

The Outlook

Monmouth University's Student-Run Newspaper EST. 1933

Monmouth alumni and former editors start their very own magazine

MAIREAD SPELLACY
EDITOR-IN-CHIEF/NEWS
EDITOR

Two former Monmouth University students and Outlook editors joined forces to create a one-of-a-kind digital magazine, The Underground Edit.

Gabrielle Sangataldo, one of the co-founders of The Underground Edit, graduated from Monmouth in 2024 with a bachelor's degree in Communication. She began at The Outlook her junior year at Monmouth, and within a year became the Entertainment Editor and then Editor-in-Chief (EIC). Taylor Memoli, another one of the co-founders of The Underground Edit graduated from Monmouth in 2025 with a bachelor's degree in English. After following in Sangataldo's steps of being the Entertainment Editor, then EIC, Memoli stayed in contact with Sangataldo throughout her senior year. That contact developed into not just a friendship but a working partnership.

The Underground Edit, which focuses on bringing light to underground artists and authors, was founded on Jun. 10 when Sangataldo and Memoli were unemployed and struggling to find a job. The New York Times, who used data from the Federal Reserve Bank of New York, reported that unemployment rates for recent college graduates ages 22 to 27 rose to 5.8 percent in March, which was a four-year

high. The article titled "Job Market is Getting Tougher for College Graduates" went on to report that according to Oxford Economics, the overall unemployment rate has increased 85 percent since mid-2023, and recent graduate students account for 12 percent.

"This magazine was conceived from the minds of two recent college grads—once Editors-in-Chief of their university newspaper and widely respected on campus—who suddenly found themselves severely unemployed and at the bottom of the job market. With nowhere left to turn, they took matters into their own hands. And so, The Underground Edit was born."

- The Underground Edit

Communication majors in particular stood at a 4.5 percent unemployment rate while English majors stood at 4.9 percent as reported by the Federal Reserve Bank of New York through a 2023 U.S. Census Bureau, American Community survey.



PHOTO COURTESY of Taylor Memoli.

Co-founders, Sangataldo and Memoli attended Sea.Hear.Now festival on press passes.

Memoli explained her idea to bring light to lesser known artists began when she obtained an interview with Ryan Rutter of Sunshine Spazz while still the EIC of The Outlook. Due to conflicting schedules, the interview was pushed back and by that time Memoli's time at The Outlook had concluded. She had an

interview with a band she loved and nowhere to put it. So instead of continuing to look for places to write for, they created their own. With a passion for entertainment and their experience as editors, Sangataldo said it just came naturally to them, and made sense to wedge themselves into that niche.

Despite the challenges of getting their work out to try and grow their readership and audience, starting a digital magazine from the ground up was an incredible experience, Memoli shared. They have the freedom to do what is best for them and their team, while setting all of the

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parameters which Sangataldo said takes the pressure off them as they continue to grow as an independent publication.

The female-founded digital magazine is a testament to the growing percentage of women in journalism. According to The American Journalist, the percent of women journalists in the United States has grown 3.4 percent from 2013

to 2022.

Not only is their leadership reflective in the startup of their magazine, but of their accomplishments prior.

Leading an award-winning student newspaper allowed them to gain knowledge and skills that helped them to start their very own digital magazine. From layout and design to finding stories that are worthy of writing about, Sangataldo said, "Being Editor-in-Chief of 'The Outlook' has been one of the most foundational

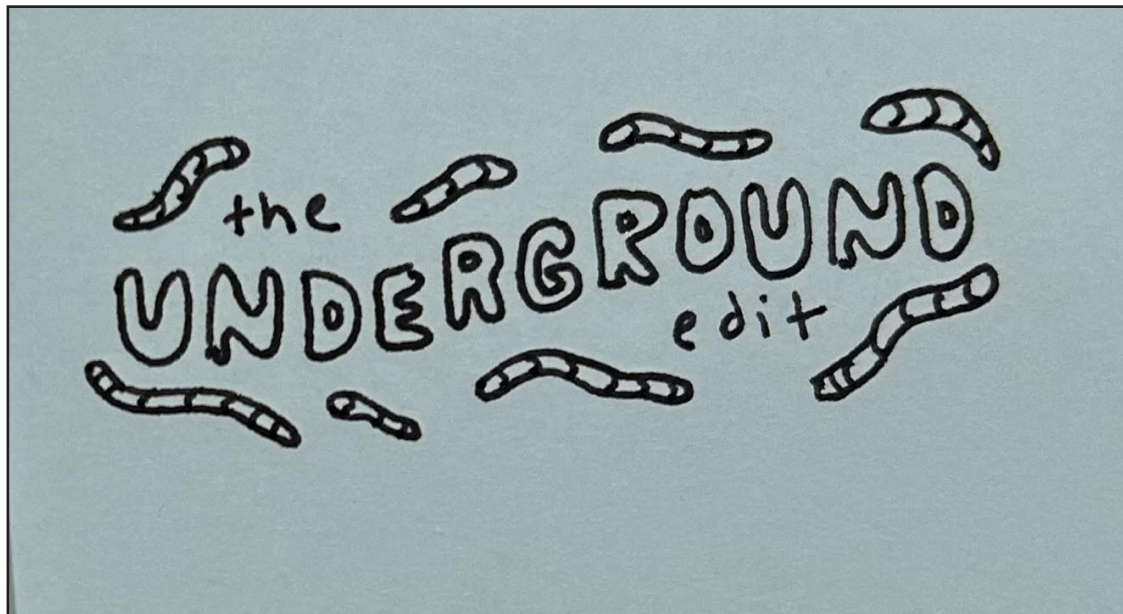


PHOTO COURTESY of Taylor Memoli.

The Underground Edit logo which Memoli drew on a post it and took a picture of using her phone.



PHOTO COURTESY of Taylor Memoli.

The former Outlook editors had on-site interviews with three different acts while attending the Sea.Hear.Now festival.

experiences of my life thus far."

They have now taken those foundational experiences into their work life as they are currently leading a team of eight writers with six different sections including "ICW" which stands for "In conversation with" and "Dug in NJ" which focuses on talents that are based locally to The Underground Edit.

As co-founders of their own publication, they have had their own creative freedom which Sangataldo explains as the most enticing aspect of the whole magazine. They try and give that same luxury to their writers as they are lenient on story topics and boundaries,

preventing the writers from feeling constrained.

Since June, they have been able to reach out to artists that they love and are fascinated by, while making connections and promoting artists who deserve a bigger platform.

"It's such a gift," Memoli said.

They both agreed attending the Sea.Hear.Now festival on press passes was an event to remember. They had access to on-site interviews with three different acts at the festival, including Asbury Park Band, Surfing for Daisy.

That time spent at the Sea.Hear.Now festival inspired Memoli to continue

working on their website, "We are already doing such amazing things in such a short period of time," she said.



PHOTO COURTESY of Taylor Memoli.

Monmouth University ranked on LGBTQ-unfriendly colleges list

AVA MCGINTY
MANAGING EDITOR/FEATURES
EDITOR

The Princeton Review published "The Best 391 Colleges, 2026," on Aug. 12, naming Monmouth University 16th on the list of LGBTQ-unfriendly colleges.

The 98-question survey was answered by 170,000 students spanning across the 391 schools listed in the book. The survey covers topics including academics and administration, life at college, fellow students, and themselves.

The Princeton Review publishes both a LGBTQ-friendly and unfriendly list that are based on how strongly students agree or disagree with the statement, "Students treat all persons

equally, regardless of their sexual orientation and gender identity/expression."

Tyler Gillis, a junior anthropology major and Pride Club president, said, "Unfortunately, my initial reaction was that I was not very surprised. While the #16 ranking feels far too high on the list, there definitely is a problem here at Monmouth."

Zaneta Rago-Craft, Ed.D, is the Director of the Intercultural Center and serves as the Advisor to the President for Diversity and Inclusion. She said, "It's certainly disappointing, and not just professionally, but personally as a member of the community. While student feedback like this can feel disheartening, my hope is that our inclusion on the list also promotes a clearer

and shared sense of urgency and responsibility to make tangible improvements."

Gillis said, "I've been called a slur while walking on campus and I have had multiple people tell me they didn't feel comfortable living in [on-]campus housing because of other students supporting certain politics and ideologies that say queer people should not exist."

A Monmouth University student, who spoke under the conditions of anonymity, said, "...I have found myself in situations where I know the people in my classes likely judge or feel negative about my identity, and I have heard inappropriate things said in passing about being queer."

This student shared that while it does make them feel

uncomfortable they never once have felt their safety blatantly at risk for being queer.

"There are tons of safe spaces available for us in the community to gather on campus, like the intercultural center or the Pride Club. The university also hosts a pride night during the basketball season...Yes, Monmouth needs to do better, but I do think this rating is a bit of a stretch," they added.

Rago-Craft said, "For students specifically, I think this ranking is an important reminder that the power to shape the campus environment belongs to all of us. This can mean not laughing at homophobic and transphobic jokes when they're made by your friends, interrupting, or

intervening if you witness someone experiencing bullying or harassment and becoming knowledgeable about the resources on campus - such as our bias reporting options- to help a friend or classmate to receive support after an incident."

To report a Bias Incident or Crime, students can visit the Intercultural Center website, go to student resources, and select the "Report an Act of Bias" tab.

