maplewood Hall RA. “I am glad that the school has placed cross guards there as every time I have gone to class they have been present,” said Ramos.

“I live in Redwood Hall, which is pretty far from the academics side regardless, but the underpass being closed down has a huge effect on my walk to class,” said Aja Armstrong, sophomore music industry student. “Normally I would leave 15 minutes before class to get there on time, but now I have to leave almost

20/25 minutes early,” she said.

The New Jersey Department of Transportation (DOT) built the underpass in 2002. “They built it so that students, employees, and visitors could cross Route 71 safely. The University used to have Crossing Guards stationed from early morning to late evening to cross students. The University encouraged the DOT to review the traffic and pedestrian traffic flow at the walkway that existed prior to the Underpass. The DOT agreed that the large number of pedestrians crossing the street was a significant conflict with vehicular traffic on Route 71 and ultimately determined that an underpass was the best solution,” said Swannack.

The damage should not cost the University anything, according to Swannack, as the contractor should be responsible for any and all costs associated with the collapse.

# The Outlook Ranks Eighth in Journalism Competition

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efficiently informing the University community and doing quality reporting. Morano said, “There is a level of validation that comes when independent acknowledgement from an organization with the stature of American Collegiate Press finds that your publication is one of the 10 best in the nation when judged against its peers.”

The award serves as a symbol of the amount of hard work and dedication the students on *The Outlook* have contributed within the last year, Morano believes. “Recognition of this type, I find, reminds students what’s important and what it takes to consistently do their best work. It’s motivational and inspiring. Most people see their paper on the stands every Wednesday, but have little appreciation for the volunteer work that goes into making that happen,” he continued.

“Getting recognized for the award really means a lot to me,” said John Sorce, Co-Senior and Sports Editor I feel like I put in a lot of time and dedication to *The Outlook* and to place for an award like this verifies that hard work has



PHOTO TAKEN by Jamilah McMillan

The Outlook was awarded eighth place in the Associated Collegiate Press (ACP) newspaper competition.

paid off.”

Caroline Matisse, a freshman communication student who recently joined *The Outlook* staff, is proud to be part of an award winning paper, especially so early on in her college career. Matisse said, “As a first year student just

joining the paper, it is reassuring to know that everything is running smoothly and that the paper is so successful.

It is an honor working for such as great publication, however, it is intimidating that we’ve set the bar even higher than it was before.”



# “Didn’t They Say That Only Love Will Win in the End”

DANIELLE SCHIPANI  
EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

They tell you that college goes by so fast. They tell you that one minute you’re a freshman and the next you’re a senior about to grace the graduation stage. They tell you to have fun and enjoy the moment, to get involved, to open up and put yourself outside of your comfort zone. But what you don’t hear about and what they don’t tell you is just how many impactful people you will meet and how hard it will be to let them go.

I walked onto this campus afraid of what it meant to leave home, afraid that I would lose connections with the people that I love, and scared of change. What I soon realized was that Monmouth had been a part of my life all along and that I was always meant to be a Monmouth Hawk. The people that I have met here and the education I have been honored with has allowed me to grow into the person that I always wanted to be but never thought I deserved. I am grateful for this experience and for everything Monmouth has given me and there are countless people I would like to thank.

**My sister:** Hey sisterrrr! You are the light in my life and my best friend. You are the reason that I keep going and stay motivated. Thank you for always supporting me, for always listening to me, and for always being able to make me laugh. I know it was hard a lot of the time being apart during my years at Monmouth and I wish I could have been around more for you. Thank you for always being understanding when I was away and for being there for me when I needed you the most. I can honestly say that without the love and the comfort you have given me throughout my entire life I would have never made it to graduation day. I am so proud of everything you have overcome and accomplished this year. You are the strongest person I know. We are in this world together, you are never alone, and I will always be there for you. I love you.

**Mom:** You have been one of the most supportive figures throughout my entire life. Growing up you helped me edit every paper or project I had for school, making me attentive to detail and inspiring me to become the writer I am today. You have been there for me through the countless phone calls, the late nights at school, and the sick days at home. I can’t thank you enough for helping me through college and for giving me the opportunity to get there. Your advice, guidance, acceptance, and understanding has allowed me to soar and has given me the tools to succeed. I hope that one day I can afford for the both of us to take a trip to Cali again and drive through the Malibu Hills looking for the next adventure.

**Dad:** College has changed my life and I would not be here if it weren’t for you. Thank you for supporting me through college and for giving me the opportunity to attend Monmouth. You have always encouraged me to follow my dreams and to find a career path that I am passionate about. Your guidance and comfort has helped me soar. Thank you for continuing to believe in me as I graduate and try to find where I belong in the world.

**Sandy:** This is a very difficult goodbye to write. Thank you for your guidance. Your door has always been open for every editor and I can’t thank you enough

for making this office a home. You have given me clarity when I needed it the most and offered me assistance and support all year. I am going to miss you very much.

**Professor Morano:** When I was a senior in high school I attended Mondays at Monmouth. Part of the program allows you to sit in on a classroom and experience what life is like within a college seminar. I sat in on your Intro to Journalism class and loved it. It was the reason I came to Monmouth. After class you took the time to talk to me and answer any questions I had about the University. The fact that a professor made me a priority meant the world to me. Ever since you have guided my academic journey, you have acted as a mentor, and have always welcomed me into your office. I know that your door is always open and I can’t thank you enough for helping me become the writer and person I am today.

**Dean Thomas:** Thank you for consistently being a source of inspiration. You are always there to remind me of the beauties in life and that I can do anything I set my mind to. You called me one of “the hardest working woman” which has both encouraged me and humbled me. I know I may be quiet in class but I am always listening and always taking in the lesson and words that you say. “We write when we can no longer remain silent.”—Michael Thomas.

**Professor Harris:** You have been one of the most impactful professors and teachers of my academic career. You have taught me the importance of treating everyone with kindness and following your path and passion. Through your expertise I have learned how to take care in my work and how to always try to see the positive in any situation. I will continue to follow my heart and lead with passion and that is all thanks to your teachings.

**Melanie:** I am blessed to have you in my life. You are one of the most kindhearted incredible people I have ever met and I am so thankful that Monmouth has brought you into my path. You constantly remind me of my value. You are one of my best friends and remember that I will always scoot for you.

**Jamilah:** You have been one of the most inspirational people to have ever entered my life. Your positivity has kept me sane on the roughest nights in the office. I am honored to know you and blessed to call you a friend. I can’t wait to write and edit each other’s books. It has been amazing to watch you grow into the writer, editor, and reporter you are today and I know you will change the world.

**Leann:** Thank you for being an amazing roommate and one of my best friends throughout college. I am grateful to have you in my life and to have someone who always accepts me despite my sloth like tendencies. Thank you for always being there when I needed you the most and for supporting me in anything I do.

**Kara:** I am so glad our house on Hoey brought us together. You have been an amazing friend to me and I can’t wait to watch you grow at the University of Pennsylvania. Thank you for the countless memorable nights and for your genuine friendship. If you ever need anything I am always here so never hesitate to reach out.

**Caitie:** Thank you for being the devil to my angel, the batman to my robin, my partner in crime. You have always been there to

pick me up when I’m down and take me out when I need it the most. You are the best date a girl could ask for and I can’t wait for all the shenanigans life is going to get us into.

**West End Peeps:** Thank you for showing me a good time. I know your door is always open and that means the world. Love you all.

**Angela:** We met at orientation and have been best friends ever since. From awkward freshman to seniors about to graduate you have been there for me every step of the way. I am grateful to have you in my life and so happy to be able to call you friend. I can’t wait to watch you soar and see you dominate anything you set your mind to. Thank you for always looking out for me and know that I will always be there for you.

**Ally:** Print it! I am so happy that *The Outlook* has brought us together. You have quickly become one of my closest friends. You are an incredible writer and I know you are destined for greatness in *The Outlook* and beyond. Thank you for always reminding me that “You can do anything but you can’t do everything.”

**Brianna:** I would have never been a member of *The Outlook* if it weren’t for you. You saw me as a little sophomore and believed in me more than I believed in myself. You have acted as my mentor and have guided me in almost every decision I have made during my time as Editor-in-Chief. You have always had my back and I can’t thank you enough for your endless encouragement, late *Outlook* nights, and expert guidance.

**Kelly:** You have been my voice of reason. I am so grateful that *The Outlook* brought you into my life. You have been such a dependable graduate assistant and such an amazing friend. Thank you for all of your guidance, your late *Outlook* nights, and for always making me laugh. Know that I truly look up to you. You have been such a positive influence on me and I can’t thank you enough for all the hard work and dedication you have given the paper.

**Courtney:** I am so excited to watch you grow and see all that you will do as Editor-in-Chief. I know you will take this paper to incredible places and will be successful in all that you do. I know the paper is in good hands with you.

**The Communication Department:** Thank you for always supporting *The Outlook*. This department has provided me with an amazing education and every professor has influenced me. Thank you for always putting your students first and for giving every student the opportunity to be successful.

**President Dimenna:** In the short time that I have known you I can honestly say you have had an impact on my life. Thank you for always putting students first, for supporting *The Outlook*, and for taking a sincere interest in my future.

**The Outlook Editorial Staff:** We have created a family here. I am honored to have worked with some of the best people on this campus. I know how rare it is to have a group of people genuinely love and support one another and I can’t express enough how grateful I am to have all of you in my life. Thank you for all the time and dedication you have given this paper. My goal was to lead with passion and love and I hope I have accomplished that. Know that I will always be there for each and every one of you.





# THE OUTLOOK

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# Welcome to the Family, Prospective Student...

## THE OUTLOOK STAFF

Dear Prospective Student:

We, *The Outlook* Staff, want to welcome you to what could be the most incredible college experience in your lifetime. Deciding to go to Monmouth University will be the greatest life decision you make; trust us, we know from experience.

There is so much to love about being an MU student. It's impossible to share with you every single thing that we cherish on this campus, but we can try. You've heard the commercials and we're sure you have heard about how we are located right by the beach and have a to-die-for, beautiful campus (#7 on *Buzzfeed's* Top 25 Most Beautiful Campuses in the World in 2015), but it doesn't mean anything until you actually step foot on campus.

One editor claimed, "I immediately fell in love with the campus. It was close to the beach, it was beautiful, and everyone seemed so happy and nice. I knew that this was undoubtedly the place I needed to go to."

Another editor added, "It isn't just that you can sit on the beach and relax when it's warm. There are a lot of good places to eat that are on the beach and you can also walk the boardwalk when it's nice out near Pier Village and get ice cream at Strollo's Lighthouse. There's the typical stuff to do like most towns, but the beach as an everyday view is

an added bonus."

Besides what surrounds the campus, the campus itself is an absolute joy to be on as well. Some of our favorite buildings on campus are the OceanFirst Bank Center, Jules L. Plangere Center, and Wilson Hall. You tend to fall in love with the building you are in the most. For most editors, that means the Jules L. Plangere Center, which is the building for communication studies.

Waking up every morning and walking to class, you can be assured that you're walking into a space where you get personalized attention and where people truly care about you. Editors agree that one of the best things about classes at Monmouth are the class sizes. One editor stated, "I love the small class sizes because the professors truly care about you and want you to succeed."

At Monmouth, you are in charge of your own journey through your undergraduate or graduate studies. All of the people you meet, classes you take, and organizations you get involved in help shape and guide you along that journey.

One editor reminisced about how because he joined *The Outlook*, he got to fulfill a dream. He said, "The one thing that I really wanted to do here was meet Brad Brach, who is one of the few former Monmouth baseball players to have a successful career in Major League Baseball. Luckily for me, he (and Miles Aus-

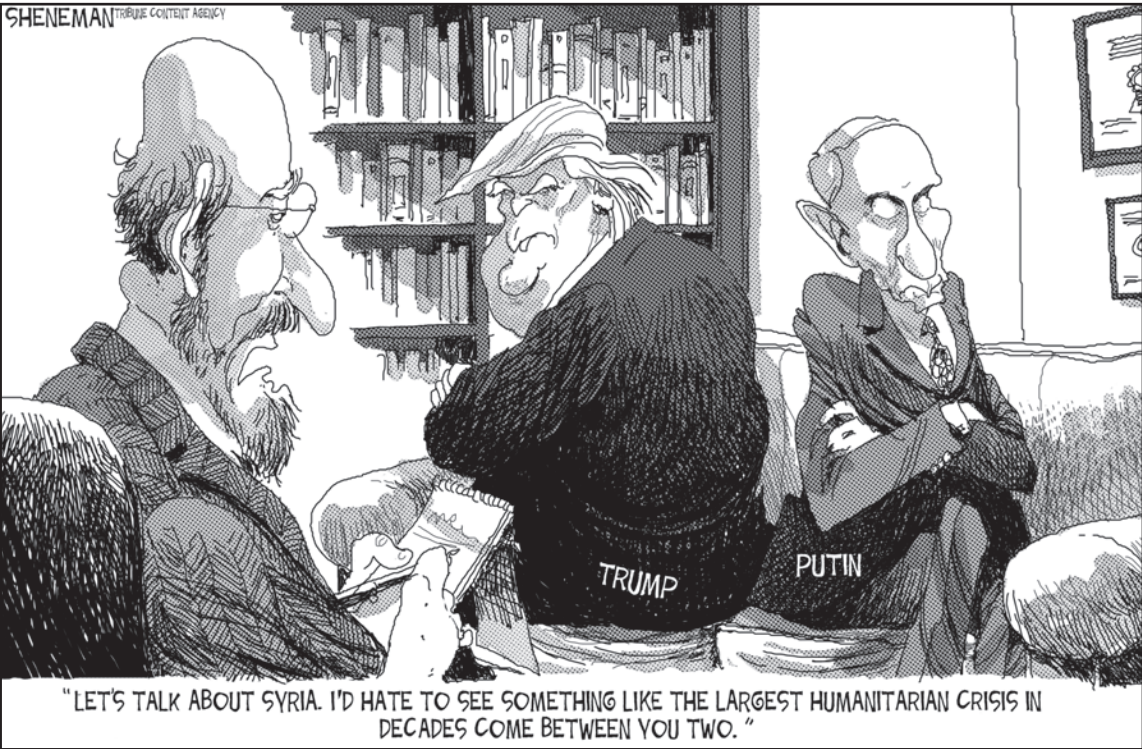
tin, which was a nice bonus) was inducted to the Athletics Hall of Fame in December. I got to meet both of them, which, to me, was the coolest thing in the world. Without *The Outlook*, none of this would have happened."

Another editor spoke about her MU experience, "I would not have grown into the same person if I chose to go somewhere else and I could not be happier with my decision. Studying abroad at MU was probably one of my favorite decisions. I made friends that I know will last a lifetime and I will forever be grateful for MU for providing me with that experience."

The ball is in your court. Every decision to say hello to someone is a chance to make a new friend. Every choice to take a specific course could spark a new interest and inspire a major or minor decision. And each club or organization you choose to get involved in will have gargantuan positive impacts on your future.

There really is no better place than Monmouth University to start and complete your undergraduate or graduate studies. Take it from a staff that could not be happier with their decisions. Here at Monmouth, you're not just a number; you are a part of our family. "Hawks Fly Together" ...always.

Sincerely,  
*The Outlook* Staff



## HOW TO SUBMIT ARTICLES OR LETTERS:

*The Outlook* provides the Monmouth University community with information concerning issues in and around the University while serving as a forum for expression of the ideas of its readers.

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# The Many Types of College Professors: *This is What I've Learned...*

NICOLE SEITZ  
COPY EDITOR

In four years of higher education, I have had every kind of professor you can think of. From the super chill guy who's just happy when you show up to class, to the really sweet one who seems easy but will take points off if you decide to slack off. There are tons of different types of professors.

There are so many types of professors and I just want to thank them all for not only teaching me the course objectives, but for teaching me a thing or two about life in some way.

**The “chill” professor:**

Extreme cases are the professors who seem like they are straight out of the 70s. They tend to say “man” a lot and probably wear Sanuks, which are super casual close-toed slides (or something similar). Most of the time these are your philosophy, history, music, or art professors, but don't be fooled, they can be from any department. These professors teach us that you don't have to take your job, or life in general, so seriously. Life can be stressful and annoying and the last thing we want is our job to make us go crazy. Enjoying your job and being a little relaxed isn't bad and should be accepted to some extent in the

work place.

**The “organized/really into their course” professor:**

These professors follow the syllabus to a tee. They're the best because when your life is chaotic and you literally have no idea what is going on, you can count on these professors to make their class easy to follow. Taking a professor like this may be annoying to some because they actually expect you to show up to class and do all the work (I know, shocker). However, they tend to be the professors who don't just give you busy work. Their assignments are made to really help you dive into the knowledge and really get something from the class, whether you believe it or not.

These professors show us the importance of being punctual and really caring about the work that we do. They also show us that your bosses in the real world will really appreciate any work you do as long as you really try and just listen to what needs to be done.

**The “absent” professor:**

You hopefully only come across a few in your college career, but absent professors exist. They are professors who don't really care about their students and are only in it for the paycheck. They are also the ones who may have the “you're an adult so just do it yourself” mentality, meaning they aren't going to help you at all and they'll hardly show up to their office

hours. They may even just cancel class too often.

These professors show us that you can't always rely on the people you think you should be able to. They almost force you to have to grow up a little faster by realizing that you need to solve things in your own way without the constant guidance of someone else.

**The best professors of all time:**

This can be a combination of some traits previously mentioned with some other character traits as well. These professors make you think, “Wow, the never ending raise in the cost of higher education isn't so bad!” When I transferred to Monmouth in the fall of 2015, I hadn't met any professors like this yet. Coming here, I was extremely lucky to have some of the best faculty. Through all the academic highs and lows and all the personal struggles, I have met some truly amazing professors at MU who have helped me through those things.

These professors love what they do, love being involved in campus life, and love supporting their students without any formal recognition. They do these things just because. These professors show us that in life, it's not about getting recognition for doing good things; it's about feeling good and making a difference.

I really hope that the best professors in my life know exactly

how much they mean to me and every student they have ever had. All these different types of professors I named above (good and bad) have an impact on us and show us something about life.

Going to college isn't just about reading the over-priced textbook and taking the exam to get the grade. College is about

forming relationships and learning from people- your peers and faculty alike.

Now that I am graduating in May, I can say that as much as I am looking forward to starting a career, I am going to miss the lessons that I have learned from more than just reading a textbook, but from experiencing college classes as a whole.



PHOTO TAKEN by Amanda Drennan

Professors at Monmouth University have made an enormous impact on students, no matter what type of professor they may be.

## Making a ‘Major’ Decision

AMANDA DRENNAN  
VIEWPOINT EDITOR

One of the most challenging decisions that you have to make in college is choosing your major. With several different majors, concentrations, and minors that you can choose from, you can make your degree the perfect fit for you.

