

The Outlook

Monmouth University's Student-Run Newspaper EST. 1933

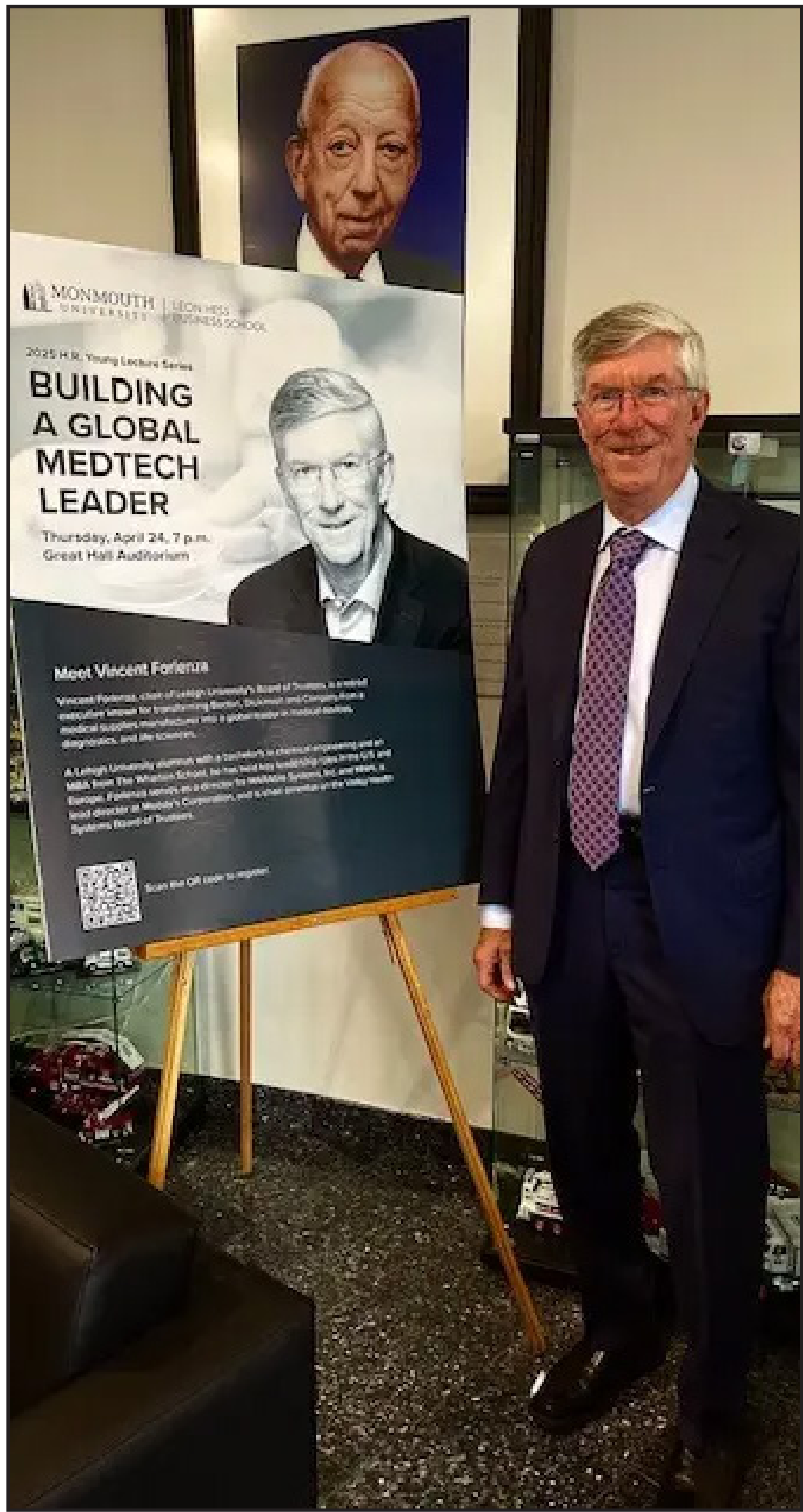


PHOTO COURTESY of Henry Boody.

Vincent Forlenza presented 'Building a Global Medtech Leader'.

H.R. Young Lecture Series Hosts Vincent Forlenza

MAIREAD SPELLACY
EDITOR-IN-CHIEF/ NEWS EDITOR

Monmouth University's Leon Hess Business School (LHBS) hosted their annual H.R. Young Lecture Series on Thursday, Apr. 24, 2025. Vincent Forlenza, the retired Executive Chairman and CEO of the world's largest medical supply company, Becton Dickinson and Company (BD), presented "Building a Global Medtech Leader" in the Great Hall Auditorium.

Students, faculty, and leaders in business gathered to combine classroom with boardroom as professors brought their classes, roughly 150 students and individuals from Forlenza's alma mater, Lehigh University, were in attendance.

The H.R. Young Lecture Series named after Howard R. Young, a former director and partner at Goldman Sachs, has been an annual event sponsored by the LHBS, and has hosted a number of speakers from Mr. Carmine Coppola, Executive Vice President of Sony Music Entertainment, to Susan Fowler, American Writer and ex-software engineer.

Richard Ricciardi, corporate relations officer for the LHBS and who selected Forlenza as this year's speaker, shared that they aim to select the highest quality people from all walks of life, and

Forlenza wearing numerous hats fit that.

Forlenza started at BD in 1980, and worked his way up. First, running their biosciences area before becoming president in 2009, COO in 2010, CEO in 2011 and Chairman in 2012. After retiring in 2021, Forlenza has remained active in leadership roles as he chaired AdvaMed, the world's largest medical technology association. He is currently chairman of the Board of Trustees of Lehigh University as well as MARABio, a precision immunology company in early autism diagnosis while serving as a director for MNHI, Acuitive Technologies, and Moody's corporation.

Under the leadership of Forlenza, BD transitioned from being a medical supply company to a major global player in diagnostics, devices and life sciences, while tripling its market cap.

Medtech, otherwise known as Medical Technology, are the devices and systems used for health purposes, according to The World Health Organization. Medtech is an industry that is thriving in the U.S. economy, making up a total economic output of \$381 billion annually in the U.S., as stated by AdvaMed. Further, "The industry is responsible for nearly 2 million jobs in the U.S., including both direct and indirect employment. Medical technology directly accounts for nearly 519,000

"H.R. Young Lecture Series" cont. on pg. 2

H.R. Young Lecture Series

cont. from pg. 1

U.S. jobs. Forlenza discussed corporate transformation and the different elements in corporate strategy that BD had to go through to drive their company from medical supplies to a higher tech in faster growing markets.

Kylensky Miracle, a junior business major shared, “The biggest thing I took from this event on top of all the great knowledge Mr. Vincent told us was that it’s very important when you do decide to move up into corporate and you decided to eventually go out and seek these things, it’s very important to have a support system, it’s very important to have people you trust, it’s very important to look

at ‘Okay, what am I doing wrong, what do I need to improve, and how are we going to do that?’ It’s very important to structure that in a way where everyone is on the same page and you’re communicating that.”

Forlenza concluded his presentation with a Q&A portion where he shared, “Do a good job at your job...don’t think your career is linear...and move from business to business, so you get the understanding of how businesses work...and finally, most importantly, live the values.”

Forlenza added, “Treat every job as a learning opportunity, learn not just your job but learn from those you interact with. You will position yourself for larger responsibilities”.



PHOTO COURTESY of Richard Ricciardi.

Vincent Forlenza alongside Monmouth Business students.

Parson's Cafe now serving Offshore Coffee Co.

MAIREAD SPELLACY
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Offshore Coffee Co., located on Brighton Ave. in Long Branch is a popular spot for Monmouth University students to sit and grab a cup of coffee. Although, students no longer have to travel to them, because they have come to campus. Parson's Cafe, located in the Great Hall began selling Offshore Coffee Co. products beginning this semester after previously getting their coffee from Booskerdoo Coffee Co.

Jennifer Cabral, Parson Cafe's head barista has worked at Monmouth University for almost 30 years and is no stranger to the Monmouth community. Cabral explained this transition as “new and exciting”, as everyone has been loving Offshore Coffee, they decided it was time for a change.

Summer Lang, a sophomore education major, said she preferred Parson's Cafe prior to the change, explaining how she liked the

individuality of ordering, “Jen would make your drink however you want it.”

New students, freshman Ally Melton and Maggie Scally reacted positively to having Offshore Coffee on campus and enjoyed their drinks.

Previously, iced drinks at Parson's Cafe were available for purchase only in 20 ounce cups. Iced drinks are now available in 12, 16, 20, and 24 oz. cups.

“This is more convenient, people don't want a 20 oz. all the time,” Cabral added.

There are two signature lattes currently on the menu including a Maple, Honey, Cinnamon Latte and a Vanilla, Agave, Cinnamon Matcha. However, Cabral's list of specials that she made specifically for the Parson's Cafe with student's preferences in mind are no longer available for purchase.

Returning student Isabella Lemke, a senior health studies major, said, “I loved going into Parson's before and having the specialties on the menu and Jen having creative freedom by making her specials. She continued, “I tried Offshore in Parson's but I was very disappointed when I had to guess which coffee I

wanted because I didn't know what all these new flavors were.”

Now, Cabral makes all of the syrups used in drinks from scratch, including using fresh lavender petals.

