Student Center Sets July Debut--
No Union Fee Hike Next Semester

By Susan Kelly
Staff Writer

The new student center is scheduled to open on July 1, 1972 and no increase in student fees will be assessed for next semester, according to Michael Lowenthal, center director. Because no guarantee could be made to students that the building would be finished by March 1, the decision was made to maintain the present $10 student union fee. This fee must be increased to $22.50 in order to meet the mortgage payments, so the building cannot be opened this semester, he explained.

Lowenthal pointed out the advantages of the delayed opening, saying that work on the building will not now be rushed. Work will be "substantially completed" in July, he said, with the landscaping and painting finished.

If the building had opened in March, much of this work would not be completed in time for student occupancy. Lowenthal also noted that much of the confusion which would result from moving into the building mid-semester will be avoided.

An initial delay in construction and several labor strikes are among the reasons for the delay in construction. The student center policy board, responding to student opinion, recommended the delay in the building’s opening on Dec. 2, according to Lowenthal, but the final decision was an administrative one.

This 11-member board will operate thru next semester and will conduct meetings open to the student body. Among the members are: the SGA president and vice-president, club chairman, the Inter-Dormitory Federation president and the vice-president of business and finance.

STUDENT FEES will provide approximately 1/5 of the funds for the building annually, said Lowenthal. He explained that revenue-producing concessions in the building will provide much of the funds. The fee increase will be assessed in the fall. This fee may fluctuate, said Lowenthal, but every attempt will be made to keep it constant.

The new center will be "a pretty dynamic place," Lowenthal stated, and will include a bookstore, a snack bar-cafeteria, a formal dining room, a candy shop and a recreation room. A Gulf gasoline station, selling gasoline at a reduced rate to students, and a general store, which might sell anything from records to groceries, will also be included.

A television projection system is also planned at which students will be able to watch a popular event, such as a televised sport or cultural program. A daily telephone service, which will provide a recorded listing of the day’s campus activities, is also planned.

A LOOK AT ’71

An MSC student as she turned into an MSC grad is caught in reflection – and in this high-contrast photo. It’s one of the many events that occurred in 1971. The year is reviewed in today’s special Christmas issue – see page 11.

TODAY
VOTING. On proposals for changing the general education requirements. Held by each school.
ART EXHIBIT. From 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. in the fine arts auditorium, L-134.
GREEK SING. Held at 7:30 p.m. in Memorial auditorium.
FENCING. Brooklyn Polytechnical Institute at MSC at 7 p.m. in Panzer gym 4.
WRESTLING. C.W. Post at MSC at 7:30 p.m. in the Panzer gym.

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 18
CHRISTMAS PARTY. For Paterson orphans at 7:30 at Newman House.
CHANNUKAH FEST. MSC joins with Rutgers/Newark and Newark College of Engineering at 8 p.m. at the YM-YWCA of Essex County, West Orange.
LA TERTULIA ESPAÑOLA. Spanish Club dance at 8 p.m. in the cafeteria of the student life building.

MONDAY, DECEMBER 20
PIRG MEETING. Ideas for areas of investigation will be discussed. Public Interest Research Group meeting held at 4 p.m. in the Costa lounge, College Hall.
SKI CLUB MEETING. At 4 p.m. in Mallory Hall 155.
FILM. “Midnight Cowboy” presented by the freshman class at 8 p.m. in Memorial auditorium.

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 22
WRESTLING. Long Island University at MSC at 7:30 p.m. in the Panzer gym.

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 24
MIDNIGHT MASS. At Newman House with a “get together” before.
COMMUTER NEWSLETTER
24 Peru Road, Clifton, N.J. 07012

from the Commuter rep, submitted a bill requesting that up to $500
be allocated from proper authorities for faulty conditions be
eliminated. The bill also requested that the SGA investigate
the relationship of the MSC to the student body. According to
Lee, the committee is to make SGA more relevant to MSC as a
Seeks Relevancy
SGA Evaluates Itself
By Annette Marandino
Staff Writer

Lee is calling for a complete restructure of the organization. He cited a
possible change in the methods of funding for organizations on campus.
He would like to see program funding, whereby an organization would
submit lists of programs they desired to present. This would replace the
method of allocating so much money per student in the organization.
"Program funding would present a better control of the quality of
presentations brought to MSC's campus," Lee commented.

Schools' Dean Says

Teach-Ed Admission Setup --
It's 'Nothing to Worry About'
By Carol Giordano
Staff Writer

Students have "nothing to worry about," concerning the new
teacher-admission education admission program, according to Dr. Ralph
Walter, acting dean of the School of Education.