It's stressful when you're trying to declare your major because it's important to most to try to graduate on time. A student at Monmouth can stay undeclared until their sophomore year, or when they complete 56 credits.

Monmouth has an office of undeclared services to help students who have not yet decided their major. They offer career planning guides and workshops that help students decide on a major and they are advised through the Center for Student Success.

Friends and family try to help, but sometimes their direction can lead you the wrong way. Those who care about you are usually trying to be helpful, but they may advise you to choose a major based on the average salary a person who graduates with that major makes.

A good salary is important, but not as important as doing something you care about. If you're more worried about a high-paying job than doing something that you enjoy, it can make your college career more difficult.

Your major should also be based on what you're interested in, not what your friends are interested in. It's great to have friends in your classes, but not at the expense of your education. Even if you don't know anyone who has the same major as you, making friends and getting to know people won't be difficult because you have a similar area of interest.

There are also myths that some majors are harder than others, but when you think about, we all take the same general education classes. The only differences we have are when it comes to our major requirements.

Although it might seem like you have much more work than people in different majors, we're all working towards different degrees, so the work is different. There's no reason that some majors should be undermined because some of the work just seems easier.

Even if you've selected a major and you realize that it's not something you're really passionate about, there's always the option to change your major. Even if that means you have to take courses over the summer, or stay an extra semester, majoring in something you enjoy is important.

You also have the option to pick up minors. These are more specific and usually help add a significant touch to your résumé when you're looking for a job in the future. A minor will help give you the extra push when you're looking to do something specific.

Students have the option to choose a major or several majors and also to pick up several minors. The minors can be related to your major, or just something that holds your interest.

Choosing a major can be difficult, but it's important to pick something that you're really interested in. If you're doing something that interests you and that you love, it's more likely that you'll enjoy whatever you wind up doing in the future. Your college major should be something that you choose because you are passionate about it. It's one of the first real steps to becoming an adult and planning for your future in your college career and beyond.

## Life Lessons for an MU Student From *Lilo and Stitch*

ALEXANDRIA AFANADOR  
CO-FEATURES/PHOTOGRAPHY EDITOR

While, “It's nice to live on an island with no large cities,” according to Lilo, we can't all have that luxury. As the singing and pounding of drums in Hawaiian fashion hum in the background, Lilo and Stitch and their shenanigans share with us life lessons meant to last forever.

**It's okay to be a little weird or different.**

We weren't made to fit in, biologically, physically, emotionally, we're all meant to be different. In a world where we are all the same, life would get boring quickly. Whether your interests include dancing, writing, sports, etc. follow them! Many people are afraid of following their passion because college is stereotyped as either the time to focus only on studies, or a time where everything lets loose--a happy medium is best for all. Find the balance between being passionate about your interests and focusing on work as best as you can. In fact, in *Lilo and Stitch*, we see Pleakley wasting so much precious time and energy into becoming something and someone he could never be--wearing different clothes, speaking differently, etc. We forget that we are the best version of ourselves when we learn to actually be ourselves.

**It's better to have one good friend rather than a hundred acquaintances.**

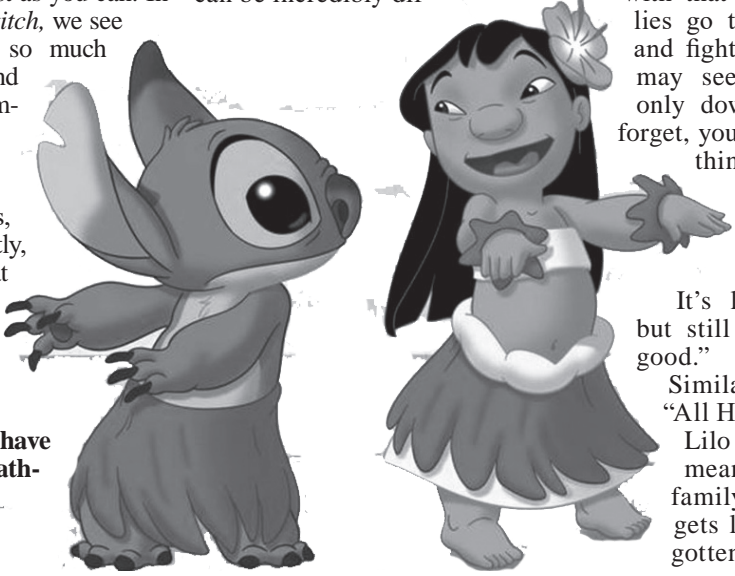


IMAGE TAKEN from <http://lwllies.com/articles/when-marnie-was-there-lilo-and-stitch/>

There are many life lessons that a Monmouth University student can learn from the classic Disney movie, *Lilo and Stitch* teaches us such as the fact that it is okay to be different.

Lilo and Stitch prove to us that we all have that one friend that is always by our side through the ups and the downs. Granted, our best friend could be our dog like many of us, Monmouth offers the perfect environment to find your best friend. Getting involved in a program or club, or even diving further into your major, could lead to finding your best friend in the mix of it all. As David says, “I may not be a doctor, but I know there's no better cure for a sour face than a couple of boards and some choice waves.” Make sure to keep a friend who is always keeping your best interest at heart.

**Love everyone for what is on the inside, don't judge people based on appearances.**

As a society, we are being judged and constantly judge others, it is a natural occurrence and as much as we would like to stop it, we simply cannot. What we can do, instead, is try to dig deeper. Meeting new people can be incredibly dif-

ficult, let alone meeting people in college. We should all act a little like Lilo-picking out people (or dogs) that could be our best friends even without knowing a single thing about them. As aforementioned, Monmouth holds an abundance of services, programs, and organizations to find your fit and to find your niche--join a group that you never thought you'd join and I can bet that you'll end up falling in head over heels.

**If all else fails, family is always there for you in the end.**

Being away from home, or even just getting accustomed to a new culture or way of life at college, is challenging to say the least. Everyone feels and goes through the same homesickness at college, even commuters to some degree. It is vital to understand and remember that family will continue to be right behind you to catch you if you fall. Also, to go hand in hand with that thought, all families go through difficulties and fights, and at times, it may seem like there are only downfalls, but, don't forget, your family is the one thing in life that will never leave. Stitch says, “this is my family. I found it all on my own. It's little and broken, but still good. Yeah, still good.”

Similar to the motto, “All Hawks fly together,” Lilo says: “‘ohana’ means family, and family means nobody gets left behind, or forgotten.”



April 7, 2017

Dear Students:

On **Sunday, April 23** the Student Government Association will host **Springfest** on **Shadow Lawn** (rain site: the OFBC) from **12:00 pm to 5:00 pm**. The day will include live music, a BBQ by Gourmet Dining, festival games, and giveaways. **However, no alcohol will be served or permitted on the Shadow Lawn or the rain location of the Ocean First Bank Center.** Springfest 2017 will have everything you need and it should be a great way for us all to celebrate the end of another year at Monmouth University.

While your attendance at Springfest is a key part of what continues to make this event so popular, it is also important that you practice **good decision making** before, during, and after the festival. Your respect for the rules and regulations of the University and your willingness to look out for one another are all essential to making this day successful. Therefore, I ask that you spend a few moments reviewing the following guidelines that will be in effect for Springfest 2017.

1.

If you plan to attend Springfest 2017, please know that pets/animals, open-containers, alcohol, squeeze bottles, bags, purses, backpacks, and/or similar items **WILL NOT BE PERMITTED**. Any student/guest that attempts to bring the related items to the event will be asked to leave the festival area.
2.

Students living in any of the on-campus housing units **are not permitted** to host a social gathering during or after Springfest, which occurs on Sunday, April 23. Students that wish to hold a gathering on **Saturday, April 22** must complete the Office of Residential Life’s *Social Affairs/Policy Application* by **Thursday, April 20, 2017 by 3:00 pm**.
3.

Parking in the **Great Lawn** and **Garden Apartment** Lots will be **strictly enforced** on April 23. If you plan to drive to campus for the festival and do not have a valid parking sticker for the Garden or Great Lawn parking lots, you **MUST** park in the commuter parking lot by the Student Center. No exceptions permitted. Students should enter the campus from the Larchwood Avenue entrance.

For those students who live off campus, I would also remind you that the local communities have a **zero tolerance** for any quality of life disruptions in the local residential neighborhoods. Should you decide to host a social gathering before, during or after Springfest, please make sure that it stays within the limits of common sense, respect for one’s neighbors, and all applicable laws and ordinances within your community.

I hope you will take an active role in assisting the Student Government Association and Monmouth University in our effort to present Springfest 2017 in a **safe** and **positive** manner. Your commitment to making this event a celebration of the year’s achievements is critical. I know I can count on you to do so!

I look forward to your anticipated cooperation and I hope to see you at Springfest. Best wishes on your final exams!

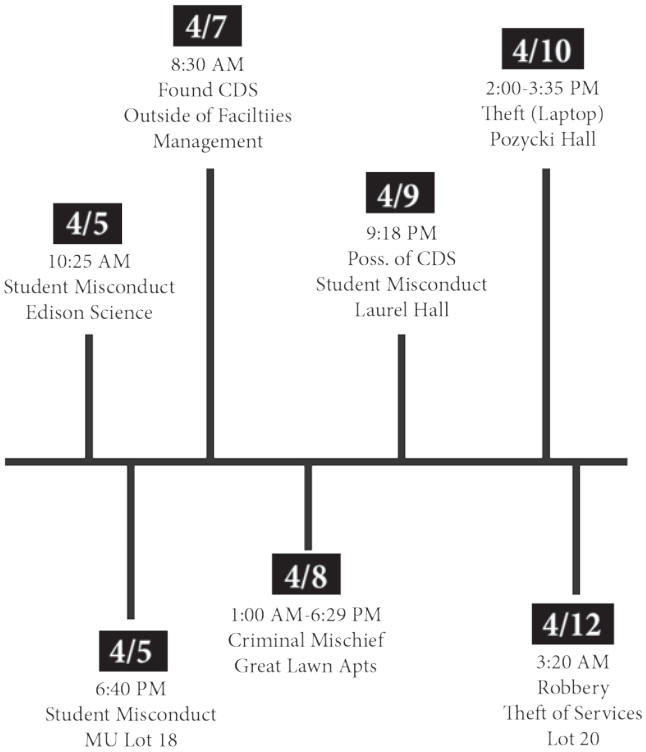
Sincerely,

Mary Anne Nagy  
Vice President for Student Life and Leadership Engagement



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# Sean Spicer Makes Controversial Comments

**GABRIELLE LENTILE**  
STAFF WRITER

White House press secretary Sean Spicer, in an attempt to criticize Syrian President Bashar al-Assad’s chemical attack, said that even Hitler did not use chemical weapons during World War II.

Despite the fact that Hitler killed millions of Jews using gas chambers, Spicer said during a briefing on April 11, “We had someone as despicable as Hitler who didn’t even sink to using chemical weapons.”

When a reporter gave him the opportunity to clarify during the briefing on Tuesday, Spicer defended his remarks by differentiating Hitler’s and Assad’s actions, according to *The New York Times*.

“I think when you come to sarin gas, there was no, he (Hitler) was not using the gas on his own people the same way that Assad is doing,” Spicer said. “He brought them into the Holocaust center I understand that. What I am saying in the way that Assad used them, where he went into towns, dropped them down to innocent, into the middle of towns, it was brought – so the use of it. And I appreciate the clarification there. That was not the intent.”

The comment came during the first day of Passover, which is the most widely celebrated Jewish holiday in the U.S., and during the Christian Holy Week.

Shortly after the briefing, Spicer emailed a different statement to reporters: “In no way was I trying to lessen the horrendous nature of the Holocaust. I was trying to draw a distinction of the tactic of using airplanes to drop chemical weapons on population centers. Any attack on innocent people is reprehensible and inexcusable.”

Spicer’s comment received criticism and outrage from various platforms, including House Democratic leader Nancy Pelosi, who tweeted, “@realDonaldTrump, it’s time to fire @PressSec Sean

Spicer,” and Senator Ben Cardin, tweeted, “Someone get @PressSec a refresher history course on Hitler stat #Icantbelievehereallysaidthat,” *The New York Times* reported.

The United States Holocaust Memorial Museum also shared its outrage – they tweeted a video of the liberation of the Buchenwald, Germany concentration camp by U.S. forces, according to the Washington Post.

Spicer additionally apologized on *CNN*, where he said, “I was obviously trying to make a point about the heinous acts that Assad had made against his own people last week, using chemical weapons and gas. Frankly I mistakenly made an inappropriate and insensitive reference to the Holocaust, for which there is no comparison. And for that I apologize. It was a mistake to do that.”

Dr. Saliba Sarsar, a professor of Political Science, offered a clarification of the attacks that have occurred in in Syria, which is “in a conflict of war situation.”

He continued, “The chemical attack on Halabja in March 1988 on the order of Saddam Hussein, which killed and injured thousands of Kurdish civilians, was a genocidal massacre. Similarly, the chemical attacks...on Khan al-Assal in March 2013, in Ghouta in August 2013, and...the April 2017 attack are reprehensible and those responsible must be brought to justice.”

Dr. Sarsar also said that Spicer has since apologized for his comments.

During an appearance the following day at a Newseum sponsored forum, which was broadcast live by *CNN* and *MSNBC*, Spicer told anchor Greta Van Susteren, “On both a personal and professional level, yesterday was not a very good day in my history.” Spicer, the press secretary of the White House, continued, “No matter what you do, what you wear, it gets amplified to a degree that you couldn’t imagine.”

Dr. Johanna Foster, Director of



IMAGE TAKEN from vanityfair.com

White House Press Secretary Sean Spicer faces pressure to resign after controversial comments.

the Sociology Program, expressed concern about the nature of Spicer’s comments: “I do think we should take such guffaws seriously from people holding a position as serious as press secretary as the very nature of the job requires him to be both knowledgeable and basic and not-so-basic facts of history,”

Foster said, “While it is true that the job of any press secretary is to communicate the President’s agenda and interests in a way that manages opposition and encourages consent for an administration’s policies, one cannot use that position to rewrite history, or to misinform the public.”

*The Washington Post* also reported that the Trump administration have faced criticisms of anti-Semitism before – Trump’s choice of Stephen Bannon as chief strategist has been opposed by the Anti-Defamation League in that Bannon is the former leader of the anti-Semitic Breitbart news site.

In response to Trump’s anti-Semitic pattern, Foster said, “So-

biologically speaking, I think there is no other way to look at the evidence other than to interpret Trump as a president who is willing to support white nationalist and anti-Semitic interests when they suit his economic and political agendas, despite the rare instances when he has said otherwise.”

“To the extent that folks in his administration also support their colleagues with old-school segregationist-style agendas, or overt and unapologetic repurposed white nationalist sentiments, platforms, and policy initiatives, then they, too, would be complicit,” said Foster.

Katie Serkus, a sophomore anthropology student said of Spicer’s comments, “I do believe that he is trying to explain the evilness behind the chemical attacks and why we should not just sit back and let such terrifying events happen.”

The briefing on April 11 is not the first time Spicer has made mistakes on facts or told untruths. In consideration of truth in Trump’s administration, Dr. Foster said, “The extent to which Trump and members of his administration brazenly make false statements to the people – whether it’s because they shamelessly ignore the basic mechanisms we teach middle school children about how to check your facts, or because they feel entitled to peddle outright lies with impunity – is truly chilling.”

While some believe that Spicer’s apology was genuine and therefore should be accepted, others, including Steven Goldstein, executive director of the Anne Frank Center for Mutual Respect, is calling for Spicer to be fired.

“Either Spicer is just not that bright and says outlandish things because he doesn’t know better, or he does know better and is engaging in an outrageous use of his position to manipulate public opinion,” Foster said. “Either way, we should absolutely be gravely concerned if we care about preserving a democracy.”

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# The Importance of Punctuality

KAAN JON BOZTEPE  
STAFF WRITER

Punctuality is what separates those who are in the minor leagues and those who are in the major leagues. To be punctual is to be properly on time and prompt. Being late is not only rude to those waiting for you, but makes it appear that you have poor self-control. Distractions, disorganization, laziness, and lack of focus all correlate to those who consistently end up being late. Luckily, there is hope for all of you out there, as long as you pay close attention to these tips.

Know the reason you want to be punctual; make your goal crystal clear. To become punctual, you must make it habitual to your daily routine and then stick with your new lifestyle.

Being on time will lessen your stress of running late and reduce the bad energy between yourself and your co-workers by arriving promptly.

To become punctual, you must know how long the tasks you do on a regular basis take. If you have work at say 8 a.m., you must plan an appropriate time to sleep, to wake up, have your clothes that you would like to wear the next day planned, breakfast ready, and a driving route that will guarantee you will be 10 to 15 minutes early as a precautionary action. How long does it take you to



IMAGE TAKEN from Pexels

Recording your appointments will help to approximate how much time each task will take and how to best manage that time.

brush your teeth?

How long does it take you to do your hair? These small tasks add up and you must plan accordingly.

Adjunct biology professor, Kelly Zimmerman, shared her view stating, “There is no big secret to being punctual though I think a big part of it is respecting the people you are supposed to meet with. Their time is as valuable as yours and it’s rude to keep people waiting.”

Recording all of your appointments, taking note of how long each task approximately takes, and of course, having

time for yourself as well helps in managing one’s time. Being punctual will help you save time due to your new organization skills that will help you complete your tasks earlier.

But the key to this plan is to follow it, so don’t drag on with a task when it’s time to leave.

Rather than working longer than you have scheduled, save your work, take a deep breath, and schedule to finish your work on a later date and plan it.

Sabina Graziano, a computer science student, said, “People always say that they do not know how to fix their bad punctuality.

A really simple way to be more punctual is obvious-leave early. A good way to know when to leave is to know how much time it takes to get to where you need to go. Once you know that, you can choose a good time to leave and make sure that you get there five to ten minutes early. It is better to be early than late.”

As college students, we have packed schedules, which might contribute to our tardiness. However, in order to be successful in one’s life and career, punctuality is critical.

Marco Palladino, a political science student, added, “Being

on time is the first step to a day’s work. Being late can set you up for failure if you make it a habit. You can miss key information you need which puts you at a disadvantage in your career and your life.”

Being early is not a waste of time and you are not an over-achiever. If you deliberately show up early to your workplace, that shows that it is your choice and you now have time to go through your emails, read a book, talk to other co-workers, and prove your commitment to work.

When employees are punctual, the business tends to run smoothly and normally ahead of schedule, which only eases the mood of the workplace causing any tension or stress to decrease.

Punctuality is important in all aspects of your life. It empowers us to do all things to the best of our ability. The earlier we do our work and plan, the more we can accomplish in our lives and out-class any opposition we face.

Nothing can be done without hard work and precise planning. Remember, your reputation is on line.

