



PHOTO TAKEN by Gabrielle Sangataldo.

## “The Outlook” hosts Ellen Jovin’s The Grammar Table

*Monmouth students and faculty engage in grammar-based discussions outside of the Student Center*

**TAYLOR MEMOLI**  
EDITOR-IN-CHIEF/NEWS EDITOR

“The Outlook” hosted Ellen Jovin’s The Grammar Table on the student center patio from 1 to 3 p.m., on Oct. 23. During this event, students and faculty could come visit Jovin’s table to discuss her favorite topic: grammar.

Jovin is a grammarian and national bestselling author of her book “Rebel with a Clause.”

In 2018, Jovin extended her love for grammar to the streets of NYC when she decided to set up a table outside of

her Manhattan apartment. She began to receive questions from people passing by, and since then, she hasn’t stopped. Jovin has journeyed across the country with her table to advocate for grammar and language, showcasing that the ways people communicate can be interesting rather than mundane.

Jovin explained, “Before the Grammar Table, I had a project called Words & Worlds of New York, for which I serially studied different languages and tested/reviewed hundreds of language-learning products. After years of that, I started to realize I was spending too much time online in various language groups, mostly on Facebook. It was great to be able to talk to people from around the world about all kinds of language topics... but I wanted to get offline and use language for more in-person human connection.” Thus, she decided to take her love of language to the streets. She ordered a folding table and made a sign.

“The very first time I set up the Grammar Table outside my building,” she continued, “it took me less than a minute to get my first visitor. Not everyone loves nerding out about language, but an awful lot of people do!”

Jovin’s Grammar Table might have been around for six years, but her love for words started at a young age. “I have loved words my whole life,” she started. “The majority of my earliest memories are specifically about language—writing the alphabet, learning to spell, etc. Back in grade school, I loved writing, I loved reading, I loved spelling tests, I loved my Spanish class. So I just kept doing that same kind of stuff my entire life.”

“The Outlook” staff first encountered Jovin at the 2023 ACP Conference in La Jolla, California. Since then, the team has always had a mission to bring

**The Grammar Table**  
cont. on pg. 3

## Civil rights activist Ruby Bridges holds discussion in Pollak Theatre

**OLIVIA PUZIO**  
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

Monmouth hosted Ruby Bridges, a civil rights activist who was one of the first African American children to attend a formerly white-only school in Louisiana during the New Orleans school desegregation crisis in the 1960s. Her presentation took place in the Pollak Theatre on Oct. 22, and it was titled “The Courage to Challenge Racial Injustice and Build Equity in Education.” The event was held by the Social Justice Academy in recognition of the 70th anniversary of “Brown v. Board of Education” and was moderated by Dr. Vernon Smith and Dr. Zaneta Rago-Craft.

Bridges was one of one-hundred-fifty black children to take a test determining whether they were smart enough to attend all-white schools, and she was one of the six girls who passed. This led her to being selected for enrollment at William Frantz Elementary School as the only African-American student.

Lisa Dinella, Ph.D., Professor of psychology and principal investigator in Gender Development at Monmouth, said, “Ruby Bridges is a civil rights pioneer. Her lifelong work towards racial equity and anti-racism is inspirational. I am ever-grateful for the

opportunity to hear her tell her life story.”

At the time of the desegregation movement, Bridges was only six years old and had a very limited idea of why she was attending a new school for first grade or why she was the only student in her classroom. Throughout the presentation, she used elements of humor to describe her thought process during this time in her life, explaining how what protected her was “the innocence of a child.”

Bridges emphasized that she was extremely young and was given little to no context as to why she was switching schools or why people were suddenly paying more attention to her. On her first day at an all-white school, she was escorted by four U.S. Marshals sent by President Dwight Eisenhower, due to the crowd forming around the school.

Bridges explained, “In my mind, I kept thinking, this looks like Mardi Gras, but I remember taking the test and that everybody said I am so smart and no other kids could pass it. So then I thought; this is college, I am on my way to college and everybody came out because she is going from kindergarten/first grade straight to college.”

“My body is not my own,” Bridges remarked when discussing what it feels like to be the face of the desegregation movement. “I believe in my heart that I

**Ruby Bridges** cont. on pg. 3

### INSIDE:

#### NEWS

Professor Morano donates rare turtle fossils to NJ State Museum collection

Pg. 2

#### ENTERTAINMENT

Top 20 Halloween movies

Pg. 8

#### SPORTS

Rowing makes history with first ever gold

Pg. 15

#### INDEX

News	2
Editorial	4
Opinion	5
Features	6
Lifestyles	7
Entertainment	8
Politics	10
Clubs & Greek Life	11
Sports	14





# Professor Morano donates rare turtle fossils to NJ State Museum collection

## OUTLOOK STAFF REPORT

The New Jersey State Museum recently added four 65 million-year-old turtle fossils found by Monmouth University Professor of Journalism John Morano to their collection. Dr. Dana Ehret, Curator of Natural History at the State Museum and adjunct faculty member in the University's Department of Biology, explained that three of the four turtle fossils are peripheral bones (edge of the top turtle shell) from a turtle attributed to the estuarine genus *Adocus*, a rare taxon to recover in New Jersey.

The fourth fossil is a peripheral bone from *Euclastes wielandi*, a sea turtle. Dr. Ehret pointed out, "The museum does not have any turtle material in our collection from John's locality."

Morano discovered the specimens while collecting fossils in a tributary of Crosswicks Creek in western Monmouth County where some of the best Cretaceous fossils from the North Atlantic Coastal Plain can be found. Over the past 30 years, Morano has found thousands of fossils with several discoveries winding up in institutional collections.

"I wasn't looking for these specific fossils," Morano explained. "In fact, to find any vertebrate material, let alone two different turtles, is rare on top of rare. Frankly, I was shocked and delighted to find these fossils. I was fairly certain that I had turtle pieces right away. I had a sense of where they belonged on the animal's anatomy, but I couldn't place a specific species on the fossils. That's where Dr. Ehret came in. Not only is he

an extremely accomplished paleontologist, he's an authority on turtles," he said.

Morano continued, "Dr. Ehret and other paleontologists who oversee serious public collections are always free to look through my finds and take whatever is useful to science. Fossils that are kept in a shoebox under one's bed might as well still be in the ground. Fossils are found to be preserved, shared and studied."

Dr. Ehret elaborated, "Donations from avocational paleontologists are incredibly important! Most museums only have 1 or 2 paleontologists on staff if they are lucky. [They] don't have the time to be out collecting every day, week or month. Contributions from avocational and amateur paleontologists who are out there collecting regularly are extremely important to our science."

Carl Mehling, Senior Museum Specialist at the American Museum of Natural History, added, "In certain fossil-rich areas, like Monmouth County, NJ, the rarest things, and the most interesting and important to find and preserve, are the least likely to be found by the occasional expedition an academic could possibly conduct. It is only the relentless dedication to collecting that the best non-professionals exhibit that is going to rescue these extreme rarities."

Dr. Ehret said, "I've known Prof. Morano for over 10 years. I've been fossil collecting with him and viewed many of the great fossil discoveries he's made. I appreciate that he is very interested in nature and authors an Eco-Adventure book series that brings awareness to many threats that our planet is



PHOTO COURTESY of John Morano.

**Professor Morano** holding an approximately 70 million year old ammonite suture from a creature known as the *Sphenodiscus*.

facing. The fact that John also works with multiple museums/collections and shares what he finds, as well as his knowledge, is extremely important."

Mehling added, "Professor Morano is exactly the kind of non-professional paleontologist all academics would want to work with. We wish there were more like him: amiable, committed to collecting and in a scientifically useful way, extremely knowledgeable about the fossils he hunts as well as the sites they come from and their context, and wonderfully generous. He plays the game in a way that benefits everyone."

*Adocus* was originally described by Joseph Leidy, the first paleontologist in the United States who worked at the Academy of Natural Sciences in Philadelphia. Dr. Ehret said that Leidy described *Adocus*

from the "marl" or greensands of New Jersey and that the turtle inhabited nearshore areas like estuaries and back bays, growing to lengths of three feet. *Euclastes wielandi*, according to Dr. Ehret, was about the size of a modern green turtle but had a large flat palate and mandible (mouth structure). The turtle was originally named by Edward Drinker Cope (of Philadelphia and Bone Wars fame) in 1867 based on specimens from New Jersey.

Dr. Ehret sees direct connections between information fossils can provide and, perhaps, gaining a better understanding of how climate change might impact environments and their inhabitants. "We know that the Earth is constantly changing... and understanding what thresholds nature can or can't handle will be critical for the

survival of our planet," he said.

These "limits" that Dr. Ehret speaks of are often reflected through characteristics seen in the fossils themselves which can offer a glimpse into the effects of climate change, underscoring the importance of discoveries and donations like Morano's.

Morano concluded, "The preservation and study of fossils is important for a host of reasons. If you have an interest in evolution, this is the map. And, as Dr. Ehret mentioned, the study of fossils, formations, stratigraphy, can provide information about how environments and their forms of life managed drought, flood, heat, invasive species and other stresses, influences we happen to be facing right now. These relics from the distant past can have a lot to say about what's happening today, or what might happen tomorrow."



PHOTO COURTESY of John Morano.

**Cretaceous fossils** Professor Morano found in Monmouth County streams.



PHOTO COURTESY of John Morano.

**Professor Morano** found these specific fossils in the woods of Monmouth County.



# The Grammar Table

cont. from pg. 1

her to campus.

Bailey Fredericks, senior communications major and Managing Editor and Lifestyles Editor for “The Outlook”, explained, “I heard about and met Ellen last spring at the ACP conference in California. I think it was important to bring her to campus because she knows how to teach grammar in a fun and engaging way!”