Walter described the program as "a screening process to a slight extent." Only those
individuals unfit to become teachers because of personality and/or academic traits will not
be accepted. Qualified students who apply for certification but do not plan to teach after
graduation will not be excluded," he said. Present sophomores are included in the
program because most courses taken before junior year do not apply to the field of education,
Walter said.

DURING JUNIOR year, all students under the program must complete 30 hours of work
in a public school, Walter stated. Individual schedules will be determined by the student and
school involved. One semester hour of credit will be given for this work, he stated.
The new program is not an attempt to eliminate the overabundance of teachers in
certain fields, Walter commented. He added that such programs are being established
throughout the country.

Under the new program, students desiring to obtain teacher certification must apply
for admission to the School of Education. Applicants must have recommendations from two
Montclair State faculty members and one other educator who knows them. The academic
requirements for admission are a minimum cumulative average of 2.45 and passing grades in
'Human Growth and Development' and speech. The student must also submit a
self-evaluation form. The deadline for returning applications to the department chairmen is Monday.

ANTHRO CLUB
Lee also submitted a bill requesting that the Anthropology Club be
granted "open house" charter. The bill passed.

FACULTY CONTRACTS
Robert McLauglin, School of Professional Arts and Sciences, submitted a bill requesting that the SGA investigate
the possibility of student involvement in future contracts between Montclair State's faculty
and the state. The bill passed.

CURRICULUM CHANGE
Lee submitted a bill requesting that the SGA go on record as opposing
the proposals of the general education study committee because of a
lack of background information and research data in formulating those proposals. The bill also requested that the SGA recommend that professional specialists in
college curricula design be called in to evaluate the current curriculum and to make
suggestions for improvement. The bill failed.

HUMANITIES SENATE
Holds Vote Today

Elections to the School of Humanities Senate will continue
during this afternoon. The polls, located in the English and
foreign languages offices on Partridge Hall's fourth floor, will
be open until 6 p.m. today. The majority of Senate seats are
open, according to Robert Streetman, Senate Election
Committee chairman.

School's Dean Says

THE MONTCLARION is published weekly throughout the academic
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The opinions expressed represent those of the
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Regular striking activities at the six state colleges have ended. Last week, Jersey City State, Newark State and William Paterson colleges were all out on strike. Their strike issues generally concerned the firing of six JCSC teachers and the increase in tuition costs.

The administration is attempting to influence to the state government. According to Heyer, some of the organizers of last Monday's strike activities until late January when classes will resume. "Several calls have gone out during last week's confusion with the strike for a meeting with representatives from all the state colleges," said Sam Crane, SGA public relations director. "So we decided to go ahead and try to formalize some sort of organization."
**News Desk**

- Interracial Gripegroup Forms
- Spanish Club Sponsors Dance

**THE BLACK-BROWN-WHITE Relations Committee** is in the process of formulating a student-faculty complaint board. Facilities to register complaints will be available as of today at the window at TUB and at Fishbowl in the student life building. Any student who has a complaint about interracial problems interfering in some way with his education or suggestions for improvement of educational conditions is asked to contact the board via the available complaint box(es)...

**"LA TERTULIA ESPANOLA,"** MSC's Spanish club, will sponsor a dance tomorrow night from 8 p.m. to 1 a.m. in the student life building cafeteria. Highlighting the dance will be a rock group called The Electric Confessions. Both Spanish music and conventional rock music will be presented. Tickets cost $1.25 and are available from any member of the Spanish club. They'll also be sold at the door.

**Montclarion Elects '72 Editors**

Mary Jude Smith, sophomore English major, has been elected editor-in-chief of the **Montclarion**, Montclair State's weekly campus newspaper. Susan Kathy, also a sophomore English major, was elected managing editor in the recent elections, according to current editor-in-chief Don Pendley.

Miss Smith, 18, has served as editorial page editor for the past semester, and had previously been a copy editor. She has worked with the West Essex Tribune in Livingston and with the Herald-News in Passaic. Newly-elected to their editorial board posts were: James Dowling Hile, editorial page editor; Diane Forden, assignment editor; Kathy Blumstein, Richard DeSanta and Joan Mikatsuk, copy editors; Cyndi Lepre and Don Pendley, magazine editors; Jo-Ann Soudese, arts editor; Miguel Mina, business manager; and Guy Ball, picture editor.

Re-elected to their current posts were copy editors Carla Capizzi and Joanne Ferreri, layout editors Carol Giordano, Cindy Lepre and Donna Goldberg and sports editor Carol Sokowitz. Suzie Hraana and Joanne Surowicz were appointed assistant editors.