The importance of being prompt is a symbol of your dedication and professionalism. Punctuality helps us build up our careers and never goes unnoticed. It is a virtue, a lifestyle, and realistically, it is the key to success in life.

## How to Have Your Best Summer Yet

MARIE SOLDO  
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

After a long, stressful semester, summer is the perfect way to wind down, spend time with friends and family, and catch some rays. For some students, summer means working, interning, or taking summer classes. Regardless of what your summer plans and obligations entail, here are some ways to make this the best summer yet.

According to *Elite Daily*, planning a trip is first on their list of ideas on how not to make this summer a bummer. Whether you are going to another country or staying close to home, getting away for a while is the perfect way to brighten your mood and alleviate whatever stress you may have.

Acquiring a new hobby is a great way to alleviate stress and acquire a new skill. Summer is the perfect time to learn how to cook, sew, and improve your writing or even scrapbook. This time off is a great excuse to get healthy and start working out or doing yoga. For those of you, who live locally, check out EvenFlow Yoga in Red Bank or Cobra Yoga in Little Silver.

For those of you that find joy in helping others, get out and volunteer somewhere. Nonprofit organizations like Lunch Break in Red Bank or Boys & Girls Club of America, also in Red Bank, will gladly accept those willing to volunteer.

Professor of communication, Claude Taylor, gives his recommendations for making this summer the best one yet: “I think the first thing to do is deliberately schedule your plans to rest and relax. This means making a weekly or monthly schedule for when you plan to do things that help you rest. If you are a beach person, get a badge and pencil in your days



IMAGE TAKEN from Pexels

Summer allows us to escape the stresses of the semester and gives us time to relax.

at the beach. Second, I would recommend trying a new hobby or leisure activity that you’ve always wanted to try to just learned about. To me, it’s fun to learn new things.”

Learning new things can be a great experience, as long as time permits. For some, summer break is not really much of a break.

Many students take internships, work at part-time jobs, and catch up on earning credits with summer courses, or even study for gradate entrance exams. These students focus more on catching up or advancing their career rather than relaxing.

Natalie Toro, a junior biology student, said, “Being productive and getting closer to my goal is what would be the best summer. I am going to volunteer at the hospital while being a Resident Assistant, shadowing a doctor, and hopefully getting a part time job as a front desk assistant

at an urgency care center.”

While some hope to continue works towards their goals this summer, others choose to enrich their lives with travel.

Kayla Cardona, a senior communication student, will make this summer a great one by doing more traveling. “Spring semester has been very stressful with school and work and applying for internships, but thankfully traveling has always been a remedy. There’s just something so euphoric about getting up and escaping for a while, even if it is just a day trip to a town I’ve never been before.”

This summer, let the sunshine energize you to take advantage of new opportunities and adventures. As the old adage states, life is what you make it, so keep the aforementioned tips in mind once you complete your finals and head home for the summer.

## Millennials are the Future

NICOLE SEITZ  
COPY EDITOR

Our elders consider millennials to be “whiny babies” and believe that those in their early twenties lack drive and ambition. The truth is, we are not perfect, but neither generation X, or baby boomers, or any other generation.

Professor Julian Garcia, an adjunct communication instructor, said, “Laziness is a trait that could be in any person no matter what age they are or year they were born.” So, why is it okay to single out young people today as especially lazy or needy?

People generally believe that since millennials grew up with texting, internet, and the ability to form instantaneous connections, that they are all impatient. Some studies show that millennials want immediate feedback and desire to have all of their ideas heard. Why are these things seen as negative traits by older generations?

Garcia continues, “Young people have different technology that they use and they were brought up differently and that might affect the way they work. They [millennials] may rely more on technology than older people, but they’re not lazy, it’s just a different approach to work.”

Liam Frank, a senior music industry student, said, “Many young professionals from this generation are starting to get opportunities to prove their work ethic since lots of companies want fresh young minds.”

The business world and the way the world works in general is changing and evolving a lot. Having young people starting to take initiative and bring their own ideas forward seems obvious to keep up with the changing times.

Frank continued, “Many millennials are perceived as entitled by older superiors and are sometimes victims of age discrimination in employment.” The tough economy makes it hard for millennials to even get jobs right out of school because

limited jobs are available and are more frequently given to older, more experienced candidates.

“Do people think we want to live at our parent’s house, working in the food service, feeling like we’re trapped in a money less hole they created?” said Kelly Currie, a senior fine arts student.

Most twenty-year-olds graduate from college in debt and jobless because of the current climate of the job market. Our parents’ and our grandparents’ generations want to look down on us so much, from the way we dress to our “laziness”, but who are the people that raised us? Who are the people that created the world we grew up in? To blame us, millennials, for something we did not create makes no sense.

The stigma surrounded by being young may affect our immediate ability to get a good job, but Frank said “Creative, young minds are especially good for start-ups and internships.”

In my own experience of going to numerous networking events on campus and meeting representatives from various established and new places in the area, I find that these people are very eager to hire young interns who seem motivated to learn.

The point that many Monmouth alumni who come to these networking events stress is to have as many internships as possible. Get experience and be able to build up your résumé for future employers to see.

Garcia explained that a way to try and eliminate the stigma of millennials being too wrapped up in technology can be erased by a good interview. Focusing on eye contact and personal interaction with the interviewer can prove to them that you don’t care more about your phone and are able to focus.

Obviously, it is annoying that millennials have to walk around feeling like we are being judged, but if we prove ourselves better than this stigma, we can run the world.





JAMILAH MCMILLAN  
MANAGING/NEWS EDITOR

It pains me to write this because it means that I am nearing the end of a riveting installment in the series that is my life. Four years ago, my parents waved me off as I drove to class, for the first time in our families 8-passenger minivan. Any growth since that frightful day is due to the kindness and generosity of individuals who took the time to push me forward, or point me in the right direction. So please pardon me as I begin this drawn out letter of gratitude for those who deserve tremendous applause.

**Mi Familia:** Thank you to my dysfunctional clan who has put up with me over the last four years. Sorry for all the times that I missed a game, or a family dinner, because I was studying, doing homework, in class, at a conference, or hosting an event...or a protest. I love you all--you are my backbone.

**Dr. Datta:** Words cannot describe the short amount of time it took for you to make a tremendous impact in my life. You are my mentor, teacher, and friend. Thank you for helping me see my own potential for change; for helping me see the power of women and girls; and for helping me see the importance of education. Dhanyavaad.

**Dr. Patten:** You have always said that you are my number one fan. Thank you for always encouraging me to shoot high. I will try my best.

**Professor Morano:** You

helped us become great editors so we could create a weekly publication that we could be proud of. Thank you for teaching and leading us.

**Dr. Novek & Dr. Foster:** Thank you both for being so supportive throughout the years. Your activism within Academia, is inspiring. Keep fighting the good fight.

**Department of Political Science and Sociology:** The unsettling things that I have learned in your classes will surely keep me conscious of the many injustices of the world. I thank you all for giving me the tools needed to see reality so that I may attempt to make a difference.

**Anne & David at the DPC:** The two of you are an unforgettable part of my Monmouth family. Thank you for always hearing me, teaching me, pardoning my mistakes, helping me turn my ideas into print, and enlarging my palate for various foods.

**Janaya Lewinski:** The flip to my flop. My day one. My ride or die. Thank you for dealing with my shenanigans. You're a strong and intelligent black woman. You is smart. You is kind. You is important. I have no doubt that you are going to surpass your dreams.

**Women of SAGE:** You're all trailblazers, activists, and changemakers. You have created a sisterhood on this campus that is proactive and reactive. You speak your minds, and you fight for a future where women's rights are human rights, where all girls have access to education, and

where women can go to college without the fear of rape. *If not us, then who? If not now, then when?*

**Danielle Schipani:** If there was a plaque of honor for the "most earnest person in the world" I would engrave your face on it. I feel blessed to call you my friend, because you are a wonderful person. Whatever life throws at you, throw it right back. Whatever comes next; know that I am your number one fan. I am sorry, but you are stuck with me for eternity. Thank you for entrusting me as your right hand. Those Tuesday nights were phenomenal. You are an amazing leader, writer, and role model. From this day forward if I ever hesitate about anything, I will mimic your gusto, and just say...PRINT IT!

**Lo-lo Niesz and Amanda Drennan:** Thank you for being your genuine selves and not giving any cares about what other people thought about you...EVER. I have learned so much from you both. You have taught me to appreciate basketball, baked goods, and living life to the fullest. I cannot wait to see where life takes you both, wherever it is I will surely be tuned in.

**Ally Afanador:** There are some people that you know will do great, because they are great. There are some people that you know will succeed at achieving their dreams, because they are already achieving their dreams. You are one of those people. You are an inspiration to all of us lost souls out there looking for purpose. Keep shining.

**John Sorce:** Johnny! You are a wonderful human being. When you came out into the world, I am sure the sun was shining, and the birds were chirping. Thank you for always being a solid support system within our crazy Outlook familia. Whenever Danielle and I were reaching our limits, you swooped in like a hawk. You. Are. Going. To. Do. Fine. Please remember the little people.

**Courtney Buell:** Courtney... Courtney...Courtney. You are talented, and you have so much potential. Since the day I first met you I knew you were unique. You look at the world, and you see it; stay woke. I know you will lead *The Outlook* to new heights, and that you will continue to be a source of checks-and-balances for the University community. Make us proud.

**Amanda Gangidino:** Hey Lifestyles. I hope all your dreams come true. Love you.

**Caroline Mattise:** You are a ray of sunshine. I love you. Keep smiling always.

**Jasmine Ramos:** I have known you since day one. You are more than just *Outlook* family, you are also EOF family. Thank you for always being a source of laughter, support, and clarity. Even when times were tough you still came through...literally. I cannot wait to see what you do next. See you at AfroPunk.

**Brendan Greve:** Political, racial, or gender differences do not muddle my fondness of you. You are a good person, and I am glad to have you as a friend.

Good luck at law school.

**Allison Perrine:** You are undoubtedly talented, and everyone knows it. I have always secretly wanted to be as calm and collected as you. Thank you for being not only an amazing editor, but also an amazing study companion. I will graduate because of you! Thank you.

**Sandy:** Sandy, you are our guardian angel. Thank you for steering this ship. Without you we would be submerged in water. You are an amazing human being, and a fantastic role model. Thank you.

**Brianna McCabe:** I would not be writing this senior goodbye if it were not for you. You brought me into *The Outlook*, and you made sure I did not leave. Everything I have done as an editor has been through your example. So thank you. Thank you for helping me grow as a person, thank you for being there when we needed you, and thank you for being a friend.

**Kelly Brockett:** You helped steer us in the right direction. Thank you for your input and efforts. You have done so much for *The Outlook*, and we all really appreciate you.

**The Outlook Family:** Every single one of you has influenced my life in some way. You made the second half of college astoundingly enjoyable, entertaining, less stressful, and noteworthy. I will miss the late nights, the buckets of laughter, and the sound of keyboards typing away. Individually we were different, and together we were beautiful.

## Forever Royal: John's Senior Goodbye

JOHN SORCE  
CO-SENIOR/SPORTS EDITOR

Ever since I realized I wasn't going to play Major League Baseball, I knew I wanted to write about it. I still love the game as much as I did when I was five years old, when I began playing Little League with my dad as the coach. When I tell people baseball is my life, I mean that. That's why they call me Johnny Baseball.

I grew up watching a lot of losing as a Kansas City Royals fan over the years. But then 2014 and 2015 happened, and I felt like I was living in a dream. I could go on about this forever, but I will spare you those details. Just know that 10-year-old me became a fan of a team that lost 106 games in 2005 because I liked the stadium and uniforms, and I wanted a team I could call my own. I finally made it out to Kauffman Stadium in 2007 and saw them get destroyed by the Cleveland Indians twice, but I loved it. I knew the Royals were my team, and Kansas City will hopefully someday be my home.

I came here after honing my craft at Brookdale for three years. I enjoyed my time there, and it flew by. I know they miss me because no student covered their sports before I got there, or after I left. I like to go back and help out whenever I can. When my time there was nearing its end, I realized two years at Monmouth would go by even faster.

I knew for a while I was coming to Monmouth after Brookdale. I wanted to come here out of high school, but going there first was the right choice for me. Because of this, I followed Monmouth Athletics while I was at Brookdale in anticipation of covering them when I

transferred here.

I remember watching the first Monmouth football game of the 2015 season on *ESPN3* because I wanted to watch it as a fan. I ultimately decided to write a game story and submit it to *The Outlook* as a sample of my writing. I walked into the office my first day as a Monmouth student and, if my memory serves me correctly, I gave it to the only person that was in the room: Danielle (more on her in a little bit).

I did not know who covered sports at the time, but I knew my time here would fly. I intended to come to *The Outlook* and take over the sports section as quickly as I possibly could. Nobody was telling me otherwise. Little did I know then, that story would be published, and I have covered every football game since. I also covered an incredible men's basketball team and (of course) baseball last year, and I was honored to be named Sports Editor and ultimately Co-Senior Editor this year.

**Danielle:** I have to start with the best boss an editor could ever hope to have. Thank you for teaching me how to use InDesign early on. This was very important for me to become the editor I am today. I owe you all the credit for that. Thank you for giving me this opportunity. This was the most rewarding year of my life in terms of becoming a better writer, taking on a leadership role and helping other writers improve. I loved every second of it. Thank you for allowing me to be Co-Senior Editor. That meant the world to me. Thank you for being an amazing leader and producing an incredible paper week after week. *The Outlook* has a strong reputation, and you

exceeded those expectations. We had some difficult issues this year from the lock down to the presidential election and former President Brown's sudden retirement, and I am beyond amazed with how you handled all of them. Thank you for everything you did for not just me, but for all of us every single week. I truly cannot say thank you enough. I have no doubt that you are going to do amazing things, and I cannot wait to see where life takes you.

**Jamilah:** It was amazing to watch what you did with the news section every week. I was happy to help out a few times throughout the year. You are incredible with InDesign, Photoshop and Illustrator. You have made so many graphics for your stories throughout the year that I wouldn't have the faintest idea how to create. You are an amazing editor, but that should not go under the radar either. You and Danielle spent a lot of long nights in the office finalizing and sending out the paper, and I cannot thank you both enough.

**Bri & Kelly:** Two amazing grad assistants. Thank you both for reading over my stories and providing feedback every week. Bri, thank you for helping with the back page and for showing me how to do it. I knew absolutely nothing about Photoshop before becoming an editor, but now I feel confident enough to be able to create a back page myself. I never thought I would be able to say that. Kelly, thank you for always being here for us even when you weren't here.

**Lauren & Amanda** (because you are one): I always enjoyed looking up from press row at basketball games into the student section, knowing you would always be

there. It was really cool to know you supported the team so much that you made the trip down to North Carolina, even though I didn't see you there. Hopefully there will be a time down the road where we can all be together at a Monmouth basketball game. And I wouldn't want to be Co-Senior Editor with anyone else, Lauren.

**Professor Morano:** We met five years ago in your Monday's at Monmouth class. Little did I know at the time how much of an impact you would have on me in two short but incredibly rewarding years. Your journalistic experience is amazing and I am so grateful that you were my advisor. Thank you for all your help and for always being available to talk journalism. I will keep you updated with everything.

**Sandy:** Thank you for always being there and for everything that you did for us. I know I speak for everybody who went to San Francisco when I say thank you for doing everything for them to make that possible. The timing just did not work out for me to go with them. But thank you for taking care of me when I went to the MAAC Tournament these last two years and North Carolina as well.

**Courtney:** I have no doubt we are leaving *The Outlook* in great hands. You are going to do a great job as Editor-in-Chief next year. I cannot wait to see what you do with the paper. I am sure I will be around at some point to see how things are going.

**Ally:** Thank you for copy editing just about everything every week. You spent a lot of time in the office, and I am glad that you are going to be managing editor next year. You and Courtney will do a great job

running the show. And thanks for decorating my computer as well.

**Everybody else:** Even though I did not interact much with most of you, please know I will miss each and every one of you. I am just naturally a quiet person, I always have been, and I wish you all the best in the future.

**Athletics:** I owe everything I have done these past two years to the people in Athletics. Without their cooperation, I would not have been able to write one story. Dr. McNeil, Greg, Gary, Jarred, Chuck, Mark, Eddy, Professor Harmon, Suzi, and Drew, thank you all so much. But I want to especially thank King Rice, Dean Ehehalt, Kevin Callahan, Joe Compagni, Dennis Shea, and Brian Fisher for allowing me to provide coverage of your teams. Each of you have been excellent with me as I continue to grow as a writer, and I am grateful and fortunate that I had coaches who were media friendly. Thank you to all the coaches that worked with my writers as well.

And finally, **to my writers:** As much as I love writing about sports, it would have been very difficult for me to write four stories every week. Thank you all for stepping up and helping me out, you guys have no idea what that meant to me.

It is never easy to say goodbye, but I feel we have become a family. Hopefully, we will all keep in touch regardless of how far away we may drift over time. While I will always bleed Royal Blue, we Hawks will always fly together. No matter where I go from here, I will always be a Monmouth and an *Outlook* alum, and we will all always have that in common. This was an incredible ride, and I would not have wanted to have taken it with anyone else.





# An Interview with Actress Daniella De Jesus

ANNA BLAINE  
STAFF WRITER

Two River Theater is showcasing the enduring strength of a group of Spanish women bound together by familial relationships, language, culture and heritage. In the new play, *The Women of Padilla*, the multi-talented poet, playwright and actress Daniella De Jesus portrays one of the characters whose story is intertwined with the other characters and here the actress talks about her passion, including performing in a play that centers around women.

**I had the pleasure of reading a short bio on your artistic achievements as an actor and a writer, in particular playwrighting and poetry. Do you feel more at home in performing or writing?**

I feel more safe and comfortable in writing, the actual doing of it. But having my writing read aloud and performing are equally as nerve-wrecking and thrilling.

**Is this the first play you are doing at Two River Theater in Red Bank, New Jersey? If so, what has the experience been like rehearsing for *The Women of Padilla*?**

This is my first play with Two River Theater and my first professional production, so I'm learning a lot, and it's been a great environment to learn in. The rehearsal process has been really collaborative, which is amazing. Ken Russ Schmoll, our director, has made

each rehearsal feel safe and welcoming.

***The Women of Padilla* sounds like a fascinating story about eight women who carry on with life as their husbands are off fighting a war. Was there anything in particular that drew you to this play?**

A few things about this play resonated with me. The big one was that it revolves around eight Latina characters, which is major. It shouldn't be, you see plays with a bunch of white cis men all the time and no one bats an eye. But, it always feels really good to be part of a production that deviates from that "norm". I was also drawn in by how beautifully poetic and bare the language is. And I really fell in love with these characters, you feel for them. They feel like family, like they could be my family.

