



# THE OUTLOOK

MONMOUTH UNIVERSITY'S  
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## Model UN Wins Best Delegation at International Tournament

NICHOLAS COSCARELLI  
POLITICS EDITOR

The University's Model United Nations (MUN) Team won overall Best Delegation at the London MUN contest during the annual meeting on Feb. 25, competing against over 1,500 students from over 100 universities. The team beat Imperial College London and New York University, which placed second and third, respectively.

Eight University students attended the competition, including team captain and senior Prachi Patel and senior Liz Carmines, juniors Justin Dritschel, Emma O'Rourke, Liam Coffey, and Pablo Catano, and sophomores James Hawk and Mackenzie Ricca, along with faculty advisor Ken Mitchell, Ph.D. The group travelled to the United Kingdom on Feb. 23 to compete in the London-based conference. All competing students except Catano, who is undeclared, are political science students.

With attendees from across Europe, Asia, the Middle East, Africa and North Amer-



PHOTO COURTESY OF Liz Carmines

The University's Model United Nations (MUN) team travelled to England to compete in the largest tournament outside of the United States.

ica, the London Conference is the largest, most competitive MUN contest held outside of the United States. Other competing schools included Oxford University and the London School of Economics, among many others.

At the conference, Individu-

al Best Delegate awards were earned by Patel, Hawk, and Ricca for their performance debating, negotiating, and writing policy resolutions.

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## Sports Communication Minor Restructured for Fall 2018

CORAL COOPER  
ADVERTISING MANAGER

The University's sports communication minor is being restructured for the upcoming fall semester, which will allow stu-

dents to focus their interests in specific areas of sports communication.

Aaron Furgason, Ph.D., Chair of the Department of Communication, said, "The change is subtle. The sports broadcasting minor replaces the current sports communication

minor by narrowing down to one element of sports communication, the skills needed for the broadcasting of sporting events and talking about sports via talk radio. There is a potential that future areas of sports communication may also be available for students to minor in the future."

The rationale behind the change reads as follows on the curriculum proposal chart, the minor is intended to expose students to a variety of communication areas with respect to sports. With sports communication moving towards convergence of skills and disciplines; whether it be journalism, broadcasting, production, public relations, sports studies or a host of other professions, it is a core belief that students pursuing careers in this realm will have to be competent in a wide variety of areas that cut across communication interests."

Specialist professor of communication Matthew Harmon said,

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PHOTO TAKEN by Courtney Buell

The University's sports communication minor is being redesigned to allow for a more extended education in the field.

## Annual Criminal Justice Networking Event to be Held

ALEXANDRIA AFANADOR  
MANAGING/FEATURES EDITOR

Over 50 different career fields will be joining the criminal justice department at their sixth annual networking event in an effort to help students of all majors build mentorships, inform themselves on careers they wish to pursue, and establish professional relationships on March 28 in Wilson Hall from 5 p.m. until 9 p.m.

Of the over 60 different presenters of federal law enforcement, homeland security, local and state law enforcement, victim advocacy, and many others, roughly 60 percent of them are Monmouth University alumni.

The event will host different types of criminal justice related areas of work such as members representing postal inspection, Secret Service, the Fire Department City of New York (FDNY), and victim witness units from county prosecutor's offices. A new addition to the list of organizations is rehabilitation resources, along with many other dedicated individuals from the area.

Nicholas Sewitch, Internship Coordinator and instructor of

the criminal justice and organizer of the networking event, said, "The number and percentage of Monmouth alumni at this event has been a big improvement for us. My goal one day is for all of the presenters to be previous students."

This networking event has been specifically designed to be unlike an internship or career fair in the way the event will be set up--the layout of the event will be completely interactive with the officials in each category via sessions instead of walking around table to table.

After an opening statement, two breakout sessions will commence on the first floor of Wilson Hall. Each of the 100-level rooms holds a different form of law enforcement, victim advocacy, rehabilitation, security, and similar organizations. Each of the two sessions will be about an hour and 20 minutes long; previously, there were three sessions - the elimination of the third session provided additional time for presenters to fully inform guests.

The newest addition to the event is the inclusion of Brook-

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## School of Education Dean Redesigns Residency Program

NATALIE OSTERMANN  
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

John Henning, Ph.D., Dean of the School of Education, has been designing a residency program that will give students the skills they need to thrive as teachers, as well as changing the way they are seen in their field.

The pilot program started three years ago, when New Jersey changed its student teaching requirement. As of 2015, student teaching, a major requirement for graduation, was a year-long field experience, rather than lasting only a semester. Henning saw this change as a chance for him to create a more innovative blueprint for the University's education program.

Henning expanded the idea

to start during students' sophomore year, leading to exposure on a more regular basis. In the program, students will start going out to their respective residency sites one day a week, building up to being in the classroom every day during their senior year.

"The longer [students] are in the field, the more flexible and spontaneous they get," said Henning, who had been an English teacher for over 20 years before taking on an administrative role. "They've seen more, and practice more things so that things come to them automatically."

According to Henning, students will be able to take on different roles in the classroom, such as working as a tutor, a

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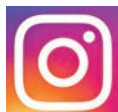
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# “Discovering the Ecological Self” Workshops Use Art and Science to Connect with Nature

JOY MORGAN  
ENVIRONMENTAL/ASSISTANT NEWS  
EDITOR

Monmouth University began hosting nature-based workshops for the social practice project, Discovering the Ecological Self, this February to encourage a connection between the middle school students from the Aslan Youth Ministry (AYM) and the environment, through art and science.

The project is developed and led by artist Kimberly Callas, MFA, an assistant professor in the department of art and design. The purpose of these workshops is to foster environmental stewardship and create environmental leaders and Social Practice artists, according to Callas.

AYM is an after school program based in Red Bank that provides middle school children from underprivileged backgrounds with resources for guidance, tutoring, mentoring, recreational activities, and cultural enrichment programs.

Some of the students enrolled in the AYM programs have been returning to the University every Wednesday from 4:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. where they receive an interactive learning experience focused on marine biology.

“We live so close to the beach, it just makes sense that we would want to connect the students with the ecosystem, that for many, they have known and loved for much of their lives,” said Callas.

Students from the marine biology and environmental policy department, members of the Artists for Change club, and students in Callas’ Sculpture 2 class connect with Callas and ecologist specialist and associate professor of biology Pedram Daneshgar, Ph.D., leading and supporting the various weekly activities.

The workshops generally begin with a science lesson done by marine biology and environmental policy student volunteers Rebecca Klee, senior, and Taylor Donovan, a junior.

“It seems like the kids are really into it, they ask a lot of science questions and it is great because they can hang out, do art, and learn science for a couple of hours,” said Klee. “I think

its beneficial for them because they come from underprivileged neighborhoods where they may not have these opportunities otherwise. At the end of the day, this gives them a social thing to do and they get the opportunity to learn here, where they could be doing maybe not so great things at home.”

At last Wednesday’s lesson, the students were learning about algae (seaweed) in the ocean. Where it grows, what animals eat it, what products it is in, why it is important to the eco-system and the food chain, and how humans consume and interact with it. The week prior the students learned about bioluminescence in the ocean and used black paper and neon chalks to reproduce the effects of glowing marine life.

Following the biology lesson, the students learn basic building block concepts of art. In the case of seaweed, the students learned about lines, rhythm, repetition, patterns, and movement expressed through art, and were then shown examples of professional artwork done with natural materials and of nature itself, specifically seaweed. Historical examples from 1500 B.C. as well as more recently produced pieces were shown, an example being a pastel on paper piece by Georgia O’Keeffe, 1938.

Daneshgar then showed the students how pressing plants with paper is a form of preserving plant life, observing it with great detail, and making art as well. At this time, he showed the students multiple examples, some from as far back as 1937. While analyzing one piece, he pointed out that the thorns of a rose are a way for roses to protect themselves as one example and helped the students understand more about ecology.

After the students received the brief interactive lesson, they went to tour the university green house where the volunteers helped students clip pieces of plants from their stems in the green house to create their own pressings of plants they found the most interesting looking.

Amanda Green, President of Artists for Change, and a senior fine arts student said, “I like to see how kids take the information and make art out of it, everyone



PHOTO TAKEN by Joy Morgan

The Discovering the Ecological Self workshops, which focus on fostering a sense of environmental stewardship, connect University students such as Taylor Donovan (right) with middle schoolers.

has a different interpretation and its very exciting to see what the kids come up with. It is an interesting and hands on way to connect art and nature for the students. A lot of us art students are still figuring out how to connect the two ourselves.”

The project received a grant from the Urban Coast Institute’s (UCI) Marine Science and Policy Initiative Program (MSPI) for this spring semester. According to Thomas Herrington, Ph.D., the associate director of the UCI, this grant is awarded to faculty who propose projects that educate and advance the core mission of pursuing a healthy and productive coastal ecosystem and community.

“We do believe that this project will improve future environmental conservation. We can only improve our coastal environment and communities when people understand their connection to the coastal environment and the value that environment has to them,” said Herrington.

“Multi-disciplined studies like professor Callas’ that combine art, environment, and the coast, are much more likely to lead to broad connections that benefit society than just a scientific understanding can do alone,” Herrington continued.

According to Callas, Discovering the Ecological Self stemmed from her personal sculpture project Portrait of the Ecological Self which came out of her work in sustainability. Callas had spent years practicing ecological art, and running a sustainability institute in Maine, with similar social practice projects and research.

With the desire to create sustainable change, Callas was discouraged when observing that few people were responding to environmental data from scientists.

“I noticed that even those opposed to environmentalism would protect a stream they had fished in as a child. We protect what we love. Art can access our more emotional connection to nature and re-awaken our love for our natural home,” said Callas.

Discovering the Ecological Self is also being studied by Megan Delaney, Ph.D., LPC, an assistant professor in the counseling program of Monmouth’s graduate school. Delaney is a practicing counselor who has focused on eco-therapy and related research in her studies and career and has implemented this form of therapy by taking her students and clients outside to re-connect with nature.

Delaney will be doing a two-part study on the project, first by admin-

istering pre and post surveys to collect hard data measuring the Aslan Ministries and Monmouth student’s relationship with and opinions of the environment to draw the correlation between the program and the evidence of improved desire for environmental stewardship.

“The hypothesis is that the students will develop a deep connection with the natural world, and on a personal level think of themselves, Kimberly uses this sword, as ‘environmental stewards’. It will hopefully light a fire in them,” said Delaney.

The second aspect of the study will be qualitative, which will allow for Delaney to gather meaning based data through student’s testimonials detailing the experience with the project, and how their feelings towards the environment has or has not changed.

At the conclusion of the study the research will potentially be published and presented.

“Part of eco-therapy is give and take, what we take we also give back. With conservation and protection, we hypothesize that the stewardship will be augmented,” said Delaney.

## Revised Program Allows for More Student Teaching Experience

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paraprofessional, a co-teacher, and/or a summer school teacher. These varied roles will give students a taste of teaching in different content areas, as well as working with different grades and learning abilities.

According to Wendy Harriot, Ph.D., Associate Dean of Education, exposure to varied types of students will help future teachers have a better understanding of their students’ needs, and can lead to interest in a specialized field of education.

“By being in the field longer and in probably more classrooms they can gain a better understanding [the needs] of students with disabilities,” Harriot said. “It sometimes sparks an interest in the field of special education so sometimes it might even lead to a different career path.”

During their time in the classroom, students are now

able to gain a stipend for their time. Henning was able to create a payment plan for undergraduates using extra money in the budget from substitute teachers and paraprofessionals with the help of representatives from the state.

Students also gain the ability to build a rapport with seasoned teachers and districts. The extra time spent in the schools allows students to get to know the teachers they’re shadowing on a deeper level and foster a mentorship between the two. Teaching is a profession that is motivated by collaboration. By being in the classroom at such an early time in their college careers, students are able to witness this co-worker dynamic and have the opportunity to join in as well.

Kelly Schuld, a sophomore who was one of the first students in the pilot residency program, commented on the difference she feels the program has made in her preparation for the

profession.

“I thought I would be placed in a classroom in my school, but it turns out I was placed in a hallway,” said Schuld, who is currently completing her first residency placement at Middletown High School North in a world history class.

“It is easy to bounce between classes when the host-teacher has a free block or I want to observe the same topic presented by a different teacher,” Schuld said. “All the teachers know each other and it’s interesting to see the interconnectedness between teachers because you don’t see it so much as a student. Each teacher seems a lot more isolated in the classroom as a student, but it’s actually a lot more fluid.”

“The reason why this [program] is working is our students want to be in school,” Henning added. “It’s their energy and willingness to spend extra time gaining experience to become better teachers.”



**John Henning,  
Ph.D.**

*Dean of the School  
of Education*

John Henning, Ph.D., is an experienced educational practitioner, researcher, and leader with 38 years in the field. His primary research interests include practice-based teacher education, teacher development, instructional decision-making, and classroom discourse. These interests developed from more than twenty years of experience as a high school teacher.

Dr. Henning is an active scholar and researcher, with more than 50 publications, including three books, over thirty refereed journal articles, and seven book chapters. Henning also taught several doctoral courses, including a course entitled “Writing to Publish,” and his students have published over 25 articles.

IMAGE TAKEN from monmouth.edu; information from monmouth.edu



# Annual Networking Event to Include Brookdale Students; Inclusive of all Years, Majors at Monmouth



PHOTO COURTESY of Nicholas Sewitch

This is the sixth annual networking event held by the criminal justice department.

**NETWORKING** cont. from pg. 1

dale Community College criminal justice students; students from Brookdale are invited to join our community at the networking event.

"We have a fair amount of diversity in our department, a lot of students come from Brookdale and we haven't invited them in the past, it's something new we're trying," Sewitch said.

Annabel Lamb, a senior English student said, "Monmouth does a great job of providing open and inclusive experiences across all departments. There's some great, realistic education to be gained from

learning about criminal justice and victim advocacy to be a better citizen as well as a better student."

"I definitely feel comfortable attending networking events outside my major—opportunities are everywhere, and it's never a bad idea to gain new experiences and learn about other career paths," she continued

Conor Scott, a senior homeland security student said he is looking forward to attending the event. "I have gone to the networking event every year since I became a student," he said. "I think it's very beneficial to make this event a networking event as opposed to a career fair. By making it a networking

event, the criminal justice department is allowing students to have more in-depth interactions with professionals who have experience in the field."