The new editors will assume their posts in late January.

**LOSE 20 POUNDS IN TWO WEEKS!**

Famous U.S. Women Ski Team Diet

During the season that was just completed, the ski teams of all the major ski resorts in the United States turned to the **Ski Team** diet to lose 20 pounds in two weeks. Why? Now you can do the same

The diet is chemical-free action and was devised by a famous nutritionist for the national ski teams of the U.S. Ski Team. Normal energy is maintained (very important!) while reducing. You simply don't gain weight because the diet is low in calories and high in nutrients. You simply lose weight by burning the fat in your body. The same diet the U.S. Ski Team uses. Lose weight the easy way. See your physician the same day you purchase the book report and recommendation."

**JOHN AND THE FACTS OF LIFE**

"Giovanni," "Ian," "John," anyway you want to spell it, it's just plain "John." Have you had an audience with him? John has something of vital importance to say to you. He had made his personal research available to anyone with an inquiring mind. In clear, understandable, up-to-the-minute language, he explains the facts of life. Get your copy of his latest revised manuscript from C. W. Hoffman, you can have it for 25 cents.

Write to: Bethel Quartet 2211 Evergreen Ave. Scotch Plains, N.J. 07076
Crane Steps In
As SGA Eye
On Students
By Danny Figueredo
Staff Writer
Sam Crane has been appointed public relations director by the SGA. "We will be the eye of the SGA, thus which we can see what the students need, and they can look at our work," commented Terry Lee, SGA president.
Crane, a junior, was appointed public relations director by Lee when the former director, Bob Gohde, resigned to go to England. Crane attended every SGA meeting for the past year and became friendly with some of the 35 legislators.

In early January, when Gohde resigned, Lee asked Crane if he would take his place. "I accepted it," said Crane. "I kind of expected the legislators to vote for me."

Lee has the right to appoint anyone to such an office, but the legislators must approve the choice. "He's energetic," commented Lee, "and aware of what's going on. I expected to have him approved."

According to Crane, his power limits him to offer suggestions to the SGA. However, Lee, who gets along very well with the new director, believes that Crane's job will have power in the SGA, in that the director's responsibility is to maintain an open line between the students and the SGA. "I will try to give them what they want," concluded Crane.

Dobish Named to Post
By Joanne Ferreri
Staff Writer
"I sincerely hope the students will be patient," said Stephen D. Dobish, former scheduling director and new registrar. Dobish added that he welcomes the opportunity to meet and be more involved with the students.

In December, Dobish assumed the position of registrar and will act as registrar until someone is appointed to the position. His job is now two-fold, since he heads both the scheduling and the registration office. However, it is up to the new registrar, stated Dobish, whether the two offices will remain as one. Dobish now has two assistants, John Palermo in registration and Jesse Young in scheduling.

DOBISH WOULD like to initiate some changes, especially in registration, by eliminating some steps and by avoiding the long lines of last semester. He also hopes to set up communication facilities for student advisers to receive data from the registration office.

Today in Trenton
Cubans May Protest
At Higher Ed Meet
By Don Pendley
Staff Writer
TRENTON-Today's scheduled state Board of Higher Education meeting may be the scene of a followup protest by the Town of Montclair's Cuban community concerning Hector Rodriguez's appointment to the MSC Board of Trustees.

Last Wednesday, about 150 angry Cuban residents continually disrupted a Board of Trustees meeting, protesting the Rodriguez appointment. They claim that Rodriguez, a Puerto Rican, is prejudiced against Cubans and has attempted to limit their involvement in Spanish-speaking minority activities. That meeting ended abruptly, after the gripes of the Cubans had been heard.

THE MSC administration which usually provides recommendations to Trenton for any vacant trustee seats, had suggested several names to the state board, but their recommendations were overridden when Gov. William T. Cahill approved Rodriguez's appointment.

A published agenda of today's state board meeting does not list any consideration of Rodriguez's appointment, made final in late November. However, Town of Montclair sources indicate that the Cuban protesters would be traveling to Trenton to demand Rodriguez's removal.

MSC President Thomas H. Richardson said yesterday that he had met with leaders of the Cuban protest recently to describe his disappointment with what had happened last Wednesday night. He was assured that the Cubans had intended no harm to the college.

"The group seemed very sincere and assured me that they wouldn't be disrupted again," he stated that he had received no reaction from the trustees concerning Rodriguez's appointment.