Brendan Sheehan, Student Government Association (SGA) President, said, "According to the Monmouth University 2024 Campus Climate Survey, 16.1% of students identify as a

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part of the LGBTQIA+ community. Our goal as a student government is to make everyone feel welcome no matter their background or identity. We urge all students to make their voices heard by addressing any issues they're experiencing or have experienced to the SGA during the public contributions portion of

every weekly meeting. The SGA is committed to creating a campus community that is supportive of all voices, so we want to hear from students themselves to address their concerns and advocate for them."

He continued, "We encourage all students to utilize the services provided by the Intercultural Center and our Counseling & Prevention Services (CPS), which both provide a safe space

for everyone to voice their feelings and concerns. I do question the metrics used by The Princeton Review for the ranking, as student feedback provided to the publication is overwhelmingly positive and focused on the diversity, positivity and feeling of community found at Monmouth."

"The Intercultural Center can continue to cultivate spaces where LGBTQIA+ students feel safe, affirmed,

and celebrated," said Rago-Craft. "This means offering more programming that amplifies LGBTQIA+ voices, training more employees around LGBTQIA+ cultural competency, continuing to critically examine policies and structures that may be creating barriers to the community, and working across campus in strategic partnerships to help ensure students feel they have a community on campus where

they are fully welcomed."

Rago-Craft concluded, "My hope [is] that our inclusion on this list inspires each of us to reflect on what we can do both as individuals, and as a community. I hope to see a cultural shift toward greater allyship, visibility, and accountability across the university."

Gillis and other members of the Pride Club will meet with President Leahy on Oct. 6.

Monmouth students protect the Arctic: new campaign joins push against drilling

SAMANTHA TATE
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

A newly launched student organization has started at Monmouth University to fight against oil and gas drilling in the Arctic. The nonprofit group is part of the national Arctic Defense Campaign, which works to protect the Western Arctic and the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge.

While the group at Monmouth only met for the first time last week, they already have big goals. They plan to collect 5,000 petition signatures, make hundreds of calls to lawmakers, work with local businesses, and get news coverage through events and opinion pieces. In just three weeks, they have gathered more than 850 signatures. During their first "Call-In Day of Action," on Sept. 23, they aimed to reach 50 calls to legislators.

Their main mission is to win permanent protection for the Arctic by supporting two bills in Congress. One is the Arctic Refuge Protection Act, which would stop oil and gas drilling in the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge. The second is the Stop Arctic Ocean Drilling Act, which would ban new drilling in Arctic waters.

The campaign is also preparing for an immediate fight. Oil and gas companies are getting ready to do seismic exploration later this year. This process uses loud vibrations to search for oil, but it can harm wildlife and damage the land. There will soon be a public comment period, and the group plans to deliver petitions to show strong opposition. If they succeed, exploration could be

delayed for a year.

"Protecting the Arctic is not only about saving wildlife and cultures; it's also a crucial step in addressing climate change," Jackson Smith, an environmental organizer with the Arctic Defense Campaign and the Monmouth chapter advisor, said.

According to The Verge the Arctic region has helped regulate global temperatures by locking carbon in frozen ground. Today it is warming nearly four times faster than the rest of the planet.

The Arctic remains one of the last truly wild places on Earth, supporting polar bears, caribou, migratory birds, whales and seals. It is also the homeland of Indigenous communities whose traditions and livelihoods are at risk from oil and gas drilling. Expanding drilling in the region would accelerate climate change, not only due to its vulnerable position in Earth's climate system, but also because melting ice can release carbon dioxide that has been trapped for generations. Protecting the Arctic means guarding its wildlife, indigenous cultures and the stability of the global climate, explained Smith.

Members say their work is not just about protecting wildlife, but also about stopping climate change. Melting Arctic ice releases carbon that has been trapped for generations, and drilling in the region could speed up warming. "Most people already agree that it's not worth sacrificing wildlife and Indigenous cultures for risky oil extraction," Smith said. "Our job is to turn that support into action."



PHOTO TAKEN from Instagram @monmouthuniversity.

The Arctic Defense Campaign brought out their inflatable polar bear for the involvement fair.

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Free speech in journalism:
where do we draw the line?

EDITORIAL STAFF

Recent events have sparked conversation about the first amendment and freedom of speech.

ABC pulled Jimmy Kimmel Live! off air after comments Kimmel made about the assassination of conservative commentator Charlie Kirk, which has sparked public and regulatory pressure, including warnings from FCC Chair, Brendan Carr. Disney reinstated the show six days later, calling his remarks “ill-timed and thus insensitive.” Still, many ABC affiliates, such as Nexstar and Sinclair, have refused to air the episodes, even after the return. Both companies have cited concerns about community standards and content.

The editors had a variety of opinions on the Kimmel situation. One editor shared how first amendment rights may not apply in a situation like this saying, “I think just like any job the agency under which you’re working for has the right to terminate your position based on things you say. The first amendment doesn’t protect you from your employer as you are working under a private company.”

Another editor agreed with this sentiment, claiming that it is up to the employers to make the decision, “If they decide they don’t want to air a certain show anymore, that is their right to do so.”

One editor disagreed with how far the networks went in this situation. They said, “I think it is abhorrent that networks went to the

extent they did just because of an ‘ill-timed’ comment. People have said way worse and gotten away with it, but when it touches on a subject a little too hot to handle, it’s not okay.”

At the Pentagon, new guidelines rolled out under Defense Secretary Pete Hegseth requiring “credentialed reporters” to sign a pledge that any information, even if unclassified, must be approved by Defense Department authorities before publishing. Critics, such as Seth Stern with the Free Press Foundation, warned that the new policy “operates as a prior restraint... the most serious First Amendment violations,” according to TIME.

The editors were asked about their thoughts on free speech and where the line might be in journalism. One editor defined free speech as “...the ability to speak about opinions, ideas, criticisms, and thoughts without facing any government interference or retaliation.”

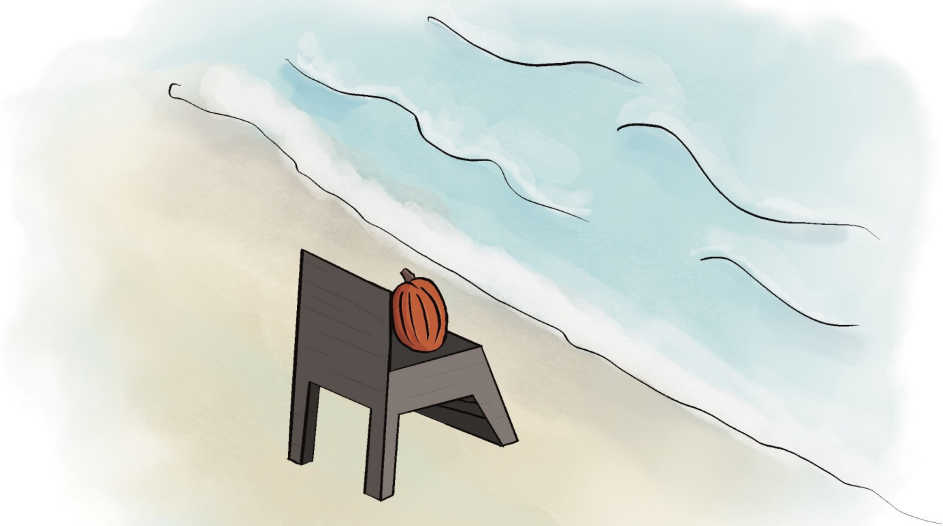
When it comes to free speech in journalism, the editors had differing opinions on where the line may be drawn. Some editors didn’t think that line was truly there at all. One editor uniquely explained it. They said, “There isn’t a single hard line in free speech, but more like zones, the way planets orbit a sun. Too close to the sun and you get a burning hot take, too far and the speech is frozen out as ‘irrelevant’. The Goldilocks zone is the socially acceptable opinion, where most people feel

comfortable, but all zones are allowed to and should coexist without turbulence.”

One editor had a slightly different opinion, saying that there is a line that could be crossed. They said, “I do think there is a line in free speech and journalism. I am a big believer in freedom of the press, but if certain articles are extremely biased or opinionated when they really shouldn’t be, I think that could lead to problematic outcomes and false information.”

A third editor also had a strong belief in a journalist’s right to freedom of speech. They said, “Journalists having the right to free speech is imperative to informing the public about current events. I think that journalists should be able to say what they want as long as they are following the code of ethics, this way they do not open themselves up to libel or defamation suits.”




Free speech is never simple. Recent events have shown how fragile it can feel in practice. Whether it’s a late-night host suspended under political pressure or journalists facing new restrictions at the Pentagon, the boundaries of what can be said and who gets to decide remain contested. What hasn’t changed is that the First Amendment continues to spark debate across media, institutions, and households alike. The real test going forward is not whether free speech will always be comfortable, but whether institutions and individuals are willing to protect it when it isn’t.



the best life-gourd around
a comic by kiley hubbard

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Are Savannah Bananas games better than the MLB?

MATT CIOLETTI
STAFF WRITER

The Bananas, similar to the Harlem Globetrotters, are about entertainment, giving people who paid money to watch the action without trying to keep score as they’ve hit different ballparks around the country and across various weekends. Although they’ve only come around recently, since 2016, they’re unlike any average cap and glove team. They’ve got moves, talent, and even an owner, Jesse Cole, who’s always seen wearing a yellow tuxedo.