Cabral said, “Which I stand behind, because I am really into that, the natural, because I don't want you all to be having preservatives.”

Starting in October, the cafe will be reinstating a monthly special as previously done in Parson's Cafe. Cabral noted that September has been a month of adjusting to the new menu and products, causing the monthly specials to start later than usual.

With the switch in vendors, Cabral has not noticed a difference in volume of students within the cafe.

“During the fall semester it is always busy because you have new students coming in, everybody wants to try things and they absolutely love it.”

Parson's will now be serving its pastries and baked goods sourced from Pop's Corner Restaurant and Bakery out of Point Pleasant.

Stephanie Cefolo, a senior communications major shared, “While the options aren't as much as they used to be, coffee is still coffee and Jen is still there with her kindness.”



IMAGE TAKEN by Ava McGinty.

Jennifer Cabral has worked at Monmouth for over 30 years.



Welcome Class of 2029

Our Outlook Staff hope you have a great start to the semester!



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Beans or Burden: Is coffee affordable for college students?

EDITORIAL STAFF

What college student doesn't start their morning with a caffeinated beverage? Here at Monmouth University, our campus not only has a Dunkin' but our very own Parson's Cafe located in the Great Hall. If you're stepping into the Great Hall on a bustling Monday morning, you're likely to find the line for coffee leading out the door.

Over the summer the cafe underwent a major change in collaboration with New Jersey's very own Offshore Coffee Co. Instead of using Booskerdoo Coffee Co., Parson's will now be using Offshore Coffee Co. beans for their hot coffee and espresso. However delicious coffee may be, it's still quite the costly item. Generally coffee is about five to six dollars, unless you get some sort of specialty item. So will having Offshore Coffee Co. on our campus provide a new alternative for students? Will it be just as costly or will it be affordable?

The Outlook editors decid-

ed to discuss the very topic of coffee for this week's editorial in correlation with this week's news story. In order to get a better understanding on where the editors stand, they were asked how frequently they seek out the drink.

One editor said, "I drink coffee literally everyday, sometimes more than once a day. I'll either make my own at home, buy it on the way to campus, or buy it on campus. I can't go without it, it's my routine at this point."

Another editor said, "I drink coffee, but not as frequently as some people might. It's normally a sweet treat of mine."

While some people might not be a hardcore coffee fanatic, the drink is clearly a part of campus. The editors were asked how they feel about coffee pricing on campus and how that might impact where they get their coffee. For some college students saving money is an important aspect of their lives and their spending habits.

"I think coffee on campus is way more expensive than it is off campus for no

reason. I would rather get a coffee from Dunkin' over the Great Hall simply due to price," an editor said.

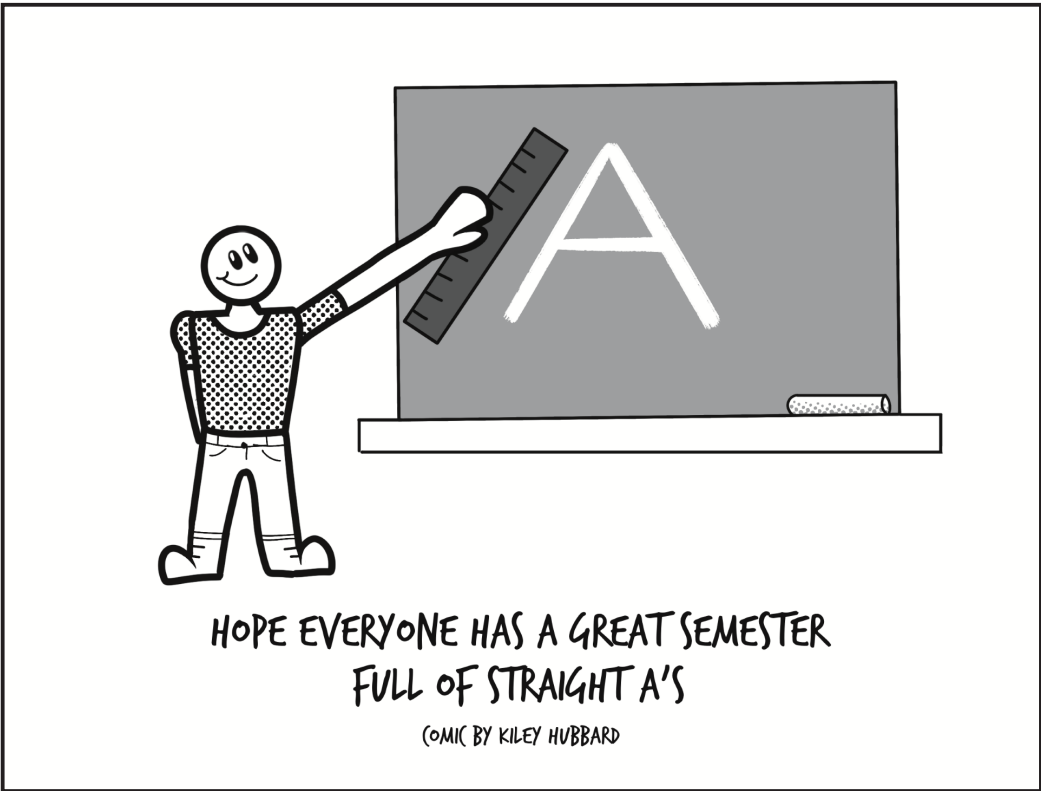
"My first time purchasing a coffee from Parson's this semester I was caught off guard by the price. I felt as though I really was paying more for a coffee on campus compared to when I am off," an editor explained.

Whether students are paying unrealistic prices or not, it's evident coffee is a necessity for most college students.

One editor commented, "I think having Offshore on campus is a good idea because a lot of Monmouth students already get their coffee, so now it's more convenient."

Meaning that having coffee besides Dunkin' might be an alternative for students who are looking for a different variety of choices.

Another editor said, "I've loved Offshore from the start. I go there all the time in Long Branch as well as in Belmar, so having them in Parson's now is so cool. Yes, coffee prices are always expensive, but I'd rather give a local business take my money rather than Dunkin'. There's something so special about our local community."



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Football fans: who's the best?

TARA DALESSIO
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

Going to a school that is made up of students and faculty that root for sports teams from all over, I realize that not everyone got the privilege of becoming a fan of arguably the best team, the Philadelphia Eagles. While it was taught to me by my family, who are originally from Philly, I have grown up to fully embrace my position within the best NFL fanbase. Through their highs and lows, and their steps to becoming the NFL's next dynasty, I have been able to experience what it truly means to be a part of the strongest, most passionate, and loyal fanbase.

Eagles fans are commonly disrespected and disliked, but unlike many other fanbases, we take those condescending views and unapologetically support our team. Unlike many other fanbases, we stick with our team through everything, and when it is finally time, we celebrate in the best way.

While a team having a losing streak is not a fun experience for a passionate fan to support, Eagles fans always stick with their team and believe in them until victory is met. While some of us play it off as being delusional when hoping for a ring even in our worst years, that shows the passion the city of Philadelphia has for the boys in green. In 2018, the city erupted when we won our first Super Bowl because even in the rough years prior, we knew that our underdogs would eventually come through.

This past year as well, we saw fans storm the cities before we even won the ring, even bigger of a celebration this time around. This type of unity is something that not a lot of fan bases and cities get to experience.

Cities like New York who have two teams and cannot unite on one are quickly ranked lower than the Eagles. The power that they could hold if the entire city agreed on one team would be more than it is now but instead causes them to hide away during the lows, which tend to be most of the time.

Fanbases for the Chiefs and the Patriots only are visible when they keep bringing in major victories, but those fans seem to disappear when that all comes to an end. It also raises the question of if these fan bases are solely supported by people wanting to jump on a band wagon. The Eagles fans are proud of where they come from and even continue to display it during the off season and on an everyday basis. At Phillies baseball games, you can hear fans chanting the Eagles chant, and "Go Birds" is used as a greeting on the streets.

At the end of the day, an Eagles fan is a perfect representation of Philly. A city of pride, passion, loyalty, and the most important; community. No matter the score or the season, the passion for the Eagles never fades away, making the unwavering commitment from the fans the best. Being a part of all that shows that it is bigger than the game itself, and that we all carry a piece of Philadelphia everywhere we go.



PHOTO TAKEN by Riley Kindler.

Tyler, The Creator live at the Wells Fargo Center in Philadelphia on July 6, 2025

Was there truly a "song of the summer"?

RILEY KINDLER
OPINIONS EDITOR

Every summer is defined by music. Be it an artist, a genre, or just an aesthetic, the sphere of popular music is dominated every year by one singular sound. Last year, we had Brat summer, and the dirty, grimy world of underground hyperpop infiltrated everything from clothing ads to radio stations. The year before, we experienced the summer of The Eras Tour, where it seemed like everyone was listening to Taylor Swift everywhere you went.

This year, however, as someone who is tuned very heavily into popular music and the community around it, I truly couldn't put my finger on a true "song" or "sound" of the summer.

Sure, you may have had a favorite release, just like I did. As far as I'm concerned, however, popular music wasn't captured by a singular artist due to the sheer amount of music put out this summer, all of which were released by mainstay artists like Sabrina Carpenter, Chappell Roan, Tyler, The Creator, and many other hard-hitting performers.