"We always like to hear feedback from our guests who attend the event. Generally, it was all positive, but the one consistent piece was that there just wasn't enough time to really ask questions and network. So, we decided to change the number of sessions, this provided us with extra time at the end to reconvene and for students to speak with presenters," Sewitch explained.

Jennifer Sarnataro, a junior homeland security student said, "I hope to make some connections

with the agencies I am interested in working with such as the Drug Enforcement Agency (DEA), Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI), and others. I feel like with this set up, I will get to see and learn more than if I were just walking around a room."

The criminal justice department made it a point to emphasize that the event is inclusive to all students regardless of their area of study. Sewitch said that there is a criminal justice aspect that can be applied to every single major. The idea or stereotype that this type of an event would just end up being a 'cop-shop' is something the department works hard to dispel. Criminal justice being interdisciplinary is something the department works tirelessly to instill in students at Monmouth.

Maryam Srouji, a senior psychology student, although unable to attend the event, said, "Even though the event is a criminal justice event, I would still love to go just to see if I can find my niche. It's always better to get informed on how to help people, even if it's not my major."

By giving students this immersive experience of meeting some of their most coveted role models, students are able to not only understand their potential career fields and see just how attainable they are, but they are also able to mingle with likely employers.

"What is important to note is that the diversity of this event has not meant to become our focal point, but, all genders, sexes, all walks of life, and backgrounds come together at the event," Sewitch continued. Men, women, people of color, and professionals with all types of educational and experiential backgrounds are found at the event.

"Being that it is open to all majors, I am very willing to attend the event. I think by making it so inclusive and hearing how diverse the crowd and presenters will be definitely entices students to attend the event," said Hayley Bray, a senior health studies student.

"I would personally like to gather more information from professionals in the homeland security/criminal justice fields. I've found the event to provide a great opportunity to directly ask questions about the field and receive quality answers from professionals. I also use it as a means of keeping in touch with recruiters that I am currently in contact with," Scott added.

Alyssa Corea, a sophomore homeland security student said, "It is a great opportunity to make a name for yourself especially if you are set on something specific. I hope to meet people and make more connections to put myself in better standing for a job."

In preparation for the event, Sewitch recommends business casual wear is acceptable; the event isn't suit and tie formal but looking presentable is key to a good first impression.

"We strive to let students know it's more than okay to come to the event in whatever they are wearing because this isn't meant to be a career fair. But, first impressions can be the most important."

Although the event is rather relaxed and primarily focused on open conversation, Sewitch recommends coming with a notebook and pen handy. "This is the focus of the event, come in with questions you need answered and be ready to understand what your career may entail."

## Model UN Team Takes Home Three Student Awards

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The conference took place over the duration of three days. Participants represented different countries and competed in policy committees of approximately 70 students. Within their committees, students worked to negotiate and write policy resolutions in order to resolve international challenges—such as economic development, poverty, terrorism, civil wars, refugees, deforestation, human rights, post-conflict reconstruction, and natural disaster responses, among many other topics.

At the conference, Monmouth University students represented the countries of Switzerland, Nigeria, Congo, and Honduras. Seven of the eight University students present contributed to successful policy resolutions, often as a resolution's main author.

"With this being my last conference, I couldn't be happier with the results," said Patel, who also serves as President of the Model UN Club on campus. "Winning a best delegation award represented the long hours and effort the team put in. Everyone spent hours doing research, and I am very proud of the team's overall effort. Everyone helped each other out and worked as a collective unit."

Patel added that she is excited for the team to grow on campus after its latest victory; however, "It is bittersweet that this was my last year as captain." She said, "I am also very grateful for all the friends I've made because of

MUN."

Mitchell said that the team's victory in London is an "Amazing accomplishment for the Model UN Team."

Mitchell assisted the team in their preparation, along with Kevin Dooley, Ph.D., an associate professor of political science. "Hours and hours of preparation

and hard work paid off," he said. "[Monmouth University] students can compete academically at the highest level."

The MUN team has competed at three contests this academic year. In April 20 Monmouth University students will compete at conference at New York University.



PHOTO COURTESY of Liz Carmine

Three of the eight competing students won individual awards for their skill in debating, negotiating, and writing policy resolutions.

## Broadcasting Minor To Provide More Opportunity

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"[There are] big changes as you can see from the curriculum chart. [We] took out the prerequisites of the introduction communication classes to make this way easier for a student that might be interested in sports to add the minor."

"[A] history of sports class is now repeatable as a class as it will be changing and having a topic listed each semester instead trying to cover everything in one semester. In the past [the class] would do about two weeks on each sport. Now the class will allow a much more in depth look at two to three sports per semester," said Harmon.

An advanced sports broadcasting course and a second *ESPN3* class are also available now. Some film communication courses might also be sports-specific, according to Harmon.

The 18-credit minor will no longer require any independent study or internship, according to Harmon.

"Trying to open doors to a wider audience of students on campus to take advantage of their interest in sports and look at the academic side. These changes make the minor much more user friendly," Harmon continued.

Harmon said he believes the changes will be implemented in the fall of 2018.

"Sports has been an important part of the Department of Communication's offerings, and this new change will mean more opportunity for students with interest in sports and communication," said Chad Dell, Ph.D., an associate professor of communication. "I'm excited about the change

and look forward to working with students in this expanded capacity."

Matthew Deluca, a senior communication student with a sports broadcasting minor, said, "I took up the minor to broaden my knowledge of sports in terms of how they are covered, and to familiarize myself with the field of sports media. A shift towards sports broadcasting will create ample opportunities for students to get involved with that subject."

"I hope that if the minor is changed, more students will be motivated and encouraged to participate in all of the opportunities on campus of sports broadcasting, because they are out there. More than anything else, it gives students an advantage over students from other universities that might not offer a program like this," Deluca said.

Harmon said, "I'm hoping this is [a] start for students to the academic side and sports and how so much can be learned and applied. Sports is amazing teaching ground covering many different disciplines."

"I chose to be a sports communication minor because it gave me the opportunity because I was very interested in the sports related course offerings that the program offers," said Glen DeNigris, a junior communication student. "Also, along with being a Communication Radio/TV major, this minor gives me the opportunity to further concentrate my studies towards sports, hopefully leading to a career in sports media as a result."



THE OUTLOOK

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The Outlook Talks Spirituality

EDITORIAL STAFF

Whether it is because modern society has left behind the traditional ways of the past or because younger generations are more accepting of unfamiliar ideals, religion in American society no longer holds the same influence over people as it once did. In previous generations, religion and religious morals were ubiquitous and one seldom questioned the status quo—young people attended church weekly, abstained from sex until marriage, and for the most part, keep their religion central to their daily lives. Although this is not entirely untrue today, many young people in the 21<sup>st</sup>-century rarely accept the same values that their parents or grandparents once did.

At *The Outlook*, we share a myriad of religions. Many editors either identified as Roman Catholic or were raised in the faith, while others instead are or were some denomination of Protestant Christianity; one editor is Muslim and another is Buddhist, and the rest identified as secular or agnostic.

Regardless of their religion, all the editors of *The Outlook* discussed how their own faith shaped their lives and nevertheless appreciate the religious differences amongst their peers.

“I was raised pretty strictly Catholic,” one editor explained, “We went to church every Sunday and for Easter and Christmas, and I was confirmed, but I am not really religious now.”

Conversely, another editor said, “I am a confirmed Catholic. [However,] my family and I have never been weekly church goers, not even every holiday.” This editor explained that her mother taught her to go to church whenever one can make it or whenever they need to. “What really matters is how you act outside of church,” they said.

“I was raised Protestant, but I attended Catholic school since pre-kindergarten,” one editor said. “Because of this, I have gotten the opportunity to view Christianity from different perspectives, especially because of the significant differences between what my school was teaching about and what my church was teaching.”

“Religion saved my life,” one editor said. “Growing up in an abusive home, I would walk to a church down the street every Sunday by myself from the age of four. Christianity is where I developed my moral code and it has given me the appreciation and stewardship toward the earth and its habitants as a command from an all knowing and loving Creator,” they continued.

Likewise, another editor said, “I am a Muslim...religion is a central part of my life since I try to implement its morals into my actions every day,” they said.

“My religion teaches me first and foremost to respect others and to look at every situation with empathy.

“For me, I think faith is a big deal, but my religion [Buddhism] and, specifically, going to temple is not as big of a deal as believing in my religion is,” another editor said. “I would consider myself faithful or spiritual rather than religious.”

Similarly, many other editors considered themselves spiritual rather than religious; they believe, or do not doubt, in a higher power, but they do not necessarily follow the religious code habitually.

In particular, one editor explained that although they are faithful and attend service weekly, they do not consider themselves to be religious; instead, they view their faith as inherent to their Irish culture.

“My faith is comforting because it has ties to my family and my ancestry. It is a safe place for me, and it reminds me of my childhood,” they said. “Since [my grandmother’s] passing, I have accompanied my mother to church almost every Sunday. I do not go because I believe I need to, but because it makes [my mother] happy, makes her feel close to my grandmother, and is a good quiet place for me to think and reflect.”

The editors also discussed how they have found solace in their faith, whether through prayer, reading scripture, or just by believing in a higher power. Moreover, they talked about how their religion has shaped their life and their perspective.

“Religion has always been a central part to my life,” one editor said, “my maternal grandmother had family who were bishops in the Episcopal Church, my grandfather was a Presbyterian minister, and I went to Catholic school. I’ve always been around religion and I’ve always been familiar with Christian doctrine,” they said.

“Although I have always been close to my family and to God, I nevertheless felt anxious when I ‘came out.’ This ambivalence prompted to read the Bible even more critically and to pray more frequently; it granted me a lot of remedy and I believe it brought me even closer to God,” they said. “I am very blessed to be in a family that is accepting of who I am, and I want that for every LGBTQ+ person of faith so that they may get the peace of mind that they often need,” they said.

Similarly, other editors said that their faith has granted them peace and comfort. “I cannot help but find comfort in my religion and be thankful,” one editor said, “It makes me a more understanding person.”

Although they are firm in their Buddhist faith, one editor said that they taught Sunday school at a United Methodist Church; they attribute their tolerance for

other religions to their own faith. “I am a very open person by nature, but I think that being Buddhist has taught me to not only value other people’s religious affiliations, but also to treat them with respect,” they said.

For many Americans, their religion is a central part to their politics; the editors discuss how their faith has navigated their own voting habits.

“In my faith, Presbyterian organizations are known for building and establishing hospitals. Accordingly, I believe that this reflects in my politics because I want to ensure that every American has access to healthcare, so I usually vote for candidates that think similarly to how I do.”

However, other editors said that their religion does not have bearing on their politics. Instead, many consider themselves ‘more liberal’ than their more conservative counterparts in voting.

One editor said that although their religion does not influence their voting habits, they nonetheless identify themselves as being more traditional. “For example, I want to get married in a Catholic church because it just feels right to me. [However,] I am pro-choice.”

Additionally, when it came to matters of the separation of church and state, the editors unanimously agreed that each should operate separately and respect the boundaries between them. “I believe that same-sex marriage should be legal, but I do not believe that the state should force an independent religious organization to marry a gay couple in their place of worship,” one editor said.

Many colleges offer religious life on campus, and Monmouth University is no exception. However, although efforts are made to represent all religions, Monmouth often falls short in providing full access for all religions.

For example, one editor said, “I have spoken with Chabad and their designated Rabbi for a story once and he said that they have to book a room to hold their events months in advance, and the Muslim Student Association didn’t have a place to pray until a little over a year ago.”

Likewise, another editor said that the campus’s Christian life is more geared toward Catholics. “I am not entirely comfortable with a priest conducting a Catholic service when I am trying to worship, but there is no other denomination active on campus, from what I understand,” they said. “There is also an entire Catholic Center present on campus, but not many outlets for Protestants to go.”

*The Outlook* is made up of editors and staff members from different backgrounds and religious beliefs, we aspire to encourage others to look upon their own beliefs, and still respect those of others.

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# The Spring Break Blues

KIERSTEN BECHT  
STAFF WRITER

Spring break is said to be when the tan lines may fade, but the memories last forever. Under normal circumstances I would chuck my laptop across the room for having just taken the time to type out that ridiculous quote, however, spring break is over and I've got all the feels.

We look forward to this glorious seven day period in which we are free from the grips of higher education and can do as we please, for once! Unless of course your professors assigned work over break... (you know who you are!) Whether you chose to jet off to some tropical island with your friends in search of sun, sand and cheap booze, or you successfully binge-watched your way through Netflix's library, we can all agree that spring break was both a blessing and a curse.

The first thing I did when I cracked open my new 2018 agenda was create a countdown for break. No matter how many assignments I had piling up, emails I needed to respond to, or whatever other responsibilities life was throwing my way, I knew that as long as I kept my eye on the prize, the prize being March 10- March 16, that I could muster up enough grit to power through my priorities.

Week after week I would look to my countdown as a sort of light at the end of the tunnel, something to bring me back down to earth as I proclaimed for the 17th time that day, "I am so over this semester!"

There is one thing about spring

break that they don't prepare you for: the aftermath. And I'm not just talking about the memories (or lack thereof) and the depleted funds in your bank account. I am talking about the emptiness, people! Those seven days, 168 hours of sweet, sweet freedom and utter bliss are gone, and now all you are left with is a bad sunburn and a beer gut.

How dare colleges set us up like that? Pre-spring break I was motivated and eager to make it my best semester yet (be honest people, how many times have you told yourself that?) and now here I am, eyes glazed over, unable to cope with the fact that I have to be a functioning student for the next six weeks.

Not only is my post-break lethargy kicking in, but I believe I am

starting to develop the symptoms of an academically crippling disease: senioritis. Each year this illness affects students all across the globe and there is only one known cure: graduation.

My symptoms have not fully developed yet, however, I fear for my life, GPA and overall experience at Monmouth because I am only a junior. Pre-mature senioritis can be very dangerous and should be handled with precise caution and care. To all my fellow victims of either post spring break syndrome or Senioritis, just know you have an ally! It may not be easy, times will get tough, but I know we can make it through these next few weeks alive (just barely). Let the countdown to summer begin.