The Savannah Bananas have had multiple big stars put on the yellow uniform this year, and not only did they all step up to the plate, they performed! Big Time Rush, Hamilton’s Miguel Cervantes, Derek Hough, and even Pat Monahan from Train have performed.

There are many good reasons why you may love the

Bananas more. You may not have a favorite regular baseball team, but you’re looking for a way to watch a game. Or, when it can be hard to keep track of your team every day, the Bananas games are only once a week, making it seem much more eventful for new content especially in our age when everything is digital, even baseball when some say it’s boring.

Not only that, the Bananas also bring back team legends when they play at big baseball stadiums, even if they’ve been out of the game for years. As their efforts are to make their home fans happy, giving them one of their franchise’s beloved players always delivers.

In their first stadium game in March 2024, at Houston’s Minute Maid Park, they brought back Roger Clemens. In July at Citizen’s Bank Park, a familiar face from the Phillies 2008 championship took swings, and that was Shane Victorino. At Yankee Stadium a couple weeks ago, Joe Torre was the guest

manager.

With the MLB starting to lack all the familiar faces from our childhood, it’s okay to watch players that aren’t known to be famous baseball players make us enjoy the game, and that’s how the Bananas make me feel as I’m still being introduced to them.

When the rules are different from regular baseball, it can lead to pretty exciting surprises with some spontaneous action. That’s what the Bananas also do to make sure the game is still exciting at the end, where the team who wins each inning gets a point, and they keep going until the two-hour clock runs out. And if you’re one of the fans who likes to catch foul balls like me, your catches would count as outs, another way that makes this type of baseball more fun for the fans.

The Bananas games get sold out, and when there’s a packed house of 40,000+ fans at a stadium, they get wild. There are times when the stadium goes completely dark, and all the

lights of the phones make the atmosphere completely electric, more like a concert rather than a major league game.

But there’s still an argument to be made that regular baseball is better. Although with the regular baseball rules the game may not be as fun, and don’t get me started about the ghost runner in extra innings, it doesn’t mean the games aren’t important. We keep up with the standings of our favorite teams daily, especially if your team is like mine in a serious race for the AL East and the best record in the American League.

It’s great to watch both types, but I will always like regular baseball better. It’s just too nostalgic and classic to watch your favorite team play and how your rivals are doing as well. All of the great moments from our favorite teams are immortalized in the history of the sport, like for me it’s moments from my team like Derek Jeter’s walk-off hit in his final home game or Aaron Judge’s 62nd home run.

Plus, regular baseball is not just going against other teams, it’s going up against the former greats of the game as the best players chase history as they hit 400 foot bombs that we could only dream of making ourselves. No offense to the Bananas, or even their opponents the Firefighters, Party Animals, and Texas Tailgaters, but the Yankees-Red Sox, and Mets-Phillies rivalries are what have always made baseball the game it’s always been, even when the schedule says they only meet in four series a year.

But if you’re a fan of a cellar dweller like the Rockies, Nationals, or Athletics, the laughter and fun of the Bananas may be for you and you may somehow think that their best moments are immortalized in baseball history. But are they that appealing? That’s why the Bananas are there, and if this wasn’t your year for regular baseball, then the Bananas may have been undefeated in your record books.

The beach: ultimate relaxation

JULIAN CAROMANO
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

When we think of the beach, we imagine a variety of things. Warm sand, crashing waves, the sun perched high in the sky; an image that seems very calming, peaceful, and relaxing. No matter which beach it is, it always induces this unique feeling of comfort and tranquility, facing a seemingly endless expanse of sun-touched water and blue skies.

For me, personally, I feel every bit of that and more. The beach tends to subtly let me know how small I am in the grand scheme of things, as I’m standing on the sand lining the Atlantic Ocean, but it’s oddly comforting. Besides what you would typically find comforting about the beach, like the nice weather, sound of the crashing waves, I find the expanse, the pure size of the ocean in front of me, comforting. It could be thought of as a reflection of the nearly infinite possibilities of people’s lives, which is how I personally think of it. Similarly, I find it almost poetic how the expanse of the ocean allows for travel in any direction to lead to somewhere else in the world. It assures me that no matter how far you travel, or in whatever

direction you decide to go, you’ll always end up on another shore.

The beach is also heavily correlated with summer, which is thought of as a period of relaxation and freedom for many people. Students who have gotten out of school or college for summer break frequently head to the beach to soak up the warm weather without the worries of assignments, tests, or classes on their minds. Playing sports in the sand and swimming in the refreshingly brisk waves are summer favorites that can only be experienced at the beach, where the stresses of daily life seem to be lifted off your shoulders.

Something else about the beach that I’ve come to appreciate is how it remains constant throughout life. It’s a place you can always come back to and find everything where it was before; the ocean, the sand, and the sky are all still there, even as the boardwalks, dunes, or local towns change. When you come back to visit, no matter how long time passes, the beach is still there.

The beach being viewed as a constant in life has been expressed in multiple forms of art, as well. One specific case

that I think gives the concept justice is Jimmy Buffett’s “Frenchman for the Night.”

“Frenchman for the Night” focuses on how a man visits the shore, and it takes him back to when he was young and in love. While at the shore on Bastille Day, a French national holiday celebrating the overthrow of the Bastille prison that ignited the French Revolution, he purchases a French wine and dances in the water on the beach. It’s implied that he’s reliving his life as “La Vie en rose,” most likely the version sung by Édith Piaf, a French singer, plays nearby. As described in the song, a woman that the man is in love with had waited on the shore for him, possibly a place the two of them would meet at when they were younger. However, time had flown faster than he had realized, and he’s only left with the memory of her in the present day.

The song uses the beach as a constant throughout the man’s life, especially when referencing how a woman from his past would wait for him at the shore, and how he reminisces those memories of love while dancing to “La Vie en rose,” which was created in the 1940s after World War II had ended. Throughout the song, the beach is a reminder

of how the bittersweet nostalgia that stems from his past is kept alive.

This is one of my favorite songs by Jimmy Buffett, who has many songs along the themes of the beach and the tropics. I’ve loved his interpretation of the beach almost being like a window into your past, being able to relive those experiences all over again, like how the ocean reflects the sun, the moon, and the stars above. Those three celestial

entities, along with every beach and ocean, have all been present for every event on Earth, like a time capsule for memories.

The shore is relaxing, peaceful, calming, fun, exciting, bittersweet, nostalgic, and maybe a mixture of all of those and more. No matter what memories the beach holds for you, it’s always a place that will hold a special place in your heart, capable of creating feelings that words cannot properly express.

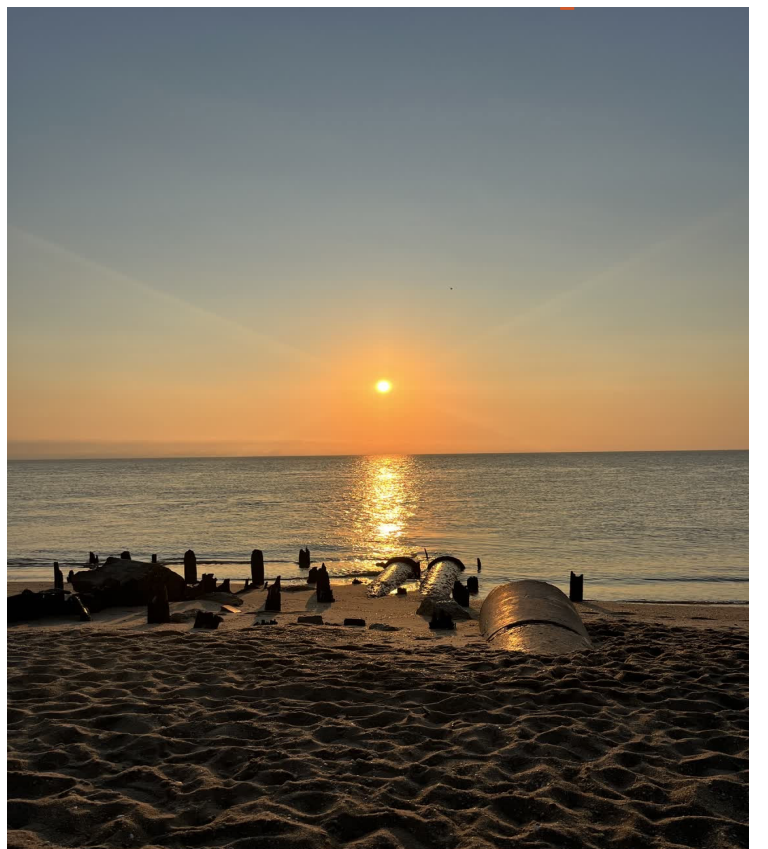


PHOTO TAKEN by Julian Caromano

Involvement Fair fall 2025: A rained-out and packed-in day

HANNAH FIERRO
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

Monmouth University hosted its fall 2025 Involvement Fair on Sept. 17, a tradition that brings students, clubs, and organizations together to display the many opportunities students have to be involved on campus.

This year was especially memorable not just for the energy inside but also the intense downpour outside. Initially planned to be held on the Great Lawn, the event took place indoors in the OceanFirst Bank Center due to rainy forecasts. Despite the dreary weather, the tone inside was anything but bleak.