There were "songs" of the summer, but nothing harnessed the vibe of the summer in one song.

Some would argue that Sabrina Carpenter held the summer in the palm of her hand with "Manchild". With its catchy hooks and country influence, it reached a wide audience. Fresh off the first two legs of her Short n' Sweet tour, Carpenter surprise released "Manchild" on June 5, followed soon after by the announcement of her newest album, "Man's Best Friend", released nearly a year after

Short n' Sweet. However, a lot of people didn't care for the song, which really was a bummer. Of all the songs that came out this summer, I think "Manchild" was one of the few that trended long enough on social media that could contend to be the true song of the summer, but it truly just overstayed its welcome. The song became overplayed by the time the new album came out, and now almost no one talks about it at all. Unfortunately, I think "Manchild" falls just short of winning the title of song of the summer.

An artist who exploded in popularity this summer was Benson Boone, for better or worse. During the buildup of his debut album, his song "Mystical Magical" exploded on social media, but not all the hype was positive.

A lot of people, especially on TikTok, bullied Boone about the quality of his music. His songs have an extremely generic sound to them, and sound as close to an industry plant as you can get. The man even had a Crumbl cookie for a few weeks, which is something that only seasoned and established artists get.

Some people would argue that "Mystical Magical" was the song of the summer, but I would have to harshly disagree. The amount of backlash is simply too much to consider the song a true "song of the summer".

A lot of people might also point to the surprise drop of Tyler, The Creator's new EP, Don't Tap The Glass as the release of the summer. While this was probably my personal favorite release from the past few months, the lack of marketing and surprise nature of the release did not make it stick

in the cultural eye for long. Sure, Tyler was on tour at the time, which certainly helped the announcement go viral, but his US leg of his Chromakopia tour ended only a few short nights after the announcement and release of the EP. He only played songs from the EP one night of his tour, which made it hard for fans to resonate with the release from an experience standpoint.

Chappell Roan also had a short moment to step into the spotlight with her newest release this summer. Roan released "The Subway" this summer after nearly a year of playing it live, and I believe that the fact that she had been performing it for so long killed the song's moment to shine. The hype for the song, at least for the general public, was once again gone in the span of a few weeks other than TikTok trends.

I truly think that everyone had their own song of the summer. Indie fans had songs like "Nettles" by Ethel Cain and "back to friends" by Sombr, metal fans had the new Deftones album, and pop fans had songs from Sabrina Carpenter, Chappell Roan, and Tyler, The Creator, but I don't think anything truly captured the mainstream in a way that the Eras tour or Brat did. Maybe because of social media, maybe because of streaming, or maybe because of the rise of individuality through all aspects of our daily life, but I feel that moving forward, it is going to be impossible to have one song of the summer. I think those days are long gone, but we can still have our own song of the summer and find those who connect with it. The idea of that being possible reflects the world of music today, and ultimately, the world at large.

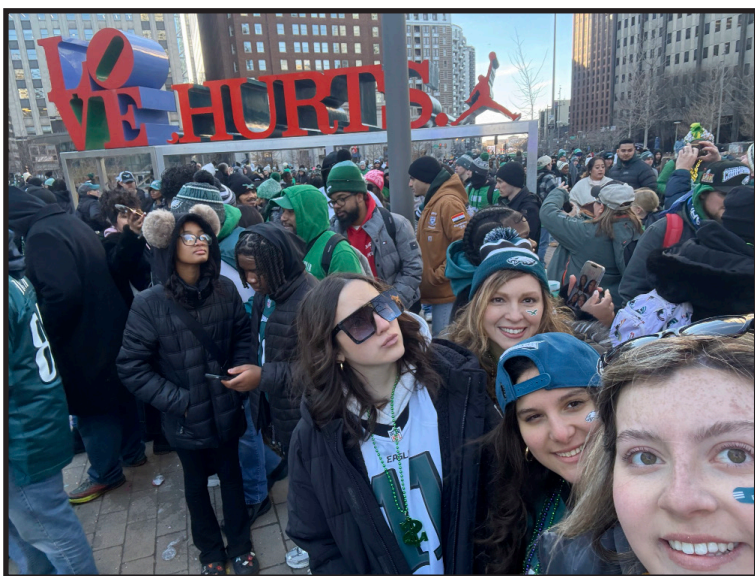


PHOTO TAKEN by Tara Dalessio.

Eagles fans celebrate a win in downtown Philadelphia.

Advice to the Class of 2029 from a junior



PHOTO TAKEN by Matthew Boyle.

AVA MCGINTY
MANAGING EDITOR/FEATURES EDITOR

Starting college can be overwhelming, but here are five key tips that helped me settle in and thrive at Monmouth.

1. Get involved!

Join clubs as early as you can. Coming into college, I received a lot of rather cliché advice but of all the unsolicited tips I received, this one has rung true: get involved. Joining clubs and organizations on campus is a great way to meet people with similar interests to you.

In addition to that, in college, you can have a lot of free time during your day compared to a structured seven-hour school day. I find it easy to get lost in the shuffle, sitting in your room on social media. I personally did not enjoy that amount of free time without any structure or feeling of productivity, which pushed me to join clubs.

As a result, I've met a lot of my close friends and explored my interests, allowing me to discover what career I want to pursue professionally.

Dr. Vaughn Clay, Director of Student Engagement, said, "From a professional and career perspective, getting involved is often an effective training ground to help students learn how lead, to manage budgets, to guide a team, to manage projects-events and much more."

Monmouth has over 120 clubs and organizations on campus that always need more members. I think you should totally join The Outlook, but I may be biased.

Whether it is a sport, something affiliated with your major, a hobby you

have, or want to pick up, try to get involved on campus. I always say an involved student is a happy student!

2. Study outside of dorms.

Doing homework and assignments in dorms may work for some people, but it does not work for me. When I do work in my room, I get distracted, whether that be from my phone or chatting with my roommates. If you are like me, the best thing to do is find a spot you like on campus and stick to it.

Some of my personal favorite study spots on campus include the Guggenheim Memorial Library, Great Hall, Rebecca Stafford Student Center, and the Plangere Center for Communication. I try to find quieter spots within these buildings too, to ensure I stay on task. In the Great Hall, I opt to go onto the landing between the first and second floors for a little more peace and quiet while still having the ambiance of the building.

Similarly, in the main area of the library, it can be very quiet; I enjoy renting the study rooms with friends and catching up on assignments. If you are a commuter student, these places can be great to go to in between classes.

There are also study rooms available around campus, including in the Thomas A. Edison Science Hall and the Student Center, so make sure to check them out!

3. Network.

In college, it's important to attend class and complete your assignments, but building connections is equally valuable for your future.

Networking helps you invest in your career path and opens doors you might not expect. It's easy to wait until you're searching for an internship or job to realize you don't have people to turn to for support. That happens to

many students, so don't let it be you.

At Monmouth, you don't need to worry about this because there are many resources to help you. Career Development is a vital resource for students and alumni, and they are there to support you every step of the way.

If you're a first-year student (or any student) without a LinkedIn profile yet, Career Development can help you take a professional headshot, create posts, and format your page to maximize your success.

Monmouth also offers many clubs that give you great opportunities for networking.

4. Go to events.

Monmouth hosts a plethora of events on campus that you should attend. Bring some friends along and meet some new people. My favorite memories on campus are not those of being in a classroom or late-night study sessions, but rather doing fun things on campus like attending the campfire jam, goat yoga, the rainforest café, movie nights, and more. This is another great way to change up your days and support the clubs and organizations on campus.

Clay said, "When students make the decision to go to the many different events that occur every semester, it helps promote a greater sense of belonging and community, and it fosters an enhanced sense of campus spirit."

He continued, "Students who become actively involved in life beyond the classroom tend to get better grades, they feel a greater sense of success, they are often more satisfied with the experience they are having at the University, and it can

have a net positive effect on the students' ability to meet people and make friends."

Consider attending events that clubs are hosting, and if you would rather be the one planning them, join a club like the Student Activities Board. Finding where these events have never been easier either.

Check out the Student Engagement Instagram, use the campus groups app, or pick up a copy of The Outlook and check the features section!

5. Ask for help when needed.

If you find the transition into college is hard, you are not alone. If you are in this new environment feeling overwhelmed and stressed maybe because of school or feeling like you are not meeting your best friends, it will get better. There are many resources on campus you can utilize if you feel this way.

Academically, make sure to maximize tutoring services, the writing center, and math center. It is also important to reach out to your professors if you are struggling in their class and attend office hours! Building relationships is important and allows your professors to better help you.

For guidance, reach out to your first-year advisor! It's important to utilize them and ask for help. If you ever find yourself struggling mentally and need a safe space to rant or talk it out, visit Counseling and Prevention services located on the third floor of the Rebecca Stafford Student Center.

Advice can come from anyone but as a student who lived through the adjustment into Monmouth, these tips have helped me be as successful as possible. You only get four years here it is important to try to make the most of them and maximize the time you have here.

Upcoming events!

