



THE OUTLOOK

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University Mourns the Loss of Professor Kenneth Stunkel

ANDREW STUDNA
ASSOCIATE NEWS EDITOR

Kenneth Stunkel, Ph.D., Emeritus Professor of History at Monmouth University, passed away on Feb. 7 in his Neptune, NJ home at the age of 87.

Stunkel taught until he was 80, ending a 47-year tenure at Monmouth. He spent time as a professor of history, teaching over 25 different courses. He also served as the Dean of two different schools on campus: Art and Design and Humanities and Social Sciences.

"As a new faculty member, I remember going to meet with Ken to talk about teaching and I was consistently impressed by the breadth of his knowledge," said Richard Veit, Ph.D., a professor of anthropology and Chair of the Department of History and Anthropology. "He was incredibly well read and was able to speak at length on all sorts of topics;

he was impressive, and I was thrilled to be one of his faculty colleagues at Monmouth University."

Vincent DiMattio, MFA, a professor of art and design, worked closely with Stunkel on numerous projects. In 2004, they co-authored the book, *The Drawings and Watercolors of Lewis Mumford (Studies in Art History)*.

"There were times he pressured me, 'Come on, we have to get this done,' he wanted to go, go all the time," said DiMattio jokingly on their time writing the book together. "It was a delight just working with him."

Stunkel was the author of 10 academic books, including *Ideas and Art in Asian Civilizations*, *Understanding Lewis Mumford: A Guide for the Perplexed*, *50 Key Works of History and Historiography*, and numerous scholarly articles.

Since retiring after his time at Monmouth, he co-authored a play, *Lives of Reason*, with

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PHOTO COURTESY of Monmouth University

Stunkel's legacy includes being a former Dean of the School of Humanities and Social Sciences, a professor of history who taught 25 courses, and an author of ten academic books.

Liberty and Justice Forum

NICHOLAS COSCARELLI
SENIOR/NEWS/POLITICS EDITOR

As part of the University's commemoration of Black History Month, Walter Greason, Ph.D., Chair of Educational Counseling and Leadership in the Department of Education, hosted a discussion titled "The State of Black New Jersey 2019: With Liberty and Justice for All" in the Guggenheim Memorial Library last Wednesday, Feb. 13.

Greason, former Dean of the Honors School, brought the discussion of discrimination, equal opportunity, and the status of New Jersey's Black middle class to campus in his presentation.

He discussed the idea of America's pledge of allegiance, and how appropriate it is to say "liberty and justice for all" when there still exists such vast inequality across the country; an idea that has gained national attention after several athletes have knelt during the pledge.

"New Jersey, a century ago, was a hostile place..., certainly for African Americans, people of Mexican decent and native ancestry," Greason explained in his discussion. Segregation was as severe a reality in New Jersey as in Alabama, Mississippi, and Florida, he noted.

From about 1928 forward through up until the late 1940s, New Jersey made a decision to change the way that it viewed diversity. Greason explained that the state made efforts to find a way to bring people of different cultural, ethnic, and religious backgrounds into the core of society. "New Jersey led the nation in that way," he said.

New Jersey later amended the state constitution to include clauses of anti-discrimination protections.

Aspirations of high salary jobs, stable employment, good healthcare, and home ownership have been promises of being in the American middle class. However, for African-Americans, it's very different.

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Model UN Competes at Harvard

NAMRA SHUEIB
STAFF WRITER

The University's Model United Nations (UN) team competed at the 65th session of Harvard University's Model UN competition.

Eight students represented Monmouth at the Park Plaza Boston Hotel, this past weekend from Saturday, Feb. 14th through Sunday, Feb. 17th

Participants debated and negotiated policy resolutions on global challenges and crises facing the actual United Nations. The official UN rules and regulation were utilized.

Representatives from the University included: Head Delegates Kristen Gomez, a junior English student, and Daniel Gerdon, a sophomore political science student; Matt Gruhler, a junior political science student; Alexis Vasquez, a sophomore political science student; Amanda Lopez, a sophomore political science and history student; Nick Gibson, a sophomore political science student; Teniya Manu, a sophomore

accounting student; and newcomer Fradley de la Cruz, a sophomore political science student.

Harvard Model UN is the oldest contest in the states, with over 150 universities from around the country and around the world, including Europe, Asia, the Middle East, Africa and Latin America participating.

University students were assigned to represent the Republic of Moldova on four separate committees. In preparation for the contest, students researched their country by reading both current and past events. Additionally, weekly meetings were held to prepare for their given speeches.

The delegation passed two resolutions, conveyed speeches from their committees, and effectively competed throughout the competition.

The Monmouth delegation consisted of the following students and their committees/issues: Gruhler and Vasquez (World Health Organization – Special Needs/Disability Protections and Antibiotic Resistance Regulations); Gibson and

Manu (International Monetary Fund [IMF] – Loan Conditionality Options); Gerdon and Gomez (Legal Committee – Cyber-warfare); and de la Cruz and Lopez (Economic and Financial Committee – Human Capital Promotion and Green Energy Funding).

Kenneth Mitchell, Ph.D., Chair of the Department of Political Science and Sociology and an associate professor of political science, served as the faculty advisor on this trip.

Manu said, "I like the fact that I had a smaller committee in Harvard which had around 30 to 40 people compared to the usual 80 to 100 students. This allowed all the students to get to know each other and form connections."

"Typically, students are exposed to information in a one-directional manner. Students take a class on a particular topic and learn from the professor," noted Kevin Dooley, Ph.D., an associate professor of political science and an adviser for the University's Model UN team.

Dooley explained that Model UN forces students to learn about issues and then debate

them as if they were representatives of certain countries.

"It makes it more interesting and more meaningful. It also strengthens research, writing, and public speaking skills," he said.

Manu said, "My one piece of advice for someone who wants to join Model UN is to really work hard in the club because what you gain from it is very much worth it such as getting to travel, networking, improving skills such as public speaking and communication etc."

"This competition was challenging because we had a very complex topic, which is IMF loan conditionality. It took some time and effort to truly understand what the topic entailed," she added.

In the upcoming week, the University's Model UN team will send a 6-student delegation to the London Model UN contest where it will try to defend its "Best Delegation" title from last year.

During the last week of March, a 25-student delegation will compete at the Charlotte, NC contest.

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Greason Speaks on Equality

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“There was no access to those promises until 1970, the first time as a large group get access to higher education and secure degrees that would guarantee to obtain those higher salary jobs,” Greason told the audience. “Home ownership remained a rare commodity until the mid-late 1980s.”

Currently, “Declining incomes, increasing property taxes, low rates of business ownership, and the wholesale elimination of public service employment has destroyed the foundation of the Black middle class,” said Greason.

Although progress has been made to create racial equality in the state, disparity still exists in New Jersey.

The rate of arrests, incarceration, and denial of parole among African-Americans is 30 times higher than the average in New Jersey; high school graduation rate among Black students is 15 percent behind the state average, demonstrating that school systems are not working to close the racial gap; and completion of African-Americans enrolled in college is 20 points behind the state average.

Greason also said that the number of Black elected officials in the state is small compared to overall body of people who are serving in office and informing policies that are implemented in the state, and the average African-American net worth in New Jersey is \$3,000 in debt.

Murphy’s Disapproval Ratings Rise in Polls

MATT ENGEL
STAFF WRITER

After one year in office, New Jersey Governor Phil Murphy’s disapproval rating has risen 12 points, according to a recent report published by the University’s Polling Institute last Tuesday, Feb. 12.

Support for Murphy in polling numbers have cooled off from where they were in April 2018.

While his approval rating remains steady at around 43 percent, his disapproval rating has risen from 28 percent to 40 percent, according to the Institute’s report.

Murphy, a former Goldman Sachs President and Finance Chair of the Democratic National Committee, has also experienced a significant increase in disapproval ratings among political independents, from 33 percent to 43 percent.

Although Democrats largely approve of his performance, at 66 percent approval compared to just 9 percent disapproval, 25 percent say they still do not have an opinion of the governor.

“The most troubling result may be the large number of his fellow Democrats who continue to take a wait-and-see attitude,” said Patrick Murray, Director of the Monmouth University Polling Institute.

“It seems he has yet to score a defining win with his base despite spending a significant amount of energy pushing a progressive agenda,” he added.

Property taxes were found to be the most important issue facing New Jersey residents by far, with 45 percent of those surveyed identifying them as the state’s biggest problem.

Forty-eight percent of New Jerseyans believe that Murphy’s policies have hurt property tax payers, compared to just 6 percent who have said they believe those policies have helped them.

While the number of property tax payers who said that Murphy’s policies would hurt them slightly decreased to 48 percent from 51 percent in April 2018, the governor still saw the number of people who believed that his policies would help with their property taxes decrease to six percent, from its previous 17 percent last April.

Among the progressive measures which Murphy has successfully supported is increasing the minimum wage to \$15 per hour for non-agricultural workers by 2024, nearly doubling the state’s current minimum wage of \$8.85 an hour.

Despite 66 percent of New Jersey residents supporting the move, his other proposals to improve the economy have failed to win similar approval from voters.

The Institute’s poll found that, despite Murphy’s campaign promise to create an economy “that works for all New Jerseyans,” just 27 percent of voters believed that his policies have helped the poor, compared to 28 percent believing they were harmful and another 27 percent believing his policies have had no impact.

Meanwhile, just 18 percent of voters believe that his policies have been beneficial to the middle class, compared to 39 percent who say they have not and 27 percent saying there has been no impact.

“It’s not clear what plan, if any, Governor Murphy has for trying to lower property taxes,”

TREND: Registered voters	Feb. 2019	April 2018
	35%	34%
Approve		
Disapprove	45%	42%
(VOL) No opinion	20%	24%

IMAGE TAKEN from Monmouth University Polling Institute

Murphy experiences a rise in disapproval ratings among voters.

said Joseph Patten, Ph.D., an associate professor of political science. “This is the issue that is making a lot of New Jerseyans flee the state.”

During his gubernatorial campaign, Murphy stated that one of his biggest priorities was to significantly improve NJ Transit, which had suffered for years from bad performance rates and a lack of communication with commuters.

However, Murray’s poll found that transit riders’ confidence in Murphy has been cut in half, with just 14 percent saying Murphy has been helpful to commuters, compared to 28 percent that believed his policies would help them in the previous year.

Nick Boice, a junior political science student, also voiced his disagreement with Murphy’s handling of NJ Transit, saying, “Though it is a complicated issue, he should put more resources into fixing NJ Transit in a more efficient way.”

Another criticism of Murphy has been the concern that he will soon look to seek higher office, having agreed to become Chair of the Democratic Governors Association in 2020.

Public records also found that Murphy spent all or part of 100 days traveling outside of New

Jersey, from going on family vacations to attending various political events related to the Democratic Governors Association.

Overall, the poll found that 46 percent of New Jerseyans believed that Murphy was more concerned with his own political future than governing the state, compared to 33 percent who disagreed.