Cubans May Protest
At Higher Ed Meet
By Patric Connery
Staff Writer
"The time has come for the citizens of New Jersey to stop complaining and start acting," stated Linda Kupchak, a freshman speech major. Miss Kupchak is one of the organizers of the Public Interest Research Group (PIRG) at Montclair State College.

Miss Kupchak, stated that NJPIRG is a nonprofit, nonpartisan organization of college students working for constructive social change benefitting all N.J. citizens.

LOCAL CHAPTERS of NJPIRG are now being set up at many N.J. colleges, including MSC. Miss Kupchak commented, "Students are an identifiable segment of society, with the resources and the idealism for an effort of this sort."

Miss Kupchak explained, "NJPIRG will be financed by assessing regularly enrolled students at N.J. colleges at the rate of $1.50 per semester. A petition, asking for the student fees will be passed among the student body and, when signed by a majority of the students, will be sent to the administration. Students who do not wish to participate in NJPIRG are entitled to a full refund during the third week of the semester from established student offices."

Miss Kupchak emphasized, "N.J. needs PIRG. Gov. William Cahill has classified N.J. as an urban state. It is the poor of the urban centers who are most affected by unsafe consumer products, polluted air, inadequate housing and racial and sexual discrimination in job hiring. The ultimate goal of NJPIRG will be to advocate solutions to these public interests problems in front of governmental agencies, legislative bodies and the courts of law thru its professional staff."

MISS KUPCHAK added, "PIRG's have been organized in Oregon and Minnesota, and have completed successful projects for the good of the general public."

Cubans May Protest
At Higher Ed Meet
By Kenneth J. Key
Staff Writer
The new International Scholarship Program is designed to give students travel and educational opportunities in foreign lands, according to SGA vice-president for academic affairs Peter Balsamo.
The program will be expanded if students show interest. It replaces the old Experiment in International Living, sponsored by the Council on International and National Affairs. All students excluding seniors, are eligible for the program. Applications may be obtained in the Office of International and Off-Campus Learning Programs or the SGA office in the student life building.

Newman Brightens Orphans' Holiday
By Susan Cunningham
Staff Writer
Christmas can be pretty lonely for orphans. To help brighten the holiday season for the 25 youngsters from Paterson Orphanage, Montclair State's Newman Community is sponsoring a special drive to collect gifts for them. The drive will culminate in a Christmas party for the orphans to be held at Newman House on tomorrow at 7:30 p.m.

ACCORDING TO GIelia Machin, chairman of the Roman Catholic organization's orphan program, the group will purchase some gifts, but hopes to receive donations from MSC students as well.

She commented, "The cooperation on the part of the students has been tremendous, something to make them feel as if they belong somewhere."

The gift donations can be dropped off in any of the MSC dorms or in Newman House on Valley road before Dec. 18.

Two girls from each dorm have volunteered their room as collecting places where people can bring the gifts they want to donate. And I've never seen so many people volunteer to play Santa Claus."

The Newman Community has been actively involved with the Paterson orphans since September, when the orphan program was formally started. Altho the group has run similar community projects in the past, this year's activities are more concretely organized. It has already sponsored several parties and field trips for the children at different times during the year. "We took them trick-or-treating, roller skating, to Brookdale Park and to the Homecoming parade as well," Miss Machin explained.

She continued, "Altho the orphans will spend Christmas Day in private homes in the area, they really don't have any place to go. We wanted to do something for them."

PIRG Seeks Student Action
By Betty Connelly
Staff Writer
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# MOC Presents

## Spring Semester Calendar

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1/9</td>
<td>4 p.m.</td>
<td>Recital hall</td>
<td>Alumni recital: Donna Jeanne Schultz, piano.</td>
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<tr>
<td>1/16</td>
<td>4 p.m.</td>
<td>Recital hall</td>
<td>Faculty recital: Dorothy Priesing, piano.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2/11</td>
<td>8 p.m.</td>
<td>Mem. aud.</td>
<td>Masters recital: Janet Hein, organ.</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>8 p.m.</td>
<td>Mem. aud.</td>
<td>Montclair State College Concert Band, William Shadel,</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4/9</td>
<td>4 p.m.</td>
<td>Recital hall</td>
<td>Faculty recital: Brenda Miller Cooper, soprano.</td>
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<tr>
<td>5/4</td>
<td>8 p.m.</td>
<td>Mem. aud.</td>
<td>Montclair State College Choir, Emily Waters, conductor.</td>
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<tr>
<td>5/9-11</td>
<td>7:30 p.m.</td>
<td>Recital hall</td>
<td>Composers Symposium: rehearsals, colloquia, concerts.</td>
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<tr>
<td>5/9</td>
<td>7:30 p.m.</td>
<td>Recital hall</td>
<td>Montclair State College Opera Workshop, Jack Sacher, conductor.</td>
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<tr>
<td>5/17</td>
<td>8 p.m.</td>
<td>Mem. aud.</td>
<td>Montclair State College Concert Choir, Dorothy Morse, conductor.</td>
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**SGA Price for Concerts -- 25c**
It's All Over -- But It Continues

The Never-Ending Story of 1971's Montclarion and Its Survival

WHERE: It's over.
But perhaps that's a bit premature. I've still got a month in office.