WEDNESDAY

OSE Fall Poster Sale
9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.
Nagy Commons

OSE Fall Involvement Fair
2:30 p.m. - 4:30 p.m.
Shadow Lawn

THURSDAY

Remembering 9/11
9:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.
9/11 Memorial

Thursday Alternative: DIY Charcuterie Board Night
7:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m.
Nagy Commons

FRIDAY

Friday Night Live: Firepit Friday and Bingo
7:00 p.m. - 10:00 p.m.
Nagy Commons

SATURDAY

Weekend Shuttle: Dave & Busters - Freehold Raceway Mall
11:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.
Departs from Rebecca Stafford Student Center

Men's Soccer vs Northeastern University
12:00 p.m. - 2:30 p.m.
Hesse Field on The Great Lawn

Hawk Saturdays: Dodge, Duck, Dip, Dodge & Dive
7:00 p.m. - 10:00 p.m.
Anacon Hall

Album of the Week!

"RUNAWAY AMERICAN
DREAM: Innovative
Interpretations of Springsteen 50
Years Later"



IMAGE TAKEN from Instagram.

by Amani Lillian, Abby Garcia,
Elijah Elias, Kristen Wilczewski,
Michael Anthony Rocks, John
Terista, Antonia Bongiorno, Taylor
Wichterman



What's in my bag: Back to school edition

EMILY STACHERSKI
LIFESTYLES EDITOR

It's back-to-school season! If you're wondering what necessities you may need in your bag, you're in the right place! Here are 15 items you should keep in your bag for school.

Notebooks or Folders

The whole reason we are here, as much as we all hate to admit it, is for class. This means we should have the basic needs inside the classroom. With everything now online, I find that I can use one notebook for all of my classes to jot down a few

notes or even hold the handouts I receive. It's also good to be prepared for the professors who do not use eCampus, because there is usually always one!

Pens and Pencils

Even more than number one, I guarantee that at some point in this semester, you will need a writing utensil. You don't want to be that person who always has to ask around at the last minute, just carry your own! You'll only need one, maybe two, but it's definitely a must.

Textbooks

When going to each class, take a mental note of whether or not you have a physical textbook or

required reading. If you do, pack it!

Planner

If you're anything like me, you like to know exactly when things are due, when you have to start an assignment, what class you need to focus on, etc. A planner is the perfect way to manage all of these things. It's especially useful for juggling multiple classes at once.

Laptop or Tablet

Relying on technology is a standard for universities now. We have a portable classroom available at the tips of our fingers. It's not very useful if we don't have it with us. Keep a laptop or tablet with you to bring to each class.

Chargers

Since we need to bring technology with us, it's always better to stay prepared and bring the chargers for our devices. You don't want to scramble for a charger when you need your device and it's dead. This way, you won't miss anything!

Headphones or Earbuds

Switching to more outside of the classroom necessities, we have something that I

personally would never want to be stuck without: my AirPods. While walking to class or having downtime, turn on some music or your favorite podcast to help boost your mood and focus.

Reusable Waterbottle

It's important to stay hydrated throughout the day. With a reusable water bottle, you can always have a drink with you. In most places on campus, there are refillable stations ready to be used as well!

Snacks

There's nothing worse than a long day with no lunch break. Pack some small snacks to help you get through the day before you finally get a break and have a meal. Granola bars, fruit snacks, or little treats are great to keep tucked away in your bag.

Tissues or Wipes

You never know when something is going to spill, when you might sneeze, etc. There are so many emergencies where having something like a tissue or a wet wipe will help you.

Hand Sanitizer

Back to school most likely

means someone will be getting sick real soon. Try to stay ahead of it by keeping the germs away with some hand sanitizer. No one wants the campus's famous "frat flu".

Student ID

Bring your student ID with you everywhere! If you live in the dorms, you'll need it to get in. If you have a meal plan, you'll need it to eat. If you need to show any form of identification, you'll need it!

Umbrella

The East Coast is no stranger to rain. You definitely do not want to show up to class in soggy socks from surprise rain. Pack an umbrella ready to use at any time; it's truly a lifesaver.

P.S. Using an umbrella in college is not embarrassing; everybody does it!

Gum

You don't want bad smelling breath. Enough said.

Emergency Cash

You never know when you'll need cash. An emergency \$5 or \$10 is always a good idea to keep with you just in case.



IMAGE TAKEN FROM pexels.com

Savoring the Last Warm Days

EMILY STACHERSKI
LIFESTYLES EDITOR

Summer is coming to an end. As a summer lover, those six words are hard for me to come to terms with. The summer season officially ends on Sept. 23. So how should we prepare to kiss summer goodbye? Should we jump right into pumpkin spice and sweaters? Maybe not.

We need to savor the last warm days of the year. These activities are a great way to gradually transition ourselves between the seasons for those of us who aren't ready to let go entirely.

A great way to savor the final summer stretch is to enjoy the outdoors, without a jacket, while you can. You can have one last beach or pool day, eat outdoors at a restaurant or picnic-style,

or even start taking walks outside.

Doing all of these activities will help you feel more grounded while connected with nature and less rushed.

When doing these outdoor activities, soak in the sights and sounds. Notice the warmth and the breeze. Watch the sunset for the last time before daylight fades earlier.

If you're not the outdoors type of person, there are things you can do inside to help you settle as well. For starters, keep your summer scents out!

While you're at it, keep your fall decor away as long as you can too. Fill your house with citrus and coconut smells and delay putting up the skeleton at your door or the pumpkins in the window.

Enjoy a few more weeks of summer colors, lights, and smells rather than force yourself to become surrounded with fall.

Another idea is to keep wearing your summer wardrobe. Until your feet are about to freeze off outside, it's not officially time to hang up the sandals.

Throughout this process, allow yourself to have mixed feelings. Grieve the summer you are losing while welcoming the excitement you have for fall. No one reacts the same to change, so don't compare yourself to others either.

With all of this happening so fast, set your own pace for the change of the seasons, and you'll get through it just fine.

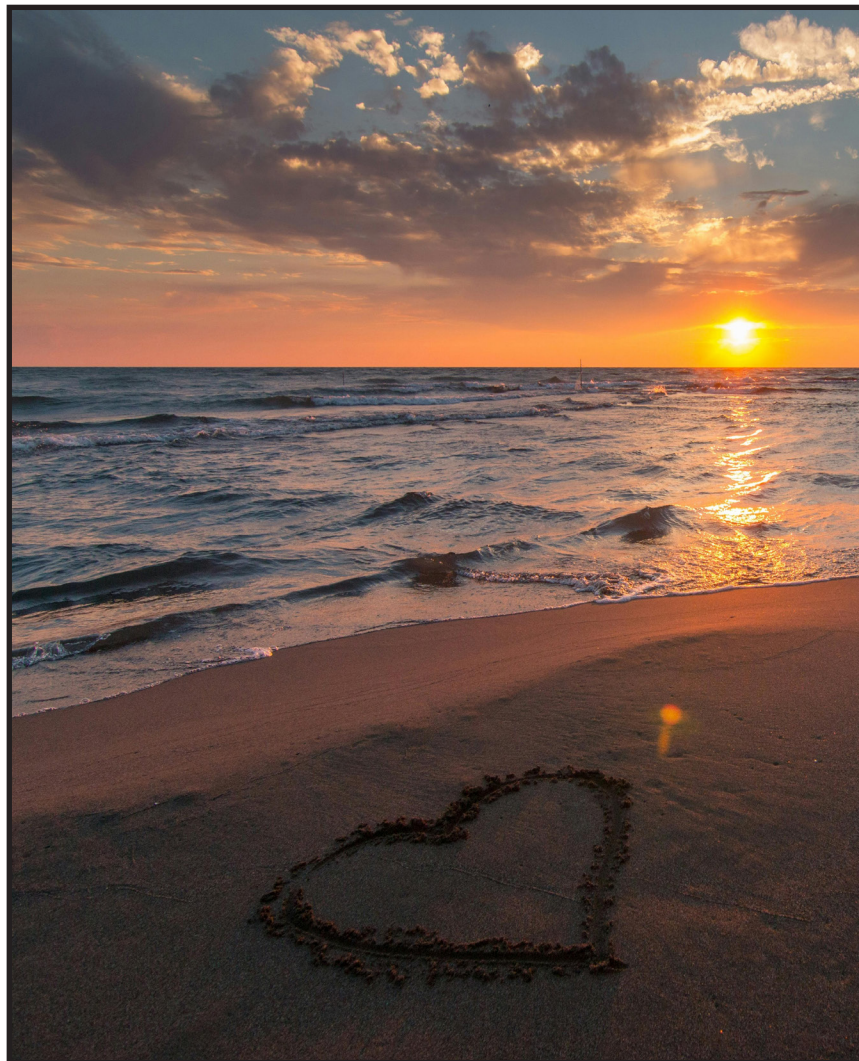


IMAGE TAKEN FROM pexels.com

“Runaway American Dream”: BHR honors Springsteen’s 50 year milestone

LORELAI HILARCZYK
ENTERTAINMENT EDITOR/
ASSISTANT NEWS EDITOR

Monmouth University’s culture encompasses many things, but at the forefront is the love for New Jersey’s music history and Bruce Springsteen, aside from “Annie,” of course. So it was no surprise that our student record label, Blue Hawk Records (BHR) had teased a release over the summer seemingly paying homage to the singer’s 50th anniversary of “Born to Run.” As a back-to-school gift to the student body, the album was released on Sept. 5.