“It wasn’t too long ago that the state felt burned by his predecessor’s political ambitions,” Murray said. “That’s worth keeping in mind as Murphy’s national profile with the Democratic Governors Association is on the rise.”

Compared to Murphy, the New Jersey State Legislature is dealing with slightly lower approval ratings, with 37 percent and 42 percent disapproving of the Legislature’s performance, according to the same poll.

However, 54 percent of those surveyed said they had not heard anything about Murphy’s affairs with the Legislature.

“The governor’s uncertain relationship with legislative leadership has been the talk of Trenton insiders, but hasn’t made much of an impression among the broader public,” Murray noted in his report.

University Scholars Discuss Implications of National Emergency

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KAITLIN KORGESKI
STAFF WRITER

After a bill to fund border security passed both chambers of Congress with bipartisan support, President Donald Trump declared a national emergency in order to appropriate funding for a border wall along the U.S.-Mexican border, on Friday, Feb. 15.

Thousands of people rallied nationwide on Monday to protest the national emergency. More than 250 rallies were organized across the United States on President’s Day, with protesters carrying banners and placards that called the national emergency “fake.”

When Congress approved far less money for border security than he had sought, Trump last week announced that he would instead use the emergency declaration to stem illegal immigration, which he called “an invasion of our country.”

The declaration comes as a result of failed negotiations to secure funding, which led to a 35-day partial shutdown of the federal government, the longest in the nation’s history. During that time, Trump and Speaker of the House Nancy Pelosi (D-Calif) fought

over the conditions of building a physical barrier along the Southern border.

New Jersey and 15 other state Attorneys-General have already filed lawsuits against the president’s action, citing that his motion is an unconstitutional violation of the separation of powers and an illegal use of the federal National Emergencies Act. The move, if it survives pending legal challenges, would allow the president to access billions of dollars in federal emergency relief funds.

“There isn’t much that can be done by Congress, aside from passing a resolution that stops the emergency declaration,” said Stephen Chapman, Ph.D., an assistant professor of political science. Congressional Democrats have already begun drafting legislation to prohibit the allocation of funds from going through, with some support from Republicans. However, the president is likely to veto the bill once it gets to his desk.

With a (235-197) majority in the House, Democrats can easily overturn a presidential veto, but the Senate is unlikely to get the 67 votes needed to do the same.

Chapman said that the president’s decision to declare a national emergency at the border, in order to deliver on a key partisan proposal, sets

a precedent for future presidents to take advantage of as well. “This [decision] opens the door for future Democratic presidents to declare national emergencies for topics such as healthcare, climate change, and gun control,” he said.

Kelly Raptis, senior social work student, opposes the president’s decision to declare a national emergency, and a border wall entirely. “As a social worker, human rights and social justice are at the utmost importance when discussing at risk and vulnerable populations,” she said.

Raptis said that the construction of a nearly 2,000-mile-long border wall is a major violation to thousands of individuals and their human rights to seek asylum in the United States. “America is built off the idea that everyone has the right to life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness. The concept of this border wall goes against the very ideologies that this nation is built upon,” she said.

Sanjana Ragudaran, Ph.D., an assistant professor of social work, specializing in policy and advocacy, said that understanding the facts of the situation at the border is pivotal. “We are not at war and there is nothing out of the ordinary happening at the border. Border patrol apprehensions have decreased from 1.6 million in-

dividuals in 2000 to approximately 300,000 in 2017,” she said, citing reports from U.S. Customs and Border Protection.

“I think that Trump should build the wall because it limits the amount of illegal immigrants we have coming into our country. With the wall, it will serve as a security system to ensure that our country is safe, and we are not overpopulated,” said Celine Powell, a sophomore communication student and Vice President of the University’s Republican Club. “As a U.S. citizen, I believe that the wall is a great idea and it enforces control in America.”

Ragudaran stressed the importance of understanding the conditions in certain central American countries; many migrants flee violence to seek protection and work. “This is a humanitarian crisis and we are clearly failing from this perspective,” she said.

The largest number of undocumented immigrants are individuals who overstay after their visa has expired. So Ragudaran explained that establishing policies that allow for economic migrants to obtain temporary work visas, creating alternatives to detention and separation of families at the border, and establishing protocol for people applying for protection can be done in-

stead.

In addition to the humanitarian issues that could spur from declaring a national emergency, the economic impact it could have is also a factor. Money could be moved from the military budget, directing money that would otherwise be used in building housing on military bases for service members to construct the wall.

“We have such a substantial military budget, but we lack respect for our men and women in service and our veterans,” said Ragudaran. “Families are struggling financially, and we grossly lack services for our veterans.”

Because a wall along the U.S.-Mexico border was a promise that the president touted on his campaign trail in 2016, the outcome of his declaration will dramatically affect his approval ratings among his supporters, as well the upcoming presidential election in 2020, Chapman explained.

“This will be a regular talking point for Democrats opposition candidates in the 2020 election. And if it does motivate Republican primary challengers, it will also be a strong point for them as well,” he said. “They will characterize it as an autocratic-like strategy of sidestepping governmental institutions.”

Professors Host National Anthropology Day by Acknowledging Rise in Hate Crimes

LOWELL KELLY-GAMBLE
STAFF WRITER

Heidi Bludau, Ph.D., a lecturer of history and anthropology, Brooke Nappi, a professor of anthropology, and Michael Anderson-Phillips, Ph.D., a professor of communication, discussed the rise of hate crimes during National Anthropology Day celebrations in Edison Hall on Thursday, Feb. 13.

National Anthropology Day is a part of the American Anthropological Association's annual recognition of the discipline. Monmouth University is one of over 200 institutions nationwide to participate in this program.

Merriam-Webster defines a hate crime as any various crime (such as assault or defacement of property) when motivated by hostility to the victim as a member of a group (such as one based on color, creed, gender, or sexual orientation).

"When people aren't happy or disenfranchised, they're going to find a scape goat of some sort. I think we are seeing an increase lately because people feel in our current cultural and political climate that they're able to, they're free to," said Bludau.

She feels that as more people are seemingly getting away with acts of violence towards minority groups, this type of behavior becomes increasingly prevalent, and potentially the norm. "People are angry

and looking for something to lash out at. They're not happy in their lives and looking for belonging. They find unfortunately belonging in hate and hating others," Bludau explained.

Sierra Sorrentino, a junior anthropology student, said that she hoped to learn how to have productive discourse with people when they say ignorant or hateful words. "Arguing with someone can only get you so far before it turns into unintelligible yelling. I want to be able to remain calm and collected when people speak ignorance and hopefully by keeping my composure I can change their minds," she said.

"Hate crimes are on the rise. That says a lot about the state of our society. It's important to take on this issue because everyone deserves to feel safe in their own country. No one should feel unsafe because of what makes them themselves," said Sorrentino.

To the professors involved, the themes of both Black History Month and National Anthropology Day connected well to the discussion of hate crimes within the United States. "It was one of those things where we didn't think about it in relationship when we planned it with Black History Month. I think it's significant to be thinking about it. It's important to think about the history. Slavery was a hate crime, lynching was a major hate crime. We are see-

ing these sorts of things and symbols apart of hate today," said Bludau.

"Hate can [spread] even as many people ignore it. It is a good opportunity for our community to come together to talk about the challenges we face and learn how to solve problems in a pluralistic society," said Anderson-Phillips.

Brandon Hilf, a junior history and education student, and Sean Becker, a junior finance student experienced hate crime their freshman year in Elmwood Hall. "Our freshman year we both lived on the second floor together and it was a nightmare, but we did actually face some hate crimes being two Jewish kids. I felt really personally attacked," said Becker.

Hilf explained the incident, that someone had carved a swastika into the wall. "It makes you feel almost afraid to be there when you know somebody that's willing or capable of doing such awful things is right next door to you," Becker added.

Anderson-Phillips believes that an event like this might help students realize that they are not alone. He said, "If you have been insulated from these kinds of attacks, the program could let you better understand what is happening to others and how to be an ally. It's important for an event like this to take place at Monmouth because it is too easy for many in our community to think that things like

this don't happen close to us."

Bludau feels that the best way for resolving hate crimes is through educating. "Make sure people understand what even small symbols and acts of speech can mean and lead to. Just get people to know people from different groups. Getting to know people who are different from you is oftentimes the best way of recognizing they're just people, too. We think differently, might believe differently, be attracted to different people, but that does not make me any less human."

According to Bludau, when people create human connections, humans are less likely to hurt others. "If we make everyone part of the human group, we are less likely to hurt each other for just being

something else. This idea that just because someone else belongs to a different group, we can work on getting rid of that," she explains.

Sorrentino said that she believes the University is trying to bring people of all kinds together but would like to see more people actively participating in meeting different people and learning about their worldview.

The Department of History and Anthropology will continue celebrating National Anthropology Day throughout the week and will have a lecture on understanding race in President Donald Trump's America featuring Karanja Keita Carroll, Ph.D. an independent scholar at Baruch College, on Wednesday, Feb. 27.



PHOTO COURTESY of Monmouth University
Dr. Bludau was among the professors who organized the event.

Remembering Professor Stunkel

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friend and colleague Robert Rechnitz, Ph.D, former professor of American literature, which was produced in 2016. Last year, Stunkel's second play, *How to Live*, was given a staged reading at Two River Theater in Red Bank, NJ.

Stunkel had a short career as a modern dancer in his 20s, then served in Korea as a psychiatric social worker in a mobile army surgical hospital (MASH) unit, and later as a choreographer of United Service Organizations (USO) soldier shows.

DiMattio said, "The productivity didn't stop; he was either reading, writing, playing the piano, or listening to classical music. I never really knew him to say, 'I'm going to go home and take a nap,' I don't think it was part of what he was all about."

"Over the many years, it was very handy to have my own private Google search engine around the house," said Mary Carol. "Ken had such breadth of knowledge that he really did almost always know the answer and he could explain it quickly."

Along with Veit, DiMattio, and Mary Carol, Stunkel impacted the careers of many faculty members at Monmouth during his 47-year tenure.

Frederick McKittrick, Ph.D., a professor of history, said, "He'd be interested in

the contributions you were making to scholarship, and in a way, that would help you with your career. He was always very nice to me and always very supportive of me, so I'm grateful for that."

Thomas Pearson, Ph.D., a professor of history, said, "He was, with his wife Mary Carol, very generous in inviting my wife and me to his home and just making sure that I got off to a good start."

Pearson and Stunkel worked closely together for many years. Pearson served as Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs from 1992 to 2014 while Stunkel served as Dean of Art and Design from 1993 to 1996 and Dean of Humanities and Social Sciences from 1996 to 2001.

"He was in the best way, somebody who would push you to get better, so he was a big influence," said Pearson.

Pearson stated that Stunkel had a great impact on numerous aspects of Monmouth, including teaching and curriculum, building scholarship, and helping it become a university. Pearson along with then Monmouth College President, Rebecca Stafford, Ph.D., chose Stunkel to write the final application to the state for the college to become a teaching university in 1995.