**All the women are inextricably linked by marriage and because of that they all have the same last name Padilla. Is that significant to the experiences that each woman faces throughout the play?**

The way in which these women are linked is a very significant part of the play. The fact that it's eight sister-in-laws and not eight sisters was a very conscious choice, because it raises more questions about family: what defines a family? Do we choose family; does it choose us?

**Can you tell me a little bit about Fidela, the character you portray**

**and why she resonates with you?**

Fidela is very quiet, she only speaks when spoken to or if what she has to say is important. She's quite strange and not always all there, she's often lost in thought, or feeling all of the world at once. I like to think of her as a broken wooden doll, the kind that don't have faces. She's sweet and silent, maybe a little forgotten, worn down, and sad, but she still has her place on the shelf. What drew me to Fidela was her strangeness and silence. I'm rarely called in to audition for quiet characters, so I thought it'd be a good challenge for me: figuring out how to play a character who prefers to be on the outside and interact as little as possible, while doing my job as an actor, which is to tell her story, to make sure she's seen and heard, listening, and affecting the people around her.

**In reading a synopsis of *The Women of the Padilla*, I noticed that it said these eight women bond over the power of food, faith and laughter. These are all topics that are relevant and insulated within Spanish culture and communities. Tell me how will these characters' bond over food, faith, and laughter without giving too much away?**

The way these characters' bond over food, laughter, and faith is all about getting through each day. When half of your heart and half of your family is in danger fighting a war, you have to find some piece of



PHOTO COURTESY of Two River Theater.

Daniella De Jesus discussed her experience acting in the new play, *The Women of Padilla*.

light to get you through that time, to make a livable life, otherwise you'd give up. So throughout the play, you'll see these women trying to find some normalcy and hope through prayer, or a joke at breakfast, or a cooking lesson.

**I'm guessing it was a conscious decision by playwright Tony Meneses to make this play about women. There are no men in the play hence the title, does that make it difficult for you to connect with some of your character's feelings regarding her**

**husband because men are not present and you don't get to interact?**

It was a conscious choice by the playwright, Tony Meneses, that no men would exist in this play physically. I don't think that not having those male characters' present was a hindrance to us or our crafting of relationships in any way.

The opening night of the play is Friday April 14, at 8 p.m. For available tickets please call 732.345.1400 or email [tworivertheater.org](mailto:tworivertheater.org).

## Indie Games in Review

JOHN MORANO  
STAFF WRITER

Gamers are increasingly turning towards the growing indie games market for fun, affordable games. Unfortunately, for every diamond indie game, there's a lot of rough.

One brief point before getting into the true gems, in a previous story I cautiously recommended *Ark: Survival Evolved* as a promising early access title. Unfortunately, I find myself regretting this recommendation, and, at this time, would like to caution potential buyers away from *Ark*. While they've certainly produced a very fun game, *Ark*'s developer, studio Wildcard, embodies several of the worst qualities that can be seen in the indie games industry. They ignore player feedback and regularly break their game, while hiding behind the fact that it's an early access title. They also put a system in their game which promotes unhealthy sleep habits, sold pay-to-win DLC, and illegally poached another indie developer's talent... So much of this is unethical, and believe me, I'm only scratching the surface, I could write a whole story on this dev's questionable business practices.

*Slime Rancher* is in many ways the polar opposite of *Ark*. For starters, it has an overwhelmingly positive rating from those who have played it. The developers are constantly improving this title and building on core features, rather than investing energy in questionable spinoffs.

The premise of *Slime Rancher* is simple; you, the player, run a unique kind of farm. On this farm you'll grow crops, raise chickens, and improve facilities all for the purpose of breeding a creature called slimes. There are numerous species of these slimes, which can be varied even further through in-

terbreeding.

Slimes produce a valuable waste product, "plorts," which can be sold for profit. I found *Slime Rancher* to be somewhat dull, as combat is simple, but I have several friends who love this game.

*Dungeon of the Endless* is another engaging indie I'd recommend. It's a co-op (cooperative) procedurally-generated roguelike; this means that the mission changes every time you play it, and sessions aren't meant to be more than a few hours. The premise is simple; players are thrust into a labyrinth of rooms, with the goal of finding a hidden door, powering it, and opening it. To do this, they will have to survive numerous alien attacks through the strategic positioning of available characters and deployment of defenses using various available resources. This game regularly surprises players and requires complex strategizing; if you're playing with others, effective communication is a must, and half of the fun.

*Fractured Space* is a free indie that some may find to be worth a look. The game plays something like a multiplayer online battle arena (MOBA) with a bit of a twist. The arena is space, and players control sci-fi battleships. There are numerous classes for ships, support, and tank, just like one would expect in a MOBA spinoff. Due to space being three-dimensional, there's also a sense of verticality which helps to set this title apart from others.

*Fractured Space* also features dynamic targeting, which makes individual skill count for more in combat. Some may find *Dreadnought* coming to mind after reading my description of *Fractured Space*, however, despite it being the higher-profile title, after playing both, I've concluded that *Fractured Space* is the better option.



IMAGE TAKEN from [www.mobgames.com](http://www.mobgames.com)

In this indie game review, *Warframe* was one that received praise and recommendation.

This is mainly due to game balance and the fact that *Fractured Space* is out of early access whereas *Dreadnought* has spent a worrying amount of time in early access.

*Warframe* is a game I've mentioned before, and I stand by my previous recommendations. This game may have launched four years ago, but due to constant optimizations and updates, it hasn't aged a day. At this point, calling *Warframe* an indie title is probably a stretch. It was definitely an indie at launch, but with a massive developer team and regular updates, it feels more polished than most AAA titles.

There are over 30 unique warframes (character classes) and 300 weapons in the game now, and more coming. Recent updates added randomly generated mods – riven mods – to the game, these allow for deeper weapon customization based on player preference. Gameplay is third-person action, with an emphasis on mobility. As

a side note, I've introduced eight friends to this game, six of whom have broken 100 hours, and still play it regularly. Considering that *Warframe* is free, on top of having tons of content and an ethical dev team, it gets my strongest recommendation.

*Golf With Your Friends* is a game which I'm surprised to find myself recommending. *Golf With Your Friends* is basically exactly what it sounds like; you play virtual mini golf with a few friends on a number of diverse mini golf courses. Obviously, being a video game, this title throws in a few additional options to mix up the mini golf experience. Gravity and golf ball size/shape are customizable (good luck hitting that hole-in-one with an acorn-shaped golf ball).

If people told me last semester that I would be recommending a browser game, I probably would have laughed at them, but here I am. *Town of Salem* is the first browser-based game I've enjoyed

in years. Gameplay is similar to the board game *Mafia*, with different players being assigned to different factions, all with the goal of wiping out the other factions. In *Town of Salem*, players are typically assigned to the town or mafia factions. Players are then given a role, a *Mafioso* specializes in killing townies, whereas a sheriff investigates players, to figure out what faction they belong to.

The goal of the town faction is to try and hang all the mafia, whereas the mafia try to stealthily wipe out town members. Strategies can be incredibly complicated, and the game itself is very amusing. Name choice, for example, can have a bearing on success. I remember when one player named himself after a prominent politician and was killed by the mafia, a town member, and a serial killer simultaneously on the first turn of the game. If you're into these sorts of games, *Town of Salem* is guaranteed to be good for some laughs.



# Persona 5 is a 10/10

JOHN MORANO  
STAFF WRITER

Quick disclaimer before I get into this review: I'm a huge *Persona* fan. I've loved the *Persona* series since I first played *Persona 3* in high school, and I've played every game in the series since. What makes *Persona* games great, in my mind, is three things. They all have excellent plots, incredibly complex/detailed character development, and they each have their own unique sense of style unlike anything else – past *Persona* games included.

In *Persona 3*, you played as "SEES," ostensibly a school club, but in actuality the "specialized extracurricular execution squad." This was a very dark game; core themes of the tile were death and decay, the game's color palette of dark green and black represented rot. Every night at midnight, players went to war, fighting a losing against a superior, inexhaustible enemy. After *Persona 3*, Atlus (the game's developer/publisher) did a

complete 180 and released *Persona 4*, a game about happiness and enjoying the end of one's childhood. I don't mean to convey the impression *Persona 4* was a bad game though; it was actually outstanding, and in many ways superior to *Persona 3*. The protagonist, Yu Narukami (or whatever players chose to name him) had to solve a murder mystery and catch the responsible party. At times, the plot got a little dark, but if you've ever seen *Scooby Doo*, you have a basic idea of what the game's plot was like – lighthearted and idealistic. Many players preferred this sort of plot and as a result, *Persona 4* won multiple game-of-the-year awards.

*Persona 5*'s plot follows a group of outcast troublemakers, shunned by conventional society. If you choose to play *Persona 5*, there's one phrase you will get used to hearing, "those awful adults!" There's the protagonist, who hurt a prominent politician while attempting to stop him from sexually assaulting a woman, and had his life turned upside down as

a result. There's Makoto, who had been groomed to be a lawyer by her successful older sister, but struggles to consolidate her own ideals with the expectations of those around her. Then there's Ryuji, a former track star, who lashed out at an abusive yet popular teacher, and faced unilateral condemnation from his school. Lastly, there's Futaba, who was blamed by a number of adults for her mother's suicide, and developed crippling social anxiety.

*Persona 5* is filled with complicated characters like these who come together to form "the Phantom Thieves of Hearts," a group with Robin Hood-like ideals, except where Robin Hood stole gold, they steal primarily hearts. In the plot of *Persona 5*, when one's desires are overly dark and uninhibited, they become distorted, most of the title's antagonists have such desires. This creates a "palace" which represents said character. The Phantom Thieves invade this mental palace to steal the treasure/heart, the distorted desires themselves, essen-

tially changing the antagonists into normal, healthy people.

Atlus uses psychology to craft the *Persona* series, which adds to its allure. One of the most interesting aspect of the game's dungeons, is that they are supposed to represent different cognitions of characters. For example, there was one character who saw people as nothing more than a resource to be exploited. Beyond this, there's a lot of Jungian psychology specifically, even the series' title, "Persona" is a reference to the Jungian concept of personas; this is the idea that people use different personalities for different situations.

The *Persona* series has been praised for its music and visuals, and its latest entry is no exception. There are numerous animated cutscenes, J-pop (Japanese pop) and J-rock make up most of the score. Atlus made the wise decision of hiring an orchestra for its 100+ track soundtrack, and it payed off for them. There's obviously lots of guitar and drums, but what makes the soundtrack memorable is the violin and organ. There's also a liberal use of vocals, which is abnormal in video games, and as a result, refreshing.

A common criticism of popular video game series is that they tend to get repetitive after a while, but for *Persona 5*, this is not an issue. *Persona 5* regularly turns edgy, featuring suicides, executions, murders, sexual assault/exploitation, and cases of insanity. The society portrayed in the title is an ugly one, and in many ways, it's what the game's Phantom Thieves are fighting against. In previous titles, players fought to protect society, not turn it upside-down, so this particular element goes a long way towards distinguishing *Persona 5*.

While we're on the subject of edgy content, players increase their power by executing various personas is some pretty violent ways. *Personas* are somewhat like *Pokémon*, except much more adult; they're meant to symbolize facets of the protagonist's

psyche, and some of them can be quite strange. For example, there's one that's basically a goblin sitting on a toilet, and others even more perverse. You can change these persona's in various ways, fusing them, or turning them into items. This is done by putting them to death with various execution implements. This is meant to be symbolic of suppressing and exposing different sides of one's personality, but some may still feel that it goes a touch to far.

Unfortunately, given the required time to play through *Persona 5* (100+ hours), I found myself having to review it without completing it. That said, given my prior experience with the series, I'm quite confident vouching for this title's quality. *Persona 5* isn't my favorite *Persona* entry, but I wouldn't hesitate to call it the best *Persona* to date.

I have only two criticisms of *Persona 5*, and they are both nitpicking. Firstly, it isn't fully voiced; this means there are lines of dialogue not read by a voice actor. Voice acting is incredibly cheap; I feel that they should have paid for the game to be fully voice acted. It's possible that having some lines unvoiced was an artistic decision, but if so, I personally disagree with it. Secondly, the anime cut scenes that I've seen so far are certainly excellent, but I've played other, less successful games with more cut scenes, and I feel like Atlus could have spent more money on this.

These two points aside, *Persona 5* is a masterpiece, and due to space constraints, I wasn't even able to fully extoll its virtues. There's the new texting feature, which helps character development and increases the feeling or player choice. Then there's the fact that encounters aren't random, and you are given fair warning before every fight. Given that this game's strongpoints are overwhelming and its deficits can be counted on half a hand, I can't see any other fair rating than 10/10.



IMAGE TAKEN from www.youtube.com

The new release of *Persona 5* was just another success of the *Persona* series.

## Kellan Brennan Releases New EP

NICOLE SEITZ  
COPY EDITOR

They say some of the best music is made from the soul, but did they ever say the best music could be recorded in your own home? The king of "homebrew" jazz, Kellan Brennan, recorded his first EP (extended play) entirely in his living room.

Brennan has been working on these songs since his sophomore year of college. Now, he is a senior communication student who does the vocals, piano, and co-produced his EP, *Kellan Brennan EP*. Senior music industry student, Will Saulsky, did drums, co-produced, and mastered, while Jon Bass, junior music industry student, played upright and electric bass and Erin Holmes, MU graduate, added some more vocals.

Brennan said on recording in his living room, "We wanted this project to be completely independent. It's nice to record at home where there's no time constraints and everything is really comfortable."

As college students, it's hard to afford anything, let alone pay thousands of dollars to go to a professional studio. However, finances didn't stop Brennan and his band from making some awesome music.

Dave DePaola, senior music industry student and president of Blue Hawk Records, said, "Kellan and Will really know how to make the best of a home studio. They are capable of matching or even surpass-

ing the sound quality of professional studios in the area."

The EP definitely has a very original sound that could only be created by Brennan. "I really wanted to develop a sound that reflected who I am," Brennan continues, "I listen to and play a lot of styles and I wanted to find something that was congruent but combined different influences."

"Charlie and the Waitress" is the first song on the EP. The overall vibe of the song is very chill and the message of the song seems to be simple and cute. The classic 'boy meets girl, they have a love connection' kind of tune with the classic piano man jazz flare is what Brennan is best at. Holmes' backing vocals during the chorus sound amazing and really add another dimension. I am a fan of female and male vocals coming together for any type of music; the sound is pure and organic.

"It's Not That Way" is the second song, and the beginning reminds me of a 90's rock pop vibe. The lyrics and story in the song are a little angsty because the song seems to be about someone who doesn't understand how the world really works. The gang vocals in the chorus give the song a bit of an indie feel, which is a nice twist on the jazzy piano playing.

The next track, "Burgundy, The French Girl," is a classic male-female duet. There's nothing overly complicated about the song, but Brennan and Holmes' back and forth vocals

really make you feel something. I can't think of a better way to describe it. The words and the emotion behind the voices just make you feel for these New Orleans lovers in the song.

"Half A Love Song" has a Jazz/alternative rock/indie (emphasis on the alt rock part) feel more than any other song on the EP. The rhythm section is much more prevalent in this song, while keeping the piano strong as well. Brennan is great at telling a story in his lyrics, and this song is no exception. The lyrics and the music make you feel exactly what all the ups and downs of falling in love are what being hurt by love feels like, while still being able to just bob your head along and enjoy the music.

"Old Soul" is the last track on the EP. This song was originally recorded on Blue Hawk Records 7th compilation album, *Shades of Blue*; Brennan decided to re-record it to "get it perfect." Originally he had recorded the song live in Lakehouse Studios – vocals and everything. This time around he decided to focus on making it the best possible performance to record. This song is your classic piano man jam about a pretty girl at the bar who's "just an old soul," as the song says.

The EP overall is so unique and unlike anything I've ever heard before. Brennan described the songs as a combination of singer/song-writer lyrically in depth compositions with his jazzy piano player feel.



IMAGE TAKEN from http://www.wmcx.com

Kellan Brennan released his extended play, *Kellan Brennan EP*.

Brennan started to focus on music when he got into college. While his singing voice may be considered to sound untrained, it adds to the whole organic feel of his style of music. Brennan was going for a very minimalist sound while recording and producing this EP. "So many records today are about the production and digital effects as opposed to the actual song," said Brennan.

The whole do it yourself (DIY) aspect of this project is what makes the EP and the sound so different from

anything else, and really emphasizes the arts and crafts of music.

Brennan will be playing at McLoone's Rum Runner in Sea Bright this Friday night 8-11 p.m. He is also going to be a regular at Moonstruck in Asbury Park for the summer starting in May every Friday night 6-10 p.m. Brennan will also be a part of Point Pleasant Summer Fest on June 3. Don't forget to check out his EP which is available on Spotify, SoundCloud, iTunes, Apple Music, and Bandcamp.



# Forever Thankful

ALLISON PERRINE  
ENTERTAINMENT EDITOR

"Come take a tour of Monmouth with me," said my childhood best friend, Jessica Porter. I originally did not want to tour the University at all; it was less than an hour from home and I did not want to hear the comments of how I didn't get a 'real college experience' because I go to school 'too close to home.' However, she persuaded me to tour the campus with her. After that, I was sold. Fast forward four years, and I could not have made a better decision. With the help of so many people, my college experience has far exceeded any expectation I could have imagined for myself. So, thank you:

**My family:** There's no way imaginable to fully express how grateful I am to have your support and help over these past four years. Especially to you, mom, for doing absolutely anything you can to help me out along the way. Thank you endlessly for helping me set up a better future for myself.

**My housemates:** I'll start with **Cassie Stiansen (Sandy)**; I really don't think I could have made it

through college without you. I remember that we both received bids to AOII and I (very uncomfortably) walked up to you and said, "I think we live on the same hall in Elmwood. I'm Allison." And ever since, we've been inseparable. No matter what, I know that I'll have you by my side for a lifetime and I can't imagine it any other way. Thank you for always being there for me and for making me laugh. I'm looking forward to seeing you every Tuesday this summer for Bar A, for random visits once we're older, and even in my bridal party.

**Lauren Palladino (Pally-D)**, We've lived together for the past three years, and I think we both know that it's been nothing short of absolutely absurd. From Gossip Girl and Nelly's white broccoli pie in Redwood, to our Larchwood trap house, to about 12,000 life-threatening experiences at Second Ave., you've managed to keep me afloat when I feel down. You also know the way to my heart is through Dunkin, Ben & Jerry's, and our favorite "T" word. Thank you for being the best roommate a girl could ask for; I know you'll always be there, just as I'll always be there for you.