As soon as I walked in, I saw rows of tables lining the gymnasium, and right by the entrance, I was greeted by a student in a blown up polar bear costume, adding a playful surprise to the atmosphere. The tables represented different student clubs, organizations, or campus services. There was music playing in the background as more students came in, shaking off their umbrellas and scanning the room for groups that matched their interests.

The fair is a great place

for first-year students to get a real taste of Monmouth’s campus community, while returning students, like myself can use the event as a chance to reconnect and explore new opportunities

Passion and Advocacy on Display

One of the clubs represented was the Monmouth University College Democrats, who came ready to speak out. Two students representing the club, Brandon Alvarado, a sophomore political science and psychology major, and Mariami Ramirez Tsuladze, a senior political science and anthropology major, said, “Monmouth University College Democrats are proud to take part in the involvement fair! We are proud to represent the fight against injustice and be on the right side of history! Vote Blue New Jersey!”

Another theme besides political engagement was The Student Government Association (SGA) that also made its attendance known, motivating students to assess leadership roles.

“Student Government Association is hyped to be back and be here and meet the potential new senators,” said Kelly Sniffen, a junior health science major and SGA Director of Public Relations.

She added, “Student Government is excited to represent

students this year, tackle new issues and make Monmouth the place to be. Be sure to follow our new Instagram @monmouthusga for all things Monmouth!”

A Cultural and Creative Mix

The fair also featured clubs that are open to explore your creative side such as The Latin Dance Club, recognized for its energy and inclusivity, looking for students to try something new.

“Come and enjoy the Latin Dance Club. This is the place for you to have some fun and move around!! You do not need to know how to dance, because we also teach you. Come and have some fun with us!” said President Rose Reyes, a sophomore criminal justice and Spanish major.

The Latin Dance Club drew notice with its exciting style, while the new Line Dance Club made its debut, inviting students to try something different and fun.

Likewise, the Muslim Students Association highlighted building a community.

“We’re looking forward to making this year full of connection, growth, and meaningful conversations through the Muslim Students Association.

Come join us and be part of our community,” said Sarah Rafiqi, a sophomore biology major, emphasizing her focus on meaningful connections on campus.

The Spirit of Monmouth

Although the main focus was on the students, the faculty and staff was also eager to encourage involvement. They reminded everyone that while clubs can help fill in free time, it’s more about building leadership, friendships, and skills that rear well beyond college.

Kiameesha Evans, Dr.PH, MPH, MCHES, is the faculty advisor for the health studies club and described how beneficial being a member can be.

“It’s a great club to be part of because it helps students connect with each other while also learning more about opportunities in the health field,” she said.

Despite the heavy rain forcing the fair to be indoors, the storm only featured the warmth and spirit inside the OceanFirst Bank Center. Students filled the space with laughter, music and curiosity, pivoting the day into a commemoration of campus life.

Overall, the fall 2025 Involvement Fair showed that whether you sign up for a political group, a new dance group, or find a community of friends, Monmouth Students are ready to get involved!



PHOTO TAKEN from Instagram @monmouthuniversity.



PHOTO TAKEN from Instagram @monmouthuniversity.



PHOTO TAKEN from Instagram @monmouthuniversity.



PHOTO TAKEN from Instagram @monmouthuniversity.



PHOTO TAKEN from Instagram @monmouthuniversity.

Upcoming events!

WEDNESDAY

Free Professional Clothing Closet Pop-up

11:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.
Student Center - Anacon A

What's Your Learning Style?

1:15 p.m. - 2:15 p.m.
Nagy Commons

Scholarship Workshop

2:45 p.m. - 3:45 p.m.
Student Center 202c

LinkedIn Headshots with Career Development

3:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.
Student Center - 1st Floor

Indian Dining Night

4:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.
Magill Commons Dining Hall

FSL 101

9:30 p.m. - 10:30 p.m.
Pozycki Hall 115

THURSDAY

Citation Station

11:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.
Nagy Commons

You, Moo, & Chick-fil-A Too

1:00 p.m. - 3:00 p.m.
Residential Quad

Thursday Alternative: Sushi Rolling with Chef Ray

6:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.
Magill Commons Dining Hall

Subiendo La Escalera (Climbing the Ladder) - Latinx Heritage Month Alumni Career Panel

6:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.
Great Hall Room 104

FRIDAY

LinkedIn Headshots with Career Development

3:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.
Student Center - 1st Floor

Friday Night Live: SAB Fall Show!

6:00 p.m. - 8:30 p.m.
Pollak Theatre

SATURDAY

Weekend Shuttle: Jenkinson's Aquarium

11:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.
Jenkinson's Aquarium

Y2Karaoke

6:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m.
Nagy Commons

SUNDAY

Honor & Remember: NJ Run for the Fallen

11:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.
Lot 11

Hesszone Sunday

1:00 p.m. - 2:30 p.m.
Hesse Theater

Song of the Week!

“There She Goes”
by The La's



Your perfect fall TV guide: What to watch and when

SAGE FERNANDEZ
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

Ahhh, it's FINALLY that time of year again. You wake up to a crisp autumn breeze, grab a pumpkin spice latte after your morning walk, and make a Target run to add yet another (very necessary) scented candle to your infinitely growing collection. At the end of this perfect fall day, you cozy up by the fireplace with your favorite blanket and turn on... uh oh. You don't know what to turn on!

Don't fret, you've come to the right place! I have all your fall show recommendations right here. In fact, I'll even go as far as suggesting the perfect times to watch them.

Ok, ok, I know you're all very eager to get bingeing, so I'll jump right in. It's September, the transition season, so we will need something to get us through until the heart of fall hits.

Since I'm on this journey with you all, I just started Yellowstone, which is great if you love action and family drama. It follows the Dutton family's fight to keep their generational wealth, which is in the form of their hundreds of acres of land. Everyone is their enemy and wants the land, but John Dutton

is a powerful and influential man whose stubbornness wins the battle every time. Think, cowboy mafia.

It gets very violent at times, but you'll fall in love with the characters and their stories immediately. Taylor Sheridan is the writer and director, and he's known for his breathtaking cinematography and use of natural landscapes to really pull you into the show. Not to mention, his storytelling is unmatched.

If you like that, you'll also love the show Justified, starring Timothy Olyphant. This is one of my favorite shows; it has action, mystery, humor, and an amazing storyline. It follows a Miami U.S. Marshal who was sent back to his hometown in Kentucky and is faced with his past. He has to choose whether to uphold the law or go back to his old life.

If you don't necessarily love action, that's okay too! These next shows could be right for you. We need to really get into the fall spirit. September goes by in a flash between school, work, and whatever else seems to be popping up when we try to wind down. This show, without fail, gets me in the fall spirit year after year; it seems to be everyone's tried and true. I think we all know what I'm going to say... Gilmore

Girls.

Come on, you didn't think I'd have a fall show list without including the gold standard. Whether you're rewatching or a first-time viewer, Lorelai and Rory will capture your heart with their witty banter, coffee obsession, and heartwarming mother-daughter bond. I put this in September because we need to start with a bang.

Other September shows include Smallville, which follows a young Clark Kent discovering himself and his abilities before becoming the Man of Steel. It has a similar feel to Gilmore Girls in terms of a small-town feel, high school romances, and being created in the same era. Along with that, One Tree Hill would also fall into that category.

Spooky season is approaching; September is turning to October, and you're ready for some hardcore fall. Obviously, we have to start with The Vampire Diaries. I rewatch it every year, and it will definitely get you in the Halloween spirit. This show follows Elena Gilbert, a high schooler who falls in love with a Vampire. That is the very bare bones of the show, no spoilers.

If you like that show, your next move will probably want

to be Supernatural, a pair of ghost-hunting brothers. Spoiler alert: you might see a familiar face (Dean from Gilmore Girls).

Another great eerie show that gives a similar feel is Pretty Little Liars and Teen Wolf.

Looking for comedy? I have a few of those too! You might want to check out Based on a True Story, Only Murders in the Building, and Santa Clarita Diet. Honorable Mention would have to be all of the Dexter spin-offs. This is a great October show, but it could arguably be watched during the colder months.

Now, another transition would be mid-November. Around this time, it's getting colder, and we all have a nagging sensation that Mariah Carey is slowly defrosting. With much consideration, including a very intense conversation with a dear friend, we both decided the perfect November show to start is Gossip Girl.

"You have a lot of fall moments with the students going back to school and everything, but there's also a lot of Christmas episodes. I think it's a great November show," said Ava McGinty, a junior communication major.

With all that being said, feel free to switch things up or disagree. This is merely an

outline of a ton of incredible shows out there. However, if you like what you see, here's a reference list for you. Happy watching!

September
Gilmore Girls
Yellowstone
Justified
One Tree Hill

October
The Vampire Diaries
Pretty Little Liars
Supernatural
Teen Wolf
Based on a True Story
Santa Clarita Diet
Only Murders in the Building
Dexter

November
Gossip Girl
One Tree Hill
Dexter

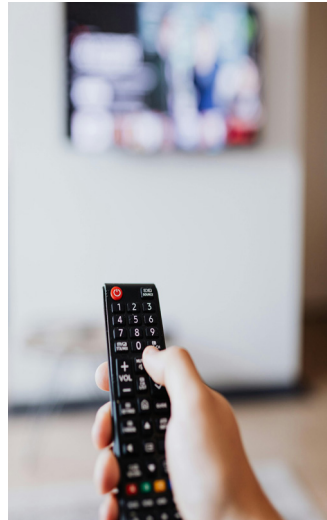


IMAGE TAKEN from pexels.com.