Although Jovin mostly parks her Grammar Table on busy city sidewalks, she always finds time to visit college campuses and engage with students. She elaborated, “When I was in college, I

thought I probably wanted to be a college professor. Even though I changed my mind about that and left graduate school after getting an M.A. (in comparative literature), I made my living for several years teaching writing as an adjunct at local colleges. I love campus life, and I love connecting with young people who help keep me current and who are filled with enthusiasm and exuberance. I learn a lot from students.”

Jovin’s mission with The Grammar Table isn’t stopping with her tabling events. Next year, she will be screening the new Grammar Table documentary at universities

around the country. Jovin worked on the film with her husband Brandt Johnson, and the two took The Grammar Table to all 50 states together to talk to curious citizens all around the country.

Jovin concluded, “The students [at Monmouth University] were impressive and charming, everyone was so welcoming, and visitors kept getting the answers to my quiz questions right! Great job! And what a beautiful campus. I loved the view from the Grammar Table, and I was honored to be there. Thank you so much for the hospitality. I hope to be back!”

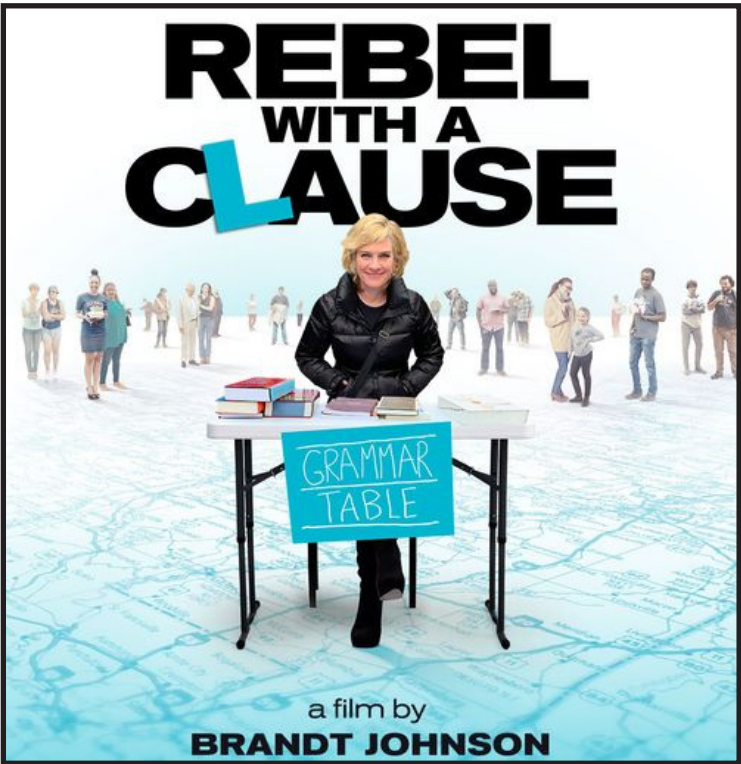


IMAGE TAKEN from grammartable.com.

The Grammar Table documentary will begins screenings in 2025.

# Ruby Bridges

cont. from pg. 1

am just a vehicle and that what is happening to me, is happening through me. It wasn’t my choice. I was six.” Despite her young age, she was unafraid walking into an all-white school because she was unaware of the severity of the situation, so to her knowledge, there was no reason to have any fear.

Not only did Bridges discuss her childhood and her role in the civil rights movement, but she also mentioned her experiencing the loss of her oldest son due to violence towards African-Americans. The co-moderators also brought to attention how schools were attempting to ban her books, saying that her life story and writing were too divisive, to which Bridges said, “I celebrate and lift up the people that were involved and that helped me. So why would you be trying to ban my books?”

Ezinne Ndumnwere, information systems student, commented on the presentation. “[The event] was both moving and eye opening. Her story gave me a new perspective that I will carry with me forever.

She discussed current racial issues and shared her childhood experiences. Looking through her eyes, I could only imagine the incredible bravery she showed as a young girl.”

Similarly, Gareth Lewis Jr., educational counseling student, reflected on the event by stating, “I can say that Ruby Bridges came, spoke and left and impact that every audience member felt. Hearing her speak her story in such a calm way is admirable. As a black man, I was able to listen, understand, and feel her pain and struggle. It was an honor to get the opportunity to hear her life story in person.”

Dinella concluded, “Events like this one send a message that Monmouth University is acting on its Diversity Mission Statement. It is crucial that we continue to support the good work of those leading the Social Justice Academy who brought Ruby Bridges here to campus. It is important that Monmouth University continues to offer its community access to civil rights leaders, so that together we can learn how to make our community a welcoming and just space.”



IMAGE TAKEN from bluehawkrecords.com.

# Blue Hawk Records 25th Compilation Album coming Dec. 6

LORELAI HILARCZYK  
ENTERTAINMENT EDITOR

Monmouth University’s student-run record label, Blue Hawk Records (BHR), is set to release its 25th compilation album on Dec. 6, featuring the students and alums of the University.

Past albums such as “Back On Track,” “20,” “Exit 22,” “Chapter XXIII,” and “Open 24 Hours” have featured Stevie 808, Olivia Melfi, Elena Worton, Jill Bernstein, Azure Kai, Abby Garcia, Amani Lillian, and many more.

The album is produced and created through Professor Joe Rapolla’s Record Label Strategies class, where students hold auditions, pick artists, create a theme or concept, and produce the album through Rapolla’s guidance each year. This being BHR’s 25th compilation album, the achievement is not lost on Rapolla.

He said, “This milestone album not only showcases the

immense talent of our students but also reflects the vibrant diversity of voices within our music community. We’re thrilled to present a collection that truly represents the spirit of Blue Hawk Records.”

Without spoiling the album’s reveal, the genres are a diverse selection of indie, rock, and pop. Antonia Bongiorno, a junior Music major with a concentration in Music Industry and Musical Theatre, is this year’s general manager of the label. She described the album, whose artists will be revealed on BHR’s Instagram page in the coming weeks. “[There will be] so many different genres, styles, and elements that haven’t been done on previous albums,” she continued.

Bongiorno gave “The Outlook” a hint about the album title. She said, “The title of the album can be related to one of the lyrics in the chorus of ‘Black Space’ [by Taylor Swift].”

Just like in previous compilation albums, the artists were inspired by songs and artists that they

resonate with and connect with. Bongiorno explained how, during production, the team had good starting points for each artist and how their track would evolve and become a fully fleshed-out song. Some of the artist inspirations include Adele, Zach Bryan, The Weeknd, and Bon Iver, which all correlate to folk, classic pop, country, and alternative genres.

Bongiorno explained that creating tracks for people to connect to is what makes this year’s album so special, and it’s a testament to how much talent there is at Monmouth University. “Something our team wanted to accomplish with this album was selecting songs that have true depth to them, and go far beyond the scope of a college record label-produced album, and I think we did that,” she said. “Every track is so different, but they all have a richness and complexity to them, which makes them all relate to each other.”



IMAGE TAKEN from The Guardian.

Bridges being escorted out of school by four U.S. Marshals sent by President Dwight Eisenhower.



THE OUTLOOK  
Taylor Memoli EDITOR-IN-CHIEF  
SECTION EDITORS & DESIGNERS

Taylor Memoli	NEWS EDITOR
Bailey Fredericks	MANAGING EDITOR
Mairead Spellacy	SPORTS EDITOR
Brendan Sheehan	POLITICS EDITOR
Lauren Bevacqua	FEATURES EDITOR
Bailey Fredericks	LIFESTYLES EDITOR
Michael Gruseke	OPINIONS EDITOR
Kiley Hubbard	COMICS EDITOR
Lorelai Hilarczyk	ENTERTAINMENT EDITOR

STAFF WRITERS

Breanna Guinta	Sarah Bilotta
Dae'sani Clarke	Dani Walano
Eva Breiterman	Riya Ajmera
Caitlin Treacy	Ava Komasz
Victoria Caal	Riley McGee
Marissa Alvarez	Kia Womack
Kaitlyn Castellano	Peter Zukowski
Jefferson Gonzalez	Carlee Migliorisi
Faith Molitor	Sarah Eidelman

ADVERTISEMENT MANAGER

Bryce Goodwin

PHOTOGRAPHER

Matthew Boyle

CREATIVE DIRECTOR

Taylor Memoli

Marina Vujnovic, Ph.D. FACULTY ADVISOR

Tarra Emery OFFICE COORDINATOR

HOW TO SUBMIT ARTICLES OR LETTERS:

The Outlook provides the Monmouth University community with information concerning issues in and around the University while serving as a forum for expression of the ideas of its readers. Contributions must be submitted (email outlook@monmouth.edu) by 12:00 p.m. Sundays.

All copy must include the author's full name and contact information. The Outlook accepts articles and graphic material from students, faculty and administrators, and reserves the right to edit or reject any material which they determine is not suitable for publication or its readers. Copy and advertising appearing in The Outlook do not necessarily reflect the views of Monmouth University or The Outlook.

Monmouth University's  
Student-Run Newspaper  
Since 1933

Plangere Center 2nd Floor, Room 260

Phone: (732) 571-3481  
Fax: (732) 263-5151

Mailing Address:  
The Outlook  
Monmouth University  
400 Cedar Ave  
West Long Branch, NJ 07764

Website: outlook.monmouth.edu  
E-Mail: outlook@monmouth.edu  
Advertising Inquiries: outlookads@monmouth.edu

The Outlook  
SUBSCRIPTION FORM

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_  
ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_  
CITY: \_\_\_\_\_  
STATE: \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP: \_\_\_\_\_  
Daytime Phone: \_\_\_\_\_  
Evening Phone: \_\_\_\_\_  
☐ \$25 NON-ALUMNI SUBSCRIBER ☐ \$15 MONMOUTH UNIVERSITY ALUMNI

Mail this subscription to and payment to:  
The Outlook Monmouth University

400 Cedar Ave. West Long Branch 07764  
Or Call 732-571-3481 for Credit Card  
Payment

“The Outlook”  
editor’s thoughts prior  
to election day

EDITORIAL STAFF

In less than one week, tens of millions of Americans will head to the polls to cast their votes in the 2024 general election. The presidency, control of Congress and key governor’s races are all at stake with major implications. More than 46 million votes have already been cast through mail-in and early voting ballots, according to TIME Magazine. This week, the editors talk about their expectations for the next president, how we can overcome the great division in the country, and their feelings about the 2024 election.