**Christina Bropson (Brop)**, I remember Pally-D telling me that her friend from home was transferring to Monmouth, and that she might want to live with us the next year. I'm so glad that you did. Thank you endlessly for being someone I can talk to about absolutely anything – even the things I know you don't want to hear about. Thank you for cooking me pancakes when it snows, for being the housemate that takes out the garbage most of the time (much love), for protecting Second Ave. from fake realtors, and a lot more.

**My day-one MU fam:** starting with **Jessica Porter (JP)**, my OG Q. If it weren't for you, I would never have even made it to Monmouth, so first, thank you for forcing me to go on that tour with you. I'm not only lucky enough to call you a best friend since we were six, but basically a sister. You're a person that I know truly understands me and will never judge me, and I can beyond confidently say that you will always be my best friend. Thank you for being there for me when I thought I had (another) home invasion, for holding my 'party inhaler' when we went out, for taking me to get sushi when I'm sad (even if they never bring you the correct size order of rice), for laughing at my jokes, and too much more.

**Alex O'Connor (AO)**, #TBT to that time when I Facebook direct messaged you before we came to Monmouth and asked if you wanted to "get to know each other" in hopes that you'd want to be my roommate. Terribly uncomfortable. But, through "Jessica," we did meet each other, and now I feel like I've known you my entire life. Thank you for always being there whenever I wanted to talk, for experiencing the corner and lamp in Vegas, Michael



Boone, Chris French, Granny's Attic, Alexis Kelly and her mother, and a lot more of the absurd things we've experienced together.

**Nick Corrado**, it's weird to think that I've only known you for four years, considering we've lived in the same town for most of our lives. You're probably the fakest person I've ever met, but you know that you're secretly one of the best and most genuine people around. Thank you for being there for me and keeping me sane when I feel crazy, for getting us kicked out of puppy stores because you don't know how to handle yourself in public, for being the third member of TCM (shout out to Alexis Kelly), and for sharing my love for Porta Fridays.

**The communication and political science departments:** I've had so many classes that I've walked away and felt thankful for taking. Especially with dedicated faculty such as Dr. Eleanor Novek and Dr. Kevin Dooley, and Professors John

Morano and Ryan Tetro, I have had a great experience at this University. It's enthusiastic and devoted professionals like these who make a difference teaching material that they love and connect with which separates Monmouth from other schools.

And of course, *the Outlook*. I was nervous when I first started this editor position, but having this position has been one of the best parts of my MU career. I have learned so much through my experience here, and leave as a better writer and editor. I was fortunate enough to attend a journalism conference in San Francisco this year with *The Outlook*, and it was better than anything I could have imagined an organization could give me. Thank you, *Outlook* editors, mentors, advisors, and more, for helping me prepare for my future, for giving me a new group of friends, for so many laughs, and for making me feel as if I have a family on campus.

## I don't like goodbyes, so I will say see you soon...

JESSICA LEAHY  
ADVERTISING MANAGER

I remember my freshman orientation over the summer like it was yesterday. I remember feeling insecure and nervous around so many smart and capable individuals. I was doubtful of my own capabilities at first, but once I started classes at Monmouth University, I saw how much I could achieve and I grew so much as a person during my time here.

I am proud of myself for remaining strong and pushing through to the end even when I felt like crumbling. However, I must owe a lot of my success and happiness to my family and my friends. I could not do anything without my family and friends by my side guiding me through and believing in me.

**Mom & Dad:** I want to thank both of you for always loving me and supporting me during my undergraduate career at Monmouth. Thank you for believing in me to achieve my goals and work toward a great future. I love you both more than anyone.

**Michael & Anthony:** You two are not only my brothers, but my friends for life. I know I will always have you two by my side. I cannot thank you enough for being such great younger brothers.

**Krystina & Alyssa:** I want to thank you both for being such amazing cousins. You are both practically older sisters to me. You are always there for me when I need you to give me advice, to hang out, to support me, and to have faith in me. Thank you both

for keeping me calm throughout the application process for MU and also for graduate school at Rutgers University. Knowing I have two strong women on my side no matter what gives me strength to stand tall and stride toward my goals.

**To all of my friends:** Thank you for being my rocks, my beams of light in both my darkest moments and brightest moments. You all have watched me grow and have been so supportive of my transformation from an insecure, closeted girl to a confident, capable, out-and-proud woman. Thank you for making me laugh until I cry, for making me feel things I did not know I could feel, for inspiring me to continue to improve myself and the world around me, and for putting up with all my rants and mood swings. I love you all. Here's to us and our bright futures together.

**Sandy:** Thank you so much for giving me the opportunity to work for *The Outlook* all four years of

my undergraduate career! You have confidence in me and you have been such a big help to me during my time here. I will always be grateful for this experience and I will never forget it.

**Kelly:** I want to thank you for being an outstanding Advertising Manager and for continuing to guide me and the rest of the editorial staff throughout the years. You have contributed so much to this newspaper and your dedication and hard work is inspiring. Although I am speaking for myself here, I think we could all agree that you were more than helpful and awesome to us!

**Outlook family:** Thank you, everyone, for the unforgettable laughs and memories, for the amazing trips we spent together on the West Coast, and for being such incredible human beings all around. A burger from In-N-Out will never be the same! Your hard work to make sure the content of our paper is factual and fantastic will be a skill that you will all car-

ry with you into your careers as professional journalists, editors, photographers, and designers.

I also very much appreciate everyone's commitment to making the world a better place and for standing on the side of activism. Being a part of this team has made me feel more empowered as an individual, and I believe that all of us will achieve great things throughout our lives. I will not forget any of you!

**MU Psychology Department & Professors:** Thank you for giving me the opportunity to be a psychology student at Monmouth and for being committed to helping students achieve success. I have learned so many things that I would not have learned at another institution. My learning experience at Monmouth has given me confidence that I am capable of succeeding academically and professionally moving forward into graduate school and beyond. Thank you for guiding me through the process each step

of the way and for making my experience at Monmouth exceed my expectations.

I will miss driving to campus and seeing my peers every single day. I will miss the beauty of this campus and being located close to the beach and Inkwell Coffeehouse. I will miss working at the Plangere Center for Communication every day at *The Outlook* office. I will miss attending the ACP Journalism Convention in California each year. Most of all, I will miss each one of you at the *Outlook*, and all my friends I have made here.

Although I will no longer be a student at Monmouth, I will always be a Hawk. I will always feel proud to be an alumna. Good luck to all of the students continuing their education at Monmouth and congratulations to all of the graduates!

This is not goodbye. I will always consider myself a part of this huge family. So, for now, I will see you soon.





Closing Time... I Love You, Monmouth

LAUREN NIESZ  
CO-SENIOR/OPINION EDITOR

I am so lucky to have been a part of Monmouth University. The only thing I can really say definitively is that I am the luckiest girl in the whole world and I truly believe that. There are so many people that were pivotal in making these past four years the happiest four years of my entire life. This article is for you all because you are all so extremely important to me. Alright, **Drennan**-you knew you'd be first. Thank you for sliding into my DMs Sophomore year and forcing me to be your friend. And thanks for screaming "Hey girl!" across the JP parking lot at me the first day of classes at 8:30 in the morning. I never thought that that "hey" would be the beginning of a completely unique and unbreakable friendship. I already miss parking next to each other every morning at 8:00 a.m., me in my little red Mazda, Stacy, if you will, and you in your little convertible, Lulu with Lola dancing in the sun on the dash, screaming lyrics to whatever is playing on Hot 97 at the time (or maybe it's Ride or Die) with our windows up. I'll never forget Twerk Team Practice (TTP) every week, where we would get Dunkin' and play hang-

man in the Pozyki conference room. My time at Monmouth would not have been the same without you—my best friend and forever partner-in-crime. Love you, Mandz. Hey, **Jazzy**. Girl, you were always there for me through my crazy semester of dumb decisions. I am so incredibly happy that you pointed at me and Amanda at the Philly airport when Maggie said, "They're going to Disneyland if anyone else wants to go." No one else deals with mine and Amanda's shenanigans like you do. Pier 311 *forever*. **Connor**. White. You absolutely beautiful human. You have been such an amazing friend to me. You really inspire me with your wit, sarcasm, and your angelic vocals. Thank you for always being there for me and always giving me the harsh truth, even though I sometimes don't want to hear it. Okay, I am going to thank the Monmouth Men's Basketball program in here, too because they've been such a positive impact on my undergraduate career. Being a fan of the team since I was about 10 years old when they played in Boylan Gym, the men's team has always given me a reason to be a fan of something. Witnessing the program explode over the past few years has truly been a privilege (especially for the young 10 year old fan in me). Alright, **Outlookers**- as you all know, I don't have much room for this, so here it goes: **Danielle**- You always have faith in all of us, and I have faith that you will do incredible things. Thank you for giving me all of the opportunities I got this semester with *The Outlook*. **Jammy**- Girl. I will miss grey turtle neck days and Peaches' class together. I will miss making fun of 'Door knob' and jamming to Drake late on production Tuesday nights. I love you and I am genuinely excited to see the change you make in the world. **Lifestyles**- You are literally such a gem. You are one in a million. I will

miss your comments and random outbursts—your laugh and extreme concern and care for each of us. **Courtney (2.0)**- My little. I will always be thinking of you and our little chats in my mom car on my way to drop you off on the res side. Good luck next year in your new role as Editor-in-Chief. Proud of you. **Ally**- We will still be the two most ridiculous OG CSMs to ever exist. Good luck next year with everything- do great! **Jess**- I will miss screaming "Jess!" on the rare occasion I actually see you in the office. Thank you for being yourself and sharing that with us—you really are the realest. **John**- You will forever be the *Outlook* MVP. I cannot wait to read your sports stories in the most reputable of publications and say, "Hey, I know him!" You will do amazing things—I am certain. **Brendan**- You make the most absurd and hysterical comments in the office, and I will miss your bluntness and your phenomenal opinions. **Sandy**- Thank you for being the commander of the ship and the ear we oftentimes vent to. You are the best. I wanted to throw in another *Outlook* shout-out to a vet: **Maggie Zelinka**. Maggie thank you for making me feel like I belong at *The Outlook*. You were the most welcoming face at *The Outlook* when I started back in spring 2015. Without you, I don't know if I would have stuck it out. Throughout my time at Monmouth, I have had so many professors make the most insane impacts on me and I would like to say a few things about them. . . **Professor Kretsch**, you are a second mom to me. Working with you every single semester of my college career, we have grown so close. You have always encouraged me to aim high and go for any opportunity I can get my hands on. It is because of you that I have decided on a future (my Masters Degree in Information Systems), a

future path I never would have even remotely considered had you not reached out to me freshman year and asked me to lab assist. I cannot thank you enough. **Dr. Foster**, you inspire me every day. You purely amaze me in how much you know and how passionate you are in your field. I had you as a freshman, and you showed me what college was really all about: hard work and dedication. Thank you for teaching me vital life skills. **Dr. Werner**, even though I only just had you for the first time this semester, you have made a difference in my life. It was always so curious to people how I could be acclimated to both English studies and technology, but you showed me that it isn't odd, it's an advantage and it is actually pretty cool. Your class combined everything I love studying and your constructive criticism has pushed me to want to do better on every single assignment. Now, I wouldn't forget my own family. My Mom, Dad, and brother, Jeff will always be the greatest people in my entire life. I don't care who else there is in the world: you three are my absolute rock. Without you guys, I would literally be a wreck (not that I'm not already). **Dad**, you're my best friend. I am most like you in so many ways (it's horrifying). You were always there to push me and make me ask myself "okay, what's next," or "what else can I do?" You and I can't sit still for five seconds and we have to get our hands on everything we can. However, because you and I are this similar, you always knew when to tell me to chill out, too. I took on a lot of responsibilities at Monmouth and between you and Mom, you guys knew the right things to say to pull me back in and think realistically. **Momma**, or should I say Banana-Nut Muffin, you are my number one. There is no one in this entire world that knows me better than you or knows how to deal with me best. You know I love to write, and I honestly

don't know how to put into words how much you mean to me. There is no one I would rather spend every second of the day with. You just get me. Whether we are out stressing over Christmas shopping and gifts or just playing Scrabble and watching *Frozen* together, I wouldn't want to spend that time with anyone else. You are my favorite human in the entire world. You are so incredible—truly you are. I couldn't do half of the things you do and you just purely amaze me. I am luckier than anyone in the world to be able to call YOU my mom. Willkommen, **Jeffrey**. Jeff, without you I don't think that I would be able to function. You make me laugh so much with *our* humor. No one gets it but us, and I wouldn't have it any other way. I can't wait to see you, your white sweater, and your classic dad jokes. This is so dumb to say, but you're the coolest brother ever. Your work ethic and smarts are something that cannot be replicated and I was always jealous of how incredible I always knew your future would be. Thank you for always sharing your advice (even though I don't think I ever really ask for it) and helping me make some pretty major life decisions (like, remember when I decided to join *The Outlook* and not tell Mom and Dad until I got my first article published?). I love you three more than anyone or anything in the entire universe. Thank you for always supporting me and always encouraging me in every single decision I have ever made. I am so incredibly lucky to be a Monmouth University graduate of English and I am so excited to continue my education as a Hawk in Computer Science. Thank you all for making my undergraduate studies the best four years of my life. (Wish I could have written about Coral, Kat, Josh, Allen, Anthony, Steph, and Maddie. You are all in my thoughts!)

AMANDA DRENNAN  
VIEWPOINT EDITOR

I remember my first day at Monmouth, I hated it. As an awkward human who transferred here sophomore year, I just assumed that everyone had already made their friends and that I was just going to have to be a loner for the next three years, and as you could have guessed my experience was just the opposite of that. The people I've met and opportunities I've had at Monmouth are truly irreplaceable memories that I will treasure forever. As cheesy as it sounds, there's no better second home than Monmouth. There are so many people that I want to thank for making my experience at Monmouth truly unforgettable. **My Family:** Thanking my family is inevitable. Being the most annoying person in the family is the full time role that I'm glad to have taken on, and thank you to everyone who's had to put up with that. Mom, you're the perfect role model that anyone would be lucky to have (and I'm not just saying that because you're *my* mom). You've actually found a way to do it all, and if I could be half of the person you are, I'd be lucky. Dad, thanks for always being the guy that can put a smile on my face. Thank you for always teaching me that there's nothing that I can't do. I don't know what I'd do without someone who can always make me laugh and is always down for a Stewart's hotdog and French fries. Pete, you've always been the smarter sibling, which worked to my advantage because I probably wouldn't have passed college math courses without someone who was willing to help me with my accounting homework. (Remember when I took an accounting course? Yikes.) So, Pete, thanks for being an in-

house tutor but also an in-house best friend who's willing to go to Wawa at 2 A.M. (but you know you'll always be second in line to Sophie). All of my grandparents have given me endless support on anything I do. The kind of people who are proud if you wake up before noon are the kind of people you're lucky to have in life. I'm glad I have the worlds cutest fan base, Grandma Lorraine, Grandpa Jerry, and Grandma Joan. Aunt Diane, thanks for teaching me that I can do anything I want, and that girl power is a real super power. Uncle Anthony, thanks for being a supporter of no matter what I chose to do in life. Your motivation every day is inspiring. **My Friends:** **Laureen**. I really could have written about in the family section because that's what we've become, thanks for being the sister I never had. I wouldn't have fallen in love with Monmouth if it weren't for you. Every Monmouth basketball game we've been to together (whether it was in the MAC or North Carolina) has become an irreplaceable memory. We've managed to do just about everything together even though we have totally different majors, from working at CSSE to taking random elective classes that we regretted just so we could have a class together. Thank you for always being here for me when I need you, it doesn't matter if I'm freaking out about the future or worried if the dish soap *really* cleans the dishes, you're always right there. I wouldn't want it to be anyone to finish my sandwiches (see what I did there? Let's go back to Disney). Thank you for always feeding me bread after Johnny Macs (shout out to Dave). **Connor**, thank you for making my day every time we talk and being the most ridiculously good-looking creature to ever walk this campus. I can't wait to be front row when you

sell out the Garden and when Harry Styles is waiting in line for *your* autograph. **Mads**, you were basically the only person I knew when I got to Monmouth, and if it weren't for your contagious smile I don't know how I would have made it through my first semester. I'm so lucky to have a friend like you that **Taylor**, Snailor, honey. I don't know where I would be if I didn't have you to sit in the ShopRite parking lot with until ungodly hours of the night, talking about everything and anything. Everyone needs a friend that gives them unfiltered life advice and finds true joy in looking at restaurant menus. **Jazzy**, I can't believe we became friends in Disneyland. Thank you for being extremely spontaneous and deciding to come to Disney after we traveled across the country together but barely knew each other. I'm glad you're always honest with me and you don't sugar coat anything. It's also nice to have someone who can cry over how cute puppies are no matter the time of day. Steph and Anthony thank you for being hilarious and my Monmouth mom and dad. I can't wait to watch the *Bee Movie* with you guys for eight hours straight! (SURPRISE!!) **Monmouth:** **Professor Morano**, thank you for being one of the most influential professors here at Monmouth. Your stories about how you never took no for an answer when looking for jobs is inspiring, especially when people say that journalism is dying. Thank you for giving me reasons to help combat this argument and always encouraging my writing. Without your classes and feedback, I would not have pushed myself to join *The Outlook* or believe in my writing. **Professor Tetro**, I remember signing up for your class with instant regret because the only thing's that

I'd ever heard about the class media law were not the best. You turned the class into something that could benefit all students and I really appreciated that you cared about students actually understand the material instead of just throwing information at us and expecting us to understand. Your class was refreshing because you cared not only about your students in that class, but what we did outside of class. Thank you for making this class worthwhile and turning out to be one of the best classes that I've taken at Monmouth. Working in the computer science department is definitely not where I saw myself when I first got to Monmouth. After Lauren introduced me to a puppy in the department, I was sold. **Professor Kretsch and Rebecca**, you've made working on campus so much fun. Even days where Lauren and I were dusting and moving furniture, we still had fun. I'm so lucky to have worked for two great inspiring women who I know I could talk to whether it's about school or life in general. **Outlook:** I actually can't believe that I'm leaving *The Outlook*. I love this newspaper with my whole heart and everyone who is a part of it. **Kelly (Glam-ma)** thank you for encouraging me to do more when I started out as a copy editor and giving my advice on classes that I probably wouldn't have made it through without your help. **Lifestyles**, you're one of the greatest humans that I've ever met and I will miss seeing your shining face every Monday and (Tiny Kitchen) Tuesday in the office. Oozma Kappa forever. **COURTNEY (2.0)** I know that The Outlook is in good hands with you as Editor-in-Chief, you're crazy so you'll get the job done. Also, thanks for falling down the stairs, what a good chuckle I got from that. **Brendan**, you're the best

*Outlook* dad I could have asked for. **Ally**, first of all keep your dog toys away from my desk. Thank you for printing 600 copies of your poem, and keeping all of your messages archived. Also special shout out for volunteering to get cut out of this. #NoRoom. **John**, you're really *The Outlook's* MVP. I remember reading your stories before you were an editor and I can't wait to see your name on ESPN articles. **Danielle**, first of all you were a phenomenal editor in chief this year. I appreciate your love for dogs and your sense of humor (complete with the best laugh I've ever heard). I'm so happy that we've become great friends in just a few years. **Jammy**, you're one of the most spectacular people that I've ever met and everyone should aspire to be at least half as great of a person as you. **Sandy**, thanks for being the staple that hold this office together. You've seen us at our best and our worst and you're always there to help us, regardless of if it's a problem with a printer or we're just having a bad day. You are irreplaceable in this office. Being a part of *The Outlook* has been an indescribable experience. It's been equally stressful and rewarding. The friendships I've made here that are irreplaceable. Well *Outlook*, it's been real. I love you forever and always.