Fall into a new hobby

RILEY McGEE
STAFF WRITER

WARNING! The infamous seasonal depression is approaching!

As the colder seasons get closer, a great way to combat these blues is to find a new hobby.

For many, finding hobbies to do can be hard, and it can be harder to find something to do that you want to stick to.

As someone who loves many different kinds of activities, even trying something new and not sticking with it is better than not doing anything

at all!

For instance, a really good hobby that I was able to get back into was reading. Reading allows the audience to completely immerse themselves in the characters, settings, and plot, and truly understand that book's world.

It's an escape from doom scrolling on our phones, watching the same things over and over again, or feeling discouraged by what we see on social media. Instead, we can read any book that we want, whether it is fiction or non-fiction.

Another simple hobby that anyone can do is going on long walks. Not only is it something that you can do for any amount of time, but it also allows us to get outside

and enjoy what is around us.

It's a great way to clear your mind and be active, so bundle up and start taking in the different sights and scenes that fall is so famous for.

If you're more of an indoors person, don't worry! Painting may be perfect for you! You don't have to be good at painting to enjoy it because there are so many different ways to do it.

There are paint-by-numbers, diamond paintings, or blank canvases that are all yours to create! This is something that you can do while watching a movie or even with a group of friends, which makes everything more fun.

On a regular basis, taking photos is another great everyday hobby. You can truly take pictures of anything and everything!

You don't need a fancy camera; just take out your phone and snap some shots of nature, events, people, etc. Something else that is an option on the artsy side again is learning how to embroider. Though this is the hardest one mentioned so far, it can be a very cool skill to have.

If you know how to embroider one thing, you know how to embroider anything. Imagine wearing your favorite fall clothes with your own designs stitched

into them! Or bringing your school bag to class with new designs along the seam!

Since the fall weather is on the chillier side, chances are you'll be inside a lot. Might as well spend that time inside learning

something new that you might fall in love with.

Finding hobbies is not something that you can just wake up and know. You can't pressure yourself into liking; something. It'll be a classic case of trial and error but in the end it'll be completely worth it.

P.S. Have fun with it!



IMAGES TAKEN from adobestock.com

Monmouth University's Theatre Department presents "Into the Woods" this November

LORELAI HILARCZYK
ENTERTAINMENT EDITOR/
ASSISTANT NEWS EDITOR

Step into the magical world of fairy tales, as Monmouth University's Theatre Department prepares for their performances of James Lapine and Stephen Sondheim's "Into the Woods."

"Into the Woods" written by Lapine with music from Sondheim is about those classic Brothers Grimm stories you know and love. You might know some of the songs from the show such as, "Prologue: Into the Woods," "It Takes Two," and "No One Is Alone." The show is witty, heartfelt, and full of twists which allow the audience not only to be captivated, but invested in exploring this world.

Senior Specialist Professor in MU's Department of Music and Theatre Arts, Sheri Anderson is the director of this production alongside musical director, Michael Gilch. Anderson explained that she chooses rotations of shows to showcase different vocal and dance styles. It seems all the pieces aligned in choosing "Into the Woods," and it's certainly a contrast from the last musical performed at Woods Theatre, "Singin' in the Rain."

Auditions had over 40 students perform to be a part of this show, ultimately being narrowed down to the 23 members of this talented cast. The cast includes: Alexis Finkelstein as The Narrator, Julianna Chesla as The Witch, John Terista as The Baker, Antonia Bongiorno as The Baker's Wife, Taylor Wichterman as Cinderella, Andrew Shuberda as Jack, Kelly Nide as Little Red, Charlie Ferrera as Cinderella's Prince, Francisco Marques as Rapunzel's Prince, Kira Fisher as Jack's Mother, Xavier Santangelo as Mysterious Man, Julia Gale as Rapunzel, Sami Khatri as The Wolf, to name a few. No doubt, these students are full of passion for performing and storytelling.

Anderson also explained how this year is the first time the department has a full student design team. The design team includes Production Stage Manager and Scenic Designer, Olivia McGlone; Lighting Designer, Max Ghaffar; Assistant Director and Costume Designer; Chesla, who also plays The

Witch; And finally Khatri as Choreographer, who also plays The Wolf. "It's wonderful. The Musical Theatre program just started during lockdown, so to have grown to this level in a few short years is a dream come true," Anderson said in response to having a student design team.

I had the opportunity to reach out to some of the cast members as they prepare to dive into this world and become your favorite fairy tale characters.

Finkelstein, who plays The Narrator, will have to channel telling the story as it unfolds. Her character exists to provide the audience with information about the characters almost as a side commentator.

She describes her character as "comforting" because she'll guide the audience through the fairy tales in a way they've never seen, all while removing herself from the scene. She said, "I'm excited to play the switch from observing the story to suddenly being a part of it."

One of those stories Finkelstein will have to tell is that of The Baker who will be played by Terista. His character is devoted to his wife and their adventure through the woods for a child.

It's a journey of fatherhood and family, which Terista is up for the challenge. He said, "I'm most excited to explore the

"The monsters that we are scared of when we are young turn into real life conflict as we get older, and 'Into the Woods' is a wonderful reminder that that is something everyone will have to navigate on the road to adulthood, but there is beauty within the change."

- Taylor Wichterman, Cinderella in "Into the Woods."

Baker's journey of becoming a father and the challenges that come with stepping into that role for the first time...Whenever I have the chance to play a father figure on stage, it un-



IMAGE TAKEN from Instagram via @mu_theatrearts.

You can watch this amazing cast perform on **Nov. 13 at 7PM, Nov. 15 at 2PM and 8PM, and Nov. 16 at 2PM and 8PM.** More information on ticket purchasing and specifics can be found by visiting the Monmouth University Center for the Arts website, www.monmouth.edu/mca/.

locks something deeper in me as an actor, and I'm eager to bring that to the Baker."

Another performer who is eager to take to the stage with her role is Chesla as The Witch. While Chesla's character is one of the antagonists in this play, she would describe her as "flawed" with many complex layers. Who doesn't love a good villain and a possible redemption arc? The Witch brings up moral conflicts about "good" and "bad" as these characters meet up in the woods.

However, I believe Chesla's connection to this show is going to be where her performance shines through.

She saw "Into the Woods" in 2022 with her mother who told her she was "made to play The Witch." She said, "Although she's not physically here to see it through, I know how excited she is to see me venture into this role. Of any show I have ever been in, this will be me at my most emotionally vulnerable moments. To be reminded every night that even in the worst of griefs,

you are never alone, is something that I can put my entire heart and soul into."

While this story has a lot of individual exploration and growth, these two actors will be together from start to finish (sort of). Nide as Little Red Riding Hood (Red) and Khatri as The Wolf will have to tackle the relationship between predator and prey. Nide explained that at Red's core she's a "naive yet layered character" and finding her inner feisty child should be exciting to witness.

Khatri, who is also the choreographer of this production said that she's excited to put her spin on the normally male role of The Wolf. She said, "As a woman, I'm excited to bring a new twist to the iconic song 'Hello, Little Girl'! It has been so fun choreographing this song, and I can't wait for people to see it!"

There's one more iconic fairy tale character heading into the woods that you've heard of. Cinderella will be played by Wichterman, who has stepped into the glass slippers once before in a smaller production.

However, this time she's ready to apply her new growth as an ac-

tress, singer, and overall person. She describes Cinderella as having a "caring nature and patience when working with others." She said, "This really shines through during the number 'No One Is Alone.' After hearing about hurtful truths that pertain to her own life, she puts her own feelings and emotions aside to help Little Red with her troubles, showing she is truly selfless." For Wichterman playing this character means playing into quirks, inner conflicts, and dreams.

The basis of this show is finding yourself in places that might seem dark and mysterious. We've all had times where we "wish" for something or someone. "Into the Woods" captures that essence in an unexpected way.

Don't just wish you were seeing this show, it's not worth the agony and misery of missing out. Grab your friends and family to laugh, cry, and explore the woods within Woods Theatre.

Conan Gray's "Wishbone" 2025 tour

MELANY MCCANN
STAFF WRITER

It may not have been the third of December, but this past Tuesday was just as iconic. I've been a fan of Conan Gray since his first EP "Sunset Season," nearly seven years ago, but I have never gotten the chance to see him live. Thanks to pre-sale tickets, I was able to secure three floor seats to "The Wishbone Pajama Show" tour in Pittsburgh, PA.

Out of the various concerts that I've been to, this was the best. The dress code for the show was pajamas, which in of itself is very creative, so my friends and

I got matching blue pajama pants and custom-made white t-shirts—mine said "I Heart Conan Gray" with a blue heart.

The show was held at the Petersen Events Center which has a capacity of about 9,000 people, so the show felt quite intimate. I arrived at the venue at around eight and Gray was set to go on at exactly nine. That gave us just enough time to get merch, find our seats, and trade bracelets with fellow fans.