One of the more major miracles in this glorious world of ours is that a dozen or so collegians manage to put out -- week after endless week -- 12 pages of information and entertainment that has consistently won the top awards from professional judges. Try that on top of classes sometime.

In short, that's the main achievement of the MONTCLARION -- for the past year, we have published every Friday without a break -- and, for a while, without money.

TO BEGIN

To make a long story a little shorter, it was my first day of freshman orientation. I didn't know any better. Not knowing anything, I hung out, came up to the publications office (which then housed MONTCLARION, Galumph and Quarterly) and joined all three staffs.

The MONTCLARION then was involved in a big experiment -- it was going to attempt weekly publication. But, to make certain that they published on time, they gave an absolute deadline of the Thursday before the Wednesday publication -- i.e., anything that happened late on Thursday wasn't reported for another two weeks.

But hope arose. A few people with professional orientation and the willingness to sacrifice many hours of their free time took over a few of the editorships in February of my freshman year. Their spirit is still very much in evidence. The Mitamia Taud-D.M. Levine-More, Anstel photo-oriented layout is still winning us award after award, and the Michael Grieco-inspired objectivity in reporting is still guiding the MONTCLARION is its efforts to obtain the most impartial and encompassing coverage that is possible.

In February 1969, the editors created a post for me -- editorial assistant, in which my job was to handle anything that no one else did.

READY, SET...GO

That September, I was elected news editor and immediately jumped into the News Focus, which was our first regularly-scheduled news ana.

And that December, I was elected managing editor under the editorship-chief of Levine, and the fun began.

The "fun" was the pure joy of catching the errors in style that the writers had made and filling the holes that ensued when some cub reporter decided to quit the staff (without turning in that week's front-page story).

And things proceeded that semester in their usual hectic pace (along with being MONTCLARION managing editor, I was in my first semester as Galumph editor-in-chief and was carrying 26 credits) -- until the bomb dropped.

The bomb was called the Cambodia strike.

The MONTCLARION could have two paths on that fabulous May 5 when the MSC student government voted, by a 9-9 vote broken by the SGA vice-president, to join America -- for the first time -- and go on strike. We could have hidden our heads in the sand and continued printing our weekly publication, complete with sports, arts and the other light-hearted items we generally print, or we could have gotten involved with the biggest student movement the nation ever had seen. We chose the latter. The difference between the MONTCLARION and most other college newspapers at the time was that while they were printing one-sided propaganda harping on the issues (which everyone knew about anyway), the MONTCLARION worked endlessly -- literally 24 hours a day -- writing, typing and printing the 8½ x 11 inch newspapers in the industrial arts building -- five times during the two weeks following May 5.

WEAK NEW BLOOD

That September brought a resumption of "normal" printing. Traditionally, the managing editor became editor-in-chief (a thought which, if I thought twice about it, has apparently been called "Don's haremm" -- that surpasses my wildest dreams). It's on the shoulders of those six or seven people from Practical Journalism that the MONTCLARION rests -- the superstars reporting the people like Mary Jude Smith, whose Southern gentility and Anglistic straightforwardness is going to be a blessed relief in the coming year as editor-in-chief.

And the people like Sue Kelly -- once a shy girl who refrained from approaching anyone of importance in covering a story -- now the MONTCLARION's wrap-it-up girl, often covering five late-breaking stories on a Wednesday and Thursday. And the people like Carla Capuzzi, Joanne Ferreri, Diane Forden, Carol Giordano and Jo-ellen Scudiere -- the people who believe, I think, above all else, that the MONTCLARION must come out -- and must come out as good-looking and well-written as possible -- and who view it as a professional activity rather than as an ego-gratifying device.

A NEW REGIM

So, back to the story -- the inevitable happened that December, as I was elected editor-in-chief. At that time, I made up my mind that my goal as editor would be to present as much of the news as possible, with stress on the late-breaking, vital stories and the issues which would be molding this campus for some time to come.