The editors plan on voting in the 2024 election. One editor said, “This is going to be my first time voting in the general election and I couldn’t be more excited!”

Another said, “I think it’s important as an American citizen to participate in our democratic republic system of voting. And come on, voting is fun, it makes you feel important and like you can

make a difference.” Another said, “I believe my vote matters, and in order to witness change, we must be a part of it.” In fact, Americans are already breaking early voting records.

While Americans have very strong opinions about Kamala Harris and Donald Trump, one of them will be the next President of the United States. When asked what they hope to see out of America’s next president, one editor replied, “I hope to see someone who can run this country efficiently and allow their citizens to feel pride in their president.”

Another replied, “I want to see a president who our kids can look up to as a role model, who knows right from wrong and fights for everyday Americans.”

Another said, “I hope we have a president who cares about the people and bringing people together instead of pinning one group against another.”

When asked about their feelings less than one week out from the 2024 election, one editor said, “I think there’s a lot riding on this election and if the wrong

candidate is chosen, I’m worried about what the repercussions for the everyday American will be.” Another commented, “I feel nervous, but also eager to see the results.” Another said, “This will be the most important election of our lifetimes and I just want to see the results now.”

Lastly, the editors were asked about how we can all come together and ease the political tension that has divided America for too long. One editor replied, “I believe having civil, face-to-face conversations with those of opposite views of our own is a good step in the right direction.” Another said, “I think the biggest step that people should take is just treating everyone with kindness and empathy, regardless of if they’re Democrat or Republican.” Another replied, “the hate, the violence, and the rhetoric has been too heated for too long. America is strongest when its people are united and we have to get back to that.”

Election day is on Tuesday, Nov. 5, and you can find information about how and where to vote at vote.gov.



Serving the Monmouth  
community  
since 1933

THE OUTLOOK  
http://outlook.monmouth.edu/

Follow us on:



**DISCLAIMER:** All articles appearing in the Op/Ed section of The Outlook are solely the opinions of the authors and do not reflect the views of The Outlook’s editors (unless otherwise noted) or any and all advertisers. Opinion articles are run unedited and the content is the sole responsibility of their authors. All students and faculty are welcome to respond to any opinion piece that appears on these pages, and everyone is encouraged to submit an article for consideration. The Outlook reserves the right to withhold any articles deemed inappropriate or otherwise unfit to print in the Op/Ed section. Due to legalities, The Outlook will no longer print anonymous articles.



## Best Halloween candy

LAUREN BEVACQUA  
FEATURES EDITOR

Throughout my many years of trick-or-treating and dressing up on Halloween, the annual trading of candy between my siblings would commence soon after we went up and down the block asking for candy. While we dumped our buckets and sorted every piece, I would be the first one to trade. Typically, I kept my Twix, Kit-Kats, and Hershey bars, I never kept anything sour or gummy like Sour Patch Kids or Mike and Ikes.

Growing up, my mom was a huge chocolate lover. Anything from Mounds, Almond Joys, Kit-Kats, M&M's, she would get as candy for the trick-or-treaters. Naturally, I would follow in my mom's footsteps and only keep the chocolate. I believe that any chocolate is the best Halloween candy because of the decadency and the ability to put anything inside.

I believe chocolate is simple, yet packed with flavor. There are also different varieties of chocolate to fit everyone's needs, like milk, dark, and white. This variety can make sour and gummy candy one note and often encompassing the same flavor. Chocolate is rich, and many companies produce different chocolates to fit everybody's taste.

I love chocolate-covered candies like Twix and Kit-Kat, which are two of my favorites. The satisfying crunch and bite from a wafer or flavorful biscuit hits the spot as a sweet treat. Many companies now have chocolate that coats another one of their products. For example, the Reese's Take 5 bar includes a milk chocolate coating with pretzels, caramel, peanut butter, and peanuts on the inside. The versatility with chocolate is unmatched compared to sour and gummy candies.

With gummy candy, the flavors are artificial and may not resemble something real. While there can be a fake chocolate taste, most have the experience eating a classic Hershey bar, and know how that is the standard for chocolate. Something that is fake can be trying too hard to be the gold standard of chocolate. I look for the real taste when I am indulging in a sweet treat, not artificial. To have the most enjoyable trick-or-treating experience and potentially trading candy with friends and family after, I say keep the chocolate and skip the sour and gummy candy.

# Why Halloween is the best holiday ever

TAYLOR MEMOLI  
EDITOR-IN-CHIEF/ NEWS EDITOR

The best time of the year is here, and of course, I am talking about Halloween. A holiday filled with so many unique activities and traditions that can only be acceptable one day of the year. There is truly no other day like it. So I'm here, as Halloween's number one fan, to tell you why Halloween is the superior celebration.

First off, who doesn't love dressing up in costume? It's a way to express your talents and interests all while wearing something you might not usually wear on a day-to-day basis. It's the only time when you will see a fairy, a priest, a clown, and a sparkly margarita passing you by on the street.

"I love Halloween because it's so much fun to dress up. I always love to do

silly costumes and see what other people come up with," agreed Kristen Frawley, senior social work and sociology major.

Whether you enjoy spending time at home or going out, Halloween provides the perfect opportunity to do either. Now that we are all college students, the joys of trick-or-treating are over, but that doesn't stop us from being able to go out to parties and bars to have a great time with our friends.

"As a kid, I had a fun time trick or treating with my friends and that made me love the season of Halloween. Even now that I'm older and don't trick or treat anymore, it's still nostalgic," explained William Horn, senior music major.

But if spending too much money on drinks that have a 50% chance of getting spilled on you isn't your dream for this evening, staying in with loved ones, or yourself of

course, is also a great way to spend the day.

"I like Halloween because I love everything to do with the fall season and I love watching spooky movies," agrees Olivia Puzio, a senior psychology major. There are so many spooky movies perfect for the occasion. If you need some recommendations, there are a ton of Halloween movies available on streaming platforms. Some of my favorites include William Friedkin's "The Exorcist" on HBO, Alfred Hitchcock's "Psycho" on Netflix, and Jordan Peele's "Get Out" on Peacock. These movies, plus some Halloween candy and eerie lighting, will ensure your night is filled with nothing but terror.

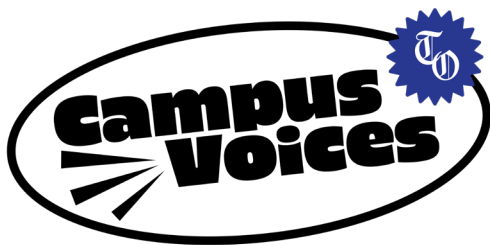
Halloween is the one holiday that is defined by its sweat treats. There are truly so many to choose from. There is candy (duh), pumpkin spice everything, those donut spider donuts from

Dunkin', and of course a Pumpkin Spice Latte (PSL) from any coffee shop.

"I like the seasonal treats and the candy, it's always been the best part," admits Kate Lenosky, senior fine arts major, and Jake Deluca, senior social work major.

Despite the actual festivities for the day, Halloween also starts the festivities for the greatest time of the year, the span between October and January when four holidays are celebrated back to back—Halloween, Thanksgiving, Christmas, and New Year's. As soon as I notice the leaves change color, I know the best of the year is yet to come. It's back-to-back fun, and Halloween is only the start!

So, I hope you all truly embrace the spooky season this year and partake in as many Halloween events as you can. If not for yourself, I hope you do it for me.



## What is Your Favorite Type of Candy?

INTERVIEWED by MICHAEL GRUSEKE



"I like Twizzlers."  
- Tom Viru



"My favorite candy is Milky Way because you literally can't go wrong with chocolate and caramel."  
- Lorelai Hilarczyk



"My favorite candy is Smarties."  
-Will Snowden



"Reese's are my favorite."  
- Mairead Spellacy



"One of my favorite candies has to be 3 Musketeers."  
- Olivia Puzio



"Anything chocolate."  
- Bailey Fredericks



"My favorite Halloween candy is Hershey's chocolate bars."  
- Cat Senatore



"Buncha Crunch."  
- Margaret McNeil



# 2024 Homecoming recap

**LAUREN BEVACQUA**  
FEATURES EDITOR

When students came back from fall break, the Student Government Association (SGA) kicked off this year's homecoming activities from Oct. 16 to Oct. 19. The theme for this year was The Flight of the Future.

Starting on Oct. 16, on the newly named Nagy Commons, SGA celebrated Shadow's birthday with cupcakes and Shadow the Hawk plushies. Students took pictures with Shadow and celebrate the many years he has been on this campus. The Pep Band also made an appearance to play "Happy Birthday" for Shadow.

On Oct. 17, Pie Oh My

and Sip N' Swirl parked near the Great Hall for students to wait in lines for free pizza and soft serve ice cream. Meanwhile, SGA gave out the 2024 homecoming t-shirts on Nagy Commons. The University football team also made an appearance to sign autographs.

On Friday Oct. 18, the Black Student Union (BSU) and SGA hosted a block party on the Residential Quad. This event included food, games, music, and a spray paint artist.