This show had a fan project during the song "Vodka Cranberry," and before Gray went on there were girls walking around with tape and a red sharpie to tint the phone flashlights of those on

the floor to the color red. We also agreed to shine our flashlights during the song "Eleven Eleven," and in both cases, Gray noticed and thanked the crowd.

Right before Gray went on stage, "bad idea right?" by Olivia Rodrigo played, and when the lyrics "I know I should stop" were sung, the lights went out, the crowd went crazy, and the "Wishbone Pajama Show" logo appeared on stage. Gray entered riding a bike, and began to sing the first song of the night, "My World" from the "Wishbone" album.

My favorite part about the show is how interactive Gray is with the audience. He dances on both sides of the stage, reacts to the volume of the crowd, cracks jokes, and encourages the audience to scream. It makes the entire performance feel intimate and catered. Gray played almost the entirety of his newest album, except for two songs. He also played two songs from his earlier albums, "Found Heaven," "Kid Krow," and "Superache." He performed his most popular hits, such as "Heather," "Maniac," and "Memories." It felt like we were traveling through each era of his music career thus far.

The show itself was split into four acts and then an encore. Act one was called "a wishbone never breaks even", act two was "i got the short end of the stick," the third was, "i took the

long way to realization," and the fourth was "i wished for love, and i found it." In between each act, the stage transformed from a sunset backdrop with a windmill and mailbox to clouds, stars, and a bed, and then to various other sets, such as a lake and field. His outfit switched from various sailor suits to pajamas clearly sticking with his brand of the album.

After the fourth act, as part of a tradition, Gray pretended that the show was over and left the stage, and after the crowd chanted his name, he returned and sang two more songs, "Memories" and "Caramel."

Truthfully, the show was very emotional for me. Not only was I hit with immense nostalgia for his older songs, but his set list consisted of some very sad songs, such as "Connell," "Family Line," and "Nauseous." Gray's voice was full of emotion and it hit me right in the heart. Before "Family Line" he made a speech, saying, "If anyone in this room has ever felt unloved, know that you are loved by me."

The most memorable portion of this show is the surprise song segment. Every night of the show, Gray picks a fan from the audience and breaks a Wishbone with them and presents two surprise song options on the screen. If Gray gets the larger end of the stick, he picks the song. If the fan gets the larger end, then they get to pick. This show was special though,

because a fan in attendance was a grandmother on TikTok who had gone viral for crying when her granddaughter surprised her with tickets to the show. Because of this, Gray selected "Grandma Sandy" to break the wishbone and for the first time on tour, a fan got the larger piece. The surprise song options for this night were "Fight or Flight" or "Alley Rose," and Sandy picked "Alley Rose"

This is actually my all-time favorite Gray song, so I absolutely lost my mind with excitement. And during the lyric "Where'd you go, go, Alley Rose?" he changed the word "Alley" to "Sandy."

The sense of community among the fans was something so powerful. We were all dancing and screaming our favorite lyrics, trading bracelets, signing shirts, books, and talking about our favorite songs, even though we didn't know each other at all. There was a sense of unity among the crowd, and that feeling was electrifying.

I had such a great time on the floor with such an incredible view that I almost couldn't believe that I was that close. Gray's music and lyricism has always spoken to me and seeing him live was better than I could've ever imagined. It was genuinely one of the best nights of my life. I will definitely be finding a way to make it to another one of his shows before the tour ends, and you should too.

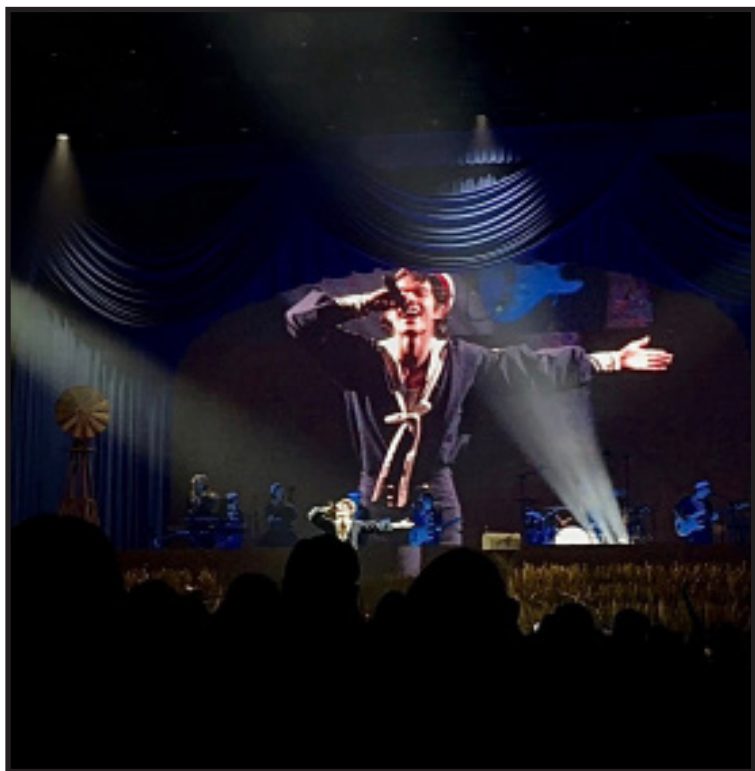


PHOTO TAKEN by Melany McCann.

The Punk music revival: Music that unites

RILEY KINDLER
OPINIONS EDITOR

When most people think about hardcore punk, they tend to think of hate, screaming, and violence. Many are too scared to step foot near a venue holding a show of that genre for fear of the fans going to the show, and many are too scared to even talk to the people standing outside. The volume is too much for some, the language may be too vulgar, but they're all missing a vital part of hardcore's message. Hardcore is for the people, by the people, no matter who you are or where you come from.

I feel like there isn't a hardcore band today that captures that message quite like Turnstile. Forming in 2010 in Baltimore, MD, the group quickly took over the Baltimore punk scene and toured the East Coast constantly for nearly a decade before finding mainstream success.

In 2021, the group released "GLOW ON," their third album, to critical and fan praise. This album, while it wasn't their

first to do well critically, was the moment when the group started to be recognized nationally and globally.

This was around the time that I started to really get into the genre, as the recent lift of COVID-19 bans and becoming a teenager meant that going to shows was much easier for me. I had been listening to Turnstile since 2018, but "GLOW ON" made Turnstile quickly become one of my first favorite hardcore bands. Their music pushed me into the world of punk music beyond the mainstream emo music I grew up with. Similar bands like Speed and Mannequin Pussy (both of whom are currently opening for Turnstile's fall "NEVER ENOUGH" tour) became all that I listened to in high school.

I eventually got to see Turnstile open for Blink-182 in July of 2023, and while their set was short, it was worth the ticket price. There was one thing missing from my experience, though. I had stadium seats, but all I wanted to do was mosh.

For those who don't know, moshing is a type of dancing that

is extremely popular at punk and metal shows. It may look violent to the naked eye, but the thrashing and kicking is honestly pretty safe. If you know how to do it right! Most bands say this at the beginning of their shows, but it's a common rule that if someone falls down, you pick them up, and you keep your eyes open at all times.

When I started moshing and going to shows like this, I was stupid and fell a lot. I wasn't used to the style of dancing, a lot of people were bigger or more intimidating than me, and I was scared most of the time. I would hide behind the people on the front lines of the mosh pit or I would stand all the way in the back, often missing out on a lot of the fun. When I saw Turnstile for the first time, that changed.

I wasn't close to the pit, but the show felt different. The band was made up of all different types of people, and the people who went to see them were more diverse than I had ever seen in my local scene. It felt loving, it felt accepting, it felt different.

When Turnstile announced

their 2025 tour in support of their new album, "NEVER ENOUGH," I had tickets by the time the presale was five minutes in. I knew I had to experience a show like that up close and personal.

The supporting acts at the Philadelphia show this past weekend, which was the hometown show for three of the four acts, were a great fit to the band's message and identity. Two of those three bands, Mannequin Pussy and Jane Remover, were fronted by women, and every band on the bill had performers of color. It's a sad thing to say, but that type of inclusivity is hard to come by in the hardcore scene, especially locally.

The audience, too, was so diverse. I saw guests from the ages of three or four to late 60s and early 70s walk through the gates of the venue. It filled me with so much pride to know that punk music is flowing through all generations. The sense of community that a band like Turnstile teaches kids is so important, especially in today's world, where there is a lack of in-person communities due to the

internet.

The moment that made me glow with pride, however, was the moment I saw a young girl, maybe eight or nine, standing on the fringe of the mosh pit with her parents. I could tell she was really eager to go in, so I went up, took her by the hand, and led her to the edge of the pit. I taught her how to two-step, a style of dancing that is basically just kicking rhythmically to the music. It made me so happy to see her want to learn how to mosh, since I remember being that kid.

I remember being young and going to the shows and feeling left out. I always got so excited when someone would dance with me, even though I was a "dumb little kid" to most people there. The first time something like that happened, I went home and told my mom all about it for hours. I never forgot that moment, even nearly eight years later. That's what hardcore does. That's what Turnstile does. It makes us feel a little bit safer and a little less alone.