PHOTO TAKEN by Brett O'Grady

No matter where or how students spend their break, everyone catches the spring break blues.

# Breaking Up Over Text

BIANCA ZAZZARINI  
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

Breakups are never easy. They're usually extremely messy and complicated. Sometimes there is that one outlier and a breakup is clean, simple and easy. In a society whose communication is centered around technology, is it okay to breakup over text?

The answer is no; unless in an extreme circumstance and I'll tell you why. Once you are in a relationship with somebody, you have dedicated a substantial amount of time to be with them. Nowadays we talk to the person we want to date for a minimum of a month, then start dating and then use the label of boyfriend/girlfriend.

Sometimes this process takes even longer and can go up to six months. Once you have invested this amount of time in a person you want everything to go smoothly but once there is the elephant in the room and you need to breakup do it face to face. To me, breaking up with someone over text is cowardice.

You never get to fully confront the person you have been with and they never get anything more than a "We're over" text. Also, if we're being honest here most people would not reply back if they asked, "Oh Why?" We would leave them on read an only a few brave souls would reply. Talking face to face to your past significant other gives them the chance to ask "Why?" and we are forced to sit there and tell them why it did not work out. We get a chance to tell them the reasons why we are trult upset.

A text to break up with some-

one is also just plain disrespectful. You're basically telling your past significant other that you don't want to go out of your way or make time to really break up with them even though, you put in months and months or maybe even years of hard work to be with them.

And after the time you've spent together you would think a conversation face to face would be worth it. You have put in time since first talking and then to person. Breaking up in person also, helps us gain more confidence and makes us feel better about public speaking. Once you go up to your significant other and explain why the relationship is ending you both feel bad but in the long run it makes you feel much better.

Breaking up with someone face to face can build confidence that is needed to confidence to talk in an interview or wherever because breaking up with someone could be so much harder than that. Also, face to face breakups really make us stop hiding behind our laptops. When we use our phones to breakup with someone we're desensitizing ourselves to other people's feelings.

But this is not to say that in extreme cases we cannot breakup over text. However, there may be extraneous circumstances where face to face contact in not the best idea. Maybe the relationship was abusive or there was a horrible fight. Those are the only times it is acceptable to break up over text because you or others may be in danger and we should use technology to our advantage there.

# Sweet Potato Tater Tots

ANTHONY ROSSICS  
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

Everyone has a favorite food. Whether you are an animated bunny who loves carrots, a sailorman who loves spinach, or a monster who loves cookies, you have one. I remember where, when, and how I discovered mine. I have been awaiting the mouthwatering taste of them ever since and today I found them again. I knew I would soon get the opportunity to eat those delicious sweet potato tater tots yet again.

Before the day I had initially discovered my new favorite food, I had a dream the night before, and in my dream a wizard had come to me and said, "Tomorrow you will find something that you love." I woke up and thought to myself what this something could be. I pondered on it for a while. Could I find the love of my life today? How about I find a new song that speaks to me? What if I find a neat rock? I would have accepted any of these answers, but the result was far better than any of those things could have ever been. I found my sweet potato tater tots.

I was on campus here at Monmouth University and I was beginning to become hungry. This was, of course, a result of me taking too long sitting up in bed wondering what that wizard had meant, but I needed sustenance. I decided to go to the one place where no one could ever be disappointed. I moseyed on down to the Dining Hall.

Once I entered the Dining Hall I could immediately smell an aroma that I had never smelled before. After I swiped my way

in, I journeyed out to discover what that sweet scent sauntering in the air was.

I then found my seat. I normally like to sit at the picnic tables that are in the eating area. It has all the fun of eating outside, but from the comfort and safety of inside. Once I did this, I began my quest to find out what that smell was.

As I was walking over, the aroma got more and more intoxicating. I struggled finding where it was coming from at first. I then closed my eyes and tried following where the amazingness emanated from. I opened my eyes and saw them. I start to salivate. I float on over to where they were sitting waiting for me on their platter. They looked as beautiful as a summer rose. If Shakespeare had only known, he would have surely written, "A tot, by any other name..." I then put them on my plate and head back to my seat.

I found myself staring at these amazing cylinder-shaped potato puffs. I could not fathom the possibility of waiting anymore. These delicious miniature potatoes just had to be consumed. I bit into them and my eyes began to tear up. The words sweet potato tater tots would never mean the same thing to me again. From this moment on, those words would always have a special place in my heart.

As I finished my plate and went to return it, my mind wandered to the dream I had the night prior. The wizard was right, but I had mixed emotions. I found something that I had desired. It was those mouthwatering sweet potato tater tots, but this also meant that I probably was not going to

find a neat rock.

Ever since that day I have been waiting to eat those delicious tater tots again. I would eat in the Dining Hall multiple times a week. Every single time I would walk in, they would not be there. I began to start believing that I would never get to eat my new favorite food again. Day after day, week after week, month after month there were no sweet potato tater tots. I nearly gave up on everything, even life itself due to unrelenting disappointment.

I remember laying in my bed, tossing and turning with those cylinder-shaped potato puffs on my mind. It was a very common occurrence during this time in my life to wake up in a cold sweat or even to just have horrible night-

mares about never having my Tot-sies again.

The next day I trudged my way into the cafeteria. I had no hope left, but hold the phone. There was a familiar fragrance floating around in the air. I thought to myself, there is no way. After all this time, could they be back? I had to find out.

I swipe my way into the Dining Hall yet again, and quickly find a seat. I scurry over to the area they were at last time. My eyes could not believe the travesty in front of me. There was a huge line of people who were also waiting for my delicious darlings. My palms began to sweat. I was as anxious in that moment as I had ever been, and I could not even see if it were them yet. There was nothing else

in the world that had an aroma like that. It had to be, what else could it be?

I could hear a couple in line in front of me. The lovestruck boyfriend went to his significant other and said, "I love you so much, nothing in this world could be better than this feeling." Hearing this made me chuckle to myself. If he was in love with his significant other, how would he take discovering something greater in those delicious tots.

The line kept getting shorter and shorter, but it felt like I was there for a millennium. My mouth was watering like Niagara Falls. I would finally make it to the front. I started crying when I got to front of the line. They were there. My sweet potato tater tots! I hurried and filled my plate with my favorite food. At this point, they might as well be the eighth wonder of the world, it was even better than getting tickets to *Hamil-ton*.

As I sat there with these succulent cylinders on my plate I waited a second. I looked around and took in the moment. There was no way I could have ever known when the next time these delights would enter my life once more. My mind flashes back to the original dream I had with the wizard again. I remembered what they tasted like the first time I had eaten them and I could wait no more.

I picked one of these scrumptious potato puffs up and brought it to my mouth and I could not believe my taste buds. My sweet potato tater tots that I had been waiting months for... were cold.

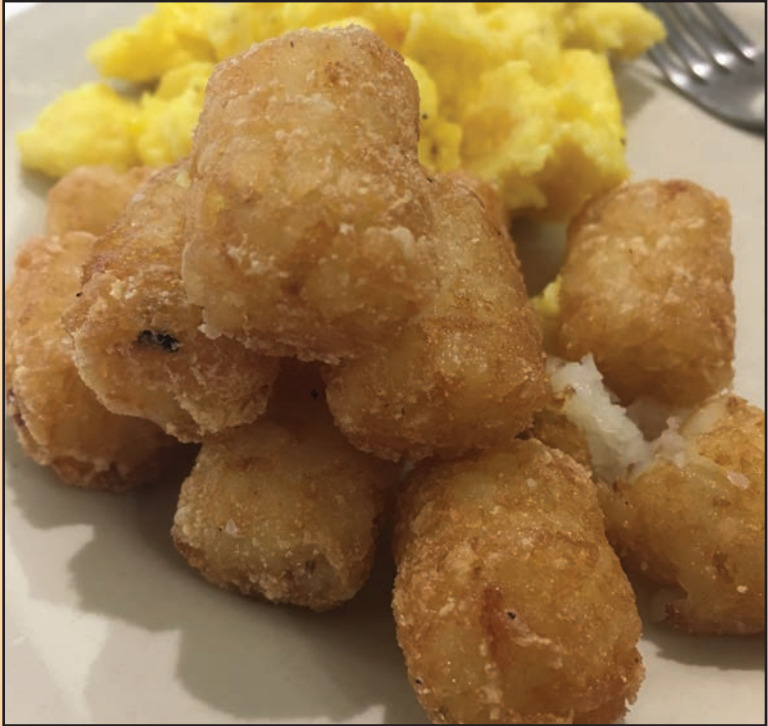


PHOTO TAKEN by Caroline Mattise

Sweet potato tater tots are Anthony Rossics new favorite food.



# What does PA-18 Election Mean for Trump, Republicans, and the Democratic Party?

NICHOLAS COSCARELLI  
POLITICS EDITOR

Democratic candidate Conor Lamb won the special election for Pennsylvania's 18th Congressional District on Tuesday, March 13. In a district and state which President Donald Trump won in the 2016 Presidential election, Lamb's win for the Democrats may predict how both the Democratic and Republican parties navigate their campaigns in the 2018 midterm elections.

Former-Congressman Tim Murphy, a Republican, resigned from Pennsylvania's 18th District's seat in the House last year after reports that he encouraged a woman, with whom he had an extramarital affair, to have an abortion.

Primary elections were not held in the race. Instead, nominees were chosen by each party, itself. The Republican Party held a special convention on Nov. 11, 2017, to choose a nominee through a conferee process involving 215 local Republican activists; the Democratic Party held their nominating convention on Nov. 19, 2017; and the Libertarian Party of Allegheny County and the Libertarian Party of Washington County nominated a candidate via party caucus.

Pennsylvania's 18th Congressional District is located in Western Pennsylvania, and it borders the state of West Virginia; it includes portions of Greene, Washington, Allegheny, and Westmoreland counties. The district has a Cook Partisan Voting Index (PVI) score of R+11, meaning that it tends to vote more Republican.

"As a native Pennsylvanian, I think the recent special election is a good example of the political culture of the state," said Stephen Chapman, Ph.D., an assistant professor of political science. "Pennsylvania is always labeled a swing state, but prior to 2016, it had not gone to a Republican presidential candidate since 1988," he said.

Chapman explained that the



IMAGE TAKEN from CNN

After a special election that was initially too close to call, Democrat Conor Lamb's victory in a district that voted heavily for Republican President Donald Trump in the 2016 election may affect how Republicans and Democrats alike campaign in the 2018 midterms.

reason for this disparity in voting within the state is because of the politically-splintered geography of Pennsylvania.

"The areas of Philadelphia [and] Pittsburgh, and the surrounding suburbs are more urban, while the rest of the state is more rural, hence the nickname, 'Pennsylvucky,'" Chapman said. "In previous elections, those more liberal, urban hotspots outweighed the votes of the more conservative, rural areas in presidential elections," Chapman explained. "However, if we take it to the Congressional-district level, Conor Lamb's strategy becomes more understandable," he said.

This special election was the last election that will be held under its former configuration, which was created in 2011 by the Pennsylvania Legislature; new districts have been drawn in accordance with the ruling of the state's Supreme Court case of *League of Women Voters v. Commonwealth of Pennsylvania*, which will be in effect during the 2018 general elections. Before the newest con-

figuration, Pennsylvania's 18th Congressional district was "a mixture of Democrat-leaning Pittsburgh suburbs and rural areas to the Southwest and Southeast of the city," Chapman said.

Lamb ran his campaign as a more moderate Democrat, which Chapman says is a common trait amongst Democrats, throughout the state, who are in office or are running outside of the "urban hubs." In his campaign, Lamb ran against Trump's tax bill that passed Congress in December; he criticized the Republican-led efforts to repeal the Affordable Care Act, and he campaigned on reforming student loans and protecting workers' unions. However, Lamb also is in favor of Trump's latest steel and aluminum tariffs, "which is not surprising given his geographic proximity to the steel industry of Pennsylvania," Chapman said.

On many controversial issues, such as that of abortion, Chapman said that Lamb ran on "nuanced" stances. For example, although he is personally

against abortion, Lamb would not endorse any new anti-abortion measures in the House of Representatives. "This is common for candidates to walk a fine line on divisive issues as it better positions themselves for a win," said Chapman.

Lamb won the urban areas of Allegheny County, which is close to Pittsburgh, 58,655 to 43,289. However, his Republican opponent, Rick Saccone, won Westmoreland, Washington, and Greene Counties by 40,934 to 30,415, 26,162 to 22,723, and 2,801 to 2,020, respectively. "Therefore," Chapman said, "more moderate Democrats would fare better in 2018 in many of PA's districts, which is not outside the norm of the state itself." Accordingly, Chapman suggests that if Lamb's strategy be adopted by Democrats and Republicans in the midterms, they should must first take their constituency into consideration.

Additionally, Chapman noted that Lamb's apparent victory demonstrates a shift within the 18th Congressional district from Trump's election in 2016, especially since Trump won the district by 20 percentage points. "Nearly every precinct voted more Democratic in this election than it did in the 2016 presidential. I think this signals that the pendulum of politics is constant. Trump was and is a polarizing figure and may have lost some support because of it," Chapman said.

"[Lamb's victory] could also signal more enthusiasm from Democratic voters, which ultimately helped Lamb and will help Democrats in 2018," Chapman added. However, he says, "The party of nearly every modern president loses seats in the midterm election during their first term." Indeed, Ronald Reagan lost 26 House seats, George H.W. Bush I lost 8, Bill Clinton lost 52, and Barack Obama lost 62.

"Connor Lamb was a strong candidate," said Kenneth Mitchell, Chair of the Department of Political Science and Sociology and an associate professor of political science. In addition to Lamb's campaign of moderate stances and

pro-worker policies, Mitchell notes that the current political climate in Washington, D.C., also played a central role in his victory. In particular, the favorability of Democratic leadership. "Key is that he openly rejected [House Minority Leader] Nancy Pelosi," said Mitchell. "Few democrats under the age of 60 approve of her continuing as the Democrats' House Leader [and] few Democrats outside of California support her."