It's Time For Me to Figure Me Out





JASMINE RAMOS  
CO-POLITICS EDITOR

If my 15-year-old self saw how far I have gotten in my college career, and just knew what was ahead, she would not believe it. To be honest, my 19 year old Jasmine would believe this life belonged to someone else.

Although I have a semester left before graduation, getting this far has been a huge accomplishment for me. There were times when the dream became distant, and I still have moments where they still exist. However, I have had such a strong support team helping me that I will never know how to thank you for putting up with me. But that will not stop me from trying now.

**Mom and Dad:** I want to thank you for doing everything you could for me. Only God knows of all the sacrifices you two have committed to give me such a bright future. Mom, without you making sure I would get to school on time with you only having minutes to get to work to making sure my homework got done even if you didn't understand. You are my wonder woman, and I will forever be grateful. You are the strongest person I know, and

I hope I gain at least half of that. Thank you Dad for making sure I was happy and being my shoulder to cry on when times would get tough, which we all know have been many. I hope I gain the qualities you guys have and instill them into my kids one day.

**EOF Program:** Without you, I would have never experienced the life I did here at Monmouth. You were a blessing in disguise for my family and I. You took a weight off my shoulder and sixty of theirs. I know I may have acted ungrateful but without this program, I would have never been able to grow as a person.

**EOF Family:** You guys are have seen me at my best and for sure have seen me at my worst. You never turned your back on me. You were the first people I met on campus and I did not believe them when they said we were to become a family. But we did. Some of you have gotten to know and experience more with me than many of my family members. I wish you all the best in your future endeavors, as you people deserve the best.

**Liz O'Brian:** you became my Monmouth mom. You told me what was what, and never tried to sugar coat it. And even though I tried to hide from your life lessons, you were always

right. I hope to take what you taught me into my adulthood life, no matter how much I try to avoid growing up.

**Professor Schmidt:** Thank you for believing in me and not giving up. You would give me an ear when I wanted to rant about how much work I had or would just let me come in for a piece of chocolate.

**Professor Morano:** At first, I didn't understand the method behind your madness. But you pushed me into becoming a better writer and reporter. Through your classes and *The Outlook*, it ensured me that writing is what I loved. I appreciate your patience with me. Thank you.

**The Outlook:** You gave me a form of self-expression I knew I wanted but never had access to. For four years, it helped me learn about deadlines and organization. And although some days were better than others, it never gave up on me. Thank you for giving me a voice.

**The Outlook Staff:** I have told you repeatedly how much I love you. Your laughter, your dedication and persistence for the scoop made me want to be better. You inspire me. **Danielle:** you are patient and nurturing and you made a phenomenal EIC. Don't ever stop. **Amanda:** your sweetness and sunshine would brighten up my day. Don't let anyone take that

away from you. **Courtney:** you always balance everything on your plate so well, keep up the dedication. **Jammy:** your inner activist spirit makes me want to go out and search for world peace. **Everyone else:** I adore your input to the rest of the group. Thank you.

**Brendan:** Other than being my co-editor, you became my friend. From our debates about politics, to watching ridiculous videos on YouTube. I can't picture having this section with anyone else. I know you're going to do big things out there. Buisness Mondays always.

**Natorye:** From sharing memes to music to the adventures with Gunther, we have built so many memories that I can't narrow it down to just one favorite. You are the sister I've always wanted, and I can't wait to see you working for Jay-Z at Roc Nation as a lawyer-model-marketing-manager just like you've said since Freshman year. Gang-Gang.

**Emily, Cait, and Aaron:** You became my family.. Whether it was to pick me up to hang, or just listen to me rant about my life struggles. I always knew I could count on you. Please stay this loving and caring.

**Briana and Patrice:** Hey guys, it's your dad here. Although I am not always around, you know I still care about my



children. I want to see you both do great things just like you are. Stay beautiful ladies.

**Vicki, Aditi, Mariel, Alex, Nikki, Janaya:** Thank you for bring my road trip friends. From Cape Cod to haunted bridges, to just rides to the beach. We've built excessively many memories together, and hears to many more. Bee Squad 4 Lyfe.

**Lauren and Amanda:** You two have easily won my entire heart forever. I don't know what my senior year would have been if I didn't decided to invade on your Disneyland trip in California. I will forever cherish dragging people, screaming, and talking about a certain sports team on campus. (Got to shoot our shots ladies.) Lauren, you taught me that crying does not solve everything and Amanda, you taught me it's okay to express my emotions from time to time. Thanks for putting up with me. Ozzma Kappa Pier 311 forever.

**To my future self:** Keep going and keep trying. You got everything going for yourself. No matter how bad things get, just think about what you've gone through and how far you are now. Just remember, the future is so bright.

Thank you everyone.

## “I'll Make it to the Moon if I Have to Crawl”

BRENDAN GREVE  
CO-POLITICS EDITOR

The end of my career at Monmouth University and the Outlook is approaching, leaving me scratching my head and wondering where time goes. This is my senior goodbye and thank you to *The Outlook*, an organization that has helped me accomplish many goals both inside and outside of the classroom during my time at Monmouth. As I reflect on my life and where it is today, I can't help but think about where it was four years ago before I joined *The Outlook*.

I remember this one weekend about four years ago I was sitting in the back of my friend's car and the topic of “what do you want to be when you grow up?” came up in conversation. I had asked myself that question countless times, never coming up with an answer. I said, “I think it would be cool to be a lawyer.” My friend looked at me like I had two heads and said, “Have you ever thought about doing anything else?”

I understood his skepticism. We were parked outside of an Alcoholics Anonymous meeting. I was staying with a friend of mine from the meetings who would let me sleep on his couch. The only thing I had going for me was a job bussing tables. I was suspended from school at the time, unsure of whether I'd be allowed back, and was doing a pretty good job at tarnishing my opportunity of getting an education at Monmouth University. It made sense that someone would think that I wouldn't make much of my life.

Unlike many successful Monmouth students, I didn't care much for the opportunities that our school provided when I first arrived. I planned on skating by like I did in high school but

the habits I used to get away with came back to hurt me. It took me to almost lose my chance of graduating and taking advantage of those opportunities to realize how important they really are. After that night, I didn't want to be told that I can't or that I'm not allowed to do something ever again.

When I went back to Monmouth, under a microscope, one thing that I could do was write articles for *The Outlook*. I always enjoyed debating and was really interested in politics. I asked Professor John Morano and he said they would be glad to have me and that he would arrange a meeting with the politics editor at the time, Chris Orlando. I could not thank either of them enough. Getting into my articles became a great way to get my mind off of outside problems and integrated me back into the Monmouth community.

I started reaching out to professors from my political science and legal classes like Professors Greg Bordelon, John Comiskey, Stephen Chapman, Saliba Sarsar, Ryan Tetro, Peter Reinhart, George Gonzalez and Joseph Patten. After classes that I had with them, I'd interview them about my articles and we would have great discussions about law and politics. The connections I made with them helped me tremendously.

Professor Bordelon gave me the idea that I could make it in law school and become a lawyer by asking me to join the Mock Trial team and helping me plan for the LSAT. Professors Patten and Reinhart wrote my letters of recommendations to law school and helped me secure two internships. Because of these professors, I will be attending law school next year—taking the next step to accomplish my

dream of becoming a lawyer when I didn't think getting an undergraduate degree was possible not long ago. I can't thank these professors enough for bringing out the potential in me that I never saw in myself.

Another opportunity that *The Outlook* gave me was allowing me to become the co-editor of the politics section with the awesome Jasmine Ramos. By becoming editor, I was introduced to Monmouth's best and brightest like Brianna McCabe, Kelly Bocket, Danielle Schipani, along with the rest of the staff. I have had the pleasure of working with students that truly take their education seriously. Being around people that are better than me and that are so responsible, driven, and smart has compelled me to work harder to hopefully become half as successful as the girls (and two guys besides me) in *The Outlook* will be.

I have also created great friendships as well. I truly enjoy our meetings every week because of hilarious people like Jasmine, Jamilah, Ally, Lauren, and Amanda. I never thought that I could have so much fun and laugh as hard as I do while still being part of an award-winning college newspaper.

I also realized how close the *Outlook* family was when my father died last September. I was grateful to see the flowers that were sent to his funeral by the office and the condolences I received from every *Outlook* member. I'm grateful for the office coordinator, Sandy Brown, who supported me and helped me get through that tough time.

That leads me to my next thank you which is to my father, Ron Greve Jr.. Dad, I miss you so much and there hasn't been a day gone by that I haven't thought

about you. I wish that I could share this exciting part of my life with you but I know that you'll always be with me. I have learned countless lessons from you. Most of all, you taught me to enjoy the simple things in life and that you can never have too many friends.

For those who did not know my father, he had over 600 people attend his wake. My father wasn't a public official, a celebrity, or anything like that. My father was well known for his big heart and for being a great friend. He was the best father that my brother Pat, two sisters Meghan and Courtney, and I could ask for. He had a knack for telling the same jokes and stories over and over again but yet, every time they were just as great and everyone wanted to hear him deliver the same punchlines. I think this is so we could never forget them. I've realized in my last four years as a college journalist how everyone is always looking for “the story.” I think that the reason is because, after we're gone, we all live through our stories, what we did, how many friends knew our stories, and our ability to tell them. Dad, you were the king of stories and I can only hope to pass all of them on and create a few of my own. For now, I will take the corny line of advice you used to tell us when you dropped us off at school that you probably heard somewhere else, “Live today like it's the first day of the rest of your life.”

I also want to thank my mom, Dr. Sheila McAllister. It would be a fair point to say that while dad taught me how to enjoy myself, you taught me how to work. My mother is a professor at Monmouth that unfortunately can't work right now because of her health. When we lived in Bergen County, my mom would commute to

Monmouth every day from an hour and a half away because she knew that I would have the opportunity to get an education here. The hours that she sacrificed for her job while putting up with me is an accomplishment that not many can make. My mother's unwavering love and support for me has everything to do with who I am today. She always had faith in me, no matter what. I would just like to tell her thank you, and to take a break. It is my turn to put in the work and I will do all I can to support you and make sure you don't have to work another day in your life.

Lastly, I would like to thank *The Outlook's* new members that will fill this classes role next year. I wish Courtney Buell the best of luck as the new Editor-in-Chief next semester and am sure that she will do well. As I move on to the next stage, I would just like to give some advice to the upcoming *Outlook* members. Don't let anyone tell you that you can't do something. How you feel, has nothing to do with what you can and can't accomplish. Most of all, don't avoid pain, uncomfortably, and failure. As someone who avoided those things for years, I only experienced more of it until I finally learned that pain is crucial to growth. My advice is to embrace challenges and embrace change. Do what you need to do to accomplish your goals and don't give up on them because you're closer than you think. Over my past years at Monmouth, I have experienced plenty of pain, discomfort, and failure but more than anything, it helped me grow. As I learned in Professor Patten's Intro to Political Science class sophomore year, a crazy German guy named Friedrich Nietzsche said, “What doesn't kill you makes you stronger.”



# Monmouth Seniors,

## What are your plans for after graduation?



Nicole

"I'm going to work hard and figure myself out. Changing my major in my last semester of school was probably the craziest thing ever but I'm looking forward to all the craziness of life!"



Jasmine

"Working at The Cheesecake Factory."



Bennie

"Going to Grad School for my MBA and I have a second interview for a part time job."



Danielle

"Hoping to come to Monmouth for grad school."



John

"Watch baseball."



Aditi

"Hoping to get a job so I can move out in six months."



Victoria

"Enjoying my summer and stressing to find a job."



Leann

"Hoping to turn my internship into a real job."







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# Alpha Xi Delta Presents: Karaoke For A Cause

DANIELLE ROMANOWSKI  
STAFF WRITER

Alpha Xi Delta held its annual philanthropy event, Karaoke for a Cause last night in Pollak Theater to raise money for Autism Speaks.

This event is one of six national philanthropy events that Alpha Xi Delta's all over the country organize to raise awareness, understanding, and money for Autism Speaks.

Autism Speaks is a dedicated philanthropic organization that provides support for families who have a loved one with Autism.

They continuously work to promote solutions for those across the Autism spectrum and increase understanding and acceptance of this condition.

Sister of Alpha Xi Delta, Kristen Kennett commented on the success Karaoke for a Cause has had in the past.

She said, "Last year, we raised over \$2,000 through this event. We are so excited to have the Monmouth community come together again to raise even more money for such a deserving cause."

As Autism Speaks' national sponsor, Alpha Xi Delta has raised over five million dollars for this cause. College chapters all around the nation have done their part by volunteering at walks, holding bake sales and



Alpha Xi Delta raised money and awareness for their philanthropy, Autism Speaks at their event, Karaoke for a Cause.

putting together events like Karaoke for a Cause to continuously raise money for Autism Speaks.

Karaoke for a cause allows students at Monmouth University the chance to participate in a singing competition and show off their vocal skills, all while raising money for this great cause.

Junior political science stu-

dent, Keith Lee commented on his involvement in this philanthropy event. He said, "I've participated since my freshman year and I love being a part of this event. It's a great cause put together by great people. I'm happy to have gotten the opportunity to sing Stay, by Rhianna. I hope everyone enjoyed the show."

As April is Autism Aware-

ness Month, the sisters of Alpha Xi Delta have worked hard to not only promote this event, but the philanthropy as a whole. Members of the chapter tabled to raise awareness, collected donations and sold tickets for this event.

Kristin Wall, philanthropy chair for Alpha Xi Delta commented on what she enjoys most about this event. She said, "I was

most excited to see so many Monmouth students come together and sharing their talents for a deserving cause. This is a really amazing event and I'm so happy I had a hand in planning it."

She continued, "We had really great support from the Monmouth community this year for our event. We had twelve acts, including Teddy, The Nooks, Dan Gilby, Keith Lee, and Brad Conner. It was awesome seeing everyone come out to help us and participate in our event."

Holding Greek events like Karaoke for a Cause helps students give back to the community and get involved in philanthropic efforts.

Greek Life Advisor, Michele Kaplan said, "While it is nice to see our chapters raise funds and collect goods for their chosen philanthropies, it is rewarding to see the chapters bring awareness to campus. It is always great to see chapter members develop a sense of pride for the organization they are supporting and to raise awareness."

This event provided students an opportunity to come together, listen to great performances raise money for a unique cause. Alpha Xi Delta thanks everyone who participated and supported Karaoke for a Cause this year.

## Experience A Piece of Italy at “La Festa Italiana”

BRIDGET NOCERA  
STAFF WRITER

Monmouth University's Department of World Languages and Cultures and the Italian Club presented their annual La Festa Italiana, or Italian Festival, on April 4 in Magill Commons with presentations, performances, and food to celebrate Italy and Italian culture.

The festivities began with an introduction from Dr. Maria Simonelli, a professor of Italian and Latin and the faculty advisor of the Italian Club.

The club rooms 107 and 108 were almost completely filled by students and faculty. Simonelli excitedly thanked all for attending, and gave special thanks to her Italian language students and club members who helped to set up, provide food, and give performances for the event.

"The students of the Italian club are very important for the success of Festa Italiana," said Simonelli. "Their commitment in keeping the Italian culture alive is vital."

She handed the stage over to guest speaker Dr. Carlo Davoli, the Education Office Director from the Consulate General of Italy in New York City.

Davoli gave a presentation on diversity throughout the Italian regions, going in depth into why certain regions have developed in different ways.

He concluded his segment with showcasing photographs from all throughout Italy that had all in attendance enraptured.

The festival then segued into student performances, beginning with a presentation from freshman psychology student Caitlin Mazzella on diversity of food through the Italian regions.

"I was a little nervous to give my presentation because I usually have stage fright," admitted Mazzella.

"Of course, I powered through. I knew I wanted to present something informational but fun. I decided to do it on food because it is a big part of the culture, and who doesn't like food?"

Next was senior secondary music education student Alexandra Stambaugh, who sang "Bel Piacer" by George Frideric Handel.

"I've been studying Italian in the formal classroom setting for the past two semesters, so it was interesting to apply what I've learned to my music studies," said Stambaugh. "I was happy to share what I've learned with everyone at the Festa Italiana," Stambaugh continued.

Freshman music industry student Samantha Lobasso and junior music industry student Amanda Mctigue both performed some traditional Italian songs, and freshman communication student Amanda Sanchez concluded with the more recent pop song "Tintarella di luna."

The festival was concluded with a dance performance of the tarantella, the traditional Italian line dance. Lauren Di Palma, Brenna Doherty, Samantha Lobasso, Caitlin Mazzella, and Emily Papamarkos showcased the dance while the audience clapped along.

Simonelli thanked everyone again for attending, and invited all to variety of Italian food and desserts that were available.

"My favorite part of the event was seeing the student performances because they are all so talented," said sophomore elementary education and history student Samantha Papa, also one of the co-presidents of the Italian club.

She continued that Simonelli and her fellow club members played a huge role in organizing of the event, and looks forward to doing even more with the Italian club next year.

"Our main goal for next year is to plan an off-campus trip open to the whole school," said Papa.

"We are always welcome to any suggestions from members as to what events they would like the Italian Club to host," Papa continued.

Sophomore elementary education and history student Juliana Illiano and co-president of the Italian Club agreed that the event was a success, and is excited for the future of the club and the World Languages and Cultures department.

"I really enjoy meeting new students and listening to their ideas for the club," said Illiano. "I also enjoy learning about different cultures on campus, while also spreading the Italian culture."



The Italian Club assisted the Department of Languages and cultures in an Italian Festival.

### Club and Greek Announcements

#### CommWorks

Interested in performing? Want to work with a group of dynamic students who are committed to having fun and creating performances of social relevance for college students? Join CommWorks! We meet Wednesday at 2:45 in JP 235.

#### HERO Campaign

The HERO Campaign cordially invites you to the Designated Driver Hero of the Year Award Ceremony on Wednesday, April 19 at 3 p.m. at the Oceanfirst Bank Center Varsity Club Room. Light refreshments will be served. Contact Susanne Schaad at 732 263 5804 or email her at sschaad.monmouth.edu.