"He was such a gifted writer, everybody who dealt with him knew that," said Pearson. "He just had a way with

words."

John Morano, a professor of journalism, said Stunkel was a big influence on him while he was writing his series, *The Morano Eco-Adventure Series*. "He was open-minded and expected everyone to produce scholarship, whatever it might be in their discipline," said Morano. "In my case, I was writing environmental novels and to my great satisfaction, Ken Stunkel embraced that and that actually encouraged me to do more and to do it better."

Stunkel is cited by his colleagues as being instrumental in creating the framework for general education curriculum requirements for students, including critical discourse and interdisciplinary courses.

"I think that reflected his essence as an academic, that is the conviction that an educated person should know about literature, the arts, and the sciences," said McKittrick. "Somebody like him would never say, 'I'm not a science person or I'm not a math person.'"

"He was a force of nature, a good friend, and a great colleague," said Pearson. "We as a university, are in the place we're in today, to a significant degree, because of all he did."

A memorial celebration for Stunkel's life will be held in Wilson Hall on April 8, from 3 p.m. to 5 p.m. In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to Monmouth University or Two River Theater.

Fumes in Tinton Falls

MEGAN RUGGLES
ASSISTANT NEWS EDITOR

An ongoing odor problem caused by hydrogen sulfide emissions at the Tinton Falls Reclamation Center, affecting students who live and commute to the area.

At a meeting of the governing body on Feb. 5, Tinton Falls Borough Council President Gary Baldwin said, "[Officials] are saying to the Monmouth County Reclamation Center and the people who oversee it that they didn't do their job. They admitted it." The individuals who oversee the landfill have accepted responsibility for the odor. The trash was not treated properly, which resulted in hydrogen sulfide emissions.

Ivan Gepner, Ph.D., an associate professor of biology, said that the odor should not have adverse health effects on the surrounding population.

Still, state Senator Vin Gopal, who represents Tinton Falls in the 11th Legislative District, organized a Town Hall last month for residents in the area to speak about their concerns regarding the odor. He later issued a statement that the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection will continue to conduct tests of hydrogen sulfide emissions at the reclamation center to ensure the levels remain below the regulatory limit.

"From speaking with residents, I understand the impact the odor is having on their lives," said Gopal. "I will do everything I can to push for prog-

ress and keep residents updated as we work to resolve this issue."

Owen Harper, a freshman criminal justice student, explained that the Monmouth University club hockey team plays in the area. "It smells exactly like sewage every time we drive down there, it's really unpleasant and gross," he said.

Brittany Macaluso, a sophomore social work student who was golfing near Tinton Falls last Saturday, described the odor as a mixture of garbage and rotten eggs and questions if the smell could potentially spread to the University.

An incinerator was considered in the 1990s, but the idea was rejected. However, the persistent odor has caused the idea to resurface. At a public meeting last month, residents suggested the use of incinerators to burn garbage.

Jeanine Cava, an adjunct professor of chemistry and physics, said that incineration is not a preferred method of waste removal. She does not know the precise toxicity level associated with the process, but it surprises her that residents consider it to be a viable option.

Greg Moehring, Ph.D., an associate professor of chemistry, said that the environmental ramifications of incineration when done properly, does not release many contaminants into the air. However, he explained that if the combustion process is not properly run, there runs the risk of putting less beneficial molecules into the air, like carbon monoxide.

Professor Spotlight on Matthew S. Lifson

EMILY CONDRON
STAFF WRITER

At Monmouth there are an abundance of amazing professors that love what they do and provide students with classes where they enjoy learning. Matthew S. Lifson, an instructor of business, falls under that category for many reasons. At Monmouth, Lifson teaches macroeconomics, microeconomics, and finance.

Before starting his career as a professor, Lifson graduated with a Masters in Business Administration in International Finance from St. John's University. After all educational endeavors, Lifson found his way into the job of a Foreign Exchange Trader at multiple companies including Chase Manhattan Bank, Merrill Lynch International Bank, and PNC Bank. Lifson was the Chief Foreign Exchange Dealer for PNC Bank. He also served as the President of the United States Foreign Exchange Association from 1994 to 1997.

While at PNC, Lifson taught at Duquesne University, University of Pittsburgh and St. Vincent's College, which began his path into education. Throughout his time at the trading institutions, Lifson had always been involved in seminars and guest lecturing, which peaked his interest.

Teaching is something that Lifson clearly loves doing. "I truly enjoy the interactions that I have with my students,"

he said. When in class, Lifson is lively and fully interactive, engaging his students into being truly interested in the subject at hand. This is something that puts Lifson above some other professors because even if the class is a general education class, students will always find a way to be excited and happy to be in class.

His classes have a policy where attendance is not necessarily required, but if you do not show up and miss material for the exam, Lifson will only grade what he is given. This, however, does not matter to the vast majority of his students because each class is usually filled.

"Professor Lifson is one of, if not the best, professor I have taken at Monmouth throughout my time here. He's to the point and wants you to succeed. He gives you a taste of how it is in the working world with deadlines and personal stories," said GraceAnn McCann, a senior finance student. "His office is always open if I have any questions. You can tell he has passion and loves his field of work and only wants to pass down his knowledge to his students."

Christine Kelly, a sophomore business student, had a similar reaction to Lifson. To describe her experience in Lifson's class, Kelly said, "Professor Lifson relates every topic the course covers to students' everyday experiences and interactions. By choosing to teach his students this way,

he makes learning easier and effortless!"

During classes, Professor Lifson always greets students with a smile and makes sure to show he cares for their success. Not only does he relate material to his students' lives, he also explains it through his own.

For example, Lifson loves his grandchildren and will often compare his experiences with them to his students. Through his teaching, Professor Lifson has found that he has been more interested in his grandchildren's education as well. "I have taken a much larger role in trying to mentor them in their future," he said.

Lifson has many parts of his job at Monmouth that he enjoys greatly, but his favorite would be "helping students progress through their college experience. When students enter the university, they are still 'children' fresh out of high school. I believe it is our responsibility to mold them into 'adults' and prepare them for the post-college experience. It is one thing to educate, but we must teach our students as well," Lifson said.

Another way that Lifson goes above and beyond is by always helping a student in need. You did not understand something in class? Shoot Lifson an email and he will arrange a meeting to help you. Do you want to talk about your future goals? Go by his office and talk to him because his door is always open.

Overall, Lifson's personable personality and love for passing on his knowledge keeps his students always wanting to come back for guidance. On the first day of one of his macroeconomic classes, his first words were, "Wow, I see many of you didn't get enough of me in 201."

Even with a subject that

many may not find interesting or worth their time, Lifson finds a way to make every student a part of the class and conversation.

Thank you for everything you do, Professor Lifson. You are truly an outstanding professor and many of the students here at Monmouth love having you in class!



PHOTO COURTESY of Matthew S. Lifson

Matthew S. Lifson is an instructor of business at Monmouth, and his classes have been a positive part of college for many of his students.

Tips for Planning a Safe and Affordable Spring Break

LOWELL KELLY-GAMBLE
STAFF WRITER

As a college student, there is no better feeling than when you have no obligation of spending time on your studies. Sometimes students need some time off to replenish their minds away from their vast amount of coursework. One of these times when students have that luxury is during

spring break. The only task to figure out it is what you are going to do during this time.

"The value of vacation depends on how you want to define it. Part of how I define vacation is just to recharge, get away, and relax. Then, there are vacations where I personally enjoy the sightseeing and tourist attractions," said Claude Taylor, Advisor-in-Res-

idence for Academic Transition and Inclusion.

As a way of celebrating Black History Month, Taylor took a mini vacation by going to Washington, D.C. and visiting The National Museum of African American History and Culture. Taylor was shocked about the size and appearance of the museum. "I did a whole weekend in D.C. seeing the museum for the

second time and still didn't finish it. This is a destination vacation because it can be two days or five days. Either way, you're going to experience something great," said Taylor.

Taylor believes that doing your research is important. "The first part of planning is just thinking about what do. Is it a destination, and where do you want to go to relax if it is a relaxation vacation? If prices initiate, you need to shop around to see what the best deal is based on your budget," said Taylor.

"Then, spend time online just looking at reviews from sites and figuring out what place would be the best based on your satisfaction. I'm old school and go to AAA to get a tourism book about places I want to go. Sometimes online is too much. I just grab a book to flip through and start out my search," Taylor added.

However, students may feel that online sites are an advantage. "If you want to plan a safe and affordable trip, first of all you need to obviously research and make sure you're getting the best deal for the flight. There are so many different websites you can use to compare prices for locations and hotels," said Samer Hasan, a junior economics and finance student.

"All of it can be done online, you just have to pay attention to what you're doing. Sometimes all-inclusive aren't cheaper, but on the other hand sometimes they are worth it. As far as safety, you can see the reviews people post and base it off of that,"

Hasan continued.

Spring break is a time for many college students to experience a celebration of all the hard-work they have done all year. Each collegiate student has a duty to achieve the highest academic accomplishments to the best of their ability. On top of the standard stress, collegiate athletes are expected to perform well academically and athletically. In order for them to experience the ultimate level of success, spring break allows their bodies to get some needed rest.

"It gives you time to restart your mindset. For football, it allows my body to come in healthier and reenergized for spring football," said Adam Kakar, a junior communication student and Monmouth football player.

Taylor can relate to this as well, based on being a former football player at West Chester University. He received his bachelor's in speech communication and a master's in communication from West Chester, as well as a doctorate in media studies/communication from Rutgers University.

"Your time is so scheduled when you are a student athlete that you have to deliberately and intentionally set aside time to not be doing anything. What's important about vacation as a student athlete is that it's for your overall well-being. You have to find ways to slow down and clear your head so that when you come back, you're really ready to be the best version of yourself," Taylor said.



PHOTO COURTESY of Christi Ruggiero

Planning a safe and affordable spring break trip is easier than you think. Paradise is never too far when there are plenty of online resources to help you find your dream destination.

Healthy Alternatives to Drinking Coffee

COLLEEN MORETTI
STAFF WRITER

“Don’t talk to me unless I’ve had my morning coffee.” That’s a term you probably hear a lot. Coffee lovers are their own club, exclusive and you’re either a part of it or not.

Unfortunately, coffee is not the healthiest drink for you.

Coffee becomes an addiction, which means once you stop drinking it you go through withdrawals, and that’s not good. It’s also unhealthy to rely on it all of the time instead of your body’s natural source of energy.

A junior communications student, Shannon Oswald, said, “I don’t drink coffee but as a source of energy I feel it is more important to eat a good breakfast.”

Eating a well-balanced, healthy breakfast can keep you energized throughout your day, and unlike coffee, you won’t shut down.

One example of an easy and healthy breakfast is avocado toast on grain bread with a cup of water or orange juice.

Eating healthy snacks throughout the day can keep you full and energized.