Mitchell explained that by Lamb openly disapproving Pelosi as House Democratic Leader, local voters in the Republican-leaning district kept an open mind to voting for a Democratic candidate. In accordance with Chapman, Mitchell suggests that Lamb's victory is telling of Pennsylvania's 18th Congressional district—and perhaps any other district in a swing state—especially because of Trump's overwhelming victory in that district in 2016.

"Trump is in a tough spot," Mitchell said. "He promised such districts 'fantastic healthcare' in 2016, but then supported boilerplate GOP ending healthcare for a large chunk of people in this district who voted Trump," he added. Additionally, Mitchell also notes Trump's other swift shifts in policies. For example, "[his] 'no prior conditions' rule that he promised to keep in 2016, he flipped on in 2017," Mitchell said. "Coal country and ending this provision? Good luck... Coal country means unions, which means politically experienced people," he added. "Trump promised everything: 'fantastic healthcare,' no cuts to Social Security or Medicare, [which are] big in this district, tax cuts for the middle class, ending the carried interest tax loop hole, [which he eventually kept], a balanced budget in four years yet is now set for record deficits, a Wall Mexico would pay for, tariffs on imports without provoking a trade war, etc." Accordingly, perhaps previous Trump voters in Pennsylvania's 18 Congressional district are disappointed in the administration's failure to follow through on campaign promises.



IMAGE TAKEN from NBCNews

Lamb's campaign was "nuanced," according to assistant professor of political science, Stephen Chapman, Ph.D. This nuance may have better positioned Lamb for a win.



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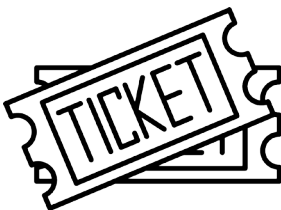
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# TAKE A BREAK AND GO OFF THE GRID

AMANDA GANGIDINO  
CLUB & GREEK EDITOR

As a society, we could sometimes use a complete disconnect with the digital world. We need to all take an unforeseen virtual hiatus from all methods of digital communication. It may be hard, but at the end of the day, disconnecting from the cyber universe we all depend on so much can be cleansing.

We always long for those text messages, phone calls, and ‘likes’ on our posts. Snapchat, Instagram, Facebook, are all things we spend hours on each day. We live in the generation of “If I didn’t snap it, did it even happen?”

However, by taking the time to really disconnect you will be alarmed by how connected you are to an inanimate object. Without a phone constantly in hand, people feel as though they are missing one of their extremities, like a hand or leg. Doesn’t that sound a little insane? We should not be so connected to an object in our life, but we should be connected to those around us.

People almost use their phones as a shield. A shield that acts as a barrier to forming new relationships. A barricade that protects us from awkward interactions. Think about it. In the first moment of awkward silence amongst our friends or strangers, we instantly glance down at our phones. It’s almost become a defense mechanism or involuntary reflex in our society.

Senior marketing student Shannon Christie shared her opinion on the subject. “I think people need to disconnect from

their phones because it takes away from personal relationships. We should know about people’s lives and events happening in them through their own mouths rather than what is posted on social media. I think relationships would benefit from interpersonal communication rather than what we see through social media,” she said.

We are beginning to depend on the connections that we build virtually rather than in person. This dependency has weakened our ability to build relationships with substance.

Face-to-face communication allows for the progression of certain relational elements that are simply impossible to experience virtually. Eye contact, a hug, a handshake, or even a kiss are acts that awaken feelings that could never be communicated digitally.

But today we are often more concerned with staying connected to our 500 Facebook “friends” rather than the individuals that make up our physical world. We are missing out on the possible relationships that could be formed from extemporaneous conversations.

This may be a generalization, but we are so concerned with constructing our virtual identities, that we neglect our physical presence. We do things for the ‘likes,’ the comments that lack substance, and the gratification from others that our lives are meaningful and interesting.

But in turn, we become less interesting when we’re constantly on our phones constructing these virtual identities. So, the lesson here is to do things for yourself and not for validation from others, whether that is in terms of virtual validation or real life.

Junior education and anthropology student Alyssa DellaVecchia shared her experience. “I just spent my spring break volunteering in Guatemala and I found it important to be off of my phone for nine days. It gave me the chance to connect with new people. None of us were focused on our phones, instead we were focused on being in the present. I think that all college students would benefit from doing something like this because we are so reliant on our phones and catching up on each other’s social medias rather than living in the present and being with one another.”

When first putting down your phone, your panic will probably settle in. You will need to accept that you won’t have your phone any time soon. But then, you will begin to feel an overwhelming sense of calmness. There won’t be any texts to be answered, posts to be written, or emails to be responded to. In your state of disconnect, you can truly embrace moments of solitude without interruption.

Without social media, you may experience some FOMO “fear of missing out” when it came to staying up-to-date but you will come to realize that everything of value and importance is in the physical world. Quite frankly it doesn’t matter who posted an adorable photo of their dog or a shared a hilarious meme on their wall.

You will also realize how much our phones suck up so much of our time. If you ever say to yourself, “There just aren’t enough hours in the day,” well, there are actually but it doesn’t seem that way when you spend four hours of your day mindlessly scrolling through your newsfeed.



PHOTO TAKEN from Pexels.com

Finding time to unplug is vital for people in our generation to be able to better connect with the people surrounding them.

Imagine what you could appreciate and how much you could do if you just looked up.

However, sometimes it's unrealistic to truly be disconnected, and that's okay. Let's face it. In today's world, we need technology to stay connected and even advance professionally. We are a society that is built upon technological communication, but we need to recognize that our dependence on these objects have weakened some of our innate human abilities.

Professor and graduate faculty in English Heide Estes Ph.D. shares her opinion. “It makes me sad when I walk into a classroom on the first day and everyone is looking down at their phones instead of talking to each other, that is the time when you are supposed

to be making friends. I don't think phones and social media are necessarily always bad because they provide a way for people to connect with one another in a way that generations before couldn't. However, there is value in being present with people and the world you,” she said.

A physical smile will never truly be captured with a smiley face emoji, and texting abbreviations, such as a “lol” will never reflect an actual laugh. Rather than constantly looking down at our phones and conveying our emotions through the use of emojis, let's actually speak to one another and stop allowing technology to do all the work.

After all, appreciating the magic that surrounds you is almost impossible to do when you're not looking up.

## Benefits of Implementing Yoga into Your Life

CAMPBELL LEE  
LIFESTYLES EDITOR

Yoga is one of the oldest forms of exercise dating back to what some describe to the dawn of civilization. The physical practice of yoga is called “asana.” Yoga is so much more than a physical exercise, which makes it extremely beneficial to add to your life.

For example, when talking to junior communication student Caitie Link, she talked about the positive impact yoga has had on her physically. “I have muscle knots that are so tight that massage therapists can no longer fix my back and shoulder. I’ve been doing yoga weekly recently and my knots are finally starting to release and I’m feeling less pain. Plus, it’s a good relaxer from class!”

Yoga originated thousands of years ago in India, where its purpose was to prepare the body for a long meditation. It was also a practice that was only accessible to men. However, as time went on, yoga moved to the west and became a very popular form of exercise.

Professor of art history Rohini Iyengar shared her thoughts. “Yoga has been around for so long for many reasons. It is something that helps you have control over your body and also your

mind. Besides the practice, Yoga is something that has been prominent in many different religions and cultures throughout history. Its idea of bringing you back to yourself and helping you avoid temptation is something at the core of many belief systems such as Buddhism.”

Today, there are many different types of yoga, the most popular being hatha yoga. Hatha yoga is what was practiced when it first originated in India. It is practiced in a neutral environment while going through the postures. Other types of yoga that have come about in

our modern western world are Bikram yoga, aerial yoga, prenatal yoga, and many, many more.

Bikram yoga is the first form of hot yoga that originated in California. Now, hot yoga is one of the most popular forms of yoga! It is a regular vinyasa styled class but in a hot environment. It is a very cleansing experience and provides a challenge for more experienced yogis. There are numerous studios in the area that offer hot yoga including Synergy Hot Yoga in Fair haven and Powerflow Yoga in Asbury park.

Aerial yoga, also known as anti-gravity yoga, is a new form of yoga that involves being suspended in the air by a cloth hammock. It originated in New York but has since moved all over the world. It provides a very freeing feeling while being suspended in the air. A studio that offers it in this area is Tula Yoga in Long branch.

Beyond the physical exercise yoga provides, there is also a deeper aspect of yoga that draws people in for different reasons. Meditation is something that originated along the same time as yoga and is a great way to

calm not only the body, but also the mind. As stated previously, yoga was initially intended to be a way to stretch the body so you could sit for hours on end in meditation.

Meditation is something that can be extremely beneficial to everyone but especially people who may suffer from anxiety. It is a great way to unwind and settle your mind. In a typical yoga class, at the end you will lie in a pose that is called savasana. This is the final relaxation pose of the class and entails lying still on your back with your eyes closed.

Junior music industry student Jess McGovern also has had a positive experience with yoga. “A big part of yoga is concentrating on positivity. The instructor will always pick a theme for the class, like self love, mantras, relationships with others, the moon, etc, that all center around us and the world we live in. It’s a great way to reflect on who you are as a person and what you can do to become happier and more positive individual.”

As McGovern said, yoga is a great way to enhance your mood. Going to a class alone or with friend is a great way to escape the day to day chaos and you will always leave feeling refreshed and much more calm. So take off your shoes, roll out your mat, and Namaste.



PHOTO TAKEN by Campbell Lee

Yoga is the perfect outlet for anyone looking to exercise but also have a healthy way to calm their mind.



# Thoroughbreds is Thoroughly Captivating

MARK MARRONE  
STAFF WRITER

Imagine four white brick walls, a twin size bed five feet away from another person's, a desk, three drawer dresser, and a fan ripping through a 14' by 11' foot non-air-conditioned room in the blistering heat. Thousands of people on campus live in dorms at Monmouth, but many call it home.

When students leave Monmouth, they drive out of the shimmering gold gates onto Norwood Avenue, where gargantuan homes tower over the Mercedes and Range Rovers that cruise down the road. Inside those homes you can only imagine the spiral staircases that encompass the spacious foyers, state of the art kitchens, bathrooms with whirlpool tubs and multiple bedrooms with king size beds, even for the kids.

You dream about those homes while you sweat in your twin size bed during the first hot weeks of September. However, inside one of those mansions there's Lilly, who dreams about murdering her stepfather.

Two upper class girls, Lilly, played by Anya Taylor Joy, and Amanda, played by Olivia Cooke, rekindle an unlikely friendship. To solve both of their problems, they devise a plan to murder Lilly's stepfather.

The directorial debut of Cory Finley is a dark comedy with gorgeous visuals, a ferocious soundtrack and some strong performances, but the characters could be developed better.

Finley initially wrote *Thoroughbreds* as a play, but it surprisingly gained the backing of theater studios and the next thing you know, he was on set for the first time working with two of Hollywood's rising stars: Anya Taylor Joy and

Olivia Cooke. Although this is Finley's first film, you'd never know it.

Finley's directorial style is similar to Yorgos Lanthimos, who directed *The Killing of a Sacred Deer*, reviewed in a November issue of *The Outlook*. Like Lanthimos, Finley restrains the actors from expressing emotions, which locks you into the trite life of suburbia.

When emotions are expressed, Finley manages to squeeze an awkward laugh out of you. Lilly's so stoical that when Amanda offers her a hug, she backs away expecting Amanda to take a punch.

There's another part where Lilly is sitting on a couch when Amanda's dog comes by. With her arms crossed, Lilly glares at the dog like it has four heads, while Amanda nonchalantly encourages her to pet it.

Finley also borrows from Lanthimos by making *Thoroughbreds* feel like a mainstream arthouse movie. Recently, art house has stumbled into nationwide theaters with films such as *mother!* starring Jennifer Lawrence or *Good Time* featuring Robert Patterson.

I appreciate the risk of art house films and their unique feeling, but Finley's attempt to reach a young adult audience might backfire with trailers that perceive the film to be a twisting roller coaster ride with murder at the forefront.

Before going into *Thoroughbreds* don't expect an exciting thriller, but relax and have an open mind about the subtle comedy Finley sprinkles throughout.

Even if the quirky comedy goes over your head, you'll be able to appreciate the gorgeous cinematography by Lyle Vincent. Most of the scenes are long at two to four minutes per cut, which lets the camera steadily maneuver around

the characters or gigantic homes.

Vincent's cinematography makes the mansions feel even bigger as the camera smoothly glides through the long corridors that bleed into rooms with twenty-foot ceilings.

This ability also draws out tension when the lens creeps up on the two girls as they zone out or listen to a conversation.

The score by Erik Friedlander feels like a character of its own and perfectly compliments the cinematography. Friedlander adds a sense of eeriness to the scenes with sounds of the cello that will raise the hairs on the back of your neck.

When it comes to Lilly walking down a corridor or showing up at a suburban banger, expect unusual, yet mesmerizing electronic music that rattles the theater. There are songs like *Sila* by A Tribe Called Red and *Uja* by Tanya Tagaq that feature aggressive tribal throat singing with heavy bass in the background.

The music perfectly encompasses the bizarre tone of *Thoroughbreds*, despite its setting in blasé suburbia.

While there are risks through camerawork, music and performances, the film falls flat on developing its characters.

By the end of this short ninety-minute feature, it feels like I don't know enough about the characters for me to care strong enough for Lilly's hatred towards her stepfather.

Yes, it's depressing her father passed away years ago and was replaced by a Vineyard Vine wearing narcissist, but we're never given a glimpse into the loving relationship with her father nor shown a photo of them together.

If we were given any information as to how much Lilly loved

her dad, the story would carry more weight than just killing her step-dad because he sucks.

Additionally, another character, Tim, played by the late Anton Yelchin, is completely wasted although providing a lot of color and laughs. Tim pops up towards the middle, the girls involve him in a scheme, then he's not seen until the final shot.

Tim has a stronger developed background compared to the other main characters. He's a registered sex-offender who sells drugs to minors and lives at home with his dad, but aspires to own "the game" in Connecticut by living in a big house like the ones on Norwood Avenue.

Finley takes this eccentric character and pushes him in horse manure

until the ending title card.

If Finley treated the characters as well as the tone and technical aspects, *Thoroughbreds* could be one of the great art house films in recent memory.

The next time you drive down Norwood Avenue, take a glance at the huge mansions.