Late Night under fire: Kimmel and the politics of free speech

HENRY BOODY
POLITICS EDITOR

Within the past few months, two of late-night television’s most prominent voices, Stephen Colbert and, most recently, Jimmy Kimmel, have faced abrupt endings to their respective shows. In May, CBS announced that ‘The Late Show with Stephen Colbert’ would come to a close in 2026, after nearly a decade on air. Four months later, ABC suspended ‘Jimmy Kimmel Live!’ indefinitely. In Colbert’s case, CBS claimed declining viewership and financial strain, according to Reuters. However, the cancellation came shortly after Colbert criticized on-air a settlement paid by CBS to President Donald Trump, following his lawsuit against CBS for editing Kamala Harris’s interview, an act he saw as an attempt to influence the election. In Kimmel’s case, the suspension followed moments of political controversy relating to Charlie Kirk’s recent assassination. Kimmel critiqued President Trump’s response to Kirk’s death. In both cases, the networks claimed declining viewership as a cause. However, according to Statista, Colbert’s and Kimmel’s shows have the “biggest audiences in the 11:35 p.m. segment as well as any other time slot.”

For Kimmel, the turning point came across multiple monologues, addressing the recent assassination of conservative commentator Charlie Kirk.

More specifically, on Sept. 15, he said, “The MAGA gang [is] desperately trying to characterize this kid who murdered Charlie Kirk as anything other than one of them, and doing everything they can to score political points from it.”

At the time of the statement, no official law enforcement agency had confirmed any political leanings or motive for the suspect, Tyler Robinson, making Kimmel’s remarks controversial from the jump. His comment(s) were quickly followed by criticism from FCC Chair Brendan Carr, who warned of regulatory consequences. Later, Carr went further to tell right-wing podcaster Benny Johnson, “We can do this the easy way or the hard way,” language many read as a direct threat to networks carrying Kimmel, according to NPR. Carr, who contributed a chapter to Project 2025 on reshaping the FCC, faced renewed scrutiny after responding to an X user accusing him of following through with the plan by posting a nodding Jack Nicholson GIF, a reply many took as a wink toward the criticism. Major affiliate groups Nexstar and Sinclair threatened to pull Jimmy Kimmel Live! from their ABC stations, according to a report by AP News.

Both companies are pursuing large mergers that require FCC approval, giving the companies the incentive to side with Carr. Disney, for its part, said the suspension was intended to “avoid inflaming a tense situation” after Kirk’s



IMAGE TAKEN from ABC

death, calling Kimmel’s remarks “ill-timed and thus insensitive,” Reuters reported.

The incident has sparked a wide-ranging debate on campus about the lines between political opinion, humor, and what is considered an acceptable business risk. “He’s always talked about everything,” said Monmouth nursing major Antonia Agurto. “Now that he’s talking about something personal, why now cancel him? He’s said worse in the past. It’s very divided.”

Music major Julia Gale questioned whether fairness was even a factor, noting that in the modern media landscape, “cancel culture has skyrocketed with social media and the ability and the audience for what you want to say.” Gale went further to say, “Now it’s not cancel culture, it’s delete culture.”

Another student, political

science major Lola Salyamov, felt the situation had a chilling effect on political dialogue, admitting, “I just don’t talk politics with my friends because it always leads to arguments.”

President Donald Trump praised Kimmel’s suspension as “great news for America,” while critics across the political spectrum warned of a dangerous precedent being set. Senator Ted Cruz, who has historically disliked Jimmy Kimmel and was glad of his suspension, cautioned, “If the government gets in the business of saying what you, the media, have said, we’re going to ban you from the airwaves if you don’t say what we like — that will end up bad for conservatives.”

Consumer backlash added another layer, as Disney reportedly saw a wave of subscription cancellations to

Disney+ in protest, according to NBC.

On Sept. 22, just six days after the suspension began, ABC announced that Kimmel would return to the air. Disney executives described the incident as a moment of “ill-timed” commentary but reaffirmed their support for the show. Many households will still not have Jimmy Kimmel Live! available though, as both affiliate companies stated they will replace the late-night show with news programming, according to NBC. Together with Colbert’s looming departure, the Kimmel saga raises broader questions about whether late-night political comedy can withstand the combined pressures of commercial demands and political scrutiny.

Beyond our coverage

Local

“Defeated council candidate sues Roselle Democrats, Atkins”
(New Jersey Globe)

“N.J. mayor abruptly quits after 17 years in office”
(NJ.com)

“Charlie Kirk vigils to be held this weekend in New Jersey. Here’s the list”
(North Jersey.com)

National

“FBI arrests man accused of shooting at local Sacramento ABC news station” (CNN)

“Trump Says Migration and Climate-Change Policies Are Destroying the West” (Wall Street Journal)

“Augusta Mall Shooting: Active Shooter Confirmed in Georgia” (Newsweek)

Compiled by Henry Boody

International

“NATO warns Russia to stop ‘escalatory’ actions after Estonian airspace violation”
(Reuters)

“3 children and their father, a car dealer, killed in Israeli strike while driving home in Lebanon” (CBS News)

“S.Korea leader at UN vows to end ‘vicious cycle’ with North” (AFP)

“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.

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 '25/'26

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

-Ava McGinty, Managing and Features Editor '25/'26



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 three shows. Hawk TV News shoots biweekly on Tuesdays. On Wednesdays, we film our pop culture show called Triple Scoop and on Thursdays, our sports show called the Extra Point. All begin at 7 p.m. We hope to see you this semester!

- Ava McGinty, Hawk TV Secretary and Executive Producer of Hawk TV News



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



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 88.9

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 (VP) '24/'25



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 '24/'25



"OmniSports Media" - WMCX

Tune in every Friday from 11 a.m. -1 p.m. for sports content about the MLB & NFL on WMCX 88.9.

- Dean Heidel, OmniSports Media Host



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



MU Sports Industry Club

We are a club dedicated to connecting aspiring students with sports industry professionals through networking opportunities. Our first meeting will be on Sept. 22nd at 7 p.m. on Zoom with Rachel Luscher, the Digital Coordinator at the New York Islanders! Follow our Instagram @musportsindustry for more info!

- Ava McGinty, Vice President

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FSL 101

MUST ATTEND ONE SESSION TO BE ELIGIBLE
FOR FALL OR SPRING MEMBERSHIP

SEPTEMBER 24TH | POZYCKI 115 | 9:30 PM

OCTOBER 7TH | BEY 113 | 9:30 PM

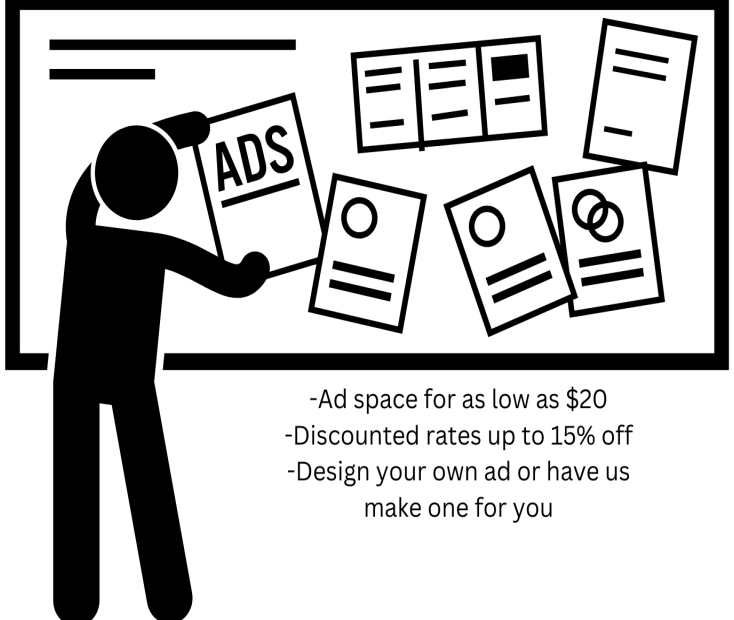
OCTOBER 16TH | POZYCKI 115 | 9:30 PM

OCTOBER 23RD | POZYCKI 115 | 9:30 PM

NOVEMBER 4TH | BEY 113 | 9:30 PM

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Monmouth Field Hockey

GAME DAY

9.26 | 3PM | VS. MAINE

on So Sweet A Cat Field

LATINX HERITAGE MONTH CELEBRATION TAILGATE

PEARSON
**WORLD
CINEMA
SERIES**

Evil Does Not Exist

25 Sept 2025 | Great Hall Auditorium
Hosted by Dean David Golland

Takumi and his daughter Hana live in Mizubiki Village, close to Tokyo. One day, the village inhabitants become aware of a plan to build a camping site near Takumi's house, offering residents a comfortable escape to nature.



Football downs Villanova in home opener

FRANK HOARLE
SPORTS EDITOR

Monmouth football took care of business against Villanova on Saturday, Sept. 20, as the FCS's top offense continued to shine on family weekend.

The Hawks entered the game averaging 42 points per game on offense, and they eclipsed that mark against the Wildcats, scoring a season-high 51 points in the victory.

Scoring in this game got started quickly, after Villanova won the toss and deferred to the second half, Monmouth got the ball to start the game. On the second play from scrimmage, senior quarterback Derek Robertson found junior wide receiver Josh Derry open downfield. Derry was able to elude two Wildcat defenders and walk in for a 75-yard touchdown. Less than a minute into the game, Monmouth already had a 7-0 lead.