My first issue as editor -- in early February -- presented the approach of faculty evaluations, the disbanding -- by the SGA -- of the publications board, the proposal for the innovative calendar, the problems of the vanishing fraternities, and comedian David Steinberg's cancellation.

And things didn't change much.

One of the more major miracles... is that a dozen or so collegians manage to put out -- week after endless week -- 12 pages of information that should have scared me silly). In preparation of that time, I began closely watching our Practical Journalism class taught by Grieco thru the English department.

At first, I was disgruntled with the group. They seemed to be taking forever in picking up the most basic ideas. But they continued writing and, thanks to Grieco's superb teaching and some encouragement from a certain nonconscript managing editor, the MONTCLARION now has a reporting staff -- what

Until late April, that is -- at which time the MONTCLARION discovered, thanks to problems in our financial department, that we were in debt. About $2000 in debt. The MONTCLARION's annual budget was then about $20,000.

Fortunately, the Student Government Association had $18,000 left in its unappropriated surplus. "I'll put up a bill and try to get the money for you," a few legislators said. Wonderful.

"Well, it's Thursday afternoon: And someone just said six schools have gone out on strike, College Hall's just blown up, the tuition's going up to $500 per year and eight faculty members are being fired for extra-mural affairs with students. Well, it could be worse. It all could have happened later tonight. Now, if only I can fit that bulletin about the second coming of Christ......" Soon-to-be-departing Editor-in-Chief Don Pendley ponders what's appearing in today's paper.

NO MORE MONEY

But there was this problem. At the time, MSC was in the throes of its annual SGA presidential elections, and the MONTCLARION had been giving close attention to informing the student body of the more questionable activities of the Thomas Benitz administration -- the same administration that had appointed a large number of people to the SGA Legislature, the body which had to approve -- by a two-thirds majority -- any additional funding for the MONTCLARION.

Needless to say, the funds didn't arrive on our doorstep. So, we went -- writing, editing, typing and printing our weekly MONTCLARION -- forging onward, regardless of any attempts by the government to stop us. And with the problem of paying for those "poverty issues" -- at 8½ x 11 inches -- out of our own pockets.

But we survived. This semester has been pretty quiet, with stress on the late-breaking, vital stories and the issues that have been molding this campus for some time to come.

Thanks, of course, are due to all those good and crazy people -- my editors and staff. Richard De Santa, who has learned well the duties of a managing editor -- namely, to manage the editors. The two of us should have gone to McKerley's in early February and not emerged until now. Things would have been easier. But much less fun.

I'm going to go back now to what I enjoy doing most -- news writing. "The heads of the mighty may roll and facts may be released that certain VIPs in the various college bureaucracies may not want to know. But that's the way the MONTCLARION works." That's what I wrote when I took over as editor.

WITH REGRETS

And I'm leaving it all to Mary Jude and Susan -- the new editor and managing editor -- to handle what has developed into the one single source of near-accurate news on campus -- an overwhelming burden if there ever was one. I'm certain they'll do well.

To quote again from my first editorial: "News, sports, arts, opinions -- it's available right here, every Friday. It's called the MONTCLARION."

And I'm going to miss it.

DON PENDELY, Editor-in-Chief, 1971.
THE CLAMOR OF THE CONGAS: That very special electricity was evident in the performance of The Latin Gents.

WOULD YOU BELIEVE AN ENGLISH MAJOR? Maybe not, but Racheal, who provided some exotic entertainment at last week's International Weekend was just that at New York University.

A UNIVERSAL LANGUAGE: An illustration of the essence of different cultures, Betty Crawford and Kwaku Avmah, get together.

THE CLAMOR OF THE CONGAS: That very special electricity was evident in the performance of The Latin Gents.
International Weekend, as students from abroad in, of all things, the Twist.

MELBA WITH A CUPPA COFFEE: Broadway musical star Melba Moore, headliner of "Purlie" and "Hair," as she appeared in many moods at MSC last Friday.

If you're sick of the usual meat and "fe" Baklaah, compliments of Moonir.

REALLY FUNKY: Wilson Pickett, talkin' 'bout that Broadway sound at MSC last weekend.
Montclair Magazine

The Christmas season is upon us and we find ourselves confronted with the hectic holiday pace of buying or making gifts, writing cards, decorating homes and other yuletide activities. Gifts, of course, are the preoccupation of most at this time, and for those willing to brave the crowds, M.J. Smith reveals what's new (or not so new) on the store shelves.

If you've ever wondered what that bearded man in scarlet who listens to children's requests daily in the department store is really like — wonder no more. Santa Claus cheerfully obliged Jo-Ellen Scudese's request for an interview, took her on his knee and candidly expressed his opinion of the younger set.