To end the week on Saturday Oct. 19, the Hawks played the Bryant University Bulldogs on a beautiful sunny day at Kessler Stadium. Many current Hawks and alumni gathered for events. SGA also added a mechanical bull, carnival games, and a psychic as the annual tailgate com-

menced.

That night, SGA hosted the annual bingo. Students gathered in hopes of winning prizes like a 42-inch TV, an Amazon Echo Dot, karaoke machine, and more.

This year's homecoming and events were planned by Kelly Gonzalez, a senior business administration student, and Jackie Tamburrino, a junior political science student.

Gonzalez said, "Planning homecoming was a surreal experience, especially since it's typically a role reserved for Student Government members. Coming from an external environment into the SGA, I felt the need to prove myself and show that I could rise to the challenge."

Tamburrino is the current director of programming of SGA who welcomed Gonzalez onto her team. She said, "Planning Homecoming 2024 was a role I was absolutely honored to take on. Being that our university's tradition is to cater homecoming to alumni, the Student Government Association made it a mission to implement events and activities that were tailored to the student experience. This year, my committee and I wanted to ensure we set the bar higher, especially when considering homecoming was a three-day

experience."

Gonzalez continued, "It [planning homecoming] was a fantastic opportunity to learn and grow, especially being part of such a high-profile event that everyone eagerly anticipates. Seeing the excitement and energy of the students made all the hard work worth it, and it was rewarding to know I had played a part in creating those memories."

As many students walk through the Rebecca Stafford Student Center, they may have noticed the streamers, moons and stars, and spacemen around each corner. Tamburrino, along with twenty other students, worked together to transform the first floor. However, they faced challenges the coming days. She describes that decorations had fallen down or broken and could not be hung back up.

Tamburrino said, "As you can imagine, this situation broke my heart as it took hours for us to bring our homecoming décor to the next level. It was unfortunate that we weren't able to bring our original decorating vision to life, however, it is not unusual to have an occurrence like that happen when you are planning an event. There will always be unforeseen problems arise when you least expect them. That was a tough but valuable lesson."

Even though the decorations may have fallen, this year's



PHOTO COURTESY of Izzie Lemke  
From left to right: Lexi Ford, Sydney Rosalsky, Sammi Panzella, Izzie Lemke have fun at the annual Homecoming tailgate.

homecoming was as successful as it always was.

Gonzalez emphasized her experience working with Tamburrino, "[Tamburrino] truly put my ideas into a reality. Her creativity and insight made this project soar to new heights."

"I would also like to thank the members of the Student Activities Board (SAB) and the Black Student Union (BSU) for their hard work in supporting homecoming as well. These organizations helped to bring an enhanced emphasis to the programming that was presented during homecoming this year," concluded Tamburrino.



PHOTO COURTESY of Kelly Gonzalez  
This year's homecoming Court was presented during halftime

## MU Players presents annual Haunted Tour



**SARA NELSON**  
STAFF WRITER

On Oct. 25, the Monmouth University (MU) Players held their annual Haunted Tour event in Anacon. This year's theme was "Night at the Museum," and the event was entirely student planned and run. The MU Players club members developed the storyline and set from scratch, and ultimately hosted a fantastic and scary night to get everyone in the Halloween spirit.

In this year's tour, groups of guests walked through an abandoned "museum" and were tasked with returning a pearl earring to one of the portraits in the museum's art gallery. As they made

their way through the museum to return the earring, they were scared by actors playing statues, knights, cavemen, and other people from various time periods. When the groups finally made it to the art gallery and returned the earring, they realized that the museum's dinosaur had escaped its cage and was now coming for them, causing them to run away and creating a terrifying end to the tour.

Making the event even more impressive is the fact that MU Players had only a little more than 24 hours to assemble the set in Anacon. Club members worked late into Thursday night setting up, and then late after the event on Friday to take everything apart. Putting on Haunted Tour was an immense group effort, but it is one of the club's favorite

events they do.

The president of MU Players, Nora O'Rourke, a senior music industry, expressed, "Haunted Tour is such a fun event! Every year we build up the entire set from cardboard and it's such a great bonding experience for our club!"

The technical directors for Haunted Tour, Olivia McGlone and Max Ghaffar, went above and beyond to create this year's event. McGlone, a sophomore social work student, said, "It was a really great experience to actively build something from the ground up, and I was very grateful people were enthusiastic and willing to help and perform."

McGlone added, "This event helps to generate a good environment for the

arts and demonstrates the power of student artists. It's also a great bonding and team-building event for MU Players."

Ghaffar, a junior software engineering and music student, commented, "The process was super stressful but it was such a wonderful experience. Seeing everything come together and fall into place during setup gave an immense sense of accomplishment, which I loved."

Julianna Chesla, a sophomore English student, acted as a witch in the Haunted Tour and said, "It required a lot of hard work and effort, but it was an excellent bonding experience and I love getting to act with my friends."

Overall, this year's Haunted Tour was incredibly successful, and MU Players gave their all to put on this fantastic event. The next upcoming MU Players event will take place on Nov. 21 at 8:00 p.m. at Woods Theatre. During this event, MU Players members will perform original poems and one act plays. The event will be free and open to the public, and MU Players urges everyone to attend!

If you have an interest in joining MU Players and being a part of events such as Haunted Tour, meetings are held at 3:30 p.m. at Woods Theatre every Wednesday.



PHOTO COURTESY of Sara Nelson  
Members of MU Players pose after their final Haunted Tour

## Upcoming Events!

### WEDNESDAY

**Rubenstein PR Headquarters**  
Career Trek  
8:30 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.  
NYC

**SAB Boo Bag Tabling**  
11:30 a.m. - 1:30 p.m.  
Student Center Patio

### THURSDAY

**Trick or Treat Prize Hunt**  
11:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.  
University Store

**Hawktober Halloween Special**  
6:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.  
HawkTVMU (Youtube channel)

### FRIDAY

**Food Truck Friday: Breakfast Edition**  
11:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.  
Great Hall "O" Circle

**Alpha Sigma Tau Bake Sale**  
12:00 p.m. - 3:00 p.m.  
Student Center

**Fall Fest**  
4:00 p.m. - 7:00 p.m.  
Residential Quad

### SATURDAY

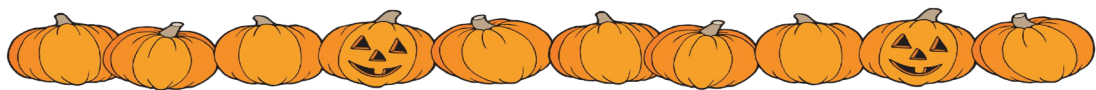
**Glow Night**  
7:00 p.m. - 10:00 p.m.  
Anacon Hall

## Song of the Week!

"I Put a Spell on You"  
by PattyCake







# Halloween night in

**BAILEY FREDERICKS**  
MANAGING EDITOR /  
LIFESTYLES EDITOR

Don't feel like hitting the bars this Halloween night? No worries, because we both know having a cozy night-in is way more fun. Here is your guide to plan the best spooky stay-at-home night with all your friends.

## Movies

It is essential to have a Halloween movie playing at all times throughout this spooktacular evening. If you're not into scary, I recommend "Hocus Pocus," streaming on Disney+ or available for purchase on Amazon Prime; "Practical Magic," streaming on Pluto TV or available for purchase on Youtube; and the Netflix duo of "The Curse of Bridge Hollow" and "Hubie Halloween."

If you love a classic thrasher film, try the original "Scream," available on HBO's MAX or Hulu; the 1974 rendition of "Halloween," streaming on AMC+ and PLEX; or "Friday the Thirteenth," available on Sling TV and for purchase on Youtube.

You're into the paranormal thrillers? Not my cup of tea, but here are some options to satisfy your horror itch: "Trick 'r Treat," on MAX and Philo;

"Poltergeist" streaming on Sling TV; and "Insidious," on Peacock, Hulu, and FuboTV.

If you want to feel nostalgic rather than spooked, try these: "Haunted Mansion," (yes, I'm talking about the one starring Eddie Murphy), "Halloweentown," and "The Nightmare Before Christmas," all watchable with a Disney+ subscription.

If you are still not seeing something you like, here are some honorable mentions, "Totally Killer," an Amazon Prime Video original; the 1991 version of "The Addams Family," streaming on Paramount+; "Goosebumps," streaming for free on Tubi; "Beetlejuice," on MAX and Hulu; and my personal favorite Halloween movie that everyone always forgets about, "Mostly Ghostly," (the original from 2007) watchable on Amazon Prime Video for a small fee.

## Sweet Treats

Before you start your movie, you have to make some snacks to munch on! One of my favorite fall comfort meals are homemade hot pockets. Grab a cupcake tray and line the inside with Pillsbury's biscuit dough. Add pizza sauce, pepperonis, and your choice of cheese. Fold the dough over so all the ingredients are wrapped tight. Bake in the oven until golden brown; test if the inside is nice and warm as well before you dive in.

Pair this delicious dinner with a sweet treat like the Pillsbury Pumpkin Sugar Cookies, Target's

"Favorite Day" brand's pumpkin cheesecake ice cream, or if you're really a chef, a warm and crispy apple pie. Popcorn mixed with your favorite candy is an amazing and easy classic treat too.

Lastly, you have to wash down all that goodness with something equally as delicious. Fanta Orange, an iced pumpkin spice latte, or a cup of tea would all be perfect. Or, if you're of legal age, a spooky cocktail will be the cherry on top. The Food Network's article "20 Haunted Cocktails To Serve at Your Halloween Party," includes drinks like the Poison Apple Punch, a whiskey cocktail with zesty and sweet notes; or, Zombie Punch, a concoction that mixes vodka, ginger ale, and pineapple juice, topped off with "zombie eyeballs" to make an especially spooky treat. I highly recommend checking out Food Network's full list for even more ideas!