Villanova answered Monmouth's quick touchdown with a score of their own on their first drive. Senior quarterback Pat McQuaide hit freshman wide receiver Brandon Binkowski for his second touchdown of his collegiate career. After two drives, the game was tied at seven apiece.

Monmouth's second drive got deep into Villanova territory, with Derry accounting for 44 yards on the possession. However, an incomplete pass by Robertson on third down led to the Hawks settling for a field goal.

After the defense forced a Villanova punt after the Wildcats got to midfield, Robertson found a wide open receiver in senior running back Mekhi Green. The 72-yard touchdown pass was just the third play of a 97-yard touchdown drive, and it was Green's first of the season. The first quarter concluded with Monmouth holding a 17-7 lead.

After a three-and-out from Villanova, Monmouth's offense got the ball back and scored a touchdown. On third down with only one yard to gain, Robertson took a shot down field and found sophomore wide receiver Tra Neal for a 40-yard touchdown. The score marked the fourth straight drive to open the game for the Hawks that ended in points.

Villanova was able to get some momentum going on their ensuing drive by getting into the red zone, but on a third down pass that would have been converted for a first down, a fumble would be recovered by Monmouth's freshman defensive back Chris Palmer Jr., giving the Hawks the ball back. Monmouth ended up getting into field goal range on this drive, but a third down intentional grounding penalty by Robertson knocked the Hawks out of field goal range and forced a punt, the first of the game for Monmouth.

The Hawks defense again forced a three-and-out, leading Monmouth's offense again putting together another touchdown drive, as freshman running back Elijah Jennings scored in the

wildcat formation to give Monmouth a 31-7 lead. Villanova responded with a touchdown of their own in the final minutes of the second quarter to cut the lead to 31-14 heading into halftime.

Villanova quickly got things started in the second half, only taking four plays to score a touchdown that cut the Monmouth lead to 31-21. After 14 unanswered points from the Wildcats, Monmouth struck back with a 10-yard rushing touchdown by junior running back Rodney Nelson to extend the lead back to three scores.

Another three-and-out from Villanova gave the Monmouth offense the ball back, and they once again took advantage as Robertson found Derry for yet another touchdown. Derry currently has eight touchdown catches in just four games this season. He only had six touchdown catches in his two-year career prior to this season. Villanova would keep themselves alive with a touchdown late in the third quarter, but a failed two-point conversion kept their deficit at three scores.

Monmouth's next drive ate up over half of the time in the fourth quarter, ending with Nelson scoring his second touchdown of the game, extending the Hawks lead to 51-27. The Wildcats scored a late touchdown to make the final score a little more respectable, but Monmouth wrapped up its home opener with a 51-33 victory.

Robertson continued his hot start to the season, passing for 397 yards and four touchdowns with zero turn-



PHOTO COURTESY of Emily Webb.
Rodney Nelson ran for two touchdowns in Monmouth's victory over Villanova on Saturday, Sept. 20.

overs. Robertson continues to lead the FCS in passing yards, with over 400 more yards than second place. He also leads the FCS in passing touchdowns by five more than second place. Derry finished with 177 yards receiving and two touchdown catches. He is second in the FCS in receiving yards and first in receiving touchdowns. Nelson led the team in rushing, with 186 yards and two touchdowns on 33 carries. Nelson is currently sixth in the FCS in rushing yards.

Heading into this game, Villanova was ranked No. 12 in the country in the AFCA FCS Coaches Poll, while Monmouth was ranked No. 18. The Hawks rose to No. 14 following their victory, while Villanova dropped down to No.

22. Monmouth's No. 14 ranking inches them closer to their highest ranking in program history, which was No. 11 achieved in both 2019 and 2021. The Hawks are now 3-1 on the season with their lone loss coming to FBS opponent Charlotte. They get their first bye week of the season next week before getting back into action in Kessler Stadium on Saturday, Oct. 4 against Delaware State in their final non-conference game of the regular season.

After their game against Delaware State, the Hawks will play seven straight conference games to finish the regular season. Villanova now sits at 1-2 with losses to Monmouth and FBS No. 3 Penn State.

Men's Soccer gets second win in conference play

NATALEE MATTEI
STAFF WRITER

This past Sunday the Monmouth Men's Soccer team headed to Captains Field in Hempstead, New York to take on the Hofstra Pride in a defensive battle that resulted in another win for the Hawks.

It was junior defender Raul Garcia who was the deciding factor in the CAA match-

up. In the 84th minute of the game he was assisted by freshman forward Marcin Kluz for the first and only goal. This goal came after the Hawks failed to capitalize on a 45 second span earlier in the half where they were awarded four corner kicks.

Sunday's victory marks Monmouth's second win over the Pride since 1993,

moving the Hawks to 2-1-1 against CAA conference opponents. The Hawks play again this Friday on Hesse Field where they will take on the Temple Owls. The game can be caught on FloSports College and NBC Sports Philly.



PHOTO COURTESY of Allyson Ryan.
Raul Garcia scored the game winning goal in the 84th minute of Monmouth's 1-0 win over Hofstra on Saturday, Sept. 21.

Monmouth Field Hockey takes down Rutgers to improve to 6-1

NATALEE MATTEI
STAFF WRITER

The Monmouth Hawks took down the Rutgers Scarlet Knights in a 4-2 victory this past Sunday on a road trip to Piscataway to snap a six game losing streak to the Scarlet Knights; the Hawks improved their record to 6-1 on the season.

Two of the Hawks goals came in the first quarter. Emily Singer, senior forward, was assisted by Keely Bowers, sophomore midfielder, on her first goal of the season. Just eight minutes and 30 seconds into the game, the Hawks were up 1-0. Just under two minutes later, the Hawks expanded their lead with a goal from Lauren Relik, junior midfielder, assisted by Alicia Vanderlyde, freshman midfielder.

The Hawks maintained their 2-0 lead through the first half. Two minutes and 58 seconds into the third quarter, Rutgers struck with a goal from Paulina Niklaus, graduate defender, with her first goal of the season.

Just under 90 seconds later, Monmouth answered right back. Milla Frye, sophomore midfielder, was as-



PHOTO COURTESY of Monmouth Athletics.

Eulalie Brouwers scored a goal in the fourth quarter of Monmouth's 4-2 victory over Rutgers on Sunday, Sept. 21. The win marked the program's third victory ever over a Big Ten team.

sisted by Anna Moors, junior defender, to give the Hawks a 3-1 lead. At the start of the fourth quarter, Monmouth added their fourth and final goal of the game, coming from Eulalie Brouwers, junior defender.

The Scarlet Knights at-

tempted a comeback with just under nine minutes left on the clock, as Niklaus earned her second goal of the game. Rutgers fell short on their comeback attempt as the Monmouth defense held strong. The Hawks came back to the nest with another

victory in the win column.

Going into Sunday's game, the Scarlet Knights were ranked No. 17 and the Hawks were just behind at No. 18. Not only did this game snap a six game losing streak against Rutgers that lasted over a decade but also served

as the program's third victory over a Big Ten team.

Monmouth Field Hockey has their next face-off this Friday, Sept. 26 at 3 p.m. on So Sweet a Cat Field to host the University of Maine. Fans can catch the game on FloSports.

Women's Soccer suffers consecutive losses to open CAA play

FRANK HOARLE
SPORTS EDITOR

Monmouth Women's Soccer opened CAA Play with two consecutive losses to the College of Charleston and UNC Wilmington.

The Hawks entered the week on a six game unbeaten streak, but two shutout losses dropped Monmouth to 0-2-0 to start CAA play.

Monmouth's conference opener took place on Thursday, Sep. 18 against the College of Charleston. The scoring got started quickly as junior forward Bella Antonio gave the Cougars a 1-0 lead



IMAGE TAKEN from Monmouth Athletics.

Tallulah Miller made six saves in Monmouth's two games last week.

just over ten minutes into the game. This was the only goal scored of the first half.

The second half started quiet, but Charleston scored three goals in a nine-minute

stretch, including Antonio scoring her second of the game. In the blink of an eye, Charleston had opened its lead up to 4-0. The Cougars would hold on to win by that same score.

Antonio led Charleston with two goals. Graduate goalkeeper Tallulah Miller made three saves in the loss. After Monmouth outshot Charleston 7-5 in the first half, the Cougars took control in the second half, outshooting Monmouth 11-5.

After losing on Thursday, the Hawks were back in action on Hesse Field on Sunday, Sep. 21 to take on UNC Wilmington. The first goal of the game was scored

roughly 33 minutes in by senior forward Ayanna Parker. The goal was her second of the season, and the game winner. The remainder of the game went scoreless and UNC Wilmington held on to defeat Monmouth by a score of 1-0.

Despite the loss, Monmouth outshot UNC Wilmington 14-11. However, six saves from junior goalkeeper Morgan Hobbs delivered the Seahawks a defensive victory.

Monmouth now sits at 5-4-1 overall on the season, but 0-2-0 in CAA play. They will look to get back on track on Sunday, Sep. 28 against the Stony Brook Seawolves on Hesse Field.



FOOTBALL DELIVERS STATEMENT WIN ON FAMILY WEEKEND



Monmouth's FCS-leading offense scored 51 points in their home-opening victory against No. 12 Villanova on Saturday.