Another personage so essential to the festive season and yet, so often overlooked in importance, is the bartender. Managing Editor Richard De Santa (who happens to work part-time in a bar) reveals a veteran bartender's humorous opinions of his patrons, particularly when they frequent his bar during the Christmas season.

This month's MONTCLARION MAGAZINE is a "Christmas collage," so to speak, for the articles, tho diverse, are directed toward capturing part of the holiday spirit which somehow affects all of us.

-Mrs. Claus

Tots Amuse Clauses ---and Vice-Versa

By Jo-Ellen Scudese

A stocky powerful-looking, red-faced, blue-eyed, middle-aged man wearily limped over to the information booth at one of New Jersey's larger shopping complexes. Dressed in a red flannel suit trimmed with white wool and set off with patent black boots, this snowy-bearded man was not an over-aged, flashily-dressed ex-boxer.

Give up? Who else but Santa Claus.

"It's been a loong day. I'm going to have to have this beard replaced again. You know, this is the third one this season! Kids are just fascinated with my ... uh, Santa's beard. But I'll tell you, all that yanking isn't too easy on the chin!" Santa Claus commented as he checked off-duty.

This Santa, a professional musician during the non-holiday season, works as the official Willowbrook Santa in the afternoons and as the Stern Brothers' Santa in the mornings. He is surprisingly authentic. His short, robust physique, clear rosy complexion, sparkling ice-blue eyes and outgoing personality make him an ideal Santa in any child's (or reporter's) book. One could easily understand why a child might want to "check out" that fluffy beard — it's almost too real to be true.

As a matter of fact, this department store Santa is so perfect in his portrayal that he is well-known in department stores from Massachusetts to Maryland.

"Mr. Claus" has worked his way up in the hierarchy of ho-ho-ho's starting out as a rather reserved Santa's helper five years ago. Working full-time during the off-season for Columbia Records, Claus commented that he ventured into his role in order to make some extra money when work at the studio was a little slow. "The pay is excellent, altho the work is rather monotonous after a while and the children can get a little annoying with all their kicking and squirming. But generally speaking, I enjoy the work. It can be a lot of fun," this particular jolly old elf commented.

He went on, "the kids ask for the darndest things. Half the time I don't even know the toys they name — they have such weird names these days, who can keep up with them all? I just smile and nod my head and try to look as if I know what they're saying as my helper snaps the picture. Children ask for anything from a Joe Namath football to a motorcycle or indoor, heated swimming pool!"

Claus stated the worst thing that ever happened to him so far was when "this little non-believer hauled off and surprised me with a very well-directed fist in my left eye. He actually blackened it! But, despite these few minor hazards, this heroic Santa would "do it again next year."

Mrs. Claus helps to hold the holiday fort too, working from her dainty gingerbread cookie house at another nearby store in Willowbrook, J.M. Towne & Co. Sitting in her rocking chair in a specially-built old-fashioned Christmas kitchen, this retired and good-natured woman is surrounded by a continuous herd of children who receive coloring pictures, lollipops and candy canes from her generous hands.

"This is my second year as a department store Mrs. Claus and I really love it. God-willing, if I'm alive next year, I'd certainly do it again. It's so much fun. I almost think I enjoy it more than the children themselves," this white-haired senior citizen enthusiastically exclaimed.

As she smoothed down her white ruffled apron over her floor-length red gown, she continued, "the funniest thing a child ever asked for was a broken bike so his daddy wouldn't yell if he got it wrecked up! Another little girl came in and gave me a long list of toys and games not only for herself but other children who receive coloring pictures, lollipops and candy canes herself."

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With the coming of the Christmas season, many people begin to think of the persons and places that played important roles in getting them thru the past year, providing refuge, comfort and sympathy and occasionally, tranquillization when times were rough.

It is with this thought that I propose a holiday toast to those dependable friends in need, those perpetual crying shoulders, those eternal keepers of the Christmas spirits — the bartenders and their establishments.

Bars are among that select group of public service establishments in which personnel are forced to handle a double-work load during the holidays. When most of us are home decorating, or out Christmas shopping, or at the bank, withdrawing (or at the bars, imbibing), these dedicated public servants are scurrying around, ordering extra this and extra that, cleaning their places and, in many cases, hiring additional personnel to weather the holiday storm of humanity that begins to descent upon taverns after the last bit of Thanksgiving turkey disappears.