## Music

No perfect evening is complete without some background noise to accompany you while you prep for your movie marathon. If you want a playlist that screams "I love Halloween," you must add "Thriller" by Michael Jackson; "Somebody's Watching Me" by Rockwell; "Monster Mash" by Bobby "Boris" Pickett; "Calling all the Monsters" by China Anne McClain; and of course, "This is Halloween" off

"The Nightmare Before Christmas" soundtrack.

Okay, maybe you love Halloween, but not that much, try listening to "Heads Will Roll" by the Yeah Yeah Yeahs; "Howlin' for You" by The Black Keys; "Halloween Birthdaze" by New Beat Fund; "Hungry Like the Wolf" by Duran Duran; or "Walking with a Ghost" by Tegan and Sara.

Want some songs that just feel like a crisp fall day? Try these: "Don't Know Why" by Norah Jones; "There She Goes" by The La's; "Oh Klahoma" by Jack Stuber; "Season of the Witch" by Donovan; and "Linger" by The Cranberries.

## Activities

There are so many fun activities you can do while you spend your evening binge watching your favorite movies. Everyone knows Halloween is for carving pumpkins, but painting pumpkins is a great (and less messy) craft to do with your friends to put you in the Halloween spirit. Plus, you can keep the pumpkins you decorate throughout the Thanksgiving season!

Another craft you can do is make friendship bracelets; friendship bracelets are always a good idea. Head to your local Michael's to grab some string and beads in shades of brown, orange, and beige. To make this idea even better, use a random name generator so each friend gets assigned another friend to make the bracelet for. This adds an element of surprise and makes the bracelets way more sentimental.

I think everyone has seen the trend going around where individuals go to a thrift store and

buy a beautiful piece of art just to go home and deface it by painting ghosts all over it. In all seriousness, I actually think this trend is really cute and gives a piece of once discarded art a new life. This could be a really fun activity to do with your friends or housemates, so then you can all have a type of friendship bracelet, but in huge picture form.

Lastly, you can have a spooky-inspired game night. There are so many themed playing cards you can purchase, like one's with Tim Burton's designs such as the "Beetlejuice" and "Corpse Bride" sets available at Five Below, or a special set of original characters, available on ebay for \$10 to \$25. But, if you aren't the competitive type, a huge puzzle is also a fun activity to share.

## Extras

Feeling extra? Me too. Too top off your night, remember to get the ambiance right. Light some pumpkin and cinnamon candles, decorate with your favorite fall pieces from HomeGoods, and provide lighting through orange twinkling strip lights.

Make sure your outfit is right. The Peanuts PJ set from American Eagle (I know you all know what I'm talking about) or Halloween inspired sets from Amazon are the only right answers. Finish your look with a scent from the Bath & Body Works' fall collection.

Skincare is essential. Stop at Ulta Beauty or Sephora to grab some face masks, eye patches, and leave-in hair conditioner.

And with that, you are all set to have the most spooktacular evening of your life!



IMAGE TAKEN from iheart.com.

# A basket for your boo

**ANA CARVALHO**  
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

I don't know about you guys, but Halloween is my favorite time of the year. I personally believe that you are never too old to enjoy holiday festivities and make it fun for you and your loved ones.

Every year, I make up a spooky basket for my mom, my older brother, and my close friends. Nothing makes me happier than watching their reactions.

Questions and comments I often get when I post about or talk about my spooky baskets are, "I wish I had someone to do this with," or, "How do you know what to put in them?" For starters, as I've said, spooky baskets are for everyone. You can make them for your pets, your family, classmates or your close friends. Additionally, they do not have a gender; you can make anyone happy with a spooky basket by providing them with awesome Halloween-related gifts.

Now, let's dig right into how to make your basket. Your first step would be choosing your, you guessed it, basket. I have found that you can get the same effect from a basket picked out at

Target, or Five Below, or even the dollar store. They don't necessarily need to look Halloween themed, that's what decorations are for; if you go with a simpler basket or one that is not particularly spooky looking, you can always dress it up. I personally have gone with adding spiderweb from Five Below around or on top of the basket, and it looks totally spooky!

Depending on who you're getting your basket for, you may find you do not want to fill it up with candy. For example, since my mom doesn't fancy chocolate or candy, I supplement her basket with other small trinkets. Pet baskets can include treats, Halloween toys, or even something fun they can add to their costume.

Gift cards never hurt! Feel free to give your loved one a gift card to somewhere they can get a fall drink or pastry from to stay on theme. I always find that for my close girl friends, getting them a gift card to Sephora or Ulta, if I'm unsure what products to get from there, also does the trick. There are allergies at times we aren't aware of, or products that may work for us, but don't work for them, so keep this in mind before purchasing any skincare or makeup items. These ideas carry over when thinking of your close guy friends, boyfriends, or brothers. Getting them a gift card

to somewhere they can eat or buy a product they'll enjoy this fall is just as considerate.

When in doubt, start with fall or Halloween inspired socks or slippers. It's always a safe go, as everyone in the fall season could use a warm fuzzy sock or slipper that sport "Hocus Pocus" or "Nightmare Before Christmas".

It is fun to get your favorite person any fall scented lip balm, lotion or hand sanitizer. I suggest a trip to Bath and Body Works for these items. You can get a handful of fall scented hand sanitizers for a decent price, or they even have a buy-one-get-one deal during certain times.

Another awesome addition to a spooky basket could be Halloween pajamas. This year, my best friend Carolyn and I have chosen to get each other pajamas we could wear this Halloween for our annual Spooky Sleepover. I was able to find her affordable Spiderman & Venom Halloween pajama pants at TJMaxx, but they can also be found at Target or Marshalls.

Now, I love to top off my baskets with a candle. Granted, fall candles can be acquired scents, so if you want to be safe, get something vanilla or linen scented. But, if you want to get a very fall scented candle for your loved one, a pumpkin, cinnamon, brown sugar

or apple pie scent is absolutely perfect for the season. If you visit Bath and Body Works, you can find amazing scents you're sure to love. These candles can run from \$16 to \$26, but I can say out of all of the candle brands I have ever tried, these last the longest and smell the best. If you're looking for something cheaper, don't hesitate to go to TJMaxx or Marshalls and visit their candle aisle; you're bound to take one home with you.

The very last item I want to suggest today is a plushie or figurine that your loved one would enjoy. If you're like me, you might love a "Coraline" plush, or a Jack Skellington FunkoPop. In the past, I have gotten my friends Harry Potter keychains and Hello Kitty Halloween plushies to decorate their baskets.

Of course, after mentioning all of this, it may sound like a lot. I would like to add that these are ideas simply, and not required. At times, when I have not been able to get my friends or family elaborate Halloween baskets, I

opted to get them a card or draw them something from their favorite Halloween movie. Whether you're able to get a big basket or a drawing you made for the people in your life this Halloween, know that you're doing enough! It's the thought counts, and your friends and family will be grateful you remembered them on this holiday above all else.

As a person whose love language is giving gifts, gift baskets make my holidays just that much more exciting, but it's not what makes the holiday. Time well spent showcasing care and effort is what makes the holiday special. Happy Halloween hawks!



IMAGE TAKEN from tastefultreats.com.



# Top 20 Halloween Movies

**BAILEY FREDERICKS**  
MANAGING EDITOR /  
LIFESTYLES EDITOR

Halloween is officially here - almost. If you are still planning what movies to indulge in this Halloween night, take a peek at the following list, in no particular order, all are classics.

## 1. "Hocus Pocus":

When a virgin lights the forbidden black flame candle one fateful Halloween night, the small town of Salem, Massachusetts, is turned upside down. The candle's flame enacts a centuries-long curse that brings back a trio of sinister witches for one night only - unless, of course, they eat the souls of all the children in the town. This Halloween classic, featuring notable actors such as Sarah Jessica Parker and Bette Midler, is available to stream on Disney+, Sling TV and Amazon Prime.

## 2. "Mostly Ghostly: Who Let the Ghosts Out?":

Based on the R.L. Stine book, "Mostly Ghostly" the film follows the story of Max Doyle (Sterling Beaumon) who discovers two friendly ghosts living in the basement of his home. The ghosts, played by Madison Pettis and Luke Benward, familiar faces if you watched a lot of Disney Channel growing up, ask Max to help them fully crossover into the afterlife. But, some mishaps throughout their journey make them the target of an evil spirit named Phears. This movie is totally underrated and definitely worth the small fee to watch via Amazon Prime, Youtube, or Apple TV.

## 3. "Hubie Halloween":

Who doesn't love a Netflix original Adam Sandler movie? Hubie, the town outcast, appoints himself as the head of the neighborhood watch on Halloween night. After a series of freaky events occur that lead to several members of his community disappearing, Hubie launches an investigation to discover what secrets his little town is hiding. With fantastic comedy actresses like Julie Bowen and June Squibb, and great actors from the Happy Madison Production family, like Steve Buscemi and Kevin James, this movie is guaranteed to make you hoot and holler joyfully.

## 4. "Halloweentown" Franchise:

This Disney Channel original franchise first aired in 1998 with "Halloweentown." It featured young Kimberly Brown as Marnie Piper, a "regular" girl living in the mortal world. But, when Marnie's grandma comes to visit one Halloween night, she begins to discover she is much more than just a regular girl. The franchise has three more films, "Halloweentown II: Kalabar's Revenge,"



IMAGE TAKEN from Marrin Mommies.

"Halloweentown High," and "Return to Halloweentown," all available on Disney+ and Hulu.