You might be jealous of the lavish lifestyle of those who live five minutes away from your tiny dorm room, but who knows? Maybe in the future you'll be living in one of those.

To keep that dream alive, just try to avoid one thing: don't kill your step-dad.

If you think your dorm room is tight, wait until you step in your cozy cell.



IMAGE TAKEN from Thoroughbreds Twitter

*Thoroughbreds* earns a three out of four star rating on Mark's scale; it's a unique art house experience many can enjoy.

## A WAR OF WORDS IN THE INSULT

MARK MARRONE  
STAFF WRITER

It happened decades ago, but the wounds are still fresh. Hundreds of thousands were killed while thousands still remain refugees this day. The blood that was shed from the Lebanese Civil War isn't forgotten, especially to Tony Hanna and Yasser Salameh.

Tony Hanna, played by Adel Karam, is a Lebanese Christian and Yasser Salameh, played by Kamel El Basha, is a Palestinian refugee.

When Hanna's drain pipe is broken, Salameh attempts to fix it under state law free of charge. However, Hanna refuses the help of Salameh, which causes an emotional exchange between the two that spills into court and captivates the country through a court case.

If you're unfamiliar with the history of the Lebanese Civil War, director Ziad Doueiri makes it clear that the Christian Lebanese and Palestinians are two sides with a tumultuous past. When you walk away from this film, you surprisingly gain some knowledge about Lebanon's history.

Prior to seeing *The Insult*, it might help to read a little bit into the history of the Lebanese Civil War so you can have better understanding of the political jargon.

The Oscar nominated the film for Best Foreign Language Film from Lebanon is an emotional rollercoaster that puts the use of our words into perspective.

If I were to tell this plot to anyone, it would come off like *Neighbors 3* starring Zac Efron and Seth Rogen.

Salameh fixes an illegal drain pipe for free, but Hanna destroys it and refuses to accept his apology. We've seen plots like this before turn into a wacky spat between two goofy people.

But this conflict between the two men is personal and political. There's a sense of honor each has to their culture. If one apologizes to the other, he will not only tarnish his masculinity, but let down their culture as well.

Each man has a wife, who provide the voices of reason. Hanna's wife, played by Rita Hayek, wants her husband to move on from the argument when he cannot let it go. Then there's Salameh's wife, who doesn't want her husband to ruin his career over a few words.

Between Hanna and Salameh, they're more than just words; they're battle lines drawn.

When the two first enter court, there's an intense exchange between Hanna, Salameh and the judge. Following this moment, Hanna takes an appeal to a higher court, to where the country picks

sides as well.

Outside the courthouse riots break loose, fists are thrown and words are exchanged while the flags of both sides are flown in the streets. Just over a minute argument, it seems as if the Civil War may break out again.

However, director Ziad Doueiri simply tells us they're only words; get over it.

Although it's been decades since the dust settled from the Civil War, it doesn't take much to throw peace into hot water. Instead of endless conflict over the years, there must come a time where we can look past it not only for today, but the future as well.

Those who weren't even born during the Civil War are out in the streets yelling at fellow countrymen and women. For the ones who lived through the brutality, they shouldn't want the conflict to bleed into the next generation. Encouraging division may cause more lives lost in the future and who wants that?

At the end of the day, we're all human. We shouldn't let words bring hate to our neighbors and cause division for years to come. As much as words hurt, we must find the strength to be the stronger person and move on.

Like a lawyer says in *The Insult*, "No one side has a monopoly on suffering."

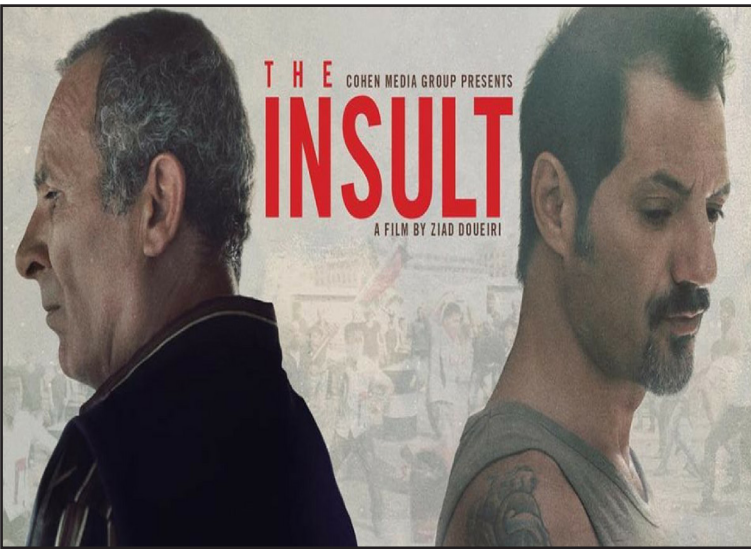


IMAGE TAKEN from The961

*The Insult* is a courtroom drama that showcases the weight of words and how they can divide a country.

### MARK'S REMARKS:



"This conflict between the two men is personal and political. There's a sense of honor each has to their culture."



# Now, We Ain't Saying These Celebrities are Gold Diggers...



(BUT YOU WON'T BELIEVE THESE CELEB PRENUP CONDITIONS)



MARK MARRONE  
STAFF WRITER

NICOLE INGRAFFIA  
ENTERTAINMENT EDITOR

When you fall in love, it feels like the world is on your side. The trees are blossoming, the sun is always shining and the grass seems much greener than before.

When your heart still skips a beat after seeing your significant other after some time, you feel like spending the rest of your life with that person.

It seems as if the end isn't in sight.

Then before you tie the knot, you meet with a few lawyers and sign a prenuptial agreement (prenup) just in case your feelings change over the eternity together.

According to the *Harvard Gazette*, about 50 percent of married couples divorce in America.

Of those marrying couples, only five to ten percent sign prenups.

Although celebrities love each other enough to take the plunge, some are aware that the statistics are not in their favor.

Considering this, there are plenty of celebrities who sign prenups just in case their love doesn't have a Hollywood ending.

While it's logical for celebrities to think ahead, some prenups will make you hold your



IMAGE COMPILED by Mark Marrone  
IMAGES TAKEN from Daily Mail

These celebrity couples reinvent the meaning of "unconditional love" with terms and conditions.

money a little tighter.

**Justin Timberlake and Jessica Biel**

Hopefully Timberlake *Can't Stop the Feeling* for Biel, because if he says *Like I Love You* to another person he'll have to get on his *Suit and Tie* and head to the bank.

According to *Diply*, if Timberlake cheats on Biel, the singer must pay \$500,000 to the actress. Clearly Biel is *Playing for Keeps*.

**Jay Z and Beyonce**  
If Beyonce becomes a *Single*

*Lady*, she'll be a richer lady too. In their prenup, Jay would give Bey \$5 million for each child, \$10 million for a new house and \$1 million for every year of their marriage after the first two years, per *The Knot*.

The couple have been through a lot due to Jay Z's infidelity, but considering they have announced their *On the Run II* stadium tour this summer, it looks like their love and bank accounts still prevail.

**Keith Urban and Nicole Kidman**

If the *Days Go By* and their love dwindles, Keith Urban could see a nice payday. Reported by *PopSugar*, if the couple were to divorce, Kidman, worth \$150 million, would pay Urban \$600,000 a year for every year they were married.

However, knowing Urban is a recovering cocaine addict, Kidman agreed not to pay the country star if he relapsed, as claimed by *TheTalko*.

There's no *Big Little Lie* about it, Kidman learned a lot after her first failed marriage

with action star Tom Cruise.

**Michael Douglas and Catherine Zeta-Jones**

In 1987, Douglas starred in *Wall Street* and it's possible that Zeta-Jones took some notes when they signed their prenup.

If the couple splits, Zeta-Jones will earn \$2.8 million for every year they were married along with a \$5 million bonus if Douglas cheats.

Looks like Zeta-Jones knows that *Money Never Sleeps*.

**Mark Zuckerberg and Priscilla Chan**

Although Zuckerberg is one of the richest men in the world worth \$70 billion, it seems like Chan isn't in it for the money. Instead of seeking money in their prenup, the couple agreed on the amount of time they would spend together.

Zuckerberg and Chan's prenup contains a lifestyle clause that guarantees Chan to one date night and at least 100 minutes of alone time with the Facebook CEO per week.

Of course during their intimate time, neither is allowed to log on Facebook.

These examples just brush the surface of celebrity prenups, which means it's... normal? The term "unconditional love" is wasted statement in the land of the rich and famous, we presume.

## CABS ARE HERE

MTV's *Jersey Shore* is Back For a Reunion Season

NICOLE INGRAFFIA  
ENTERTAINMENT EDITOR

You either love them or love to hate them.

*Yeahhh, Buddy!*

The Guidos and Guidettes are back...But are they better than ever?

MTV's *Jersey Shore* cast Snooki, J-Woww, Ronnie, Deena, Vinnie, Pauly D, and Long Branch's very own, Mike the "Situation" have more-or-less blessed us with a reunion season after six years away from the small screen.

The title of the spin-off is *Jersey Shore: Family Re-*

*union* and takes place in South Beach, Miami.

It is scheduled to air Thursday April 5 on MTV.

The pilot season aired in 2009 and left most Jersey-natives embarrassed or confused.

The Italian-stallions stamped south-bound and settled in Seaside Heights, our beloved beach town by day and a captivating boardwalk scene by night.

But since the very first episode in 2009, Seaside Heights went from a family emblem of good times and tanlines to the ultimate party scene and tourist destination.



IMAGE TAKEN from Trendsetter

*Jersey Shore: Family Reunion* airs April 5 on MTV; they are obviously older, but are they wiser?

The locals already had it with the "bennies," but this new crowd the cast attracted to the Shore came in full speed ahead armed with spray tans, hair gel, and flasks.

Ironically, the getaway is a hell of a "going away" party for the Situation as he will be going from drinking at the bars to sitting behind them.

According to *TMZ*, the guido faces up to 5 years in prison for tax fraud and up to a \$250k fine; he will be sentenced April 25.

As for the rest of the squad, they departed from their younger reputations and grew

into actual adults.

Snookie and J-Woww are both happily married with each a boy and girl, Pauly D is thriving being a DJ as he always aspired to be, Sammi declined joining her former party-pals as she is in a serious relationship, Deena got married this past October.

Vinny is a vocal global warming advocate (and debates with President Trump about it via Twitter) and Ronnie is expecting a baby girl with his girlfriend. So now this begs the question, can they still bring the party like they did six years ago?

The last time the crew was out of Jersey territory was back in season four where they shook up Italy and soon learned maybe they weren't 100 percent Italian after all.

What will reuniting in Miami teach them?

David Navarro, a junior marketing student shared his opinion about the much-anticipated premier.

"The best way to put this is with a Jersey Shore pun," David said almost laughing.

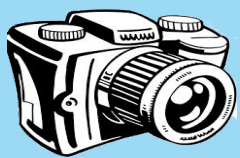
"If she's not excited for the Jersey Shore Family Reunion, she's too young for you, bro!"



IMAGE TAKEN from Wonderall

The *Jersey Shore* cast poses on Seaside Beach during one of their first seasons.





# MOMENTS AT MONMOUTH



**LEFT:**  
MANAGING/FEATURES EDITOR ALEXANDRIA AFANADOR EXPLORES DOWNTOWN BELMAR OVER THE BREAK. PHOTO TAKEN BY: NICOLE RIDDLE



**RIGHT:**  
BROADWAY LEGEND CHITA RIVERA DAZZLES THE CROWD WITH RENDITIONS OF FAMOUS BROADWAY NUMBERS AT FEINSTEIN'S/ 54 BELOW. PHOTO TAKEN BY: KERRY BREEN



**LEFT:**  
MEMBERS OF THE MODEL UNITED NATIONS (MUN) TEAM TRAVELING ON THE UNDERGROUND DURING A CONFERENCE IN LONDON. PHOTO COURTESY OF: LIZ CARMINES



**RIGHT:**  
A FLORIDA SUNSET TO REMIND US OF THE WARMER WEATHER APPROACHING AS SPRING ROLLS AROUND. PHOTO TAKEN BY: CORAL COOPER



What campus events are you looking forward to this spring?

COMPILED BY: NICOLE RIDDLE



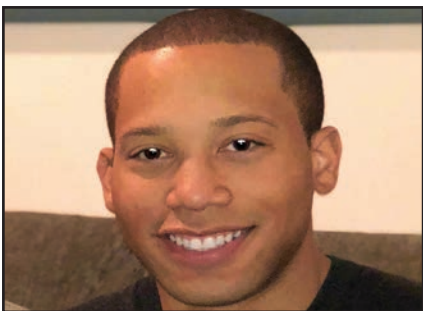
**Olivia Mingino**  
**Sophomore**

"I'm looking forward to Springfest."



**Haley Gasparine**  
**Junior**

"One campus event I am looking forward to is the alumni panel that *Hawk TV* does every year."



**Bruce Wilson**  
**Junior**

"I am looking forward to Springfest, because we always have a major artist come to our University and it's always a great time for students to hang out."



**Rich Crinigan**  
**Senior**  
"Springfest."




**Dr. Michaels Phillips-Anderson, Ph.D.**  
**Associate Professor**

"I'm looking forward to the Fake News Panel. I think it should be a good chance to find out what the media and President mean when they say something is fake news."

**Don't see your picture this week?**  
Check back in next week's issue for more Monmouth students' photos!



6<sup>th</sup>  
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The Criminal Justice Department designed this event to connect students with working professionals in order to explore internship and career opportunities in the fields of Criminal Justice and Homeland Security.

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Summer Financial Aid Applications Now Available!


For additional information, please call the Financial Aid Office at 732-571-3463 or stop by the office in room 108 of Wilson Hall.

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3/1/2018 1815 Dining Hall Fraud	3/2/2018 1420 Dining Hall Fraud	3/4/2018 0337 Beechwood Hall PsULA w/alcohol/Student Misconduct	3/5/2018 1411 Hesse Hall Poss of a Weapon (knife) at EDU Int
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# Become a College Journalist with *The Outlook*

AMANDA GANGIDINO  
CLUB & GREEK EDITOR

Words have the power to influence change and convey emotion. The power of the written word expands beyond just

words printed on a page. Writers possess the ability to provide a voice to the voiceless.