That’s one of the problems with coffee, when someone has a cup, they crash a few hours after and need more.

When you have a good breakfast you don’t need anything else until your next meal.

Madison Uurarro, a junior social work student, said, “I drink passion tea with sweetener in it. It gives me enough energy and is also super refreshing.”

Passion tea or any type of tea

is a great alternative to coffee.

Coffee can often make you so energized you jitter or shake, when it comes to tea it will keep you calm and if you a sugar awake for a long night of studying.

If you do drink coffee, one problem could be the sugar rush that you feel.

If you’re like your peers, you may add mocha, caramel, cream, and sugar. Not only are you asking for a lot more calories, but you’re also asking for the effects to wear off sooner than later.

Another great alternative to coffee is water, specifically coconut water. Coconut water is a healthy drink that is quickly growing in trend.

People are drinking it because of the popularity that it is gaining, but there is actually a lot of great benefits to it. It’s naturally sweet, so there is no need to add anything artificial to it.

It also contains a lot of enzymes and rehydrating electrolytes, which keeps you energized making it a healthier choice than coffee.

If you’re looking for a way to start your day with energy, but don’t want to drink coffee, a great drink to have is water with lemon.

Water is the best thing for you, and the lemon adds lots of antioxidants that keep you healthy and energized.

Vitamin C plays a big role in your immune system, and is also great for clearing up your skin, and who doesn’t love that. Drinking juices or water can allow your body to get what it needs.

Another option to spice up your water is to add fruit to it. Cucumbers, mint, berries, and lemons, are all great ingredients to flavor up your water and keep you energized.

Alexis Nulle, a Specialist Professor, of Communication and Co-Advisor, of the university’s Public Relations Student Society of America (PRSSA) chapter, said, “I have looked into alternatives to limit my daily caffeine intake and some experts recommend good old sparkling water, especially if you’re not a fan of plain water.”

Sparkling water is a great alternative to coffee, it keeps you hydrated and isn’t as boring as plain water.

Nulle added, “While it’s not the most exciting beverage to some sparkling water can be a refreshing alternative to coffee. Especially when it’s flavored with natural, sugar-free, fruit extracts, it can be both delicious and hydrating.”

Although coffee seems like a great idea to wake you up in the morning or keep you up writing a paper, it’s not the healthiest choice for you.

One simple way to stay energized is to make sure you’re getting enough sleep per night.

Water, teas, and even just a good meal can do the same if not better things than coffee.

Chewing gum is also an alternative because unlike many energy drinks, such as Red Bull, it does not come with all of the calories and sugar.

Hopefully you can get off your coffee addiction and learn these alternative tricks to keep energized.



PHOTO COURTESY of Sabrina Carulli

When going to a coffee shop, you may have the “coffee rules” mentality, but next time try some tea to see how it can keep you energized.



PHOTO COURTESY of Colleen Moretti

When making breakfast, be sure to include a healthy item because it will leave you feeling great and it can help boost your energy.

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Editors Discuss Plagiarism

EDITORIAL STAFF

Jill Abramson is most known for being the first female Executive Editor at the New York Times, one of the most

Recently, Abramson has been accused of plagiarizing sections of her new book, Merchants of Truth.

The editors of The Outlook were asked what this situation meant for journalists as well as college students who are constantly told not to plagiarize. Most editors agreed that this

“I think those who subscribe to the idea of ‘fake news’ will certainly take this situation as confirmation to their own biases, but it certainly does not make journalism look any worse to the general public,” added the editor.

Nonetheless, one editor noted, “We have to remember that the New York Times alongside the Washington Post were instrumental in the exposure of the Pentagon Papers under Nixon, among many other journalistic triumphs. With yellow

experience, it’s hard to imagine her slip like this,” said an editor.

“She has so much experience that it seems unlikely that she would let something like plagiarism just slip by. I think she didn’t think that she’d be caught, and now is just looking for an explanation to justify,” one editor said.

Universities and news institutions hold their students, faculty, and journalists to high standards when it comes to plagiarism. At the beginning of each semester, professors at Monmouth review

“In its ranking for April, *Fox News* climbed from third place to first with more than 30 million engagements, while the previous leader *CNN* leader dropped to second with 24 million. *The Daily Mail* rose to fourth from seventh and a site called Daily Wire, which specializes in conservative news, climbed to eighth with 14 million engagements.”

-MATTHEW INGRAM FOR COLUMBIA JOURNALISM REVIEW IN 2018

“The metrics company, which measured news outlets by likes, comments, reactions, and shares, ranked *Fox News* in first place in April 2018, with more than 30 million engagements. London’s *Daily Mail* rose to fourth from seventh, and a site called *Daily Wire*, which specialized in conservative news, climbed to eighth with 14 million engagements.”

-JILL ABRAMSON, P. 428-429 *MERCHANTS OF TRUTH*

accusation will be unfavorable towards journalism.

“When such a notable person gets accused of plagiarism, it will have a negative effect on journalism regardless if it’s true or not,” said one editor.

“It’s ironic how The Merchants of Truth, discusses the ‘fight for facts,’ yet it has traces of plagiarism. This book adds fuel to the fire for those who dub mainstream media outlets as fake news,” said another editor.

“Journalism is about writing the truth and the fact this situation has so many questions left unanswered, it definitely gives the industry a bad look,” an editor said.

One editor did not feel that the accusation would have an immense impact on journalism, stating, “I don’t think her one incident speaks for all journalists.”

journalism being a huge issue the world faces, either through the intent of other organizations’ to discredit or through the social media grapevine, the values of journalism are more important than ever.”

Abramson claims that she gave credit where credit was due, even if it was just in the footnotes of the book. She defended herself by saying that she made mistakes, but that it was not plagiarism. All the editors agreed that someone should have noticed these “mistakes” before the book was published. Many editors do not believe her excuse that it was just an honest mistake. The similarities were too significant.

“If some guy on Twitter was able to point out each example of plagiarism, shouldn’t editors at a publisher be able to point it out quicker? Considering her

the University’s plagiarism policies. Although it may seem redundant to discuss every semester, this accusation against Abramson shows that plagiarism should be taken seriously.

“Journalism is about spreading as much of the truth as possible. No story is going to be 100 percent accurate, but journalists expect to come as close to the truth as possible,” said one editor.

“I believe if the intent can be proven, not just the discovery of the content, but the actual proof of theft of intellectual property is grounds for expulsion,” added another editor.

“This seriousness is necessary because intellectual property needs to be protected. If you steal material from someone else, you’re committing a crime just like anything else,” said an editor.

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The Jumpsuit Project: Life After Incarceration

KRYSTA DONNELLY
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

We are all given a name at birth. Sherrill Rolland had to fight to get his name back. This is his journey. This is his remarkable story that I had the opportunity to witness and learn from, in more ways than one.

On Jan. 29, the University hosted a visit with Rolland, a man who spent ten months in prison for someone else’s mistake. Lies, trust issues, openness towards individuals, proximity issues, and new habits throughout a day-to-day basis were just some new obstacles Rolland has said he faced. I could not even imagine.

In 2013, Rolland was attending graduate classes when a warrant was set out for his arrest in Washington, D.C. Rolland explained that for nine months he fought to prove his innocence.

In late October, his trial was conducted and ultimately resulted in him being found guilty, incarcerating him for a year and thirty days. With good behavior he was released after ten months. He later asked for a retrial, and faced a new challenge ahead of him.

Now he has a record. A record that should have been someone else’s consequence. He now had to explain himself. Rolland said, “It is an experience I cannot depress or hide...I then accepted this way of my life, and these are the hurdles I will face with a record.”

Even after exonerating his name, being granted a bill of innocence, obstacles were still present.

We all have qualities and hobbies that we are passionate about. Being the expressive and independent person I am, I don’t even want to think about having that right taken away. Rolland’s passion was art.

Rolland said that being incarcerated restricted his value system. He felt as if he no longer had “a sense of safety on campus” and questioned if he “should even be [t]here.”

Rolland chose to look at his campus as his previous year of life. He looked at the campus as the jail itself, the Art Building as his cell and the studio as his block. But most significantly, Rolland chose to wear his orange jumpsuit around campus. Feeding off of reactions, saying, “It’s just enough for people to question their space with me in it.”

We all have a voice, that is meant to be heard, right? Rolland no longer wanted his voice taken away.

He wanted to put the question out into the world of why, when a certain article of clothing is worn, reactions and opinions differ? He encouraged those involved, those around him, seeing him in the orange jumpsuit to take pictures and post. By giving himself back his name, rather than the “number he had become”, he had set out to make a change.

The idea of life being taken away, undeserved consequences being thrust upon a victim, is

unimaginable. Rolland speaks of the way incarceration has changed his outlook on several aspects of life, in and out of prison. Regarding his cell mates and friends, he said, “I learned how to survive jail through them ... I was judging them wrong.”

He explained they all have stories, just like the rest of us. And just like he said himself, “I did have the opportunity to never speak about this.” This opened my eyes to the ignorance of stereotypes so many still possess. Judgment is not necessary.

Rolland is aware that missed time cannot be repaid. It is evident that we don’t have time machines. That every mistake cannot just be fixed by an apology. But, he believes that he is never alone, and that God is always with him. I can relate to his view, similarly, when hardships are met, I believe there is someone standing next to me, or watching over, even in the worst of times.

Rolland asked the audience many questions, which made individuals put themselves in his shoes. He ended the visit with saying, “We can come from the same neighborhood, but you wear the blue suit, and I wear the orange one.”

Out of the entire two hour visit, that line spoke volumes to me. The journey that this man was thrown into at such a young age is impossible not to sympathize with, but also incredibly inspired by. I yearn to make a remote change one day, compared to the one he has.

The Power of Boycotting

SCHARINA BENCOSME
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

We’ve all learned that boycotting is a peaceful alternative to violent protesting, meant to have the same memorable, change-inducing impact violence has, but without the violence. Peaceful protests are what individuals have been practicing in order to compromise civil issues without the unnecessary brutality. It has been used in circumstances that most of us have been taught during class, such as the Montgomery Bus Boycott which further propelled the movement against segregation, or the refusal to purchase British goods during the American Revolution.

We can even recall boycotting moments in more modern times, but, how efficient actually is boycotting?

Throughout history we see the effects of these boycotts, like with the Montgomery Bus Boycott, which started in December of 1955, and continued on until December of 1956, but finally came to resolution in November 1956. During this time, Rosa Parks was arrested, Claudette Colvin was arrested, and Martin Luther King, Jr., emerged; all which had to occur in order to emphasize and make it nationally clear the intentions of this protest. Case in point, boycotts can be efficient in their purpose, but the magnitude in the efforts dedicated to the cause determines the impact of said boycott.

After all, how strong is an argument without the support of those who benefit from it?