The extended play’s official title is “Runaway American Dream: Innovative Interpretations of Springsteen 50 Years Later.” The collaborative team consists of eight vocalists, eight producers, and eight musicians that all tie back to the university. Each track is incredibly unique and specific to the vocalist’s styles, while also preserving The Boss’s original work. Even the album cover has nods to Springsteen’s original, down to the font and position. It’s nothing short of brilliant bringing new, modern life into these classics.

Opening the album is “Backstreets” performed by 2025 alum, Amani Lillian. The song opens up with a funk, choir-esque sound and the repetition of, “Backstreets/Hiding on the backstreets/Hiding on the backstreets.” Not only does it provide a great introduction, but it has a super welcoming sound. Lillian is well versed in R&B and Soul styles having clearly found her artistic sound through releasing her original music like, “Take

Up Everything (oblivious)” featured on BHR’s “Vol. 23: Chapter XXIII.”

The laid-back gospel, funk, soul sound influences are the perfect contrast to Springsteen’s original dramatic piano and storyteller music arc. The original recording has so many elements that were included in BHR’s version like the organ, guitar progressions, and vocal homage. It was sped up which fits the genre and lyrics perfectly, cutting it down to about three minutes, instead of six.

It is by no means the original and that’s good because it’s not meant to be. Lillian’s “Backstreets” tells the story of friends coming together figuratively and with actual vocals on the track, just how Springsteen intended it to come across.

The second track, “Thunder Road” was also performed by a 2025 alum, Abigail Garcia. Garcia’s voice takes on this pop country style with a hint of folk, making her interpretation beautiful and powerful. What makes “Thunder Road” an iconic Springsteen song is his storyteller ability of dropping us into a scene and making us feel like we’re a part of it. Hitting play is like stepping on the actual street and following the characters around “Thunder Road.”

Springsteen has us on the edge of our musical seat in the 1975 original track. As we eagerly hold onto every word, he sings: “We got one last chance to make it real/To trade in these wings on some wheels/Climb in back, heaven’s waiting down on the tracks/Oh, come take my hand/We’re riding out tonight to case the promised land/Oh, Thunder



PHOTO COURTESY of Blue Hawk Records President, Antonia Bongiorno.

“Runaway American Dream: Innovative Interpretations for Springsteen 50 Years Later” can be found wherever you stream your music.

Road.” If this song isn’t about being in the present moment, then I don’t know what is. Garcia’s however, is reminiscent and dreamy, it’s like “Thunder Road” is in the past and she’s looking back on it. I urge you to listen to both tracks back-to-back and appreciate each story.

The next track is certainly a treat, featuring Elijah Elias and 2021 alumni, Kristen Wilczewski in their interpretation of “Born to Run.” If there’s one song that captivates music fans, far and wide it’s “Born to Run.” Who hasn’t blasted this song at full volume? This new imagined version is just as captivating in its lighter

pop rock vibe. Elias and Wilczewski’s voices take on that gritty and soulful feel just like Springsteen’s original.

This song is an American classic so to have two youthful voices of our generation singing, “We gotta get out while we’re young/Cause tramps like us/Baby, we were born to run,” is a new level of nostalgia. It truly has that cinematic feel as Springsteen describes and BHR’s interpretation does it justice. Even including the iconic count off of, “One, two, three, four/The highway’s jammed with broken heroes/On a last chance power drive.” If Springsteen’s song is the cinematic movie version, then BHR has created the “coming-of-age” film version.

The fourth track is “She’s The One” sung by another 2025 alum, Michael Anthony Rocks (MAR) and once again, Wilczewski. Talk about taking a track and completely making it something new! While this track pays homage to the original, the students have taken it from folk rock to funk pop with a hint of hip hop.

MAR’s vocals have a great edge to them while also maintaining that Springsteen hopefulness. Wilczewski also adds a great feminine touch to the song making it much more dynamic. They sing, “Never gonna leave her (Oh, oh, oh)/Never gonna leave me now (You’re the one)/All I wanna do, all I

wanna do, all I wanna do/Is love you/She’s the one.” Their vocalizing together, especially at the end, is my favorite. In my opinion they made the song more catchy and upped the ante of the production.

And finally, the album ends with “Tenth Avenue Freeze-Out” performed by Lillian, Antonia Bongiorno, John Terista, and Taylor Wichterman. “Tenth Avenue Freeze-Out” just so happens to be one of my favorite Springsteen songs. So, hearing this new interpretation of the song, I was pleasantly surprised. Who would’ve thought this song would translate well in a doo wop format? It’s as if the Springsteen hit existed solely in the 50s.

This album exceeded all my expectations. BHR captured Springsteen’s spirit, youthfulness, and history in a completely reimagined way. Everyone knows what an inspiration Springsteen was and is in music culture. But “Runaway American Dream” shows how influential the singer is to our community. After all, Springsteen once performed on the very steps of our Great Hall. With the old history combined with the construction of The Bruce Springsteen Archives and Center for American Music building and this tribute album, he’s present in our university culture now more than ever.



PHOTO COURTESY of Blue Hawk Records President, Antonia Bongiorno.

The return of “Mamma Mia!” on Broadway: The Outlook staff writer’s experience

MELANY MCCANN
STAFF WRITER

After completing a 14-year run, the Broadway production of “Mamma Mia!” closed on Sept. 12, 2015. However, the hit has returned to the Winter Garden Theatre for a limited engagement, opening Aug. 14, for a six month run. As a fan of ABBA since childhood, and a long-time “Mamma Mia!” enthusiast, I secured tickets, and I saw the production on Aug. 27. It was even better than I could’ve imagined.

The musical follows Sophie, played by Amy Weaver, beginning the night before her wedding as she faces the struggle of trying to figure out who her father is. After reading her mother’s diary, Sophie invites three of her mother, Donna’s past lovers, all of whom are her potential father’s. The audience follows Sophie’s journey to find herself, and Donna, played by Christine Sherrill as she’s confronted with her past. While the show’s plot does pose an emotional journey of self-discovery from both Donna and Sophie: it is a romantic comedy to its core, with its high-beat music and happy ending. “Mamma Mia!” is a musical about the perseverance of love,

and the importance of family.

After the release of the movie adaptation in 2008, and the increased use of social media, the fanbase of this musical has grown and with that, so have expectations. The vocals in the movie are undeniably incredible, most notably was Meryl Streep’s “The Winner Takes It All.” Due to the success of the movie, and that song in particular, which has begun to trend on TikTok, I had high expectations going into the live production for the showcase number. Sherrill did not only meet the expectations—she soared far past them. While there was light singing from the audience throughout the production, when Sherrill took stage for “The Winner Takes it All,” everyone became silent. I was covered in chills. This was my favorite song of the night.

Another notable performance was “Lay All Your Love on Me,” this one starred Weaver as Sophie and Grant Reynolds as Sky, Sophie’s fiancé. The chemistry between the couple was so poignant that it felt as if the audience were interrupting an intimate moment. Not only was this song an important testament to the love between the couple, but it was also an example of this production’s well-done and easily digestible blend of comedy and

romance.

While “The Winner Takes It All” takes the cake for my favorite performance, “Slipping Through My Fingers,” a duet between Donna and Sophie, was surely the most touching. I had surprised my mom with tickets to this show, and sitting next to her through this song was an out-of-body experience. It’s safe to say that we ended the song in tears. We watched the mother-daughter duo mend their relationship, and Donna come to terms with her daughter’s maturity.

In addition to the live music, the acting of those in the cast was phenomenal. The most notable, and personal favorite, was that of Carly Sakolove as Rosie. Much of her character was comedic relief during heavy moments such as the performance of “Chiquitita.” However, her skill didn’t just shine in those heavier moments; it sparkled throughout the production. This was an afternoon filled with singing, tears, and uncontrollable laughing.

Aside from the musical itself, one of the main reasons it was such a superb experience was because of the audience. It was clear from the moment we began to line up outside the theatre door that this was an audience like no other.

There was just a buzz radiating from everyone. After being off Broadway for about ten years, it’s fair to assume that there was a lot of anticipation from old fans. As well as a lot of excitement from a new generation of lovers who haven’t gotten the chance to see this musical live. A moment forever captured in my mind is when the beat of the first act dropped, the lights dimmed, and the room filled with excited squeals.

And at the end of the final act, and after bows, the actors of Donna, Rosie, and Tanya returned on stage in their “Donna and The

Dynamos” costumes, followed by the rest of the cast. Not only did they do a reprise of previous songs, but they sang “Waterloo,” and the audience were permitted to stand up to dance and sing with them.

What topped this incredible experience off was the kindness and patience of the cast, as they signed our playbills and took photos with fans outside the theatre. From the buzz of the audience, the passion on stage, and the appreciation from the performers, the return of “Mamma Mia!” was an electrifying, memorable experience that I am so glad I was able to be a part of.



PHOTO TAKEN by Melany McCann.