To embrace this power and hone this skill, students at Monmouth, regardless of their major, should get involved with

the school's student-run publication.

The variety of sections in *The Outlook*, such as News, Opinion, Lifestyles, Features, Club & Greek, Politics, Viewpoints, and Sports provide the student body with the opportunity to write articles that coincide with their personal interests.

If you want to write about the latest fashion trends or Gourmet Dining's cuisine, there's a section for that at *The Outlook*.

While communication students are encouraged to write for *The Outlook* to fulfill their experiential education requirement, students from other disciplines offer valuable insights and additional perspectives to the newspaper. The editing process helps to ensure that the work submitted is free from error, which aids writers in building a professional portfolio.

Offering employers concrete examples of your skills at work has the potential to distinguish you from other applicants.

John Morano, faculty advisor to *The Outlook* and professor of journalism said, "The more you can say 'yes' to when on a job interview the more seriously you will be taken. An employer will be live that you're worth the money because you have actual concrete examples of what you can do."

Marie Soldo, a recent University graduate and active staff writer during her college career said, "Writing for *The Outlook* was such a positive experience for me and I couldn't wait for Wednesday each week because it was *Outlook* day. I've had around forty articles published in *The Outlook* so in doing all those articles, my writing has improved."

Soldo continued, "As far as professionally, over the summer I worked for the Two River Times in Red Bank and the editor was impressed with my portfolio of articles I've written and she loved how I wrote about a variety of topics."

Kerry Breen, senior communication student and also the news and senior editor said, "Having a lot of writing samples has been really helpful because it shows a wide-range writing ability for different topics and publications, as well as a commitment to writing outside of academic requirements."

*The Outlook* provides applicable real world experience while still in college. Committing yourself to writing a story on deadline helps develop efficient time management skills that are vital in every facet of life.

Zach Cosenza, junior communication student, as well as the current sports editor of *The Out-*

*look* said, "My contributing and staff writers allow me to focus more on the design aspects of my section rather than writing content, which provides with me more time to balance my coursework. But I do believe that I am more organized because of my additional responsibilities due to my involvement with the newspaper."

Matt DeLuca, a junior communication student and staff writer for the sports section feels that *The Outlook* has provided him with relevant experience to his field. "Being a staff writer has helped me to network with coaches and players in the Athletics Department."

DeLuca continued, "I have gained relevant work experience in sports while writing for this publication."

"You're better off making mistakes while writing for your school newspaper, rather than when you're working and you could potentially get fired for these mistakes."

Become a part of an award-winning newspaper that has been the voice of Monmouth University since 1933. *The Outlook* is published weekly and is always seeking new writers and editors. Stop by the office located in the Plangere Center to find out how to take the next step in becoming a college journalist.



PHOTO TAKEN by Nicole Riddle

*The Outlook* is open to students of all majors to provide them with real-world writing experience for a variety of different topics.

## *The Verge:* MU's Student Run Magazine

KERRY BREEN  
SENIOR/NEWS EDITOR

*The Verge*, Monmouth University's online multimedia magazine, will be publishing its first-ever print issue in mid-April. Interested students have several opportunities to be featured in the print issue.

Two competitions will be held, open to all years and majors.

The first competition is for cover art. There are very few requirements – the piece must only be related to Monmouth University, as well as being an original, high-quality piece. Pieces can be, but are not limited to being, photographs or original graphic design pieces. Art submissions must be submitted by March 31, 2018.

The second competition is for a cover story, which can be about any topic or opinion that a student may have. The piece must be between 600 and 800 words, and again must be submitted by March 31, 2018. Winners will be informed of their status as soon as possible.

Those who are interested in submitting their own photography or artwork to be featured in a photo-gallery page should submit their work as soon as possible, but by no later than March 29.

The online publication features multimedia work such as podcasts, videos, and photo galleries, in addition to written work.

The printed magazine is designed to showcase the best artistic and written work of the

2018 – 2019 academic year.

"[*The Verge*] is a great way to build your digital portfolio with the kind of writing employers love to see," said Marina Vujnovic, Ph.D., the publication's professor advisor and an associate professor of communication. "It's also a fun way to stay engaged in college."

Topics covered on the online site include campus news, including sport, club, and Greek events; local, national, and international news; current events, including politics and technology coverage; and entertainment, culture, and sports coverage.

Students are also encouraged to write op-ed and opinion pieces, as well as photography or artwork to accompany their stories.

"Being able to define my own stories and having the freedom to choose definitely affected my writing ability," said Robert Zadotti, the publication's managing editor and a senior English student.

"It's easy to write something an editor tells you to do too, just like an essay assignment. But by picking your topic, doing your own research, and having to follow through on that to create your own work in a published format was some of the best writing instruction I've ever gotten."

Podcasts and videos covering almost any topic can also be submitted to the site.

*The Verge* is on the verge of making major breakthroughs in journalism to help promote digital media on Monmouth University's campus.

Those interested in submitting to the contests or writing regularly should contact Kerry Breen at s0967410@monmouth.edu.



IMAGE TAKEN from *The Verge* Facebook Page

*The Verge* is open to all students and encourages submissions of original writing works.

## Club and Greek Announcements

### The Outdoor Club

Hiking, camping, kayaking, horseback riding and more! The Outdoors Club (ODC) is the home of all things adventurous for those of all skill levels. ODC is committed to providing the Monmouth student body with exciting activities on and off campus throughout the year. There are upcoming activities schedules for trips to Escape Rooms, cabin camping, snow tubing, game nights and hikes, all free or at a low and student friendly cost. If you are curious or want to learn more, you can contact the club's Vice President of Public Relations, Grace Roeder, at s1017227@monmouth.edu.

### Students Advocating Girls' Education (SAGE)

SAGE is dedicated to equal access to education and the betterment of the campus community through social justice, gender equality, and feminism. SAGE hosts a number of events on campus to raise money and donate to organizations and communities which improve access to quality education for women and girls, both locally and globally. They also increase campus awareness of social issues and current events pertaining to women's rights. If you are interested in joining, please contact the Club President, Kaitlin Allsopp, at s1034953@monmouth.edu.

### NSSLHA

The National Student Speech Language Hearing Association is an organization where aspiring speech-language pathologists can learn more about the field from current graduate students and professionals guest speakers.

If you are interested or want to learn more, email NSSLHA President Stephanie Parada at s1171150@monmouth.edu.

### The Council for Exceptional Children (CEC)

The Council for Exceptional Children (CEC) is committed to advancing the success of children with exceptionalities through advocacy, standards, and development.

If you're interested in joining CEC, contact club president Stephani Grana at s0927700@monmouth.edu.



# Mattel Introduces Line of ‘Shero’ Barbies; Amelia Earhart, Frida Kahlo, Chloe Kim to be Included

ALEXANDRIA AFANADOR  
MANAGING/FEATURES EDITOR

Mattel’s Barbie dolls have been around since 1959, when Co-Founder, Ruth Handler designed the original Barbie figure and debuted her at the New York Toy Fair.

Since then, the dolls have transformed over the past 55 years; Barbie has become a nurse, teacher, astronaut, game developer, and most recently, a president. The newest addition to the collection of dolls is the design of the Inspiring Women series.

This series includes influential women figures throughout history portrayed as Barbie dolls such as Frida Kahlo, Amelia Earhart, Katherine Johnson, and soon to come Chloe Kim, Ibtihaj Muhammad, and many other women both past and present.

The idea of a ‘Shero’ or a female hero is not unheard of in today’s society.

Michael Chattalas, Ph.D., a specialist professor of marketing and international business said, “Society’s stereotype of a ‘hero’ is adjusting to changing gender roles. My own research on cultural stereotypes, suggests that an ideal ‘hero’ figure should exude both competence and warmth, which could be a perfect fit for Barbie’s Shero image.”

According to Mattel’s website, “86 percent of moms surveyed are worried about the kind of role models their daughters are exposed to [according to a 2018 online survey].”

“That’s why Barbie continues to showcase examples of inspirational women. From Sheroes to Inspiring Women, meet our latest Barbie role models—all extraordinary women we’ve honored with a doll in their likeness.”

While the implementation and introduction of women figures for girls to look up to is well and good, one of the biggest concerns with this



IMAGE TAKEN from barbie.mattel.com

Mattel’s Barbies have been put under the microscope of society as they introduce their new line of inspirational women figures from history.

new development is the accurate depiction of the Frida Kahlo doll. Kahlo’s great niece, Mara de Anda Romeo, believes that Mattel does not have the rights to utilize the image of Kahlo.

Julia Riordan-Goncalves Ph.D., Director of the Spanish and International Business Major and Spanish for Business Minor and an assistant professor of Spanish said, “I was a bit skeptical because I imagined a Frida Kahlo doll that would look like a traditional Barbie. It seemed to me that it might be a marketing stunt or a half-hearted way to recognize International Women’s Day. But, I’m glad to see that the project is well thought-out.”

According to *The Guardian*, critics have also said that the doll is not

reflective of Kahlo’s distinct characteristics such as her heavy eyebrows and her ‘costume’ is not representative of the Tehuana-style dresses the artist normally wore

Mattel said in a statement that the doll, “Celebrates the ideological contributions of Frida Kahlo which have transcended the borders of art and which will influence new generations as a world icon through the Frida Kahlo Barbie, which conserves the essence of Barbie and the legacy of Frida Kahlo.”

Stephanie Vela, a senior social work and Spanish student said, “Frida Kahlo is an influential person and a name that will always be known, so I think the family has a right to defend her legacy. Barbie should be more understanding of the family’s

input and do their best to make sure the doll accurately represents Frida Kahlo.”

“Growing up, I played with Barbie dolls a lot and remember always looking for ones that looked more like me. I think it’s great that Barbie wants to have a Hispanic female role model, but if they’re going to do that, they definitely have to try and do it right,” Vela continued.

Lisa Dinella, Ph.D., an associate professor of psychology said, “Mattel’s line of Shero dolls is intended to recognize the important contributions that women have made to our collective culture.”

“Scientific studies confirm the importance of children seeing themselves reflected in their toys and in media, and of having role models

who inspire and encourage them. Concern has been raised in the past about Barbie’s promotion of idealized beauty standards and the toy line’s emphasis on the importance of girls’ physical appearance,” Dinella added

“I think that including women like Frida Kahlo in a line of dolls honoring women who have not been included in toy lines such as this is a wonderful idea. The doll will come with educational material that children can read to find out more about Frida and her contributions to art and Hispanic culture.”

Inclusion of Hispanic historical figures has been sparse in the past, Riordan commented, “[The inclusion of these Barbies is] quite timely as we see an increasing awareness surrounding issues women’s rights and gender equality throughout the world. Introducing Frida Kahlo in this way to younger children makes it a normal, everyday occurrence that lessens the perception of women like her as different or of lesser importance. I hope that the production of this line of dolls continues for many years so that Frida and the other incredible women highlighted in the doll series come to be very well-known and highly recognizable for their accomplishments,” Riordan said.

Chattalas commented, “This is yet another effort by Barbie to mirror and celebrate America’s cultural, racial, and ethnic diversity. Given their choice of artist role-models (like Frida), I suspect the new dolls may actually be targeting parents and collectors as well as children.”

“I am happy to see Mattel address these concerns via their Fashionista line, which includes dolls with diverse body shapes, skin tones, and hair types. Although this line of Shero dolls does not remedy all of the concerns about Barbie, it is definitely a step in the right direction” Dinella said.

## Inspiring by Aspiring: Natalie Newbold

JOY MORGAN  
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Bold and Talented. Newbold, Natalie. This 28 year old virtuoso who had been practicing music since the age of ten as a drummer, guitar since 14, and song writing as long as she has had a journal, proves to the music community what being passion looks like.

Natalie is currently the front-man of Well Wisher, where she sings lead vocals and plays guitar. While she has played literally hundreds of shows before, this role has been a completely different experience.

Transitioning from a rare and extremely difficult drummer-singer combo, Newbold has recently started pursuing her career from the front of the stage with nothing but a guitar. There, the shield of her kit has been removed, and her vulnerability is seen not just from her standing, singing body, but in her sincere expressions as she reveals her heart live for those in the audience to enjoy, relate to, and be moved from.

Having been a dedicated member of dollys, from 2013 to 2017, and touring as a drummer and backing vocalist in Green Paper while at Rutgers New Brunswick, while in college, Newbold has become renowned in the music scene for her pleasant vocals and drum playing, equaled only by her kindness and support for others in the scene.

“As a performer, the thing that magnetized me and seemingly so

many people to Natalie is how candid and honest everything she does feels when you watch her.

Every musician knows how hard it is to constantly be connected with the music you are trying to convey,” said Erik Romero, former band member and friend of Natalie’s, audio engineer, musician, and adjunct professor at Monmouth University’s department of music and theatre.

“Some nights it just feels like you have to ‘perform.’ She constantly amazes me with how every single time she is able to put her heart into what she is doing when she is singing/playing regardless of how her day went, regardless of where she is at in life at the moment.”

“I’ve seen her play hundreds of times and it still gets me,” Romero continued.

Fans and friends wait in anticipation to see her truths and tenderness displayed through the performance and release of the upcoming album from Well Wisher, where Newbold has written all of the lyrics. This album will contain ten heartfelt and honest songs, the title of them and the album though, remains publicly unreleased.

Lukas Dalikian, who Newbold refers to as her ‘first pick,’ when considering band members for Well Wisher, is the current guitarist in the band, and a bassist for ROMP, an indie rock band from New Brunswick.

Dalikian said of Newbold, “Natalie is a thoughtful and hard working writer. It’s clear that she’s already considered so many aspects of her

songs before bringing them to the band, which makes our job super easy.”

“At the same time, she is considerate and encouraging of Lynsey, Anthony, and me, to add our personality to the songs, and everyone of those people have valuable input,” Dalikian continued.

Dalikian and Newbold share positive recall over their experience recording the album at an Airbnb in the Poconos this January with Romero before he left for tour with The Front Bottoms in the UK.

According to Newbold, she was seeking an Airbnb house that would suit the equipment needed for recording, and was calling her first choice to get permission to record. To her surprise, the individual on the other of the phone call quickly recognized Newbold from dollys, and affectionately and supportively agreed to allow the band to record there.