In 2016, Colin Kaepernick knelt during the American national anthem, a clear message of his protest and fight against the still

existing racism in America, and police brutality. Nike used his name to be the face of a campaign, for which those who protest Kaepernick’s stance boycotted Nike products and even set fire to them. Even President of the United States Donald Trump said that those who protest the national anthem should be fired from ever playing again in the NFL.

The NFL and many of the public reacted poorly to his stance against racial injustice, which came to the boycott of the Super Bowl by various celebrities such as Rihanna, Jay Z, Cardi B, and Michael B Jordan in support and solidarity to Kaepernick. However, Maroon 5 performed during halftime, a performance described as “messy” (so much so it became a viral meme) and some claimed Adam Levine looked like a man “who sold his soul.” Maroon 5 and Travis Scott’s decision to perform during halftime is where I believe the boycott failed to catch the momentum it could have.

Had Maroon 5 and Travis Scott stood in solidarity of the boycott as did other celebrities, the purpose of the boycott itself could’ve become a bigger sensation within the media. As I said, what is an argument without the support of those who it benefits?

Nonetheless, all boycotts take their time to have the necessary impact needed to reach an end goal, and with unison and consistency, it proves to be efficient. The movement against racial injustice continues on in many forms of peaceful protest, including boycotting, and peaceful protests continue to aid the resolutions of our and many other countries’ revolutionary movements.



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Marked, Unmarked, Remembered:

A Geography Of American History Photographs By Andrew Lichtenstein

GABRIELLA PISACANEI
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

The Ice House Gallery on campus, is a historical site that students walk past every day without ever knowing its significance in the lives of those who used to live in Wilson Hall before it became the University we now all call home.

This is what makes it the perfect place for Andrew Lichtenstein's photography collection, *Marked, Unmarked, Remembered: A Geography of American Memory* to reside (from now until March 22).

This Gallery is a culmination of many years' worth of photos taken in historical locations around the country, that aren't often acknowledged for their significant places in history; but that's not the only thing connecting these places.

Upon asking Lichtenstein how he found these locations, he

shared the deeper connection of all the photos, saying, "it was all history that was important to me. So history that I was particularly interested in was the history of struggle and the history for the struggle for civil rights in this country."

Lichtenstein began his career in photography while living in the east village of New York City several years ago, where he witnessed a modern struggle for civil rights.

What he's seen provoked him to combat the injustice through documenting everything that went on.

The artist spoke on the event with, "When I was living in the East Village, they closed the park to the homeless. Then, I watched them take all the homeless people's belongings and throw them in the trash truck."

According to a friend of his and observer of the gallery, it was Thomson Square Park.



IMAGE TAKEN BY Nicole Riddle
a photograph titled "Reading of Emancipation," displayed above.

Students can check out Lichtenstein's photos,

Lichtenstein continued, "I just felt that that was wrong; so all my friends and neighbors were throwing bricks and rocks at the police, and then they were getting beat up. [However,] I didn't want to get beat up. [Then,] I quickly figured out if I brought a camera, I could participate, but not really suffer the consequences."

In doing this, Lichtenstein was one of the sole people to capture a major violation of human decency and civil rights, which was scarcely publicized, but incredibly significant in the lives of those involved in the incident.

These photos became a corner stone to the collection that grew in the years after, where he captured locations that reflected the same history of being minimally acknowledged but deeply significant moments in time.

The most shocking of which is a portrait of an African American choir boy preparing for mass in the Emanuel AME Church in Charleston, S.C.

The photo radiates a calm and faithful energy, as if you could feel the people waiting in pews and hear the organ just about to play.

In the photo, the boy is in a sanctuary that was designed by the son of Denmark Vesey, an ex-slave who purchased his own freedom and organized what would have been the largest slave rebellion in U.S. history.

After locals harassed African American church members, Vesey planned the rebellion for July 14, 1884 by seizing ships to sale to the liberated islands.

But after being betrayed by two of the slaves he was trying to emancipate, the rebellion stopped before it began by locals burning down the Emanuel Church and executing thirty-five accused rebels including Vesey.

After this, Vesey's son, Robert Vesey (who had survived), rebuilt the church as it stands today.

However, this is also this same church that three years after this photo was taken, a

white supremacist entered the church and killed the pastor and eight other African American parishioners in a devastating mass shooting.

On speaking about this photo, Lichtenstein said, "I think that [photo] is such a [significant] story because I think we were both gravitated to the same place for it's historical importance for very different reasons."

The artist turned this photo into not only a manifestation of how the church was born out of horrible crimes of racism and hate, but also a reminder that these concepts are still present threats today.

This photo is just one of dozens within the collection, all of which have deep and significant stories to accompany them.

The collection does an excellent job of presenting not only a display of great photography; but also exhibiting how each photo represents that location's role in the still unraveling battle for civil rights in America.

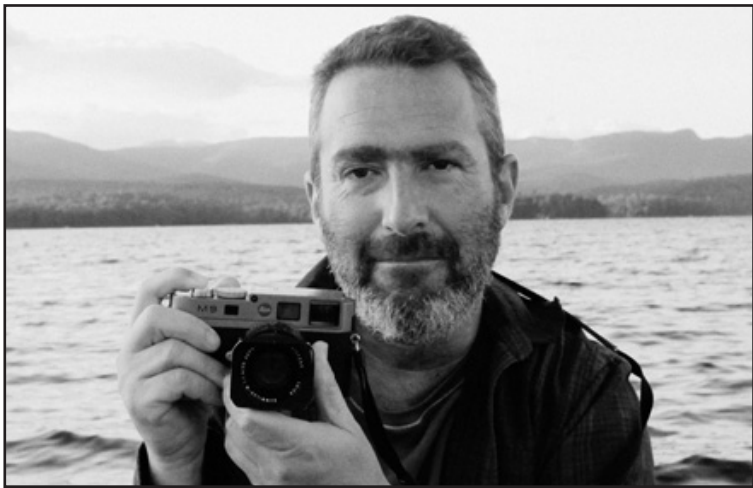


IMAGE TAKEN FROM Facing Change | Documenting America
Photographer Andrew Lichtenstein's work is currently displayed at the Ice House Gallery.

Has Liam Neeson's Career *Taken* a Wrong Turn?

MATTHEW SHAFFER
STAFF WRITER

Earlier this month while on a promotional tour for his new film *Cold Pursuit*, Liam Neeson made some staggering comments about an incident that took place nearly 40 years ago.

In an interview with *The Independent*, Neeson recalled a time where he discovered that his close friend was raped.

The only information about the assailant was that he was a black man.

As a result, in a blind rage, the action star admitted that he wanted to seek out revenge and "[...] hope some 'black bastard' would come out of a pub and have a go at me about something, you know? So that I could... kill him."

Neeson talked about this time in his life and continued in the interview to display great remorse for those feelings he once had, but that isn't the conventional issue with the comments made.

On one hand, it's an appalling thing to reveal and it's probably good that Neeson showed regret.

After all, he spoke truthfully and that should count for something, but still, Neeson shouldn't come across as a hero in this story.

Neeson's comments reflect a type of behavior that's so incredibly despicable and something that still



IMAGE TAKEN FROM LA LIVE
Liam Neeson made a lot of appearances to clear up his story. The actor had an interview with *Good Morning America* on Feb. 5.

unfortunately exists in our society.

There are some people who will claim racism isn't a major issue in our country—or just in general—but comments like this show there's still a root of hate that exists.

While Neeson may be reformed, who is to say that there are others who still hold onto this belief?

Walter Greason, Ph.D., an associate professor and Chair of the Department of Educational Counseling and Leadership at thinks Neeson's comments are reflective of the continuing chasm due to the racism in our world today. "Until universities and media organizations take the depth of the hatred against black people worldwide seriously, these fantasies, and

the action they inspire, will persist," said Greason.

Making the rounds on a promotional tour to come forward with this admission seems like just a means for Neeson to come to terms with his own regret.

And again, looking at this apology should seem like a good thing.

When people are hurtful and racist in their lives, the end goal is that they reform those beliefs and learn from their mistakes.

Neeson has essentially done that, but the comments he made were not correct.

It's a bit dangerous to just let bygones be bygones with just a public apology.

If every hateful person addressed the public and admitted their racist beliefs

and said 'I'm different now and I regret saying those things,' there would be no way to know if it is actually true.

Greason believes that Neeson could have talked about his rage appropriately without bringing the racial elements into his story. "Once he started down that path," said Greason, "he needed much more knowledge than he disclosed."

Changed behavior and literal action are what shows that you are a reformed person, that you can make actual changes to your life to back up those claims.

I don't want to infer that I think Neeson is lying and that he isn't actually a better person, he very well may be.

The conventional problem here is that he shouldn't be getting a pass for making these

comments and they deserve closer attention.

His thoughts that he revealed in interviews deserve to be inspected and allow for discourse because it is such an issue in today's world.

The backlash over these comments weren't incredibly drastic.

His red carpet premiere of his movie was cancelled and Neeson has received criticism on social media and with other news outlets.

However, it looks like the actor may still have the opportunity to work again, which isn't really a major concern, but should at least be mentioned. Neeson's old beliefs were incredibly vile and something that probably should have been left unsaid to the public.

The tricky part about this whole thing is that Neeson has done right in reforming his thoughts and behaviors, but he shouldn't be using this story as a way to learn a lesson.

The actor should be working to change his real life actions and show support for minorities and not use this story as way to pat himself on the back for changing.

This isn't something that should be swept under the rug or thrown to the side.

Continued discussion will make everyone involved better off than they were before, both the public and Neeson.

Your Guide to The Oscars

Commentary, Nominees, Picks, and Predictions

MARK MARRONE
ENTERTAINMENT EDITOR

It's that time of the year where film junkies make their picks, girls go crazy over Twitter to check out the best dresses on the red carpet, and people pass out on their couches when the ceremony runs past midnight.

Yes, the center of the universe will revolve around the 91st Academy Awards at the Dolby Theater in Los Angeles where all the stars will be under one roof this Sunday.

Looking back, last year's Oscars had its fair share of controversy.

The ceremony took place at a time where the #MeToo Movement was gaining momentum and many people in Hollywood were ousted.

A lot of actresses who attended last year's Oscars wore black in solidarity with those who were victims of sexual harassment in the workplace.

On the other hand, actors wore pins that read "Time's Up," which was in support of the foundation that pays for the legal defense of those who were sexually harassed in the workplace.

While it looked like everyone was in unison on the red carpet, it was a different vibe inside the Dolby Theater, where there were controversial wins.

NBA legend Kobe Bryant won an Oscar for Best Animated Short, but the player was at the center of a sexual assault case in 2003.

Also, Gary Oldman, who won Best Actor for his role as Winston Churchill in *Darkest Hour*, was accused of sexual assault from his ex-wife in a case from 2001.

In wake of #MeToo's rip through Hollywood, maybe it wasn't the best decision for the Academy to award such individuals.

Fast forward to this Sunday and there is even more controversy revolving around this year's Oscars.

On Dec. 4, Kevin Hart announced on Instagram that he would be hosting this year's ceremony.