#### The Outlook

The Outlook is looking for students interested in writing for the student-run newspaper. Sections in need of writers include News, Opinion, Politics, Lifestyles, Features, Entertainment, Club & Greek, and Sports. No experience necessary.

#### Alternative Break Program & TDP

Alternative Break Program and the brother's of Tau Delta Phi are hosting a DJ Battle Event in order to raise money for the Alternative Break Program. The event is Wednesday night, April 19 in Pollak theater at 9 p.m.

#### SAB Earth Day Festival

The Student Activities Board is hosting an Earth Day Festival on Friday, April 21 from 12-4 p.m. on Shadow Lawn. For more information contact a member of SAB or follow them on Instagram @monmouth\_sab.



# VEGAN FOODS MEET FOOD TRUCKS:

## *The Man Behind Try Vegan, NJ*

ZACHARY KARVELAS  
STAFF WRITER

Vincent Gulino, the owner of New Jersey food truck, Try Vegan, has made a huge splash in the mobile food industry. What started out as dream once never thought to become reality, became more than just a job. Gulino has been serving smiles and a positive, can-do attitude, oh and some of the most delicious vegan food you can get on the road, for over four years. Soon after he finished college at Rowan University, he became a manager of a Walmart, working a busy and physically trying schedule. "It is really something that wears on their soul. One week you're handing them [employees] paychecks, the next you have to fire them" said Gulino.

After a few years at Walmart, he moved on to a job at one of the supermarket giants at a higher-paying and even more stressful and busier managerial position. Gulino found himself working six days a week with "optional" weekends that he realized weren't as optional as they made it out to be. Again, Gulino found himself stuck at a terrible job he did not enjoy wondering why life was full of such grim and unhappy times. Was this what everyone works towards and thinks success is?

After earning himself a week-long break, Gulino was over-

looked for a business position, which was his focus of studies while at Rowan, because he was "not office trained." He couldn't even come close to understanding what that could even mean. "I was so torn down and broken" he said. During that time, Gulino received some advice and encouragement from a guy he had just met that will forever change his life. After telling this man about the position he had failed to get, Gulino began to describe his idea for a vegan restaurant. It was a dream he had had many times before, but never really knew how to chase. Well, this guy motivated and inspired Gulino to stop being miserable at a job he didn't enjoy and to chase the dream that would make him happy. That very night, Try Vegan was born.

"It just hit me like a ton of bricks" said Gulino.

He spent the rest of his time securing all the necessary details to begin creating the foundation for the food truck. Gulino quickly wrapped everything together and formed the LLC, trademarked the name, and began drafting the business plan for Try Vegan.

He got the vegan inspiration from his girlfriend at the time who lived an active vegetarian lifestyle. At twenty-one years old, Gulino became lactose intolerant. He did what most people do these days and get the in-

famous Lactaid pill that allows you to still enjoy delicacies like wonderfully-melted cheese or that shameful half-tub of Ben & Jerry's Chunky Monkey. Eventually, the pill's effects began to wear off and he was forced to rid dairy from his diet completely. After already cutting out such a huge part of animal-based products, he chose to try cutting them all out including meat and eggs.

After a couple of days, Gulino already noticed the difference. He began to wake up feeling refreshed, thinking clearer, and even noticed his skin looking and feeling better. It was the best he had ever felt. Senior social work student Mariel Acevedo said "his passion for getting the food truck started and all the obstacles he had to jump over, it really moved me to try and eat more vegan options, and try to cut out more animal based products in my life. I've been a pescatarian for a couple of months now, but maybe one day in the future I'll be able to go completely vegan."

By the time he got back to work, he knew what his next step would be. He waited until he had his next two-week vacation, carefully planned it in April, and set himself up to depart from the supermarket giant. As the time rolls around, Gulino spent all his time fine-tuning the business plan and getting

ready to put his brand out there for the world. The only thing he needed, which he couldn't get started without, was money. The hunt for investors began.

Gulino's faith in the universe and in his pursuit for happiness was restored on the last day of break when he discovered his neighbor coincidentally knew someone selling two short buses that fit the bill for his vegan restaurant idea, but in a smaller and more affordable way. "This universe will open its path for you, if you just do it," he said.

By the time his two-week break was over, he had found the trucks, had his business plan, quit his job at the supermarket, and focused all his energy on Try Vegan.

After Gulino got the first truck up and going, he began to apply to music festivals and events throughout New Jersey. While still learning along the way, the truck quickly became a hit on the streets of the garden state. As time went on, he began going to more festivals like Electric Adventure and Governor's Ball, and events at Laurita Winery and Central Jersey Beer Festival. The food and great service from Gulino and his hard-working friends have left an impact throughout the state.

Vincent Gulino and chef Sean Mcmonagle, appeared at the Monmouth University club, Plants For Peace, vegan

potluck event on April 2, 2017. At the last event of the semester, Gulino gave an incredible walk through his life and story and inspired many to chase their dreams and believe in themselves. Senior public relations student Ayse Yavas said "I thought Vincent was pretty inspirational and made me freak out less about graduating because his story about how he got his food truck made me realize that you can change your life at any point and do something you never intended on doing."

Currently, Gulino has his second food truck ready to hit the streets this week, a small eatery inside of a Gold's Gym, and owns two other companies. Coast to Coast Custom Prints is a spiritual based clothing company that initially began as a way for Gulino to market Try Vegan, but then realized he wanted to use it for more than just printing his own business apparel. The company can do most custom prints on hats, t-shirts, sweaters, and more.

Gulino's ideal future is to put some of his food in stores and to have cooking classes, but for now he is happy running the streets here in Jersey. "In order to get to where you need to go, you need to know you can get there," he said. After what he has accomplished in the last couple of years on his own, there is no doubt that he will.

## Here Comes... Ms. Senior America

CHRISTINA TERMYNA  
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

Saturday, April 29, Specialist Professor of Management and Decision Sciences, John Buzza's small business management class will be holding the Ms. Senior America Talent Competition for the organization Senior America, Inc. The event begins at 1:00 p.m., in Pollak Theatre, free of charge.

According to their website, Senior America Inc., is a non-profit organization that is "designed not only to enrich the lives of seniors but also to tap their energy to enrich the lives of others." Known for their Ms. Senior Pageant, the organization emphasizes that their seniors are the foundation that helps to build a future, and supports them in the pursuit of continuing to seek personal growth.

Organizing the event was a semester-long project for members of Buzza's class in which students are assigned an organization that they have to organize an event including everything from getting participants to planning the schedule, as well as marketing for the event itself.

"As always, I hope our students get an opportunity to grow outside of the classroom and to garner experiences that they would not get through lectures and classroom rigors. Best case would be through the connections made and the experiences gained, if it could lead to a job in this or any industry," said Buzza.

Students' duties in putting together this event were to not only acknowledge the young and beautiful Ms. America, but to promote and encourage the Ms. Senior America as well. It offered students the opportunity to work in

with a unique, interesting organization and to raise awareness about it.

"The significance is to raise awareness of the event itself, but more importantly to give our students an opportunity to network with seasoned professionals in a business that flies under the radar," Buzza added.

Jessica Pinto, a senior marketing student who is one of the leaders of the Senior America Inc. event, said, "the best part of working on the project was having some real-world experience with someone who works in business."

"Taking on responsibilities made it feel like it was a real job. There were several ups and downs throughout the project, and that is what made it feel real. The business world doesn't run smoothly," Pinto said.

The event will showcase 16 seniors, all women who have competed in the popular pageant previously, and will feature singing, dancing, and comedic acts.

Last year's Ms. America, Diane Deluca, will be performing her rendition of the song *The Glory of Love* from the movie *Beaches*. The event will also feature a mother-daughter duo, Norma, the Ms. Senior Queen of 1989 and Sherri McGhie, Ms. Senior Queen of 2015. Both women will be performing their own acts, respectively, with Norma taking on a comedy act, and Sherri singing *You're Good to Mama* from Kander and Bill.

"We are hoping for a big turnout on April 29<sup>th</sup>. These women have volunteered their time, and we want them to have a great crowd in the audience at Pollak Theater. We hope people of all ages will attend and enjoy the show we have planned," said Pinto.

## Puppy Protectors

EILEEN JONES  
OFFICE COORDINATOR-DEPARTMENT OF WORLD LANGUAGES & CULTURES

Students of Monmouth University's Communication (CO 320) course – Small Group Communication under the guidance of Professor Shannon Hokanson—are taking part in Service Learning Projects to connect with diverse populations beyond the University's campus. The students selected non-profit organizations of interest to them in which they planned, designed and executed an event to financially support their community partner.

According to Professor Hokanson, "a service-learning project links the teaching and learning strategies of the community service with the academic study so that each strengthens the other."

"We all learn and share each other's knowledge and experiences; every party is an equal."

One group, "The Puppy Protectors", selected the Monmouth County SPCA for the benefit of their fund-raising efforts. The group composed of – Jordan Bornstein, Nicole Giordano, Olivia Lipp, Eileen Jones, Michael Losasso and Hunter Rainis selected an off-campus event to reach outside of Monmouth's community and an on-campus event for within.

The Puppy Protectors' off-campus event was a "Paint and Sip" night at Asbury

Park's, Uncorked Wine Inspirations establishment held on Wednesday, March 29<sup>th</sup>. Those in attendance painted a beach scene entitled "Evening Stroll on the Shore". The night was an awesome experience and a huge success, selling out with 30 attendees, and raising \$300 to benefit the SPCA.

Their second event was an on-campus baked goods sale which included brownies, cupcakes, and a variety of breads. Team member, Olivia Lipp, and employee of Radio Station – B98.5 – "The Jersey Shore's #1 Hit Music Station", was able to provide entertainment on campus

creating a fun atmosphere for all. The SPCA provided an information table and three service therapy dogs enhancing the knowledge about one of the services provided by this organization to those who stopped by. Olivia and her mom brought "Oliver", the family's therapy dog who provided licks and tail wags to all his greeters. This event raised another **\$265.00** to benefit the animals at Monmouth County's SPCA, for a grand total of **\$565.00**.

Courtesy of:



PHOTO COURTESY of Eileen Jones

Puppy Protectors, in association with the Monmouth County SPCA, fundraised multiple events on campus including hosting therapy dogs on campus.



# j'Ich suis Plurilingüe!

## Benefits of Being Multilingual

ALEXANDRIA AFANADOR  
CO-FEATURES/PHOTOGRAPHY EDITOR

Walking down the street, languages from every person's homeland are heard: Spanish, Russian, Polish, French, and so many other native languages fill the air with cultural awareness. Our people are vibrant and make for a flourishing land filled with cultures all over the world.

According to *The Daily Texan*, "The United States is largely monolingual. In fact, only about 15-20 percent of Americans consider themselves bilingual." This low percentage further increases the likelihood that citizens, natural born or otherwise, will end up either being shamed or feeling ashamed for speaking in their native tongue or being prideful in their cultures and nationalities.

Dr. Mirta Barrea-Marlys, Chair of the Department of World Languages and Cultures, said, "I have seen this reaction and have experienced it myself when I first came to this country from Argentina. It was hard to assimilate into a different culture, especially since I did not speak English and back then there weren't any ESL [English as a Second Language] programs to help students in schools."

Additionally, the fluctuation in numbers for the college track for

Spanish has seen a variation in numbers, "There is always fluctuation of interest in different language fields. For example, there used to be many more Education/World Language majors, but the numbers have dropped as it has in other areas of Education," Barrea-Marlys added.

Getting accustomed to a new environment is scary in and of itself, but, coming into a new country and having to immerse yourself in a new culture is something that cannot be imagined. Many foreign students and citizens that emigrated to another country, like the United States, experience a degree of culture shock—a sense of confusion or uncertainty that can end up having an affect on people exposed to another culture or environment without adequate preparation.

Dr. Julia Riordan-Goncalves, Director of Spanish and International Business Major and Spanish for Business Minor, said, "It is sad first, because their culture and multilingualism is a part of who they are; it is a part of their identity and history."

"Second, it is an indication that we still have a lot to do to overcome stereotypes and discrimination in the U.S. At the same time, I have met many students who are proud of being multilingual, and others who have overcome their embarrassment and gain confidence in their speaking abilities," Riordan-Goncalves

continued.

Valentina Sanchez, a junior Communication and Spanish student, is the President of the Spanish club. Sanchez, who is also multilingual, said, "When I first moved to the United States, I was so scared people were not going to like me because 'I wasn't like them.' I didn't sound like them, but I looked like I could be American and that made people feel weird."

"I was never ashamed of my culture but I didn't like the fact that I was different and that had a lot to do with how some people treated me when I first moved here," Sanchez continued.

Riordan-Goncalves also talked about an important topic: students who are multilingual are, at times, very intimidated by sharing their knowledge and fluency in that language. This also goes for students who have learned the language over time instead of learning it as their first language.

Junior political science and Spanish student, Keith Lee, said, "It [studying another language] makes understanding people easier as studying the culture and language of another group of people opens up the ability to put yourself in another person's shoes. We live in a very diverse society where, in my opinion, it is essential to learn about, appreciate, and indulge in

other cultures."

The multilingual population throughout not only college, but throughout life, has seen some fluctuation. As a general education requirement, students are to take at least six credits from a foreign language, or take a Global Understanding course in lieu of those courses.

Sanchez commented, "being multilingual is one of the greatest skills a person can have in today's world. The world is changing, diversity has become the norm."

"Being able to connect with different people from different cultures who speak different languages allows you to grow, to see the world from a different perspective, to be aware of the differences between cultures and teaches you to respect and love everyone for how unique they are," Sanchez added.

The importance of continuing a language is not limited to just the business, career, and education fields, but also for your mental stability and health. Riordan-Goncalves commented, "Knowing another language actually changes a person's brain – it creates new pathways that wouldn't be there otherwise. It gives a person another perspective through which he or she sees the world, and it opens up so many possibilities – linguistically, culturally, profes-

sionally and personally."

Though studying a language may seem like a daunting task, it is important to recognize that the benefits far outway any cons or setbacks someone may think they cause. Italian director, Federico Fellini, stated, "a different language is a different vision of life."

In the career field it is important to note that, "a job seeker does not need to be completely bilingual or multilingual to have value as a language speaker. In some professions, such as interpreting and high-level government jobs, this is true, but in general an intermediate or higher level of proficiency is very beneficial, and it can improve greatly over time," Riordan-Goncalves said.

Multilingualism provides people with numerous perspectives to look at the world from; learning a language, in turn, means you learn a culture. Studying a language means being immersed in art, reading, history, and so many other aspects of day to day life. Barrea-Marlys said, "I would tell students that there is nothing that transforms you more than language study and if there is one thing you can do to prepare for life after Monmouth, take language classes and study abroad! After all, *'One who knows two languages is worth as much as two.'*"- Spanish proverb."

## Experiencing Post-Graduate Life

LAUREN NIESZ  
CO-SENIOR/OPINION EDITOR

So many of us graduating seniors are bombarded and weighted with the doom and gloom of the future—the monotonous humdrum corporate life just knocking at our doors. But, don't fret, because we still have time to thrive.

It is not to say that our future jobs and/or possible internships won't be amazing, but sometimes thinking about being an adult in the working world can be scary and daunting. Trying anything new is hard to think about, but not when it is something perhaps you've always wanted to do.

We have summer 2017 to do some of the things we have always wanted to do, but couldn't do because of the mountains of work and school-affiliated responsibilities we had in our four years of undergraduate studies in college.

Dr. Chris Hirschler, Chair of Health and Physical Education and associate professor, said, "Life doesn't stop after graduation. Students who worked really hard during their time at Monmouth will likely not have a lot of free time as they will be applying for graduate school or jobs and preparing for either endeavor. Other students might realize that they had much more free time in college than they do post-graduation."

With this extra time, we can engage in activities we didn't have the time for during our undergraduate studies. Many of us would have loved to study abroad at our time here at Monmouth, but it just wasn't in the cards. Perhaps we couldn't find the money, spare the time, or bring ourselves to leave home for so long. Whatever the issue may have been, we didn't get to study abroad.

Now, after hopefully saving money and with this new allotted time, we can think about visiting other countries. Maggie Zelinka, a Monmouth alumna, said, "after

graduating from Monmouth, I realized that I would not have nearly as much free time employed as I would unemployed, so I made sure to travel when I could."

"I don't think people realize how important traveling is. It helps clear your mind and relieve stress, which is necessary post graduation. I felt pretty stressed after graduating college, so a vacation was the perfect answer," she continued.

Stress will be relieved, yet heightened all at the same time for graduates. The stress of study and loads of assignments to do simultaneously will be relieved, but the stress of "real life" heightens. Zelinka adds, "I mean, how are we not supposed to be stressed? We have been in the routine of getting up and going to school since pre-K and then all of the sudden your daily routine for 15+ years changes."

We become so accustomed to the routine of schooling that we don't know exactly how to transition into a life of more ease and different environments. However, we have this time of possibly awkward unemployment to truly experience post-graduate stress relief. Traveling is definitely a great way not only to relieve stress, but also to experience new things.

Robyn Asaro Assistant Director of Study Abroad, said, "life gets in the way; sometimes, when you are 22 and just about to graduate, you don't realize this as much as you will in the years to come. So, take my good advice and go do something out of the box and exciting, like traveling!"

"Human beings need new adventures and to feel a sense of awe and wonder. Travel takes you out of your head and into the moment because it often feels surreal to find yourself standing in front of something like the Duomo in Florence or the Eiffel Tower in Paris for example. I believe travel is good for the soul," Asaro added.

Asaro also gave the great sugges-

tion of asking relatives for the graduation gift of money instead in order to set it aside to afford the expenses of traveling. Putting that money aside and some of the money most of us assuredly have set aside for future expenses, it's totally manageable to get yourself somewhere exotic.

However, if you still don't find it reasonable, there is always the all-American road trip. Hirschler stated, "There's also plenty to see and do in the U.S.. Before attending medical school, my best friend drove from NY to spend two months hiking and camping in the Western United States."

On the other hand, some students found that this extra time they could use to travel could also be used to indulge an artistic passion. Graduate student of English, Connor White, decided that after graduating from Monmouth he would join a band, Couple of Guys.

White said, "I joined the band because music is a real passion of mine and whether it works out or not in the long run, it's something I'll be able to look back on and be proud that I did. As you get older, dreams get harder to follow. Jobs, family, commitments: they all pile up and make it extremely difficult to find time to pursue your passion."

"I've always been somewhat conservative when it comes to dealing with the terms of reality, but if you never at least try to pursue your dreams it will most likely be a huge regret when you get older," White continued.