## 5. "Halloween":

Possibly one of the most iconic slasher films of all time, the original "Halloween" defined "final girl" with Jamie Lee Curtis' exquisite performance as Laurie Strode. Laurie is babysitting on, you guessed it, Halloween night, while convicted murder, Michael Myers is hatching his next plan to take the lives of innocent teenagers after his recent escape from prison. Though some of the other films in this franchise were lackluster, the original has stood the test of time. Watch this movie on AMC+, PLEX or fuboTV.

## 6. "The Curse of Bridge Hollow":

Starring sassy and funny "Stranger Things" actress Priah Ferguson, "The Curse of Bridge Hollow" is sure to become a seasonal classic. Bridge Hollow newbie, Sydney Gordon, accidentally releases an ancient spirit on Halloween night that reigns terror across the small town. With her dad's help, Sydney must capture the spirit before it is too late. This movie is only streaming on Netflix.

## 7. "The Nightmare Before Christmas":

You can never go wrong with a Tim Burton movie during the spooky season. When Pumpkin King Jack Skellington starts to feel ennui in Halloweentown, he decides to venture to another holiday land: Christmastown. Full of inspiration and splendor from his adventure, Jack decides to rebrand Halloweentown, but realizes taking over Christmas is not as easy as he originally thought. This definitely-not-Christmas movie is playing on Disney+, Sling TV, and Amazon Prime.

## 8. "Hotel Transylvania":

Dracula's pride and joy is his hidden hotel for monsters, right behind his beloved daughter, Mavis, of course. But, when the safety of his guests and family is compromised by the arrival of Johnny, a not-so-scary human, Dracula hatches a plan to protect his loved ones while still providing Mavis with the best 118th birthday possible. For a heart-

warming tale, stream "Hotel Transylvania" on Peacock, Amazon Prime or Youtube.

## 9. "Beetlejuice":

Available on MAX, Hulu and YouTube, "Beetlejuice" is another Tim Burton classic guaranteed to put you in a spooktacular mood. Say "Beetlejuice" three times, and a mischievous spirit will appear to help you with whatever you desire, but at a cost. After a newly deceased couple attempts to haunt the new (alive) residents of their home to no avail, they summon Beetlejuice for help; the consequences are dire.

## 10. "Monster House":

This 2006 animated feature directed by Gil Kenan follows the story of best friends, DJ, Zee and Chowder. The trio believes their neighbor, mysterious and creepy Nebbercracker, is evil. When they choose to start investigating his secrets, they learn his very may be evil, but his house is absolutely sinister. Check out Amazon Prime, Apple TV or Google Play to watch this movie (which should definitely not be rawted PG).

## 11. "The Addams Family":

The 1991 rendition of "The Addams Family," featuring Angelica Huston as Morticia, Christina Ricci as Wednesday, and Raul Julia as Gomez, is a charmingly good time. When Uncle Fester, who was missing for years, surprisingly returns, spirits begin to rise at the Addams' home. However, Morticia has a funny feeling about Fester's sudden re-emergence. With reclusive Wednesday and vexatious Pugsley providing an abundance of comedic relief, this is the perfect movie to watch with your family, friends, or significant other. Stream it on Pluto TV, Paramount+ or Hulu.

12. "Totally Killer": This Amazon Prime original has all the fixings for a classic 80s horror film, but set in the present day (but also in the 80s). A notorious serial killer is back from the past on a mission to claim one last victim. Jamie Hughes (Kiernan Shipka) comes face-to-face with the killer, in a moment of panic, discovers a time machine that takes her back to 1987. There, she meets the teenage version of her mom (Olivia Holt) and attempts to discover the killer

before they can reign terror. This is an equally hilarious and terrifying film that takes the cake for a modern day "Halloween" or "Scream".

## 13. "Haunted Mansion":

The brand new rendition of "Haunted Mansion" was released in 2023 and has already made my Halloween movie rotation. When a mom and her son move into a, well, haunted mansion, they recruit a team of paranormal ghost experts to rid the house of miserable spirits. This movie is especially fun to watch if you are a Disney fan, as you see many parallels and homages to the Haunted Mansion rides at the Disney parks. You can watch this movie with a Disney+ or Sling TV subscription.

## 14. "Goosebumps":

Another R.L. Stine inspired movie absolutely had to make this list. What's interesting about this movie is that it features R.L. Stine (Jack Black) as an actual character. Similar to the real word, R.L. Stine is a best selling author of the series "Goosebumps," unlike the real world, his fictional monsters take on a physical form that threaten the safety of the world. To watch this movie, you must have an Amazon Prime subscription or you can pay a small fee on Youtube or Google Play.

## 15. "Casper":

Streaming on Peacock, Sling TV, and Amazon Prime, is an adorable story about an even more adorable ghost. Dr. James Harvey (Bill Pullman) drags his daughter Kat (Christina Ricci) out to an abandoned mansion in search of the paranormal. Thankfully, they run into the friendliest ghost to ever exist, Casper. But, the duo quickly realizes not all spirits are as peaceful as Casper.

## 16. "Twitches":

What can I say, I grew up as a Disney Channel kid. Tia and Tamera Mowry star as long-lost twin witches in this family comedy. On their 21st birthday, which also happens to be Halloween, the sisters discover they are magical witch-princesses from another universe. When "the darkness" begins attacking their kingdom, the duo must band together to stop these evil powers from destroying everything they love. Stream

this movie on Disney+, Hulu and fuboTV.

## 17. "Nightmare on Elm Street":

Switching gears from family-friendly to quite literally nightmare inducing, give the 1984 rendition of "Nightmare on Elm Street" a try. This slasher, horror film features villain Freddy Kruger, a disfigured man-creature with knives for hands, who preys on teenagers in their dreams. Girl-next-door, Nancy Thompson (Heather Langenkamp), starts to put together the pieces of how Freddy Kruger can haunt teens in their sleep, effectively killing them in the real world. But, as she begins to lose sleep herself, in an attempt to protect against Kruger's attacks, Nancy and her close friends wonder if her delusions of getting the best of her. This classic is available on MAX, Philo, Hulu and Sling TV.

## 18. "Scream":

The original 1996 version of "Scream" is a must-watch classic for all horror fans. Once again, a masked killer is wreaking havoc on a small town. After claiming his first victim, Casey (Drew Barrymore), and coining the phrase "what's your favorite scary movie," the killer moves on to find more innocent victims. Watch "Scream" on Youtube, Hulu or Amazon Prime.

## 19. "Jennifer's Body":

Watch this 2009 film, starring Megan Fox and Amanda Seyfried on Hulu, Paramount+ or Peacock. Jennifer Check is your classic 2000s high school mean girl, Anita "Needy" Lesnicki is your classic high school nerd, but the two are absolute best friends. Jennifer is always pulling Needy into trouble, like one deadly night when the pair goes to a local bar to watch an edgy rock band perform. After Jennifer exits the bar with the band, leaving Needy behind, Jennifer returns later that night in a bloody and broken state. But, to Needy's surprise, the next morning, Jennifer is looking and acting better than ever. What's up with that, Jennifer?

## 20. "Girl vs. Monster":

Skylar Lewis (Olivia Holt) discovers her parents are monster hunters after accidentally releasing thousands of demons and spirits that were locked away in the basement of her home. Deimata (Tracy Dawson), one of the monsters released, is Skylar's personal monster, meaning Deimata's only mission is to scare Skylar into insanity. After Deimata captures both of Skylar's parents, she is forced to act bravely and fight Deimata alone. This movie is available on Disney+, fuboTV and Hulu.

I hope you can find something on this list that you think you will love. Happy Halloween, hawks!



# Rocktober: A battle for the ages and a cause

RILEY KINDLER  
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

On Oct. 23, Blue Hawk Records, student-run record label, collaborated with the Office of Student Engagement and the Greek Senate to present a battle for the ages – no violence, though.

Rocktober, a new event spearheaded by The Music Alliance (TMA) President Samantha Spano and other Blue Hawk members, is a way for students to collaborate and create bands that compete for a spot at a future MU showcase, a cape and crown, and of course, bragging rights over their peers. After auditioning in front of other Blue Hawk students, four bands were selected to compete in front of a live audience for the coveted prize. The event uniquely utilized audience participation in its format, requiring the audience of friends, students, alumni, and family to vote in real-time for who would proceed to the next round.

Each audience member was asked to donate to the Backline Foundation for their admission fee. The Backline Foundation “connects music industry professionals and their families with mental health and wellness resources,” as stated on their social media. According to Spano, the event raised \$422 in cash for the Backline Foundation, a monumental

success for Blue Hawk Records and Backline.

Corine Rose, the first band of the evening, opened the show with their “Drunk and I Don’t Wanna Go Home” performance by Elle King and Miranda Lambert. The band meshed well and had fantastic backing vocals, which inspired the audience to clap along with them. After them was Paradigm, a hard rock/metal band made up of students new to Monmouth. The lead singer walked out with a cloak on, proving this would be a unique performance. Their performance of “Duality” by Slipknot was extremely heavy and tight, clearly showing every musician’s talent and charisma. After an incredibly close voting process, Paradigm was voted off, allowing Corine Rose to move to the finals.

In the second round, The Peach Trees, in their live first performance ever, performed “Check Yes, Juliet” by We The Kings. Their vocals were especially impressive, and the band had a lot of fun on stage, engaging the audience to clap along. After them was The Hifis, a band whose members live in 4 different states. They opened with “Mr. Brightside” by The Killers, an obvious crowd-pleaser that had everyone standing and dancing in the aisles. In the end, the crowd voted The Hifis as the winners of the round, and we said goodbye to The Peach Trees.

The finals saw a costume change

for the two winning bands, the singer of The Hifis now sporting a cowboy hat, and the two singers of Corine Rose wearing matching black ensembles. The Hifis opened the finals with a dynamic performance of “Monkey Wrench” by Foo Fighters, even leaving in a part for the band to introduce themselves. The song ended with a ripping solo by drummer Mike Kazigian and each string player coaxing feedback from their amp, a scene reminiscent of an early performance by The Who.