“Man’s Best Friend”: Sabrina Carpenter outlines girlhood

LORELAI HILARCZYK
ENTERTAINMENT EDITOR /
ASSISTANT NEWS EDITOR

Oh boy! Sabrina Carpenter released her seventh studio album, “Man’s Best Friend” on Aug. 29, a little over a year after “Short n’ Sweet.” The new album of 12 songs has received both acclaim and backlash. It seems no one understands Carpenter’s simple yet clever lyricism and feminine position. However, people across the board cannot deny the draw younger people, especially females, have to her ability to convey relationships. Carpenter does this while also including nods to great artists and themes that shape music culture. Here are my top five songs, giving you a little taste of why you should listen to the entire album:

1. **“Goodbye”:** While it might be the final song, it’s the one I always put on first. Carpenter without a doubt plucked inspiration from the Swedish pop band, ABBA, famous for their hit, “Dancing Queen.” A

lot of the production sounds so similar to their shimmering style and it’s truly nostalgic. Carpenter even uses that same harmony echo and background “aha-aha,” like in “Angel Eyes.” It’s like one huge celebration, as if you were listening to the end of “Chiquitita.”

A celebration of what, you might ask? “Goodbye” is about freedom, letting go, and finding independence. She sings, “Well, sayonara, adiós/You’re not bilingual, but you should know/ Goodbye means that you’re losin’ me for life/Can’t call it love, then call it quits/Can’t shoot me down, then shoot the shit.” In true cheeky fashion, she uses the word “goodbye” in several different languages as she bids both the subject and us as the listener, farewell.

2. **“Nobody’s Son”:** If you think you haven’t heard this one, you’re probably wrong. Within a few days the bridge to this track has blown up on social media. Other than the bridge, from the verses to the chorus, this song is for the girls who can’t relate to Taylor Swift’s engagement. It’s

the musical embodiment of what it’s like dating in your 20s. The girls that get it, get it. Carpenter sings, “Here we go again, crying in bed, what a familiar feeling/All my friends in love and I’m the one they call for a third wheeling/ Probably should have guessed he’s like the rest, so fine and so deceiving/There’s nobody’s son, not anyone left for me to believe in.”

And how could one not give any attention to the catchy bridge of, “That boy is corrupt/Could you raise him to love me, maybe?/ He sure fucked me up/And, yes, I’m talkin’ ‘bout your baby.” This song not only plays on the aspect of everyone around you being happy and in love, but also on how men should be raised. Should moms take notes?

3. **“Go Go Juice”:** Carpenter gave her advice for listening to her album during her release party interview at Hollywood Cemetery in LA. She said, “If you have a glass of white wine, if you’re sober make a mocktail, if you don’t do that, drink some apple juice, just whatever makes you feel your best.” This track is the perfect ambiance for her

listening tip, hence the title.

Something about this track makes me think Dolly Parton would dance to this in her kitchen. It’s carefree, cheeky, and has many references to Carpenter’s dating history for those who know the gossip. What I love the most is how the bridge is full of classic drunk messages and voicemails, right down to the pronunciation. She sings, “Ba-da-da, da-da-da, how’s you’s been? What’s up?/ Ba-da-da, ba-da-da-da, ba-da-da-da-da/Bye, it’s me, howsmm call? Do you me still love?/... Should we hooks up?” Leave it to Carpenter to bring the irrational into the forefront of our minds.

4. **“House Tour”:** One thing we should all appreciate about Carpenter is that she’s able to talk about something without directly talking about it. That’s what makes “House Tour” such a hilariously clever track and in my top five. The scandalous hidden meanings will have you smiling with every line. In my opinion, she’s one of the few artists that can pull off songs like this. She sings, “Do you want the house tour?/I could take you to the first, second, third floor/And I promise none of this is a metaphor/I just

want you to come inside/But never enter through the back door/House tour.” Step inside Carpenter’s lyrical Barbie dream house and understand the jokes!

5. **“Tears”:** While I do love a good classic film reference to “The Rocky Horror Picture Show,” something about this song being the second single didn’t make sense to me. At first listen I was super underwhelmed, until I thought about what the song was trying to get across. Thus making it my final pick for the top five and should not be skipped!

The message of this song has been quickly overlooked considering its risqué lyrics and innuendos. She sings, “I get wet at the thought of you/Being a responsible guy/Treating me like you’re supposed to do/Tears run down my thighs.” She goes on to sing about how he communicates, respects her, and assembles chairs from IKEA. Can no one see this song as poking fun at the “bare minimum?” This song says a lot about the current state of dating culture and how women are looking to be treated.

Give these songs a listen and decide for yourself: Is this album “Man’s Best Friend” or (Wo) man’s Best Friend?

Columbia, NYU Crackdowns Spark Reflection Among Monmouth Students

HENRY BOODY
POLITICS EDITOR

In May, more than 70 students were arrested during a sit-in protest at Columbia University, occupying the Butler Library, as reported by The New York Times.

This demonstration quickly gained media attention as police escorted protestors out in handcuffs. At New York University, administrators responded to similar protests with heightened security measures and disciplinary consequences.

For students on those campuses, the demonstrations have raised questions not only about global politics, but also about how safe it is to voice dissent as a student. While Monmouth has not seen demonstrations of this scale in recent years, such protests bring up the broader debate that resonates locally: how would a smaller university respond if their students were to protest?

The protests at Columbia and NYU are not exclusive to those schools alone, but part of a national wave of student demonstrations against the war in Gaza that

has intensified in 2025.

At Columbia, several international students, including Mahmoud Khalil and Mohsen Mahdawi, faced the possibility of deportation after being detained during demonstrations. Khalil later said his arrest was unlawful in federal court filings, while Mahdawi returned this semester, declaring, “They have failed to silence me,” according to The Guardian.

At NYU, the most notable disciplinary action was withholding the diploma of graduating senior Logan Rozos after he criticized U.S. support for Israel in his commencement address.

The incident, on top of the other events, drew sharp reactions from students and free speech advocates alike, who argued that peaceful expression was being unfairly punished.

Parents of Columbia students also condemned their university’s handling of the situation, writing in The Guardian, “Columbia punished our kids for protesting against the genocide in Gaza. We condemn the university’s cowardice.”

Similar crackdowns have played out across other campuses, with varying



IMAGE TAKEN from The Hill.

degrees of severity.

Together, these incidents show that universities are struggling to balance free expression with safety, leaving students to weigh the risks of speaking out against the possibility of arrest, disciplinary consequences, or worse.

For Monmouth students, the protests at Columbia and NYU feel both distant and close to home.

Monmouth has had its own moments of activism in recent years, from labor rallies to SGA’s push for greater grade transparency. These events were collaborative and inclusive, which did ultimately lead to administrative responses.

For some students, the track record suggests Monmouth provides a safe environment for free speech, though some are not too sure how the university would react if activism ever escalated.

Riley Denker, a senior business major, said, “I think that Monmouth has had a lot of respect for different student voices.”

He continued, “As we’ve seen with previous on-campus activism, there’s always a space to speak your mind, but I don’t think Monmouth would be able to handle protests on the same scale as those happening in New York City.”

Giani Garcia, a senior Fine Arts major, who

described himself as not politically involved, said, “I would hope they would respond by allowing protests in certain areas as long as they are peaceful. If it got to an extent, then shut it down. I also hope they would allow them to protest against the protest, and keep things going as long as it didn’t get violent.”

As protests continue to ripple nationwide, the weighing decision of whether to speak out is still on the forefront. For many students, the crackdowns at Columbia and NYU serve as a reminder that free expression and campus safety remain a prevalent concern, even on smaller campuses.

Beyond our coverage

“The Outlook” is committed to bringing you the most important and essential news coverage on Monmouth University’s campus. However, we live in rapidly-changing times and continue to strive to inform you of local, national and international headlines of the utmost importance.

Compiled by Henry Boody

Local

- “N.J. leads lawsuit against Trump admin for crime victim funds” (New Jersey Globe)
- “Top Democrat leaves door open to possible White House bid” (NJ.com)
- “As cost of back-to-school items rises, NJ’s Cory Booker vows tough stance on spending bill” (North Jersey.com)

National

- “DNI Gabbard recalls classified report on Venezuela in highly unusual move” (CNN)
- “Supreme Court Lifts Limits on Immigration Raids in Los Angeles” (Wall Street Journal)
- “Did Donald Trump Fall Asleep During US Open Final? What We Know” (Newsweek)

International

- “Pope Leo says Israeli strikes on Qatar create ‘very serious’ situation” (Reuters)
- “Brutally savage” Russian strike kills over 20 in Ukraine, Zelenskyy says” (CBS News)
- “Nepal protesters set parliament ablaze as PM quits” (AFP)

TO/ The Outlook

Hello, everyone! My name is Mairead Spellacy and I am so honored to be this year’s Editor-In-Chief and News editor! I can’t wait to work with each of you. I am so passionate about *The Outlook*, and I hope all of you will want to share that passion with me. Student journalism is incredibly important. As students, you have the right to know what is going on within your campus, and at *The Outlook*, we promise to promote honest and informative articles that educate students on what is going on around them here at Monmouth University. If anyone has any questions or story ideas for The Outlook, please feel free to reach out to me at any time! My email is s1342915@monmouth.edu. Happy reading!

- Mairead Spellacy, Editor-in-Chief and News Editor

Hi everyone! My name is Ava McGinty and I’m this year’s Managing Editor & Features Section Editor. I’m so excited for this year & to read all the awesome articles everyone writes! If you would like to write for the lifestyles section or have any other questions about *The Outlook*, please email me at s1356207@monmouth.edu!