Then, on Dec. 6, Hart's unearthed homophobic tweets from nearly ten years ago went viral and many called on the comedian to step down.

It didn't take long for Hart to get the message because the next day, on Dec. 7, the comedian announced on Twitter that he would step down as the ceremony's host.

It's been over two months since the controversy swirled through Hollywood, yet the Academy never found a replacement for Hart.

Considering how much

talent there is in Hollywood, it's shocking that the Academy didn't find a replacement for one of the year's biggest events.

I would've loved to see The Rock host, but the highest paid actor in Hollywood took to Twitter on Feb. 6 to say that he was too busy shooting the next *Jumanji* sequel to put the effort in.

Also, it would be redundant for the host to be someone like Jimmy Kimmel or Billy Crystal again.

Although there won't be a host this year, it could be a good thing.

Maybe without a host, we can finally get through the ceremony without it feeling like an eternity.

Last year's Oscars were nearly four hours, which seems to be the benchmark for every year.

In an attempt to shorten that run time, the Academy accounced in early February that they would not show the live results of four categories.

Through commercial breaks, the awards for cinematography, film editing, live-action shorts and makeup and hairstyling were to be distributed.

Towards the end of the ceremony, the Academy was supposed to rebroadcast the winners accepting their awards.

This decision was met with immediate blowback from Hollywood and film purists alike.

A ton of actors, producers, cinematographers, and everyone in between contributed their name to an open letter to the Academy, where they referred to the move as, "an insult."

Prominent figures in Hollywood like Martin Scorsese, Brad Pitt, and Spike Lee felt that the winners of those categories shouldn't be pushed aside during the commercial breaks.

Instead, they deserved their airtime as much as any other category.

The Academy felt the pinch from Hollywood on this decision. As a result, last Friday, Feb. 15, the Academy reversed their choice by allowing all categories to receive their awards live.

For the betterment of the many average fans watching at home and for the sake of ratings, the Academy's initial decision to rebroadcast the results of minor categories later in the ceremony would have made sense.

Of course those behind the scenes deserve their recognition (which they would have received at some point in the broadcast), but nobody is on the edge of their seat for who will win makeup and hairstyling.

Leading up to Sunday's ceremony, the Academy also faced backlash for the creation of a new category: "Best Popular Film."

In an attempt to boost ratings, the Academy initially planned for this year's Oscars to award a blockbuster film for its achievement in popularity.

Many journalists and members of the Academy were upset at the decision because they didn't know what exactly would constitute a "popular film."

They also felt the move was more of a gimmick for ratings than it was to award an actual achievement in film.

In response to criticism, Academy President John Bailey announced that the category would not happen at this year's ceremony, but the idea would be improved upon for a future date.

The Academy has been scrambling to make changes to improve viewership because last year's ratings reached an all time low of 26.5 million viewers, 20 percent fewer than 2017.

It seems that most of the decisions made by the Academy leading up to this year's Oscars have been weak.

The list of Best Picture nominees are weak too, with only four out of the eight scoring a three or higher on my scale out of four.

Although each category this year doesn't have a clear favorite, here are my picks and predictions for who will take home the Oscars:

- Best Picture
- Black Panther
BlackKkKlansman
Bohemian Rhapsody
The Favorite
Green Book
Roma
A Star is Born
Vice
- My Pick: BlackKkKlansman
Prediction: Roma
- While *Roma's* heart is in the right place, the film is much too boring to get behind. Like Kacey Musgraves sings, I'm alright with a slow burn, but that movie nearly knocked me out.
- On the other hand, Spike Lee's *BlackKkKlansman* is the clear favorite.
- The director's latest joint was filled with action, laughs, and a powerful message as it followed the incredible true story of black police officer Ron Stallworth's attempt to infiltrate the KKK in the early 1970s.
- Best Actor
- Christian Bale, *Vice*
Bradley Cooper, *A Star Is Born*
Willem Dafoe, *At Eternity's Gate*
Rami Malek, *Bohemian*



IMAGE TAKEN FROM thehollywoodreporter.com

Spike Lee's *BlackKkKlansman* is nominated for six Oscars, including Best Picture and Best Director. The film is good enough to win in these categories, but the awards will likely go to *Roma*.



IMAGE TAKEN FROM pagesix.com

Green Book's Mahershala Ali will most likely win Best Supporting Actor for his role as pianist Don Shirley.

- Rhapsody
Viggo Mortensen, *Green Book*
- Pick: Christian Bale
Prediction: Rami Malek
- Malek's interpretation of Freddie Mercury was well received, but I was on the fence.
- The actor looked like Mercury with the huge overbite and perfectly sized mustache, but *Bohemian Rhapsody* didn't test the boundaries of Malek.
- We never got to see an ailing Mercury, despite the music legend's well known battle with drug addiction and AIDS.
- Contrarily, Bale gave everything he had to play Vice President Dick Cheney in *Vice*.
- Bale looked like he had ten Whoppers a day to stay in the VP's shape. Plus, whenever he spoke, it felt like crows would fly into the dark sky, just the same as Cheney.
- Best Actress
- Yalitza Aparicio, *Roma*
Glenn Close, *The Wife*
Olivia Colman, *The Favourite*
Lady Gaga, *A Star Is Born*
Melissa McCarthy, *Can You Ever Forgive Me?*
- Pick: Lady Gaga
Prediction: Glenn Close
- I don't think anyone predicted that Gaga would give the tour de force performance she gave in *A Star is Born*. From the singing to the acting, Gaga was pitch perfect.
- However, the Academy has their favorites.
- Close is overdue for an award, so they may give it to her based on tenure.
- Best Director
- Spike Lee, *BlackKkKlansman*
Pawel Pawlikowski, *Cold War*
Yorgos Lanthimos, *The Favourite*
Alfonso Cuarón, *Roma*
Adam McKay, *Vice*
- Pick: Spike Lee

- Prediction: Alfonso Cuarón
- Spike Lee returned to form with his direction in *BlackKkKlansman*. The director managed to provide a genuine message on race in America, while dishing out an incredible amount of entertainment.
- Meanwhile, the Academy sucks up to the artsy-fartsy direction. Expect Cuarón to bring this one to *Roma*.
- Best Supporting Actor
- Mahershala Ali, *Green Book*
Adam Driver, *BlackKkKlansman*
Sam Elliott, *A Star Is Born*
Richard E. Grant, *Can You Ever Forgive Me?*
Sam Rockwell, *Vice*
- Pick: Mahershala Ali
Prediction: Mahershala Ali
- I enjoyed Ali's composed and cool interpretation of pianist Don Shirley, but I wasn't completely blown away by it.
- To be forward, none of the actors wowed me in this category, but Ali's performance is the better of the bunch.
- Best Supporting Actress
- Amy Adams, *Vice*
Marina De Tavira, *Roma*
Regina King, *If Beale Street Could Talk*
Emma Stone, *The Favourite*
Rachel Weisz, *The Favourite*
- Pick: Nobody
Prediction: Regina King
- I'm not astonished by any of the following performances.
- I wasn't a big fan of *The Favorite*, *If Beale Street Could Talk*, or *Roma*, so I can't say I'm rooting for any actress in particular in this category.
- This category sums up how I feel about the whole ceremony. I'm not pulling for anyone to win in a category because this year's selection of films are the most underwhelming in recent memory.



IMAGE TAKEN FROM Variety

The Favorite and *Roma* are tied for most Oscar nominations this year at ten each.

Best Buddies Chapter Strives to Become University-Recognized Club

MELISA BADAMO
STAFF WRITER

The Best Buddies chapter of Monmouth University is awaiting approval from the Student Government Association (SGA) in order to become recognized as an official club after their interest meeting on Wednesday, Jan. 30.

According to their official website, Best Buddies is an organization that promotes friendships by pairing members with a buddy, a person with an intellectual and developmental disability such as Autism or Down syndrome. David Fasolino, a freshman history education student and Vice President of the chapter, said that bringing the chapter to the University began as an idea in fall of 2018. The process officially began once Fasolino contacted the staff of Best Buddies in New Jersey.

According to Brianna Thorn, a junior interdisciplinary student and President of the Best Buddies chapter, starting a club and becoming approved by SGA.

Thorn said that the approval process begins with presenting to the SGA Board. After



IMAGE TAKEN from BestBuddies.com

Monmouth students will present a potential club to the Student Government Association.

listening to the presentation and viewing the roster, SGA will decide whether Best Buddies becomes a formal club on campus.

Amy Bellina, the Director of Student Activities, said that the Best Buddies Executive Board has been in communication with SGA prior to their presentation. The e-board prepares any expected questions, answers to those questions, and logistics of the presentation.

Bellina said, "If for some reason there are questions about Best Buddies that were unanswered for some reason, [SGA] could tell them to come back... if it's a 'no,' they instituted recently an appeal process."

Thorn said, "Basically Best Buddies is trying to raise awareness and promote inclusion be-

cause often times that doesn't happen, especially in college."

Plans include hosting events such as a friendship ball and a friendship walk. However, these plans, as well as pairing members with a buddy, will be halted as the e-board awaits approval from SGA. "We don't want to not get approved and everything goes to waste," said Fasolino.

Best Buddies is already an established club at Seton Hall University, The College of New Jersey, and Princeton University. Fasolino said, "Unfortunately [Best Buddies] is only at three high schools and two middle schools, so it's not very popular in New Jersey." The decision to approve Best Buddies at Monmouth will expand the organization's presence across

the state.

The e-board is also holding off their next meeting until after the anticipated approval by SGA.

Although plans cannot be executed until after approval, Fasolino and Thorn are looking to partner with local high schools in order to find buddies to pair members with. "We are right now looking to partner with high schools that have 18-21 year old programs or with The Arc of Monmouth for adults with special needs," said Thorn. "Worst comes to worst, we can just individually ask people throughout the community, but we're trying to get as many buddies as possible because a lot of people are interested in being buddies."

Fasolino and Thorn have

reached out to Harbor School, a special needs school in Eatontown. According to Fasolino, the principal is on board for a potential partnership. The partnership is expected to finalize by the beginning of March.

Fasolino said that he has a good feeling Best Buddies will get approved by SGA, as approximately 80 students have signed up since the interest meeting. He hopes the impact of Best Buddies on its members will mirror his own experience of forming a friendship with a buddy.

"It takes a special person," he said. "You're honing friendships with kids with disabilities completely different from us. I did [Best Buddies] in high school, and ever since then I've always loved working with kids with special needs...It certainly taught me to appreciate my life."

Thorn said, "Best Buddies is starting to grow, which is a nice thing to see that a lot of people are interested in it... We're just excited it's finally starting. It was a very long waiting process, and now we finally got the ball rolling. We're excited and we're happy that so many people are interested."

Steel Magnolias Comes to Woods Theatre

RAY ROMANSKI
CLUB AND GREEK EDITOR

The MU Players have been working hard to produce this year's spring play, *Steel Magnolias*, at Woods Theatre. With a few weeks until showtime, the cast and crew have spent weeks rehearsing.