Finally, to close the show, Corine Rose took to the stage to perform “Shut Up and Dance” by Walk the Moon. They had the entire audience participate by lighting the room with phone cameras and waving back and forth, an idea that had many audience members grinning ear to ear by the end. Guitarist Evan Schuett delivered an impressive solo that helped the band secure an impressive turnout.

In the end, after another extremely close voting round, Corine Rose was crowned the winner of the first annual Rocktober event. The band celebrated on stage with all the other performers, who were equally happy to have participated in the event. Overall, a great night was had by all. Music was shared, many got to dance, and even a few were singing along in their seats.



IMAGE TAKEN from Blue Hawk Records Instagram.



IMAGE TAKEN from Blue Hawk Records Instagram.

Blue Hawk Records team working “Rocktober” in Pollak Theatre on Oct. 23 bringing the Halloween spirit.

## “Practical Magic”: Flip the switch and let the cauldron bubble

LORELAI HILARCZYK  
ENTERTAINMENT EDITOR

Witches aren’t always green with moles covering their faces. Some of the best cinematic witches look like regular people, like Sabrina Spellman (“Sabrina the Teenage Witch”), the Halliwell sisters (“Charmed”), and Bonnie Bennett (“Vampire Diaries”). But for me, there’s one film that outshines the rest when it comes to witches, “Practical Magic.”

The film’s masterminds include director Griffin Dunne and producer Denise Di Novi, who based the film on the book “Practical Magic” by Alice Hoffman. Starring Sandra Bullock, Nicole Kidman, Stockard Channing, and Dianne Wiest, “Practical Magic” tells the story of two witch sisters, Sally (Sandra Bullock) and Gillian (Nicole Kidman) Owens, and their trials of finding and losing love. The film opens with Maria Owens, an ancestor of Sally and Gillian, escaping execution for witchcraft in Massachusetts. Salem witch trials, anyone? Maria is then exiled to live on an island (later known as Maria’s Island), where she realizes she’s pregnant and waits for her lover to come and rescue her. He never came (typical men, am I right?), so in a fit of agony and heartbreak, Maria casts a spell on herself to never fall in love again. Little did she know that spell would manifest into future generations of Owens women

cursing any man who falls in love with them to die.

Sally and Gillian’s mother died of a broken heart after she heard the “death watch beetle” ticking for her husband’s death. This sadly left the sisters as orphans who went to live with their Aunt Frances (Stockard Channing) and Aunt Jet (Dianne Wiest), who are fully immersed and practiced in “the craft.” As Aunt Jet says, “And this is what comes from dabbling; I mean you can’t practice witchcraft while you look down your nose at it.” The Aunts raised the girls to be strong and confident in their abilities, but the looming family curse hangs over the girl’s heads like a dark cloud. Young Sally casts her own spell, a love spell, for

a man who could not possibly exist because of her outlandish details, like being able to ride a pony backward, flip pancakes in the air, and have one green eye and one blue.

Unlike her sister Gillian, who says, “I can’t wait to fall in love,” Sally wants to protect her heart at all costs. The two sisters grow up as complete opposites: Gillian, the daredevil, badass sister, and Sally, tame and striving for normalcy after the death of her husband and father of her two girls. Throughout the movie, you see the dynamic between the two sisters, who feel their bond and connection to one another no matter where they are in the world.

So when Gillian winds up in

trouble, who better to come to the rescue than her sister?

Gillian gets roped up with mysterious bad boy Jimmy Angelov (Goran Visnjic), a heavy drinker and partier. His violent and obsessive personality when drinking leads to him becoming abusive towards Gillian. A chilling car ride of “Always on My Mind” by Elvis Presley and drugging the violent boyfriend, lead to his death in the back of the car. And what do the sisters do, you may ask? Try to bring Angelov back from the dead. Along the way, they are questioned by a private investigator, Gary Hallet (Aidan Quinn), who has a strong attraction and pull towards Sally. Sally feels that pull, too, especially after noticing certain characteristics that can’t be ignored, like how he has one green eye and one blue.

Without revealing more about the film’s plot you can expect witty humor, heartfelt moments, sisterly bonds, and, most importantly, witchcraft. Oh, and a dance scene to “Coconut” by Harry Nilsson, which I highly encourage everyone to recreate with their friends.

One thing I do want to mention is my favorite thing about this film: the soundtrack. The soundtrack is not only beautifully compiled but features some huge names in music. And one thing I appreciate is a soundtrack that enhances the plot and adds to the film. The songs aren’t there to fill any background silence,

they have specific purposes throughout. The legend herself, Stevie Nicks, has two songs on the album, “If You Ever Did Believe” and “Crystal.” “Crystal” was originally a Fleetwood Mac song sung by Lindsey Buckingham and written by Nicks. The “Practical Magic” version is sung entirely by Nicks with backing vocals by Sheryl Crow, giving it an unearthly sound as if you’re being driven like a magnet to the sea.

Other songs on the album are “Got to Give It Up, Part 2” by Marvin Gaye, “Is This Real” by Lisahall, “Nowhere and Everywhere” by Michelle Lewis, and “A Case of You” by the one and only, Joni Mitchell. The classic country hit “This Kiss” by Faith Hill is also featured during one of the most romantic scenes. The film also has original instrumental songs, “Practical Magic” and “Amas Veritas” by Alan Silvestri.

This film is a Halloween fall classic and a must-watch for movie lovers. It’s not a scary thriller that’ll leave you shaking in your boots. And it’s not completely PG, but it’s a film you’ll never forget and one you’ll watch year after year. I’ll leave you with my favorite quote from Sally Owens, “There are some things I know for certain: Always throw spilled salt over your left shoulder, keep rosemary by your garden gate, plant lavender for luck, and fall in love whenever you can.”



IMAGE TAKEN from BuzzFeed News.



# ELECTION DAY 2024: WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW

BRENDAN SHEEHAN  
POLITICS EDITOR

## GOVERNORS

### PRESIDENT

The race for the White House is no doubt the most covered race in the 2024 general election.

Vice President Kamala Harris, the Democratic nominee, and former president Donald Trump, the Republican nominee, will face off in what is largely considered the closest, most consequential election in modern history.

In the presidential race, there are seven battleground states that will determine the outcome of the election. The states of Arizona, Georgia, Michigan, Nevada, North Carolina, Pennsylvania and Wisconsin are widely viewed as the states that are up for grabs by either candidate and will be crucial to pushing the winner over the finish line.

538 is a non-partisan elections database that developed a model for how likely each candidate is to win in each state given state partisanship, economic conditions and incumbency among others.

As of the time this article was written, Trump holds a slight lead in Arizona, Georgia, North Carolina and Pennsylvania while Harris holds a slight lead in Michigan and Wisconsin. However, 538 notes all seven states are within their margin of error, meaning the candidate behind in each state is still close enough to win. Overall, 538's election prediction model gives Trump a 53% chance of winning the election, compared to Harris' 46%.

Both candidates are making their final pitches to voters ahead of the election. On Sunday, Oct. 27, Trump gave his "closing argument" to a full-capacity crowd of roughly 20,000 at Madison Square Garden in New York City. The speakers before Trump, however, received bipartisan backlash for jokes the Trump campaign said were made in "poor taste." For example, one speaker noted the need to, "slaughter these other people," while another called Puerto Rico, "a floating island of garbage."

On Friday, Oct. 25, Harris held a rally with Beyonce in Texas, drawing roughly 30,000 attendees. On Tuesday, Oct. 29, Harris held a speech at the Ellipse in Washington, D.C., the infamous site of Trump's rally on Jan. 6, 2021, before his supporters stormed the U.S. Capitol. Harris is reportedly going to make a pitch to undecided voters and give a final argument on the threat Trump poses to American democracy.

The races for governor across the country receive less coverage, but have critical implications for issues like abortion and education. Of the 11 gubernatorial races in the 2024 general election, only two are considered competitive.

In North Carolina, Republican Lieutenant Governor Mark Robinson was neck-in-neck with Democratic nominee Josh Stein. That was until CNN broke a story about Robinson's comments on a former adult website where, among other things, he referred to himself as a "black Nazi." In other speeches, he mocked school shooting survivors, disparaged the civil rights movement and made derogatory comments about women. Three recent polls released by Marist College and Emerson College show Stein ahead of Robinson with a lead ranging from 12 to 15 points, respectively.

Following the controversy and Stein's climb in the polls, pollsters and pundits now call the race for governor in New Hampshire the most competitive in the country. Former U.S. Senator Kelly Ayotte is the Republican nominee, taking on Democrat Joyce Craig, the mayor of Manchester, New Hampshire's largest city. Ayotte has faced criticism for past votes in favor of restricting abortion access while Craig has taken criticism for how she handled homelessness and crime in Manchester. A recent poll from the University of Massachusetts showed Ayotte with a one-point lead over Craig.

Republicans currently make up 27 governorships compared to the Democrats' 23. However, having a majority of governorships does not come with any particular advantage, unlike the other races covered in this article.

## HOW TO VOTE

If you are looking to cast a vote in the 2024 general election, but aren't sure if you are registered, where you're registered or how you could vote, we're here to help. By visiting either IWillVote.com or Vote.gov, you can check if you're registered, register to vote if you are still eligible, and find out how you can make your voice heard on Election Day.

### CONGRESS

The race for control of Congress is not as covered as the presidential race, but is equally as close and either party could end up victorious.