-Ava McGinty, Managing and Features Editor

HAWKTV Hawk TV

Hawk TV is excited to be back for this semester! We are the student run television station on campus, and it is a great opportunity to meet new people and get involved! Our studio is on the first floor of Plangere, and we currently have four shows. Hawk TV News shoots biweekly on Tuesdays starting at 7 p.m. and alternates with the Creation Corner that starts at 7:30 p.m. On Wednesdays we film our sports show called the Extra Pointand Thursdays, our pop culture show called Triple Scoop, and both of those begin at 7 p.m. We hope to see you this semester!

- Ava McGinty, Hawk TV Secretary and Executive Producer of Hawk TV New ‘24/’25

PRSSA PRSSA

Hi Hawks, join the Public Relations Student Society of America (PRSSA) & Shadow PR, Monmouth’s student-run and nationally affiliated PR firm, for meetings every Wednesday at 3 p.m. in Plangere 234. PRSSA gives students the opportunity to gain real experience in the PR world through hands-on work with local clients and guest speaker events. All majors & grade levels are welcome!

- Bailey Fredericks, Co-President ‘24/’25

MU College Democrats

We have 34 reasons you should join the College Democrats. Join Team Freedom today!

- Owen Bros, President ‘24/’25



Real Estate Club

Hello everyone! The 19th of this month is a career night in the Bey Hall auditorium at 6:30 p.m. If you have any questions, please feel free to email me at s1322694@monmouth.edu.

- Margaret McNeil, President ‘24/’25



WMCX

Here at WMCX, there is so much space to grow and use your voice! With opportunities such as broadcasting Monmouth University’s home basketball games, having weekly talk shows on a variety of topics surrounding sports, music, pop culture, or politics, or becoming part of the E-board, there’s a place for you at WMCX! If this sounds like something for you, come to one of our weekly meetings every Wednesday at 2:45 in Plangere 236. Our doors are always open if you want to come and visit us upstairs. And stay tuned for some exciting events happening later this semester!

- Beyonce Carranza, Program Director ‘24/’25 (VP)



LASO

The Latin American Student Organization (LASO) brings students together to celebrate Latin American culture. The club is open to everyone and hosts events like Día de los Muertos and their annual Outdoor Movie Night where they show a movie from latin american and have latin american cuisine. LASO also supports minority representation and encourages leadership. It’s a great place to meet new people, learn about different traditions, and be part of an inclusive community.

- Jeff Gonzalez, general member



“College Core” - WMCX

Tune in every Wednesday from 1-2 p.m. for rocking tunes and gossip!

xoxo - Bailey



College Republicans

We are so excited to see you all and work to preserve your freedoms on and off of campus this year!

-NJFCR Chair Jacky Bruno and MUCR Chair Giavanna Cangialosi ‘24/’25

Dear Monmouth Students:

Welcome to the 2025-2026 academic year at Monmouth University. Whether you are beginning your college career or returning to continue it, this is the right time to set clear priorities and make use of the resources available to you.

Focus first on your academics. Visit the **Center for Student Success** early if you need tutoring, writing help, or advice on study strategies. Build strong connections with your professors and your academic advisor. Those relationships will support you throughout your time here.

Stay active outside the classroom. Join a student organization, attend campus events, or participate in intramural sports. These experiences help you meet people, practice leadership, and feel connected to our community.

Think about your future. The **Career Development office** can help you with résumés, internships, and networking opportunities that will prepare you for life after graduation. The earlier you start, the more prepared you'll be.

Additionally, take care of yourself. Make use of the resources designed to support your health and well-being:

- **Fitness Center** and wellness programs to stay active;
- **Campus nutritionist** for healthy eating strategies;
- **Counseling & Prevention Services** if you need personal support;
- **Intercultural Center** to find community and connection;
- And much, much more!

Your success at Monmouth depends on the choices you make each day and taking advantage of the support that is available to you. Ask for help when you need it, and stay engaged with your classmates and faculty.

Remember that you belong here! You are part of a community that will challenge you, support you, and celebrate your achievements. We are so glad you are with us, and I look forward to all you will accomplish this semester.

Remember, too, that Hawks Fly Together.

Dr. Patrick F. Leahy
President



MONMOUTH
UNIVERSITY

OFFICE of the PROVOST

Dear Monmouth Community:

Welcome to our newest members, and welcome back to those returning! As we begin the 2025-2026 academic year, I want to send good wishes for a safe and successful academic year.

Students, your academic success is our utmost priority. Be sure to make use of all the programs and services available to you throughout campus. All of us at the University, no matter our role, are here to help you, teach you, and mentor you. Please don't ever hesitate to reach out when you need us.

Faculty, administrators, staff, and other community members, thank you for your hard work and commitment to our students and the University. Each and every one of you are important to upholding the mission of Monmouth University. I am excited for what we can accomplish together.

Let's keep our mission in mind as we work together for another successful year!

Sincerely,



Richard Veit, Ph.D.
Provost and Senior Vice President for Academic Affairs

Welcome back letter – September 2025

To all of our Monmouth students,

Whether you are coming to campus for the first time as a member of the Class of 2029, a new transfer student, or you are a returning undergraduate or graduate student, I want to welcome you back to this wonderful academic community. The energy and excitement that comes with the opening of a new academic year is exhilarating and can be felt in all areas of our campus, from the dining hall to the residence halls, the classrooms, our athletic fields to the Graduate Center. You are back and our total focus will be on you and your experience as a student!

The Division of Student Life, our staff and all our departments, are here to support you as a student through your academic and social endeavors. We are the place to go when you don't know where else to turn and if we can't help you we will find the people who can.

This is our community – a community where we live, work, learn, grow and keep each other safe. We are a community of respect where all are welcome and valued. Never underestimate the important role you play in making our community safe and welcoming for all. It is the Monmouth way.

Before I close, I would like to remind you about the importance of being an active member of the community. On average, students engaged in one activity are more likely to complete their degree and have a higher GPA. The co-curricular experience compliments your endeavors in the classroom and connects our students with our faculty and staff outside the classroom. Student involvement enhances the community and allows for the formation of life-long friendships. After all, Monmouth Hawks do fly together.

My best wishes for a great semester and academic year. Stay healthy, stay focused and stay together as a community!

James D. Pillar, Ed.D.
Vice President for Student Life

Monmouth Athletics Opts Into House vs. NCAA Settlement

OLIVIA SMITH
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

Monmouth University's Athletics are preparing to undergo big changes due to the school opting into the House vs. NCAA settlement. According to the New York Times, it is a landmark ruling from May 2024 that allows Division I college athletes to receive pay directly from universities and establishes a revenue sharing model for athletes. The uncertainty of the future has left many with questions on the ongoing shifts in Division I college athletics.

Joe D'Antonio, commissioner of the Coastal Athletic Association for the past ten years explained that the front end of the settlement is an incredible monetary payoff to the student athletes. When schools opt in, he said, "...your institution has utility to provide financial benefits to students in ways that they have never had a chance to. So the examples of that are direct institutional NIL payments."

Jen Sansevero, Director of Athletics at Monmouth University, said, "The house settlement came from a court case where student athletes from power four institutions felt like they were owed money from institutions profiting off of their name, image and likeness."

She explained that the settlement is still with the judge and is expected to be accepted around the first week of April. Sansevero added that Monmouth does intend to opt in, along with the rest of the members of the CAA.

Monmouth University's Head Track and Field Coach, Jordan Torney, discussed how this ruling would affect track and field and cross country athletes at Monmouth. He explained that one of the major changes would be new roster caps on all teams. Torney said, "Cross Country would be limited to 17 athletes...for track it's 45 per gender including distance athletes." Athletes were informed of this towards the beginning of the fall semester and some feel insecure about this new change.

With the settlement being accepted last April, new roster cuts could be made over the next few years, leaving the athletes who are not selected to return to their team with a few months to make decisions on their future athletic career. Torney sees how roster cuts could have a negative effect on some athletes, but he also believes that positive things can result from it. "Having a smaller roster will allow us to provide more meal money, go to better meets, and provide more gear to all of our athletes," said Torney. He also pointed out the possibility of a graduate assis-

tant coaching job, and better equipment since the team would have more money to work with.

Torney also explained how roster cuts could possibly hurt enrollment at Monmouth since there would be fewer spots on the team for track and cross country athletes. The student body consists of approximately 5,000 students, 590 of those students are athletes. Torney said, "As a coach, moving forward I have to be more selective with who I can recruit because I won't have the luxury of having the depth that I did in the past."

Joe Compagni, former Director of Track & Field and Cross Country Head Coach, said, "Opting in will give Monmouth the opportunity to continue to compete at the highest level possible."

Landee Pierre, a sophomore hurdler and shot put athlete on the Women's Track and Field team, expressed her concerns regarding the possible roster changes. She said, "I feel kind of insecure in my position because I'm already here as an athlete and the roster change could genuinely put me out of a sport that is also funding my academics... I might have to definitely transfer to find a school that meets my needs as both an athlete and a student."

While loss of scholarships was a concern for some athletes, Sansevero explained that scholarships will not be taken away from any athletes

that will not have the opportunity to return to the team. She said, "Regardless of legislated reduction in rosters, if a student athlete's opportunity to be part of a team or be on a roster is adjusted or impacted in any way, we're going to still continue to provide that scholarship for that student athlete through graduation."