Chair and specialist professor of music and theater arts, Joseph Rapolla, said, "Students should absolutely follow their passions whether music, theater, arts industry or whatever. Follow the light that pulls you and keep the blinders off and be open-minded to see all of the other pass that will materialize as you go down

the road."

So, whether it be music, dance, and/or theater, sometimes we neglect our love and passion for these things to focus on our studies. Post-graduation time is a great time to finally re-indulge in these arts and really pursue them.

Alexus Bird, a Monmouth alumna, shared, "My advice to graduating seniors is to honestly just have as much fun as you can! Go out with your friends as much as possible, do something you've always wanted to do like traveling. You have so much time to find a job, but just

because college is over doesn't mean your life is too. You have forever to find a job, so continue to enjoy being a young adult while you can."

There is a true feeling of freedom when we enter into college as bright-eyed and happy first year students. When we graduate, we feel wrecked, for a lack of a better word. We have been through a lot—highs and lows academically, socially, and emotionally. We all deserve to unwind, even if it is just for a few weeks before entering our hopefully bright and rewarding futures in the working world.



PHOTO TAKEN by Amanda Drennan

The group, Couple of Guys, formed after a number of the members graduated from Monmouth.



# Men's Lacrosse Wins Program Record Seventh Straight

CHRIS FITZSIMMONS  
STAFF WRITER

The men's lacrosse team continued their winning ways this past week with two victories. Monmouth's first win was against Virginia Military Institute (VMI) on Monday, April 10. Their second victory took place against Detroit Mercy in Detroit, MI on Saturday, April 15.

The Hawk's set the tone early against VMI, scoring twice within the opening 30 seconds en route to a 15-8 win. Credit goes to freshman midfielder Justin Schwenk for the first goal and junior midfielder Chandler Vanderbeek for the second. From there the Hawks would score four more unanswered goals to put themselves up 6-0 by the end of the first quarter.

Monmouth added four more goals to VMI's one before the half was up and cruised into half with a comfortable 10-1 lead. The Keydets, however, did not go down without making the game a little interesting. VMI chipped away at the lead over the course of the third quarter by scoring five goals to Monmouth's three to make it a 13-6 contest.

The Hawks quickly reestablished a comfortable lead in the fourth quarter by netting two goals to build their lead to nine. VMI would score the final two goals of the game but at that point it was too little too late. When the clock expired it was the Hawks



PHOTO COURTESY of Rene Schleicher

Senior defender Andrew Grajewski led a strong defensive attack for Monmouth in their 15-8 win over VMI on Monday, April 10.

who came away with the 15-8 win.

"There are a lot of names I can rattle off that played really well, even in limited time," Head Coach Brian Fisher said after the game. "It was good to hold them to a low score in the first half which gave us the opportunity to play some more guys. The focus in which we had got us off to a good start and getting more guys in there made it a fun game."

Saturday's slate against Detroit

Mercy saw the Hawks jump out to an early 5-0 lead and proceed to have to stave off a late game push from Detroit Mercy to secure their first win against the Titans in four meetings.

The Hawks never gave up the lead but the Titans were able to cut the deficit to one with nine minutes left on the clock. Monmouth responded by scoring two goals, courtesy of senior attacker Dan Bloodgood and junior attacker Bryce Wasserman, who

was named Metro Atlantic Athletic Conference (MAAC) Player of the Week on Tuesday, April 18.

The Hawks successfully defended the lead from there and when the clock was zero, the scoreboard read 11-8, Hawks. With the win, the Monmouth successfully secured a place in the MAAC Tournament for the third year in a row and achieved their first 10 win season in program history.

"We showed some toughness

this afternoon in how we were able to overcome some stretches in the second half where we were not at our best, particularly in the third and fourth quarters," Fisher said. "It was great to see the team respond the way we did after a little adversity and close out the game. It's really exciting to be in the position we are in at this point of the season and while we are excited about where we currently are, we are looking forward to our next game and playing at home under the lights on Friday night."

The program as whole continues to improve every single year. The program, which was first added in 2013-2014, resulted in a winless season. The seniors on this year's team were freshman that year and the progress that has been made is a testament to their leadership and grit.

"Coach Fisher does a great job in instilling what we call a championship mentality," senior defender Andrew Grajewski said. "We came from a winless season our freshman year so we knew what that feels like and we want to win championships for this school and our coach who started the program."

With the pair of wins, Monmouth remains undefeated in MAAC play. The Hawks will look to extend their program-record seven-game winning streak on Friday, April 21 as they will take on Canisius on senior night at Hesse Field at 7 p.m. The game will be broadcasted on ESPN3.

## Morgan Balderas and Alex Holzman: From Kansas to the Jersey Shore

JOHN SORCE  
CO-SENIOR/SPORTS EDITOR

One glance at the softball roster and you will notice a lot of student-athletes from the tri-state area and California. Fourteen of the 17 players come from New Jersey, New York, Maryland, Pennsylvania, or California. One player is from Illinois and the other two are from...Kansas?

Junior infielders Morgan Balderas and Alex Holzman are in their first season in West Long Branch after successful junior college careers some 1,400 miles west. Balderas transferred from Highland Community College in Highland, Kansas, while Holzman came from Cowley County Community College in Arkansas City, Kansas. The two grew up together in Wichita, Kansas and played at high schools that were seven miles apart.

Head Coach Shannon Salsburg found out about Balderas through Emma Hill, who played for the Hawks from 2015-16 after coming from the same junior college. "Emma told me about Morgan and Morgan told me about Alex," Salsburg said. "I watched both play thanks to live streams like ESPN3 pretty much every day after practice last year. I was watching their style of play; they seemed to be kids that were always in the middle of good things that happened for their team. They always played hard and never jogged or took any plays off. As I got on the phone with them I found out who they were and what was important to them. I felt that they would be a good fit."

Both girls arrive in West Long Branch already having accumulated many accolades in their collegiate careers. Balderas was an All-Conference, All-Region and All-America honoree at Highland Community College. She earned

the National Junior College Athletic Association (NJCAA) Division II Marucci Elite Hitter Award for District E, which is awarded to the player with the highest batting average in the district, after hitting .428 as a sophomore. She also set the program single-season home run record as a freshman with 22 before becoming the all-time leader with 37.

"Morgan was an impact player for our program for two years," said Heidi Jordan, who was Balderas' head coach at Highland, in an email. "She was one of the biggest offensive threats in our conference and was underestimated on defense. You can never replace a player like Morgan, she will be in our record books for a long time. We are very proud of everything that she has accomplished and hope she can be as good for Monmouth as she was for us."

Holzman also earned All-America, All-Region and All-Conference accolades while at Cowley County Community College and hit .540 as a sophomore to earn NJCAA Division II Marucci Elite Hitter honors for District II. She ended her two-year career with 31 home runs and 129 runs batted in. She was also a three-time Jayhawk Conference Player of the Week and earned Cowley County Athlete of the Month in April 2016.

"Alex is amongst the several top notch athletes that has come through our program here at Cowley," said Jenny Hoyt, who was Holzman's head coach at Cowley, in an email. "Her stats and awards define what she meant to this program. Alex did not only mean a lot to our softball program, but she holds a special place in my heart. I believe if you ask her she would go to war for myself and her teammates. That just shows you the dedication she had to this program and everyone involved

in it.

"I am beyond excited about her journey at Monmouth. For her to be able to play on the coast doing something she loves just gives me chills because I know I am very lucky/blessed to have been a part of her softball career. She is a great individual who brings so much positive energy to the table, and I am beyond words to see her get an opportunity like this."

Kansas and New Jersey are two very different places, so both players needed to adjust to a new life style on the field as well as off the field.

"I didn't really know anything different than the Midwest," Balderas said. "Out there it is very family oriented, everybody just knew everybody and we grew up competing against each other. You really get that family bond from everybody in Kansas. I was looking at a lot of southern and eastern schools. I knew that I wanted two years of experience somewhere else to get that life experience and play in a different softball culture."

"It was definitely weird coming somewhere where there is absolutely no familiar faces," Holzman added. "In Kansas, you will always run into somebody that you know or knows somebody that you know, and not having that here is honestly the weirdest thing."

"I would never come to New Jersey for any other reason, so when I found out this school was in New Jersey, my mom told me I had to jump on that because it was an opportunity that I would never have again."

Holzman also noticed that people go about their everyday life differently here than in Kansas. "I noticed the people at the grocery store are different," Holzman said. "I wouldn't say they're mean in Jersey, but they go about their day



PHOTOS COURTESY of Karlee Sell

Juniors Morgan Balderas (top) and Alex Holzman have started every game for the Hawks this year. They are two of four players to do so.

differently. People in Kansas go out of their way to be nice and it's more natural for them to stop and talk if they don't know you, where here it's very fast paced. But it's not rude and it was an easy adjustment."

Balderas and Holzman are two of only four Hawks to start in every game so far this season. They are enjoying their time here and Salsburg likes what she has seen from them. "They have definitely fit in. Alex has a lot of energy and Morgan is a hard worker. It's pretty simple to integrate when you

have those things going for you and at the end of the day, they're doing everything they can to help us win."

When many people think about Kansas, the first thing that comes to mind is the *Wizard of Oz*. But Balderas notes that is far from the case. "For people who think Kansas is just land, like in the *Wizard of Oz*, it's not," Balderas said. "We actually live in a big city. We're not all about tornadoes, Toto and the *Wizard of Oz*. I've never actually seen a tornado in my whole life."



# Men’s Golf Confident Heading Into MAAC Championship

JOHN SORCE  
CO-SENIOR/SPORTS EDITOR

The men’s golf team is coming off their best tournament to date in the spring season, a fourth-place finish in the Peacock Invitational. The 18-hole tournament took place on Tuesday, April 11 at the Par-72, 7069-yard Neshanic Valley Golf Course in Neshanic Valley.

“We’ve had a tough spring so far in terms of weather conditions and every time you go to a tournament, you are looking to improve and that’s what we’ve done,” Head Coach Dennis Shea said. “The weather was more conducive to playing golf and the guys stepped up. We’ve had some more practice sessions which gave the guys a chance to get their game in shape. It was nice to see the six guys that we took up there all break 80 and three of them finished one over par, which was a step in the right direction.”

“It was definitely a good event for us,” senior Tommy Whelan said. “We finally broke 300 as a team, which is something that we are going to have to do down in Florida [at the conference championship]. It was good to build some momentum. We’ve been working really hard and I think some guys are starting to see some of the results they have been looking for.”

It was the first time all season that all six Hawks scored in the 70s and their 299 score was

their second best round of the season. The team shot 298 in the first round of the Mathews Auto Collegiate Invitational on Oct. 2. The blue and white were just two points off the pace for second, as Rider carded 297 and Fairfield posted 298. Saint Peter’s won the event with a score of 292.

Monmouth was led by a trio of players who finished tied for fourth individually in Whelan and freshmen Andy Stock and Nick Maff, who all carded one

over par at 73.

Monmouth finished the first round at the Lafayette Invitational on Sunday, April 2 in 11<sup>th</sup> place in the 19 team field with a score of 312. But the team carded 304 in the second round on Monday, April 3 to finish the 36-hole event tied for sixth.

Sophomore Drake Ferriter carded 76 in both rounds leading to a top-25 finish while Whelan, senior Jesse Hazam and junior Kyle Burke all improved on their



PHOTO COURTESY of Monmouth Athletics

**Senior Tommy Whelan finished** tied for fourth with a 73 at the Saint Peter’s Invitational on Tuesday, April 11.

first round scores by shooting 76 in the second round.

“I think in the first round we made too many mental mistakes,” Shea said. “Our ball-striking tee-to-green is good as anybody out there. But sometimes you make the wrong decision at the wrong time and when that happens, you put up a big number. For the next day, we discussed we were really going to stay focused and make the right decisions at the right time, and we did. We jumped five spots in one day in conditions that were not the best, but the guys really stepped up.”

The team will set off for the Metro Atlantic Athletic Conference (MAAC) Championship that begins on Friday, April 21. The three-day, 54-hole event will take place at Disney’s Palm Golf Course in Lake Buena Vista, FL.

Both Shea and Whelan are confident going in.

“The ultimate goal is to win your conference championship,” Shea said. “That’s where you want to peak and as the season has progressed, we gotten better with each event. We’re going down there with the idea that we’re going to be competitive, but we need to put our best step forward and play well for three days.”

“I think it really comes down to breaking that 300 number,” Whelan said. “If we play our game and can be consistent, I think we have a very good chance.”

# Baseball Drops Two of Three to Marist

ZACH COSENZA  
ASSISTANT SPORTS EDITOR

The baseball team dropped their first two home games of the season as they lost two out of three in a weekend series against Metro Atlantic Athletic Conference (MAAC) opponent Marist at MU Baseball Field.

Monmouth defeated Marist 7-2 in the first game on Friday, April 14 after a five run

eight inning to break the 2-2 tie. Sophomore right-handed pitcher Jordan McCrum pitched a gem, throwing 6 $\frac{2}{3}$  innings, allowing no earned runs (one unearned) on a career-high seven strikeouts.

“[Jordan] was great. He got us this one win this weekend based on how he played,” said Head Coach Dean Ehehalt. “We didn’t help him out on defense and he held those guys at bay

the whole game. We were fortunate to get an outing like that out of him.”

Marist and Monmouth got on the board quick, with Marist scoring one on the top half of the first on a Monmouth fielding error. The Hawks countered with two walks to senior infielders Grant Lamberton and Shaine Hughes to lead off the bottom of the first. Senior outfielder Dan Shea drove in Lamberton with a single. Junior designated hitter Pete Papcun followed up with a sacrifice fly to bring in Hughes and give the Hawks a 2-1 lead.

McCrum left the game with the bases loaded and two out in the seventh, but senior right-handed pitcher Ben Hoffman would get the ground out to end the inning to save the lead for Monmouth. Marist ended up tying the game in the eighth after a single, an MU throwing error, and a single to make it 2-2.

In the bottom of the eighth, after two lead-off walks, junior infielder Justin Trochiano laid down a perfect bunt down the third base line which was thrown into right field, allowing both runners to score. Lamberton then drove in a run with a single, followed by Papcun driving in two with a single to left, extending the lead to 7-2.

“I thought our at-bats were good throughout the game and we were able to execute late,” said Ehehalt. “Pete [Papcun] had two big at-bats and Trochiano’s bunt was outstanding.”

Lamberton finished the game with two runs scored, while Papcun ended with three runs batted in (RBI). Hoffman earned the win finishing the game with 2 $\frac{1}{3}$  innings, allowing two hits and no earned runs (one unearned).

In game two of the series against Marist, Monmouth lost their first home game of the year, 5-4 on Saturday, April 15.

Marist scored three runs in the first inning, with a three-run home run off of sophomore left-handed pitcher Kyle Ajjan, who also gave up a run each in the third and fifth innings. Ajjan finished with five innings pitched with five runs (four earned).

Monmouth came back scoring four runs in the seventh and final inning of the game. Hughes and Papcun each drive in runs with a single, then sophomore catcher Clay Koniencki drove in two with a single on a dropper behind first base to make it a one run game. Senior outfielder Ryan Crowley struck out looking to end the game with the tying run left at third.

“We have to be able to play a complete game,” said Ehehalt. “That was our fifth one-run loss in conference that we’ve had.”

In the third and final game of the series, Monmouth lost the rubber game 7-1. “We didn’t come out with any intensity. We didn’t play with any purpose and you can see the results,” Ehehalt said. “I thought we could’ve played much better and of course we didn’t.”

Marist scored five runs in the third inning off of sophomore right-handed pitcher Tyler Ksi-azek. He finished the game with three innings pitched, allowing five earned runs on three hits. The Hawks lone run came off of a sacrifice fly from Shea in the fifth, scoring Trochiano.

The Hawks are now 11-20 on the season and 6-6 in the MAAC. They host a non-conference match up against Lafayette on Wednesday, April 19 at 3:30 p.m.



PHOTO COURTESY of Karlee Sell

**Sophomore right-hander Jordan McCrum threw** 6.2 innings while striking out seven in the Hawks’ 7-2 victory over Marist on Friday, April 14.

## SIDE LINES

**Softball:** The softball team split weekend conference series with Fairfield and Iona over the weekend. On Friday, April 14, they lost the first game, 1-0 in 13 innings. Junior pitcher Amanda Riley threw all 13 innings and struck out 16 batters on four hits.

In the second game, Monmouth won 5-1. Junior catcher Alex Holzman and senior first baseman Justene Reyes drove in all five runs and both homered in the contest. Senior pitcher Sydney Underhill picked up the win throwing a complete game, striking out six.

On Saturday, April 15, the Hawks won the first game against Iona in a 5-0 shutout. Reyes launched her sixth home run of the season and Holzman drove in two with a double. Riley threw the complete game shutout, striking out seven and allowing four hits. Monmouth got no-hit by Iona’s Alana Evans in the second game as the blue and white fell 4-0.

The Hawks are now 14-22 overall and 6-4 in the Metro Atlantic Athletic Conference (MAAC). They return to action on Saturday, April 22 when they welcome Niagara to West Long Branch for a doubleheader beginning at noon.

## UPCOMING GAMES

**Wednesday, April 19**  
M Tennis vs. Ramapo  
West Long Branch, NJ 10:30 a.m.

*M Tennis vs. Rider\**  
West Long Branch, NJ 3:00 p.m.

*W Lacrosse vs. Manhattan\**  
West Long Branch, NJ 3:00 p.m.

W Tennis at Wagner  
Staten Island, NY 3:00 p.m.

Baseball vs. Lafayette  
West Long Branch, NJ 3:30 p.m.

**Friday, April 21**  
Outdoor Track & Field  
Virginia Challenge  
Charlottesville, VA TBA

Outdoor Track & Field  
Larry Ellis Invitational  
Princeton, NJ TBA

*Men’s and Women’s Golf\**  
MAAC Championship  
Lake Buena Vista, FL 8:00 a.m.

*M Lacrosse vs. Canisius\**  
West Long Branch, NJ 7:00 p.m.

**Saturday, April 22**  
*Men’s and Women’s Golf\**  
MAAC Championship  
Lake Buena Vista, FL 8:00 a.m.

*Softball vs. Niagara\**  
West Long Branch, NJ 12:00 p.m.

*Softball vs. Niagara\**  
West Long Branch, NJ 2:00 p.m.

*Baseball vs. Niagara\**  
West Long Branch, NJ 12:00 p.m.

*Baseball vs. Niagara\**  
West Long Branch, NJ 3:00 p.m.

*W Lacrosse vs. Siena\**  
West Long Branch, NJ 1:00 p.m.

*M Tennis vs. Marist\**  
West Long Branch, NJ 1:00 p.m.

*\*conference games*





LUCKY 7

POWER WIN



Junior attacker Bryce Wasserman scored two goals in Monmouth's first ever win over Detroit Mercy (11-8) on Saturday, April 15. It was their seventh consecutive win.