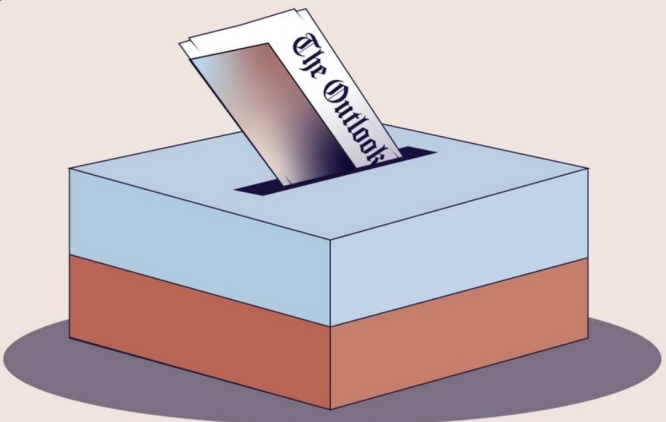
In the U.S. Senate, Democrats are facing an uphill battle to retain control of the chamber. With an all-but-certain Republican gain in West Virginia, and Democrats forced to defend Montana and Ohio, two more conservative states, their hopes of keeping their slim majority seems dim. Currently, Democrats hold 51 seats compared to 49 seats for the Republicans. However, Sherrod Brown, the Democratic Senator for Ohio up for election, remains popular in the state, is polling well, and just received the endorsement of a former Republican governor.

In another turn of events, Dan Osborn, an Independent candidate running in Nebraska has surged into the national conversation as polls show an unexpectedly tight race between him and Republican Senator Deb Fischer. A recent New York Times/Siena College poll has Fischer at 48%, and Osborn at 46%. 538's prediction model finds Republicans have an 89% chance of flipping the Senate, and an 11% chance Democrats keep control of the upper chamber.

In the U.S. House, Republicans are hoping to keep their historically small majority intact. Currently, Republicans hold 221 seats compared to 214 seats for the Democrats. 538's forecast shows just 26 seats that either "lean" one way or are toss-up's, meaning either candidate has a shot of winning. One of those lean districts is New Jersey's 7th Congressional District, where Democrat Sue Altman is running to unset Republican Representative Tom Kean Jr. 538's prediction model gives Republicans a 52% chance of keeping control of the U.S. House, and gives Democrats a 48% chance of flipping control.

Since Republicans have controlled the chamber since January 2023, they've battled instability within their own party. Kevin McCarthy was ousted as Speaker of the House in a historic first after disagreements with a handful of far-right Republicans. The House voted to expel Republican Rep. George Santos of New York, failed to pass key policy items due to disagreements among Republican members, failed to bring evidence forward to bring evidence forward to support their claim President Joe Biden should be impeached, dealt with a handful of resignations and oversaw the least productive Congress in 100 years.

the outlook encourages  
you to vote! ★ ★ ★ ★



you use your student voices in the paper,  
now lets see them at the polls!

GRAPHIC BY Kiley Hubbard.

Scan  
here to  
register  
to vote!



REGISTER TO VOTE AT VOTE.GOV









# WATCH PARTY

NOVEMBER 4 | OCEANFIRST BANK CENTER

WBB VS. YALE  
@ 5PM ON ESPN+

MBB VS. MICHIGAN STATE  
@ 7PM ON BIG 10 PLUS



# FALL FEST

NOVEMBER 1, 2024 4:00 - 7:00 P.M.  
RESIDENTIAL QUAD



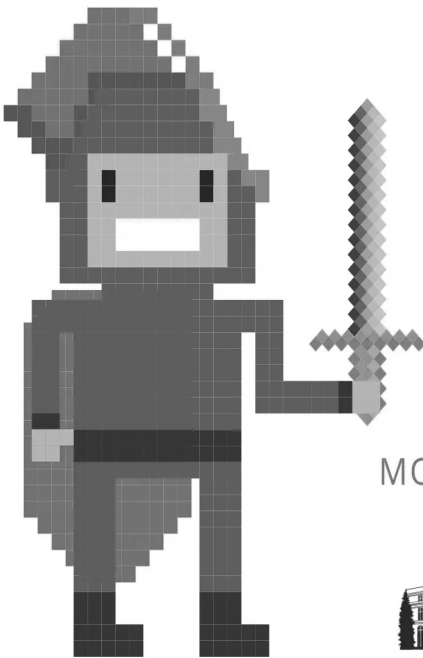
**FREE FOR MONMOUTH COMMUNITY!**  
PETTING ZOO - FUNNEL CAKE - FRIED OREOS - KETTLE CORN - GAME TRAILER - PSYCHICS - AND MUCH MORE!



GAMER'S  
HAVEN:  
AXES,  
MYSTICS,  
& MORE



SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 9  
7 - 10 P.M.  
RESIDENTIAL QUAD



AXE THROWING  
VIDEO GAME TRUCK  
FORTUNE TELLER  
MOBILE ESCAPE ROOM TRAILER  
SNACKS & FOOD!!



MONMOUTH  
UNIVERSITY

STUDENT  
ENGAGEMENT







# Towson Tigers defeat Monmouth Hawks on their home turf

**EMILY STACHERSKI**  
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

On Saturday, the Monmouth Hawks (3-4) went against the Towson Tigers (4-3) at Kessler Stadium in West Long Branch resulting in a tough loss of 14-26 for Monmouth.

Towson won the coin toss electing to kick off first, which led to the Monmouth offense starting at the 25-yard line. The game's first play was a 5-yard run when quarterback, Derek Robertson, handed off the ball. After a first down and a false start, the Hawks kicked to the opposing team. Towson responded with no return on the play, a 15-yard pass interference penalty, and a kick back to Monmouth.

Monmouth's second try started at the 37-yard line which allowed them to gain the first down immediately. After that, they went for it on a fourth and two resulting in them being 1-yard short, forcing a turnover. The next two possessions, by both teams, ended in a sacked quarterback by Tow-

son's defensive lineman Junee Dunbar.

The game started quickly in the second quarter when Towson scored a 10-yard touchdown to tight end Carter Runyo and got the extra point. In response, Robertson threw a 41-yard catch to wide receiver Gavin Nelson. This was capped with a touchdown by running back Sone Ntoh and the extra point by Michael Calton Jr.

With 1:40 left in the second quarter, Towson scored a field goal by Keegan Vaughan leaving the score 10-7 for halftime after a false start for all 11 offensive players. With just six seconds left, Monmouth was close to another touchdown but ultimately could not come through ending with an interception in the endzone in the first half.

The second half started with Towson's quarterback Sean Brown leading a nine-play, 70-yard drive. This led to a 3-yard touchdown once again by Runyon, giving the Tigers a 17-7 lead.

Towson ultimately went the whole game never trailing behind Monmouth. After a 10-yard penalty for holding



PHOTO COURTESY of Troy Fenton Jr.  
**Gavin Nelson** had a career-high day, as he went for 133 receiving yards on nine receptions and a 33-yard touchdown.

and a sack resulting in a loss of 5 yards, MU started at the 11-yard line but quickly got down the field. Right before the third quarter ended, Robertson threw a 33-yard scoring pass to Nelson attempting to catch up to the Tigers.

After several failed throws in the endzone, Towson got a 22-yard field goal. In their

next possession midway through the fourth quarter, Brown threw a 6-yard touchdown once again to Runyon. When they went for a 2-point conversion, Monmouth's defense denied them quickly.

With almost 20 seconds left on the clock, the game came to a close with a final

score of 26-14.

Robertson threw 305 yards in total involving two touchdowns and an interception leaving both team's records at 4-4. After a four game stretch at home, the Hawks will hit the road again this weekend to face Rhode Island on Saturday Nov. 2 in Kingston, RI.

## Women's soccer secures regular season title

**MAIREAD SPELLACY**  
SPORTS EDITOR

Senior day was well spent for the Hawks as they beat Hampton 2-0 on Sunday Oct. 27, securing the CAA regular season title and clinching the number one seed for the upcoming CAA tournament.

It all began when forward Summer Reimet set the tempo for the game at the 9:17 mark, making her way around her defender and past Hampton goalkeeper Avery John for the 1-0 lead.

John kept solid in goal making five saves as Monmouth sought out numerous attempts to extend their lead. Monmouth had no success in doing that, but held onto their 1-0 lead as they went into the half.

The Pirates wasted no time in the second half as they fought to get the equalizer. Goalkeeper Cassie

Coster came up big with a save for the Hawks, keeping Hampton off the board.

Monmouth fought back, continuing to seek out chances and in the 88th minute were able to capitalize on

one of them as forward Ashley Lavrich found midfielder Liza Suydam who sent the ball into the back of the net and solidified the Hawks victory 2-0.

The Hawks had an out-

standing offensive performance with 32 shots during the contest, 14 of them on goal. Reimet led the efforts with four shots, three of them on goal. Monmouth held Hampton to three shots, two

of them on goal.

Following Suydam's performance on Sunday, she was named CAA Offensive Player of the Week on Monday Oct. 28. The 10th time this season a Hawk has been honored by the CAA and Suydam's second this season makes her the third Hawk to be honored multiple times just this season.

Suydam's week started on Thursday Oct. 24 against Hofstra when she not only scored the first goal of the game but the last, securing her second game-winning goal this season.

After her performance against Hampton, she now has a career-high eight goals as well as two assists for a total of 18 points this season.

Suydam will look to continue this success as the Hawks prepare to face the winner of No. 4 Hofstra/No. 5 Delaware on Sunday, Nov. 3.



PHOTO COURTESY of Anya Kazmierczak  
**Monmouth** womens soccer now sit as the number one seed for the CAA tournament after their 2-0 win over Hampton which secured them the regular season title







**THE OUTLOOK**

**S P O R T S**

**MONMOUTH UNIVERSITY**

**WOMEN'S SOCCER CLINCH REGULAR SEASON TITLE**



Monmouth Women's Soccer head into the CAA Tournament as the number one seed after beating Hampton 2-0.