Sophomore Monmouth Track and Field pole vaulter Naomee Adisa believes that the roster cuts are not fair. She said, "Even if they are able to keep their scholarships, what does that really mean if they can't do their sport and compete and they're not on the roster for their team. If they work so hard to get there in the first place and now you're just taking that away from them, it's not right." Adisa is an addition to the few freshmen that have expressed concern towards the settlement and its effects on the team's roster.

Some student athletes would turn into just students. Torney added, "A lot of athletes' identity is tied to their sport, with this all of a sudden being taken away from them it will hurt. They will be forced to find something else to do if they cannot join a new team. It's an unfortunate situation because I wouldn't recommend someone to leave an institution and go somewhere else just for their sport."

Some of the athletes that lose their roster spot will have the option to compete on Monmouth's rec teams. Compagni said, "We are fortunate to have a well-supported club sport system at Monmouth in addition to sponsoring 23 programs at the NCAA Division I level." Sansevero added that they are exploring the ideas of creating additional rec programs to allow athletes to remain engaged with the university.

"I do think that the benefits of opting in outweigh some of the difficulties or challenges..." said Sansevero. She believes that with these changes continuing athletes won't just be another number on a team. According to Sansevero, they would have the opportunity for more individualized instruction, more resources, and possible NIL opportunities.

Matthew Harmon, a Specialist Professor in Sports Communication and an award winning sports announcer, said, "I believe college athletics will look different in the next two to three years than it even does right now. I hope that Monmouth will continue to be competitive in the CAA and a mid-major school that is a destination for all sports. We are lucky to have a great foundation of athletics here and an amazing group of student-athletes."

Field Hockey Coach Carli Figlio Earns 200th Win as Team Stays Unbeaten

AVA MCGINTY
MANAGING EDITOR/FEATURES
EDITOR

Monmouth field hockey wrapped up a four-game homestand with two dominant wins, adding to an undefeated record on the season.

On Sept. 5, Monmouth played Temple University, securing a 5-2 win. The first goal came at the 9:31 mark from sophomore forward Claire Campen, who has scored in all games so far this season.

Freshman forward Alicia Vanderlyde scored the Hawks' second goal at the 17:32 mark, which was her second of the season.

In the second quarter, junior

midfielder Lauren Relik deflected in a shot from sophomore midfielder/forward Keely Bowers for the Hawks' third goal.

Junior defender Anna Moors then weaved through Temple's defense, finishing at close range to make it 4-0.

Temple responded with two quick goals in the fourth, but Relik sealed the win with her second of the game at the 58:35 mark.

The Hawks kept the momentum going on Sunday with a 7-1 win over Rider University.

Rider struck first, as junior forward Emma Bonshak found the net at the 12:29 mark, their only goal of the game.

Moors leveled the score at the 25:17 mark with a reverse sweep that slid between the legs of soph-

omore goalkeeper Jade Regnart. Moors now leads the team in scoring with 12 points.

Campen gave the Hawks their first lead of the day, scoring in both the second and third quarters.

Just 33 seconds later, Monmouth added two quick goals from freshman defender Florence Van Doorn and Relik, both coming off penalty corners.

Emily Singer notched her first goal of the season at the 40:08 mark after another goal was disallowed moments before.

Bowers capped off the scoring late in the game, securing the team's seventh and final goal.

Monmouth's relentless offense forced Regnart to make 12 saves in defeat.



PHOTO COURTESY Troy Fenton Jr.
Carli Figlio earned her 200th win against Rider on Sunday, Sep. 7.

With these wins, Monmouth remains tied for first in the CAA 2025 Field Hockey Standings, although the conference has not yet begun league play.

Sunday's game also marked

head coach Carli Figlio's 200th career win as her 18th season at Monmouth is underway.

The Hawks will look to keep their undefeated streak alive when they face Lehigh University on Sept. 12.

High-Flying Offense Leads Football to 2-0 Start



PHOTO COURTESY of Mark Brown

Derek Robertson has thrown for over 800 yards and ten touchdowns through two games this season.

FRANK HOARLE
SPORTS EDITOR

The Monmouth Hawks football team opened its season with two road wins against non-conference opponents Colgate and Fordham.

The season-opening win against Colgate gave the Hawks their greatest comeback in program history, as the team overcame a 24 point deficit in the third

quarter to win 42-39.

The offense started off slow against Colgate, as senior quarterback Derek Robertson threw two interceptions on the first two offensive drives for the Hawks, both of which the Raiders converted into touchdown drives.

Despite the early struggles, the offense got back on track on their third drive, as a clean 13-play, 80 yard drive ended in a Robertson touchdown pass to sophomore

wide receiver Tra Neal. Colgate responded with a field goal before Robertson's third interception of the game led to another Raider touchdown and a 24-7 Colgate lead. Both offenses traded punts before Robertson threw his fourth interception of the half with just seconds remaining in the second quarter. The Hawks went into the locker room trailing by 17 points.

Colgate opened the second half with a touchdown drive, extending their lead to 31-7

with approximately eight minutes remaining in the third quarter. In their first offensive drive of the second half, Robertson found junior wide receiver Gavin Nelson for a 70-yard touchdown pass a little over a minute after Colgate's touchdown. A successful two-point conversion made the score 31-15. The Raiders quickly punted on their ensuing drive, and Monmouth would take advantage. A seven play, 74-yard drive highlighted by a 46-yard catch by senior wide receiver TJ Speight was capped off by a touchdown run by sophomore running back Rodney Nelson. A failed two-point conversion kept the score at 31-21 heading into the fourth quarter.

On the second play of the final quarter, Robertson found Gavin Nelson for his second touchdown of the game. A fumble by Colgate gave the ball back to the Hawks, and Nelson got his third touchdown of the game on a 51-yard touchdown pass from Robertson on the first play after the fumble. In less than a quarter of game time, Monmouth had turned a 31-7 deficit into a 35-31 lead. After the teams exchanged touchdowns late in the fourth, the Hawks were able to drain the final five minutes off the clock and hold on for a 42-39 victory. Robertson threw for 491 yards, four touchdowns, and four interceptions. In the

first half, Robertson had one touchdown pass and four interceptions. In the second half, he had three touchdown passes and no interceptions. Rodney Nelson ran for 169 yards and two touchdowns on 22 carries, and Gavin Nelson led the team in receiving with 176 yards and three touchdowns.

After a historic season opening win, the offense stayed hot with a 49-28 win over Fordham on Saturday. After the two teams combined for five touchdowns in the first quarter, Monmouth outscored Fordham 28-14 in the final three quarters to put the finishing touches on another road win. Robertson had one of the best games of his Monmouth career, as he accounted for all seven of Monmouth's touchdowns. He had six passing touchdowns and one rushing touchdown, with four of those passing touchdowns going to junior wide receiver Josh Derry, who had ten receptions and 144 yards on the day. Rodney Nelson led the team in rushing, with 112 rushing yards on 25 carries.

Monmouth, who is now ranked No. 18 in the FCS top 25, will travel to North Carolina to play FBS opponent Charlotte on Saturday, Sep. 13 before their home opener against No. 12 Villanova on Sep. 20.

Men's Soccer Head Coach Robert McCourt Earns 200th Career Win in Victory over Iona

NATALEE MATTEI
STAFF WRITER

On a road trip to upstate New York last Tuesday, Sep. 2, the Monmouth Hawks took down the Iona University Gaels by a final score of 2-1, helping head coach Robert McCourt hit a milestone of 200 career wins as head coach of the Monmouth Men's Soccer program.

Through his first 20 seasons, McCourt has led the Hawks to great success through multiple conferences during his time as head

coach, including ending last season with an appearance in the CAA conference tournament. Starting his 21st year, his 200th win was in grasp.

Just under 23 minutes into the game, the Hawks were on the board first. Jakob Friedman, senior forward, took a corner kick from the right side. Damian Taraska, freshman defender, headed Friedman's attempt in. The Hawks were able to keep their 1-0 lead through the end of the first half.

The Gaels struck back in the 63rd minute with a penalty kick goal from Alvaro Maneiro, sophomore mid-

fielder. The game was tied at one a piece.

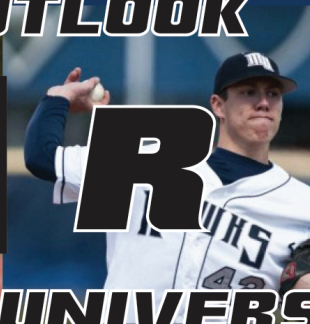
Just 20 minutes later, Monmouth scored what was both the final and winning goal of the game. Jasen Bottini, sophomore forward, scored on a free kick from just outside the 18.

The Hawks gave McCourt an additional win this past weekend in a 3-2 win over the Drexel Dragons while on the road in Philadelphia. Their next game will be Saturday, Sep. 13 against the Northeastern Huskies at home where the Hawks will attempt to extend their winning streak.



PHOTO COURTESY of Luke Schlaifer

Robert McCourt is first on the all-time wins list for Monmouth Men's Soccer head coaches.



THE OUTLOOK

SPORTS

MONMOUTH UNIVERSITY



HISTORIC COMEBACK FOR MONMOUTH FOOTBALL



The Hawks stormed back from down 24 points to secure the largest comeback victory in program history on Aug. 29 against Colgate.

SEE STORY ON PAGE 15

PHOTOS COURTESY of Mark Brown