Tony D’Arcangelo, the drummer of Well Wisher, who Natalie highly respects for his adaptable and dynamic playing, said that while his first impression of Newbold inspired strong emotion from the combination of her intricate vocals and unique drum parts, which was only strengthened when working together proved her as a staple in the music scene.

As Romero mentioned, Newbold teaches students different aspects of music at Lakehouse Music Academy, in Asbury Park for the past five years.

Newbold said teaching music was

intimidating at first because she felt she did not have enough lessons herself, and had only taken theory in school.

“The moment I took that leap of faith and put myself in positions where I was vulnerable was the quickest way to learn, and it was so great. I have been able to solely focus on music, which has been amazing,” said Newbold.

The vulnerability Newbold mentions seems to be the way she likes to live. As a genuine person in a smarmy industry, Newbold has confronted and overcome many challenges. One of the most notable being the breaking up of dollys, which propelled the discovery of her individual identity.

“After dollys broke up I spent that summer, for the most part, where I grew up in East Brunswick, with my mom and my sister. I was going through a tough time after having put that much energy time and passion into a project and having it just not be there anymore, I wrote a majority of these songs focused around that time,” said Newbold.

According to Newbold, songs on this album deal with relatable struggles that she faced at that time like breaking up, issues with friendships, her own changing identity.

What is wonderful about the songs on the upcoming album is how honest they are. Newbold’s approach to songwriting is refreshingly sincere, and therefore especially enjoyable and relatable.

Despite longing anticipation, fans must wait until record labels that

Well Wisher are working with find a good time for a release. Sniffing Indie Kid’s the bands current label, supportive of all of the bands decisions.

While Newbold would release it as soon as it is done, the rest of us will wait accordingly. Thankfully, there are many other things to look forward to with certain dates, like Thursday March 22nd, at the Asbury Park Brewery, when Newbold will be playing a solo act at an event organized by Aftermath Collective.

Another notable show coming up is at the Sick Tour XL, where Well Wisher will open up for New Found Glory, Bayside, and Crime in Stereo, to name a few, at The Stony Pony Summer Stage May 27.

Collaborating with notable artists is not to surprising for Newbold, who is the single featured female artist on any songs recorded by The Front Bottoms, on the Ep Rose. Find her on the track “Jim Bogart,” where it almost sounds like she wrote the lyrics herself, though Newbold claims those were written from the bands beginnings.

While Newbold’s past was filled with trials as a female artist, struggles with family, a difficult break up, and disintegrating friendships, fans and friends can expect all of this to be translated into gratifying songs for us all to cry, scream, sing, and ponder as a result.

It will come to a surprise to none to see Newbold prove her process of coping with life’s complexities by doing... and doing well.





CORAL COOPER  
ADVERTISING MANAGER

Junior computer science advanced computing, software engineer student with a double minor in mathematics and informational technology, William Jones is enrolled at Monmouth University but has some interesting life experiences that set him apart from his peers. Not only has Jones served in the United States' military, he also is married with a son and a daughter and about ten years older than the average college undergraduate.

William Tepfenhart, Ph.D., a professor of computer science and software engineering (CSSE) commented about Jones, "He's a great guy and good role model for the other students. He demonstrates that by helping others, interacting with new students to make them feel welcome, and [Jones] helps bring a level of maturity to the classroom. He's active in the Monmouth University Chapter of the Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers (IEEE)."

Jones is the president of IEEE and organizes many events with the group and continues to find ways to keep the organization active and involved with the community. "Professor Kretsch advises IEEE and Association for Computer Machinery (ACM) and Upsilon Pi Epsilon (UPE), which is the honor society for computing," Jones said.

Jamie Kretsch, Chair of the CSSE department and specialist professor said, "He is known by a wide range of students, from freshmen through graduate students, because he is always involved in department-related events, always there to help others, and always in the middle of activities to further our department on campus."

"Will is known by all faculty because of his dedication and enthusiasm for learning, and the strong sense of responsibility he brings to Monmouth and our program. As a U.S. veteran, Will is an inspiration to all in his patriotism and commitment to serving Monmouth and the United States with pride and honor."

"And, as Will's advisor and Department Chair, a tiring or overwhelming day quickly becomes so much better when he pops his head in my office to say hello or see if I need any help."

Kretsch predicts Jones, "Will make a positive difference in the world, since he has already made such a positive difference within our campus."

Jones' appreciation and willingness to learn has been something Tepfenhart has noticed right off the bat, "One of the things that I appreciate is that he wants to know and understand, which is a very good thing in my opinion."

"While many students expect to be taught all they need to know in class, Will recognizes that the quest for knowledge only begins inside the classroom and that the real effort of learning takes place outside the classroom."

Luke Tomkus, a senior computer science student spoke about Jones' dedication, "He is incapable of breaking rules; it's embedded in him to respect

authority." Tomkus continued, "Will is probably one of the hardest working people I know. It regularly blows my mind that he has three majors."

Joshua Schlanger a junior software engineering student said, "He's one of the most loyal friends, he's always willing to help and will always get his work done. He's a great group member and will do his work at an exceptional level. He also has this way of being able to make the whole room laugh no matter what."

Jones said of his time serving in the military, "I enlisted in 2005 [and] left for bootcamp in October. I got out in 2010 and started in 2015 at Monmouth University."

When discussing his inspirations for joining the military, Jones revealed, "My grandfather was a marine and I needed a way to ensure that my girlfriend and her daughter had a way of being taken care of, no matter what, so I enlisted."

Jones and his wife have been married for 12 years and attended high school prom together; Jones' wife, Connie, has her own business called Bowfinity and Beyond. "She makes cheer and sport bows and shirts," Jones explained.

"I do know I would not be here without her so maybe that accounts for something," Jones shared.

"The distance is hard because I am doing this for the family and I don't get to see them all the time now so it's difficult to remember why I'm doing it," he continued, "When you do not see the reason for going through school, it makes it hard to stay focused."

To combat this issue of his family being out of sight, Jones often reminds himself of his wife and their kids and takes a lot of trips to Florida where they currently live.

Jones's accountability for the people around him has carried over into his family life, military service, and into his academic career.

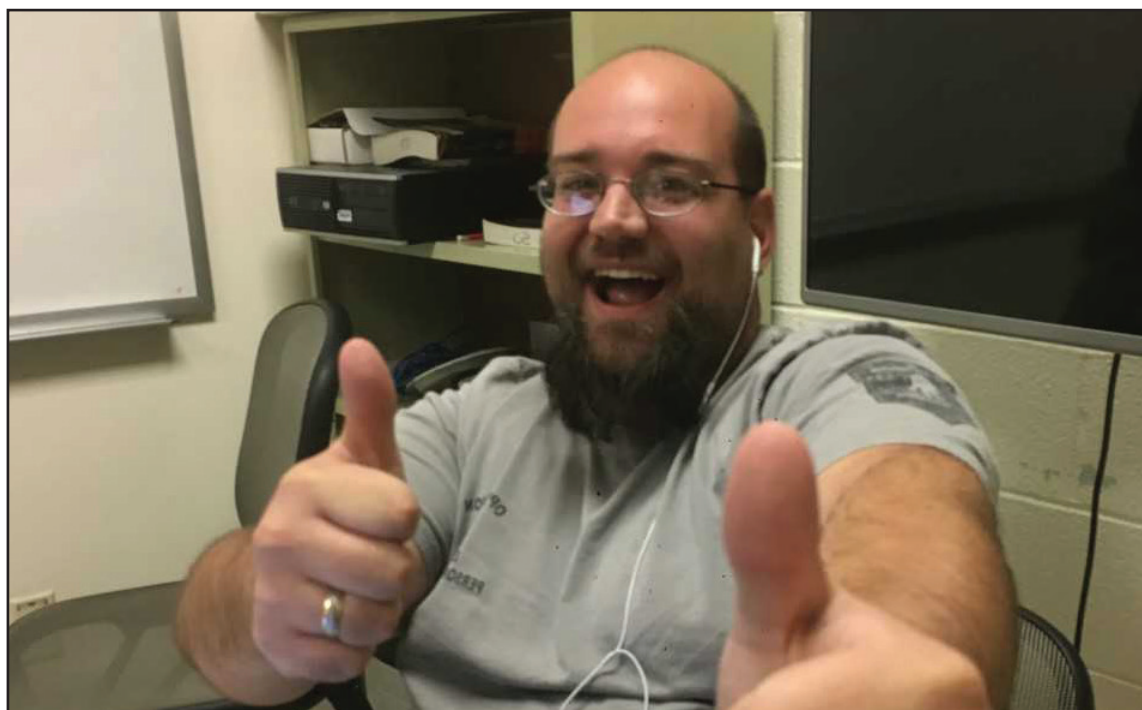


PHOTO TAKEN by Coral Cooper

Jones and his wife, Connie, have been married for 12 years, making the distance between them especially hard.

"I joined the United States Marine Corps (USMC) as an infantry rifleman and quickly learned that you have to learn more than just that so during my first deployment I was a radio trained operator and during the second, I was an armory custodian as well as the commanding officer's turret gunner."

In comparing Jones' time in the USMC with student life, he said, "College is a lot more like the Marines than I thought; the military training has stopped a major amount of procrastination. But, it has also made it easier to write because it has given me a whole lot of outside perspectives that I would not have thought about before."

Michael Marmer, a junior information systems student relays his first memories with Jones, "Will was one of the first people I met after transferring to Monmouth; we had two summer courses together, back-to-back."

"I remember walking into class one day and he was playing YouTube songs trying to make his friends and the other students guess what song it was

without seeing the title. Totally unexpected, but a lot of fun; we all had a great time and he had us cracking up."

"A year and a half later, he is one of my closest friends. He has such a warm personality that people just gravitate toward him. He is extremely fun to be around, and one of the best people I have ever met in my entire life," Marmer added.

Jones commented on what it is like making friends that may not directly relate to his life, "Everyone has their own experience, tapping into that is all it is when it comes to the people we surround ourselves with."

"It was odd to interact with a younger generation and because of this there was a very different understanding but once I was not so self absorbed it made me learn that we are having the same battle," Jones continued.

After becoming friends with fellow students, Jones noted, "They helped me learn that I am not the center of the universe."

"I have helped them in the fact that they call it 'dad mode.' but I give them the bigger pic-

ture," Jones said.

When Jones is not dedicating his time to the organizations he is involved in, his classes, or his friends, he is fond of reading and anime. Jones added, "I enjoy card games like Magic: The Gathering, Vs. System, and Legendary."

Jones loves superhero comic books and explained Spiderman is his favorite because of the life lessons the stories offer. "No matter how tough things get as long as you have great friends and family and believe in yourself, you can get through it," Jones elaborated.

Jones spent his spring break in Florida with his family, which he thinks is important to motivate him in his academic life in New Jersey.

"When you are a dad you have spend time with them; I happen to love it. I also enjoy playing [video] games with my son."

As Jones looks to the future, he said, "At the end of the day, your goals truly don't matter once you have kids, it then becomes: their goals matter, so being a great dad would help them fulfill their goals."



PHOTO TAKEN by Coral Cooper

Jones is a prominent figure in the Computer Science and Software Engineering Department; he can usually be seen at events and helping out students and faculty.



# Men’s Lacrosse Starts Conference Play 1-0

ANDY STUDNA  
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

Coming into the week with a record of 2-3, the men’s lacrosse team split decisions in two road games against #19 Hofstra and Manhattan.

On Saturday, the Hawks opened Metro Atlantic Athletic Conference (MAAC) play by paying a visit to the Jaspers in Riverdale, NY. The blue and white picked up the win in what was a high scoring affair by a final score of 12-8.

Monmouth started the game hot by scoring three first quarter goals courtesy of junior attack Griffin Figel, freshman midfield Rudy Beck, and senior attack/midfield Sean Torretta. While the Hawks took a 3-1 lead into the second quarter over Manhattan, it quickly evaporated as the Jaspers responded with five goals in the frame. The Hawks tallied another three goals of their own in the second, however the game would be tied at six going into the half.

Monmouth came out of the half by outscoring the Jaspers 6-2 over the remainder of the game. The Hawks scored two goals in third quarter and tacked on another four to close out the game in the fourth. Figel added another goal with 8:44 remaining in the third to put the Hawks on top on the scoreboard for good.

Senior attack Bryce Wasserman led the Hawks on offense



PHOTO COURTESY of Monmouth Athletics

**Junior attack Griffin Figel tallied** three points including two goals in the 12-8 win over Manhattan on Saturday afternoon.

during the afternoon, scoring five goals and an assist. Four of the goals he scored came in the second half of the contest. In goal, freshman Noah Lode stood tall, making 12 saves.

Head Coach Brian Fisher admitted that his team wasn’t at their best in the second quarter before picking up their offense

in the second half, “In the second quarter, we hit a little bit of a rough patch and I’m proud of our guys in how they responded in the second half. Our veterans, in particular, played really solid second halves and allowed us to pull away and win the game.” The win was Monmouth’s ninth straight (eight

straight in regular season play) victory over MAAC opponents. While the Hawks ended the week on a good note, they dropped a heartbreaker to #19 Hofstra in Hempstead, NY earlier last week on Wednesday. The final score was 7-6 in favor of the Pride.

Hofstra opened the game

by scoring two goals in the first quarter and never trailed from there. While the Hawks never held a lead in the game at any point, they rallied back to tie it on three separate occasions. With 9:30 remaining in the game, junior attack Hunter Jones scored his second goal of the day to even the score at six. Hofstra answered by scoring the game-winning goal on a man-advantage with 1:39 left, making it 7-6.

Jones and freshman attack/midfield Brock Anderson each had two goals on the afternoon for the Hawks. Jones’ goal in the fourth quarter was one of two scored by the Hawks in the frame. After adding another four fourth quarter goals against Manhattan, the Hawks are now outscoring their opponents 25-9 in the quarter this season. The defeat was Monmouth’s second on the road this season, with both games being decided by one goal.

“While the outcome wasn’t what we had hoped for, we are happy with the energy and effort that we played with today and the improvements that we made this week,” said Fisher. “Playing hard and improving every day has been the focus for this week and we are looking to take similar strides in the next couple of days as we get ready for conference play.”