The play for *Steel Magnolias* was written in 1987 by Robert Harling and has since been adapted into a film starring Dolly Parton, Sally Field, Julia Roberts, and more in 1989. The play is about the bond of six women in Northern Louisiana. Shelby Eatenton-Lacherie, performed by sophomore TV/Radio student London Jones, goes into Truvy's beauty salon on her wedding day. Truvy is played by Erin Clemente. There, are frequent customers Clairee, played by Kara D'Antoni, Ouiser, played by Rachel Wilson, and new beautician Annelle, played by Katie Roeder. Lastly, Shelby's mother, M'Lynn, played by Sam Truglio, arrives in the shop, and

the six of them discuss big topics, like ugly marriages, violence, and child-rearing.

Directed by John Burke, Ph.D., Director of Theatre Arts and Associate Professor, is happy with the result of his students' work so far. "I chose this play because there a lot of moments that have to be just right," said Burke. "The students have been learning as they go."

D'Antoni, a senior communication student, has had to practice her Louisiana accent for this role. "We all listened to previous actors' performances of each role and how they captured these characters," she said. "It's been a lot of trial and error, but we're getting stronger with it."

The elaborate set of a 1980's beauty salon was constructed by technical designers Fred Del Guerico and Rusty Carroll and features swivel barbershop chairs, racks of vintage hair products, and a nostalgic and dizzying paint job.

Jones, who plays betrothed

Shelby, is making her lead actress debut at Monmouth with this role. "I went to a vocational high school, and studied theatre for two hours daily," said Jones. "This role is a lot of looking into myself. Shelby is a passionate character; everything she does, it all comes from the heart. I try to be the best version of myself for her."

Anthony DeFillipis, a sophomore criminal justice student, is the assistant director for this production of *Steel Magnolias*. This is his first production in the AD chair. "I'm impressed on what the actresses bring to the table every day, improving the show day to day," DeFillipis said. "They work very hard to bring it to life and it really shows. It's going to be an amazing show."

Burke finished by saying, "*Steel Magnolias* teaches us two lessons. The first is we all should take care of each other and help each other. This group of women are supporting each other through dark times. The second lesson is about unlikely comradery. These characters come from different financial levels, education levels, and marriage situations. They complement each other."

Steel Magnolias will be performing at Woods Theatre from March 6-10 and then March 12-14. Tickets can be purchased on Monmouth's website or by calling the Box Office at 732-263-6889.

Be sure to follow the MU Players on Instagram @Mu_players to stay up to date with the cast!



PHOTO COURTESY of Kara D'Antoni

The cast of *Steel Magnolias* gathered together in Truvy's Beauty salon.

Club and Greek Announcements

WMCX

WMCX is a student-run radio station, and we've been Rockin' the Shore since '74. Learn how to operate the studio's machinery, make connections, and host your own show! Meetings are held every other Wednesday in Plan-gere 236 at 3:15 p.m.

If you're interested in joining, contact Ali Nugent at s1096530@monmouth.edu

Hawk TV News

Hawk TV News is looking for vibrant and interested students who want to be reporters, writers, anchors, and much more. You do not need to be a communication major to be a part of this organization.

If you are interested e-mail us at s0933548@monmouth.edu or meet us on Wednesdays in JP 138 at 3:15 p.m.

College Democrats Of Monmouth University

There will be a College Democrats of Monmouth University meeting held in Bey Hall 226, the Center for Active Citizenship. All who are interested in attending should come to hear about how to become involved in left-of-center political activities. Events will be held throughout the year, some in unison with the College Republicans. For more information, or any questions or concerns, contact Landon Myers at s1132749@monmouth.edu.

The Outlook

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

If you are interested, please e-mail Caroline Mattise at s1102099@monmouth.edu or outlook@monmouth.edu and come to our office in JP 260. We hope to see you soon!

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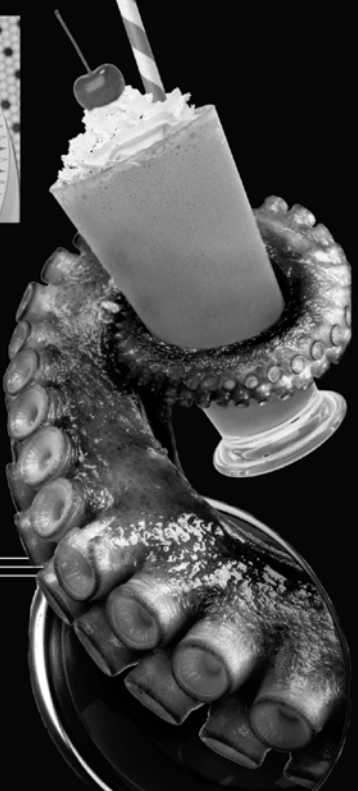
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Track and Field Wins MAAC Championships

SOPHIA GALVEZ
STAFF WRITER

Both the men's and women's Track and Field teams were crowned Metro Atlantic Athletic Conference (MAAC) champions this past weekend at the New York Armory. Women's Track and Field has now won the conference for the sixth year in a row and the men's team captured their fifth MAAC championship in six years.

The women's team finished the meet with a total of 187.5 points, with Rider University (133 points), Manhattan College (117.5 points) and Quinnipiac University (105.5) following behind them in second, third and fourth place.

Senior Patrice Baston won the title of Field Event Athlete of the Meet after she came in first in the long jump event and second in the triple jump.

Baston won the long jump with a mark of 5.81 meters, and came right behind junior Mariah Hubbard (12.13m) in the triple jump with a mark of 11.78 meters.

"My performance this weekend was for my team... overall it is extremely humbling," said Baston. "It just goes to show how much hard work really pays off in the end and when it matters."

For the shot put event, senior Allison Taub (14.26m), freshman Catherine Light (13.47m), and sophomore Chibuzo Amonu (13.30m) finished 2-3-4 behind Manhattan sophomore Lasma Padedze (14.33m).

Amonu came in second in weight throw with a mark of 17.10 meters, with Rider senior Ashley Berry claiming first with a mark of 17.76 meters.

Senior Allie Wilson won the mile with a time of 4:41.38, about five seconds faster than Iona Col-

lege junior Kaitlyn Ohrthman who came behind her in second place with a time of 4:46.45. Wilson's teammates, sophomore Kyra Velock and senior Amber Stratz finished with times of 4:53.86 and 4:57.16 coming in fourth and eighth place, respectively.

Monmouth athletes claimed first, second, and third place in the 800-meter run. Senior Briana Stratz came in first with a time of 2:14.81, freshman Sarah Crissman came in second directly after Stratz with a time of 2:14.86, and Velock finished in 2:15.20 earning her third place.

The 4x800 relay team made up of Stratz, Stratz, Crissman, and senior Chandi Piiru combined their efforts and won the event in 9:03.06.

Junior Nioami Miranda earned points for the team in three events: the 400-meter dash, 200-meter dash, and as the anchor in the 4x400 relay.

"I got on the track to run my own individual event, but I didn't just do it for myself," said Miranda. "I knew my team was counting on me."

Wilson also helped score points by crossing the finish line in 10:04, finishing sixth in the 3000-meter run.

As for the men, they crushed the competition with 271.5 total points. Rider (116.5 points), Iona (122 points) and Manhattan (73 points) finished 2-3-4 behind the Hawks.

Senior Darius Howe was named the Most Outstanding Field Performer of the meet in response to his first place triple jump of 15.22 meters and his long jump of 7.10 meters which earned him fourth place in the event.

"I'm just proud that me and my team could go out there and execute," said Howe. "We had a lot



PHOTO COURTESY of Monmouth Athletics

Senior Darius Howe was named Most Outstanding Field Performer at the MAAC Championships, where Men's Track and Field won their fifth title in six years.

to prove...so it felt really good to go out there, put as much energy together as possible, and get the wins for those who couldn't perform and our coaches."

Freshman Louis DiLaurenzio was dubbed Track Rookie of the Meet after winning the 800-meter run (1:53.59), anchored the winning 4x800 relay team, and led the second place distance medley relay (DMR) team.

The 4x800 relay, anchored by DiLaurenzio, was also composed of senior Nick McFarland, junior Ryan Rafferty, and freshman James Hoffman. The team placed first with a time of 7:43.88. For the DMR, DiLaurenzio was accompanied by senior Bryan Cabral, Hoffman and Rafferty to cross the finish line at 10:13.75, coming behind Marist (10:11.09).

The men's team also broke some records at the event, including the MAAC Championship and Monmouth school record for the 200-meter dash and the MAAC Championship record for shot put.

Junior Khalid Slocum finished the 200-meter dash in 21.45 seconds. This time broke the MAAC record of 21.46 seconds, which was set back in 2006.

Senior Corey Murphy broke the MAAC Championship shot put record with a mark of 19.66 meters, coming in first for the event. The previous record was set back in 2007 and was a mark of 19.40 meters. This mark puts Murphy into the top ten for the shot put in the National Collegiate Athletic Association (NCAA) and he was only .75 feet from breaking the school record set by three-time All American Jon Kalnas.

Slocum won the 60-meter dash as well with a time of 6.82 seconds. Teammate and sophomore Joe Miguerson came in second behind Slocum with a time of 6.91 seconds.

Freshman Nadale Buntin claimed first in the 400-meter dash by crossing the finish line in 48.41 seconds.

For the pole vault, freshman Randy Showmaker and senior

Matthew Isaacson placed first and second as they both cleared 4.50 meters. Teammates, sophomore Chad Smiley (4.05m) and freshman Ryan Ledda (3.90) came behind them in fifth and sixth place.

"We had some individual stars who really preformed at a high level and we're proud of them," said Head Coach Joe Compagni. "Winning a championship like this, though, is really about a huge team effort. We had a great group on both teams who stepped up in a big way."

Compagni and his coaching staff were named MAAC Men's and Women's Coach of the Year, making it their 54th and 55th Conference or Regional Coach of the Year honors.

The Hawks will be returning to the New York Armory for a final qualifying meet. Monmouth will have at least three athletes going to the Ocean Breeze facility in Staten Island, NY to compete at the USA Track & Field (USATF) National Championships this upcoming weekend.

Women's Basketball Falls in Nail-Biter at Home

MATT DELUCA
STAFF WRITER

Women's Basketball was upset by Iona after a layup with 2.2 seconds left in the game edged the Hawks, 52-51, on Friday night at the OceanFirst Bank Center.

Junior forward Alexa Middleton led Monmouth with 16 points and ten rebounds, while junior guard Sierra Green scored eight points and hit two three-point shots.

The Hawks opened with the first two points of the night, but the Gaels responded with seven to make the score 7-2 at the first media timeout. After Monmouth knocked down a free throw, Iona responded with a three to make the score 10-3 with 4:03 remaining, which would be their largest lead of the quarter. Monmouth made four of their last five shots to close the frame, as Iona took a 16-13 lead into the second quarter.