The Hawks will take the field again on Saturday when they host Detroit Mercy at Hesse Field on The Great Lawn.

# Women’s Golf Opens Spring Season with Strong Start

SARAH KOKOTAJLO  
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

The women’s golf team kicked off their spring season in Boulder City, Nevada earlier this month. The Hawks competed in The Battle at Boulder Creek at Boulder Creek Golf Course on March 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> for the second consecutive year. The golf course was played at 6,252 yards with a par of 72. The tournament was a 54 hole event, with 36 holes played during round one and 18 holes played during round two. The field consisted of 12 teams, including Austin Peay State, Eastern Washington, Georgetown, Idaho State, Illinois-Chicago, James Madison, Monmouth, Montana State, Morehead State, Northern Kentucky, Oklahoma City, Radford.

The women finished the tournament with a score of 997 (339-332-326). Junior Haley Goodling posted her seventh round in the 70s of the season and 20<sup>th</sup> of her career. Goodling led the Hawks’ card for the fifth of her career. Senior Sarah Kokotajlo inked her third round in the 70s of the campaign, the 19<sup>th</sup> of her career.

“Being able to play and practice in warmer conditions was exactly what we needed to prepare us for the rest of the season,” said senior captain Faith Garcia. “This was our first time playing since the fall, so this tournament allowed us to figure out what we need to improve upon moving forward.”

The Hawks scores from the Battle at Boulder Creek were: Goodling 82-79-83; 244 Kokotajlo 89-84-79; 252 senior

Kaitlin Clancy 85-87-81; 253 Garcia 87-85-83; 255 freshman Carla Puig Jou 85-84-92; 261 sophomore Nicole Totland 90-83-95; 268 freshman Cassidy Gavaghan 93-86-92; 271 senior Erin DiDonato 92-92-88; 272.

Just a few days after Nevada, the women headed south to Jacksonville, FL to continue their spring play. During the week-long trip in Florida the Hawks competed in two tournaments back to back. The team played in the Benbow Invitational on March 12-13. The 36 hole event was hosted by Butler at Blue Sky Golf Club. The hawks finished the event in fifth place, with a two day 36 hole total of 643.

Totland recorded her first two rounds in the 70s this season, including setting a new career 18 hole and 36 hole score. Her ninth place finish was the best of her career. In the second round, DiDonato took off ten strokes from her opening round score with her second round 79.

The Hawks scores from the Benbow Invite: Totland 76-79; 155 Goodling 81-79; 160 Clancy 79-83; 162 Garcia 82-80; 162 Kokotajlo 82-81; 163 Gavaghan 82-82; 164 DiDonato 89-79; 168 Puig Jou 90-87; 177.

On March 14 and 15, the Hawks closed out their spring break playing in the Bulldog Invite at Windsor Park Golf Course. The Hawks played strong and finished the tournament in second place over all with a 36 hole score of 679. The event was played at 5,969 yards. Five teams competed in the tournament- Butler, Chicago State, Eastern Illinois,

Fairfield and Monmouth.

Four Hawks landed in the top 10 individually, with a field of 60 competitors. Goodling and Gavaghan both earned top five finishes. Goodling led the Hawks for the fifth time this season. Playing as an individual, Kokotajlo took off ten strokes from her first round on the second day of the event.

“Playing six straight days in a row was mentally and physically pretty tough, but I think it will help us to play even stronger through the rest of the spring,” Garcia said.

The Hawks scorecard: Goodling 81-84; 165 Gavaghan 83-85; 168 Kokotajlo 90-80; 170 Garcia 85-86; 171 Clancy 86-89; 175 DiDonato 92-86; 178

Puig Jou 85-93; 178 Totland 86-94; 180.

“It was a good week down in Florida as we get into the competitive mode. We faced some adversity with high winds and lower temps,” said Head Coach Susan Dekalb.

The women will continue play on April 6-7 at the Navy Invite in Annapolis, MD.



PHOTO COURTESY of Monmouth Athletics

Junior Haley Goodling led the Hawks for the fifth time of her career. She finished her seventh round in the 70s and 20<sup>th</sup> of her career.



# Women’s Lacrosse Defeats New Hampshire 10-8

CHRIS FITZSIMMONS  
STAFF WRITER

Women’s lacrosse split their two away matchups over break. Beating the University of New Hampshire (UNH) 10-8 on Monday, March 12 and losing to Drexel 11-16 on Sunday, March 18. Monmouth now stands at an overall record of 2-7 and has completed their out of conference games.

The Hawks staged a daring second half comeback to pull out the road win against New Hampshire. Monmouth out-scored the Wildcats 7-2 in the second half, including the final five to pull off the impressive comeback.

A sluggish and sloppy defensive effort in the first half left the Hawks nursing a 6-3 deficit. Monmouth let New Hampshire take a total of 23 shots in the first half while only mustering eight of their own. Junior goalkeeper Riley Brager stood tall in net as she made ten saves in the first half and 14 overall to keep her team in the game.

Monmouth circled the wagons in the second and showed a tremendous amount of grit to turn it around in the end. Junior attack Jenny Staines got it going in the second half for the Hawks. Staines was involved in two straight goals, scoring the first and assisting in the other to cut the deficit to 5-7 with 26 minutes left.

No scoring took place for



PHOTO COURTESY of B51/Mark Brown

**Sophomore attack Nicole Ceraso earned** ten points in the past two games against New Hampshire and Drexel. Four of the points were goals, including a hatrick against Drexel.

nine minutes until The Wildcats responded with a goal of their own to reclaim a three-goal advantage. Five minutes later junior midfielder Logan Smet began the five-unanswered goal run with her first of two on the day.

With 6:27 left to play Staines buried a pass from sophomore attack Nicole Ceraso to tie it up at eight. Senior attack Alexa Smith than gave the Hawks the 9-8 lead with her team high

third goal of the game with three minutes to play. Senior midfielder Claudia LaMarca capped off the exciting comeback off a Ceraso assist and who led the team with five points.

“I’m really proud of the team for scrapping back into the game and fighting for the win. We had a couple of players in the second half step up and make some important plays,” Monmouth Head Coach Jor-

dan Trautman. “Mackenzie Rendich had a great game on the defensive end with some big turnovers and Megan Hart really stepped up to handle the ball in transition which created some key scoring opportunities.”

Despite an 11-goal outing on Sunday, Monmouth fell short of securing their second straight win. The game was tied up a four a-piece at the halfway mark, but Drexel

erupted with 12 goals in the second half to lock in the win.

Four different Hawks scored in a tightly contested first half as both teams battled to a virtually standstill. This was evident in the statistics department as shots in the first half were essentially even, with Drexel taking 15 to Monmouth’s 13.

The second half picked off where the first left off as neither team was able to capture more than two goal advantage for the first ten minutes of play. This narrative changed in the blink of the eye as the Dragons surged ahead 13-8 with four straight goals over a five-minute period.

Senior midfielder Caroline Corbliss put an end to the run at the 14:23 mark but momentum had clearly shifted in Drexel’s favor. Corbliss completed her hat-trick in the final minute of play but the team overall failed to muster any substantive comeback attempt in the final minutes of play.

Trautman said after the game, “We are struggling to control the momentum in games. It is important that we start winning the 50/50 opportunities that dictate the tempo and emotion of the game.”

Monmouth now begins Metro Atlantic Athletic Conference (MAAC) play this week with a matchup against Quinnipiac on Saturday at 3:00 p.m. at Hesse Field on The Great Lawn.

# Baseball Gets Swept in Spider Invitational

MARK D’AQUILA  
STAFF WRITER

After Wednesday’s day game at Villanova was cancelled due to inclement weather and field conditions, 4-8 baseball traveled to Richmond, Virginia where they were swept in the Spider Invitational.

The packed three game weekend began on Friday morning where the Hawks were handed an 11-4 loss at the hands of the 2-9 Yale Bulldogs in a battle of struggling ball clubs looking to get back on the right track.

Monmouth did however get on the board first thanks to senior right fielder Pete Papcun who drove in sophomore left fielder John LaRocca. LaRocca was one of the few bright spots for Monmouth in the ballgame as he went 1-for-4 with a run scored and a run batted in (RBI) that gave them the lead in the third. Another bright spot was senior right-handed pitcher Ricky Dennis who took the bump for the Hawks and struck out a career-best seven batters in the defeat.

The story of the game was defensive struggles for Monmouth as Dennis threw six innings while allowing six runs only two of which were earned.

“Today was definitely a tale of two games,” Head Coach Dean Ehehalt said. “We didn’t do a very good job of collecting outs in the middle of the game and it definitely hurt us.”

All four of Monmouth’s unearned runs came in Dennis’ sixth and final inning of work where two errors turned the Hawk’s lead into a four-run deficit.

Yale tacked on five more in the following innings to take an 11-2 lead before Monmouth attempted to get back in the game in the ninth. Freshman Colin McCreary



PHOTO COURTESY of Monmouth Athletics

**Junior outfielder Kyle Norman has** reached base in every game this season. His streak has extended to 15 games after the 7-6 loss to Richmond on Sunday afternoon.

pinch hit in the inning recording his first collegiate hit and scored a run in the process. However, it was all too late as two runs in the ninth simply tightened the final score to an 11-4 defeat despite MU only getting outthit 12-9 on the day.

“Credit goes to Yale; they are a really impressive defensive team and made all the plays,” Ehehalt said. “Ricky pitched well and certainly deserved better.”

It was a quick turnaround for Monmouth who were defeated by Lehigh 10-3 on Saturday afternoon in their second game of the Spider Invitational. Junior right-handed pitcher Joe Molettieri found the rubber in this one and had his least impressive outing of the season so far giving up six earned runs on six hits in five innings of work while suffering his first loss in a month.

Monmouth attempted to get back in the game in the fourth when junior center fielder Kyle

Norman drove in two runs with a single that tightened the score to 3-2.

Lehigh bounced back with three of their own in the inning, before eventually putting the game away with a crushing three-run bomb in the seventh that extended their lead to 10-2.

Monmouth did end the game’s scoring in the seventh when junior catcher Clay Koniencki connected with an RBI double that scored LaRocca.

“We certainly didn’t fire our best shot today and we need to compete much better moving forward,” Ehehalt said.

MU closed out their weekend’s play by dropping a 7-6 nail-biter to the host of the tournament themselves, the Richmond Spiders. This proved to be a much closer affair than the first two games of the weekend as Monmouth took a lead all the way to the eighth inning of the ballgame. This lead was thanks

to a five run fourth inning to make the score 5-2 which was caused by a Richmond error and wild pitch as well as Freshman Ryan Steckline’s run scored. Steckline went 2-for-4 on the day with a walk just a week after earning Metro Atlantic Athletic Conference (MAAC) Rookie of the Week honors.

The Spiders were able to rally in the eighth inning with three runs of their own giving them the 7-6 lead which they were able to hang on to in the top of the ninth.

The win improved Richmond’s record to 11-8 while the winless weekend dropped Monmouth’s record to 4-11.

“MAAC play starts next weekend and everybody starts 0-0,” Ehehalt said. “We have been on the road five straight weekends and look forward to starting conference play.”

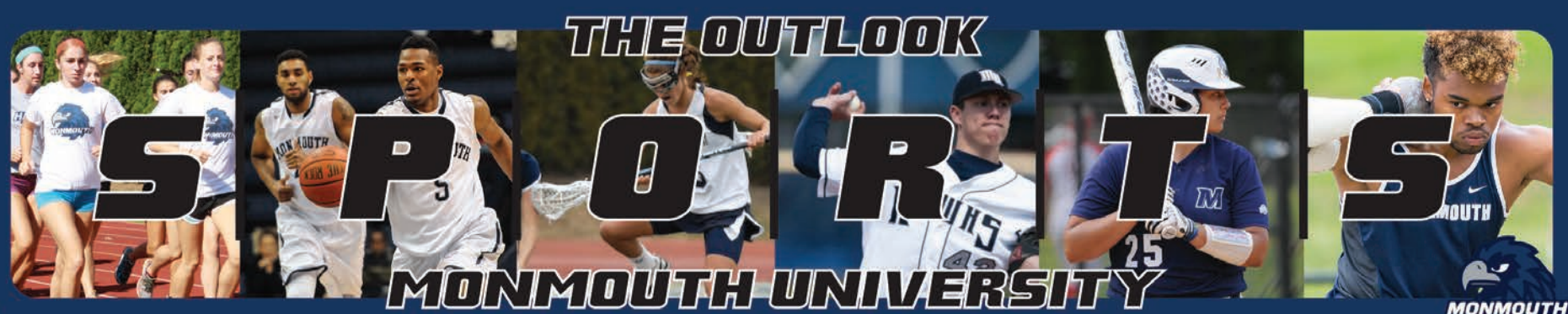
Monmouth will travel to Staten Island to face 10-8 Wagner on Wednesday at 3:00 p.m.

## UPCOMING GAMES

- Friday, Mar. 23**  
Softball at UMBC  
Baltimore, MD 12:00 p.m.
- M Golf  
Florida Atlantic Invitational  
Boca Raton, FL 12:00 p.m.
- Track & Field  
Monmouth Season Opener  
West Long Branch, NJ 2:00 p.m.
- Softball vs. Binghamton  
Baltimore, MD 2:30 p.m.
- Saturday, Mar. 24**  
*M Lax vs. Detroit Mercy\**  
*Hesse Field on The Great Lawn*  
*West Long Branch, NJ 12:00 p.m.*
- Baseball at Marist\**  
*Poughkeepsie, NY 12:00 p.m.*
- W Tennis at Marist\**  
*Poughkeepsie, NY 12:00 p.m.*
- W Lax vs. Quinnipiac\**  
*Hesse Field on The Great Lawn*  
*West Long Branch, NJ 3:00 p.m.*
- Baseball at Marist\**  
*Poughkeepsie, NY 3:00 p.m.*
- Sunday, Mar. 25**  
*Baseball at Marist\**  
*Poughkeepsie, NY 12:00 p.m.*
- M Tennis at St. John’s  
Queens, NY 8:30 p.m.

\*conference games





# HAWKS START STRONG



Men's Lacrosse defeated Manhattan 12-8 to begin MAAC play 1-0. Senior attack Bryce Wasserman scored five goals and earned six points in the victory on Saturday afternoon.

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