The Gaels' offense slowed in the second quarter, and the Hawks took advantage, outscoring them 13-12 to cut the deficit to two at half, 28-26.

Iona came out of halftime hot, scoring seven of the first nine points to take a 35-28 lead. Monmouth then went on its biggest run of the game, scoring the next 12 points, including seven from Middleton, to take a 40-35 lead. The extended run to end the quarter was 18-7 in favor of Monmouth, as they led 46-42



PHOTO TAKEN by Karlee Sell

Junior forward Alexa Middleton led the Hawks with a double-double, scoring a team-high sixteen points and ten rebounds in the loss to Iona.

after three.

The Hawks expanded their lead to six on a layup from freshman forward Lucy Thomas with 7:58 remaining, but did not score again until the two minute mark of the quarter, when Middleton added a layup to maintain the Monmouth lead at 50-47. After two Iona free throws, Thomas hit one of two of her own to make the score 51-49 with 31 seconds remaining. Iona split a pair of free throws

with 23 seconds left to cut the margin in half, but two missed free throws from Monmouth with 12 seconds remaining gave Iona the chance to win the game. The Gaels missed on their shot attempt, but corralled the rebound and made a layup with 2.2 seconds left. The score would hold, giving Iona its first win in Metro Atlantic Athletic Conference (MAAC) play and just their second on the season, improving to 2-23.

"We got beat by a team tonight who simply wanted it more," Monmouth Head Coach Jody Craig said. "Credit it to Iona. They deserved to win. They outplayed us and showed a lot more heart as a team."

For the game, Monmouth shot 32 percent from the field (14-43), 20 percent from three (2-10), and 70 percent from the free throw line (21-30). The Hawks had 27 turnovers in the contest, leading to 19

Iona points.

Green passed Beth DiRenzo (1990-91) for the second most three-point shots made in a single season in program history with 81. She is 12 behind the program record, set by Kayla Shaw in the 2016-17 season, when she hit 93 threes.

Monmouth split the week in terms of results, as they defeated Manhattan 71-63 on Tuesday night at the OceanFirst Bank Center. The Hawks saw four players score in double figures, including Green, who set a new season-high with 28 points, hitting seven threes. Thomas had 15, junior guard Emani Clough added 12 off the bench, and Middleton scored ten. The fourth quarter was pivotal as the Hawks outscored the Jaspers 25-9 to secure the victory.

"I thought we had great composure tonight, especially being down in the fourth quarter," Craig said. "We defended on one end and found ways to score on the other. Obviously, Sierra [Green] getting hot really helped us. She always comes out looking to be active and aggressive, which really sets the tone for us."

Friday's loss dropped Monmouth's record to 10-14 on the season, and 6-7 in MAAC play. The Hawks will look to bounce back next weekend, as they embark on the annual Buffalo road trip. The first game is on Friday night where they will face Niagara at 7:00 p.m.

Swimming Improves at MAAC Championships

EVAN MCMURTRIE
SPORTS EDITOR

Men's and Women's Swimming improved on last year's performance in the Metro Atlantic Athletic Conference (MAAC) Championships, which spanned from Wednesday to Saturday this past week at Erie Community College in Buffalo, NY, finishing 6th and 7th respectively.

"A great weekend for the Monmouth swimming program as we continue to make positive progress," said Head Coach Matt Nunnally. "Each year the expectation is to raise the bar and this season is proof that we are headed in the right direction." The men's team finished with a total of 207 points, a 104-point improvement from last year's MAAC Championships, while the women's team improved by 106 points to 281.

Freshman standout Callan Smith continued his strong first season, winning the program's first-ever gold medal in the 500-yard freestyle and placing second in both the 200-yard freestyle and 200-yard backstroke. Smith was named MAAC Rookie of the Meet for his performances. Freshman Camryn McHugh

men Valance Washington and Smith and sophomores Ryan Hohman and Trevor Askew managed a sixth place finish with a time of 6:49.42. Smith and sophomore Louise Barker set new school records in their 200-meter openings of the 800-meter relay with times of 1:39.67 and 1:53.20, respectively. On Thursday, Washington was victorious in the B Final

and 3:56.39. Sophomore Ryan Reutti won the B-Final of the 100-yard backstroke with a personal best time of 51.58. The biggest win for the Hawks on Saturday was McHugh's gold medal, but Smith also added his second silver medal of the meet on its final day. Additionally, both the men's and women's relay teams broke



PHOTO COURTESY of Dean Bogart
Freshman Callan Smith won the gold medal in the 500-yard freestyle as well as two silver medals at the MAAC Championships, leading to him being named Rookie of the Meet.

"Each year the expectation is to raise the bar and this season is proof that we are headed in the right direction."

MATT NUNNALLY
Head Coach

also brought home a gold medal for the Hawks in the women's 200-yard backstroke. On Wednesday, a fourth-place finish for the men in the 200-yard medley relay broke a school record. Junior Austin D'Angelo, sophomore Ethan Lucas, and freshmen Kevin Del Giorno and Ricky Thomas finished in 1:31.59. The women's 200-yard medley relay team also broke a school record with a 1:45.90 finish. Juniors Bradie Keelen and Jaclyn Greening and freshmen Muriel Maloney and McHugh's efforts saw them land in fifth place. The men's team broke another school record, this time in the 800-meter medley relay. A squad composed of fresh-

of the 50-yard freestyle and his winning time of 20.94 broke his own school record. Keelen finished third in the women's 50-yard freestyle as she also broke her own personal record with a time of 23.92. A sixth-place finish for the team of Washington, Del Giorno, Lucas, and freshman Dylan Barkhuizen in the 200-yard freestyle relay broke a program record at 1:23.40. Friday saw even more records broken as Smith and McHugh both surpassed their previous best times in the 200-yard freestyle and 100-yard backstroke, respectively. Both the men's and women's 400-yard medley relay teams broke their respective school records with times of 3:21.08

school records in the 400-yard freestyle. Men's Swimming finished their season with a record of 6-5, as well as coming in second out of eleven teams at the Eastern Collegiate Athletic Association (ECAC) Championships in Dec. 2018. Women's Swimming went 5-8 on the year and came in seventh out of seventeen at the ECAC Championships. "A move forward in the overall standings and a big jump in total points by both the men and the women is a result of many great individual and relay performances," said Nunnally. "It was exciting to see our first individual event champions and relay teams on the podium."

Men's Basketball Falls Out of First Place in the MAAC

MARK D'AQUILA
ASSISTANT SPORTS EDITOR

Men's Basketball had their four-game winning streak snapped, suffering back-to-back losses this week at the hands of Metro Atlantic Athletic Conference (MAAC) opponents Rider and Marist despite consecutive double-doubles from senior center Diago Quinn. The Hawks traveled to Alumni Gym in Lawrenceville, NJ on Friday to face one of the middling teams in the MAAC, Rider, who came into play with a 12-13 record overall and 7-6 in the conference. Monmouth could not recover from a six-point deficit in the first half, as they fell out of first place in the MAAC, losing by a final score of 81-72. The Broncs got off to a quick 7-0 lead to start the game and never looked back, hanging on for the remainder. Four different players scoring in double-figures for the Blue and White was not enough to get them over the hump as they gave up a season-high 23 turnovers. "Rider was too much tonight," said Head Coach King Rice. "They had a good plan, they pressed and trapped so we couldn't run our stuff and we didn't handle it very well." Quinn was one of the top performers in the losing effort with his third career double-double, putting up 11 points and 12 rebounds. However, it was sophomore guard Ray Salnave who led the Hawks in scoring for the 12th time this season with 17 points and six rebounds. The other scorers in double figures included sophomore guard Deion Hammond with 11 points and junior guard Nick Rutherford with 10 points, five rebounds, and five assists.



PHOTO COURTESY of Monmouth Athletics
Senior center Diago Quinn dominates with consecutive double-doubles, combining for 27 points and 22 rebounds on the week while suffering losses to Rider and Marist.

The loss dropped Monmouth down to second place in the conference behind Canisius, as they headed into Sunday afternoon's matchup with 11-14 Marist hoping to get back on top at home. It was more of the same at the OceanFirst Bank Center however, as the Hawks fell by a score of 75-67 despite 16 points and ten rebounds from Quinn. It was a game of runs for the Red Foxes who built multiple double-digit leads that were cut down by Monmouth's three-point shooting, but never overcome. The lead got as big as 17 before sophomore guard George Papas found the bottom of the net three times from beyond the arc for nine of his 12 points to cut it to a three-

point game. This was the second time in his career that the sophomore three-point specialist scored in double figures, as he poured in a career-high four three-pointers. Salnave also tied a personal high with seven assists in the game despite only scoring five points on two of six from the field. Hammond's 11 points on 4-15 shooting were enough to make it 38 out of 58 career games where the guard has put up a double-digit point total. However, Quinn, Papas, and Hammond all scoring in double-figures wasn't enough to overcome getting outshot as a team 51 to 36.8 percent. "Credit to Marist," said Rice. "John Dunne (Marist Head

Coach) is a really good friend of mine, and they totally outplayed us for 40 minutes." The Hawks were able to commit a season-low four turnovers in the loss after giving up a season-high the game before. This was the lowest turnover number for Monmouth in a single game since Rice took over as Head Coach. The defeat dropped Monmouth to a 10-18 overall record for the season, while falling to 9-6 in the MAAC. This two-game skid sets the stage for a crucial conference matchup at home against one of the two teams ahead of the Hawks in the standings, Canisius. Tip-off from the OceanFirst Bank Center on Friday night is slated for 7:00 p.m.

UPCOMING GAMES

- Thursday, Feb. 21**
Men's Tennis at George Washington
Washington, DC 7:00 p.m.
- Friday, Feb. 22**
Softball vs Rutgers
Miami, FL 1:30 p.m.
- Baseball at East Carolina
Greenville, NC 4:00 p.m.
- M/W Track & Field
USATF Championship
New York, NY TBA
- Women's Basketball at Niagara
Niagara University, NY 7:00 p.m.
- Men's Basketball vs Canisius
OceanFirst Bank Center
West Long Branch, NJ 7:00 p.m.
- Saturday, Feb. 23**
Men's Lacrosse at Delaware
Newark, DE 12:00 p.m.
- Women's Lacrosse vs Holy Cross
West Long Branch, NJ 12:00 p.m.
- Women's Tennis at Loyola Maryland
Baltimore, MD 7:30 p.m.
- Women's Bowling
MEAC Meet #2
Greensboro, NC TBA
- Sunday, Feb. 24**
Men's Basketball vs Quinnipiac
OceanFirst Bank Center
West Long Branch, NJ 2:00 p.m.
- Women's Basketball at Canisius
Buffalo, NY 2:00 p.m.
- *conference games*



Monmouth Track and Field won two team MAAC Championships on Feb. 17. The women claimed their sixth straight title, while the men won their fifth in six years.

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PHOTO COURTESY of Monmouth University Athletics