Tom Rafferty owns a rather quaint little place in Lyndhurst, called Rafferty’s for some reason. He’s been in business there for 12 years, and has seen “12 hectic Christmas seasons.” Rafferty has a remarkably well-thought-out theory about why he’s one of the busiest men around — from the end of November to the end of December.

“First of all,” he said, “there are basically four types of people that come in here throughout the year.” The first type that he mentioned was the jolly, sociable type. This is the kind of guy who’ll talk to anyone in sight about absolutely anything, the source of the “good talk” that’s supposedly one of the traditional characteristics of a “good bar.”

The second type is the usual after-work customer. “He’s had a rough day’s work at his job, and needs some kind of buffer between work and the wife and kids.”

Then you have the manic depressives. This is the special project of the bartender. “Why these people have the desire to tell me their stories is beyond me, but I’m not complaining. Everyone wants to feel wanted, I guess.”

The fourth saloon seeker is the “scrooge.” This is the chronic complainer. “This type of guy thinks everything is lousy, and he wants to make sure that everyone knows it,” Rafferty explained.

All this is interesting and informative, but what does it have to do with the annual Christmas crush? “It’s simple,” he said. “The Christmas season gives each one of these groups a reason to be here.”

He explained that the jolly spirits want to add to the festive air by being with all of their “friends,” who include anyone who happens to be in the bar at the same time as they are. These are what you might call the “after-hours department store Santa Clauses.”

The “scrooges,” appropriately titled at this time of year, are appalled at the gaiety and excitement of the season — and hide in the saloons. “You’ll generally find them at a corner table or at the ends of the bar, scowling at the jolly spirits,” Rafferty added.

The manic depressives have a tendency to get even more down in the dumps during the holidays, so you’ll see more of them at your favorite spot around this time of year. You generally find them moping around from spot to spot, often stopping to commiserate with the “scrooges,” with whom they seem to have an uncanny empathy.

And the regular after-work crowd can be found regularly after work. “Of course,” Rafferty pointed out, “you’ll find members of the other cliques distributed throughout this group, so they just spread themselves out accordingly.” There’d be no sense in them going home anyway, they’d just get in the way of the decorating crews or be dragged out to a department store (And of course, that’s no place to spend one’s hard earned money!).

So if you feel like observing a good cross-section of Americana in this season of good will (or should I say good cheer), visit your local pub. Who knows, maybe you’ll be able to start a group of your own.
It seems that Madison Avenue has found a new Christmas present to replace last year's cassette recorders. This year it will be umbrellas. Folding umbrellas, European umbrellas, bubble ones that look like floating geodesic domes--it had better rain a lot this year.

And then there is the "smile" anything. The bright yellow disc with two black dots and a big grin will sell on pins, sweatshirts, mug and plate sets and acrylic rugs.

Styling combs have taken over last year's enthusiasm for electric curlers among the fairer sex while the males are being plugged into electronic football, soccer and hockey games. It isn't enough that the TV stations run games all season, but now they have Johnny Cash (who always did have a thing about trains anyway) pushing their choo-choos. Monet's water lilies and Van Gogh's sunflowers are all available in 1000-piece jigsaws, perfect for doing in the main hall of Xanadu, should one be invited to appear in a new Orson Welles film.

Dolls are doing bigger and better things under the tree. Just reinforcing the American public's fixation with time, Mattel's Tyme-Tell is a chubby blonde charmer with a plastic wristwatch that triggers her rather limited vocabulary, consisting mainly of instructions to her human mistress beginning with "It's time to..." And for the only child, Play'n Jane takes a whack at everything from basketball to horseshoes.

Saving the best for last, there is gamedom. "Masterpiece," an art auction game by Parker Brothers, comes complete with signed forgeries for the wealthy Texas dupes among the buying public.

For those who would prefer to run the mob, there is "The Godfather" that comes packed in a black violin case. Fun City is divided up into some of the more savory neighborhoods like Harlem, Little Italy and so on. Whoever wins gets the entire fifth precinct and the police commissioner.

For those gamblers more business oriented, there's 3-M's "Acquire," touted as the game where a player can "get rich quick, go broke faster." Sounds like Wall Street after a speech by President Nixon.

In contrast to other years, nothing is really new—it's just what was overstocked since March.

Red China, now available at Bloomingdale's— or a pingpongb paddle.

In the same vein, there are ecology kits to test the local water, air and other elements. Now a loved one can discover the carbon monoxide level of the air that will give him terminal asthma.

Trains and jigsaw puzzles seem to have come into their own as art forms this holiday season. Perhaps the rapid disappearance of the railways have scared the Lionel company but now they have Johnny Cash (who always did have a thing about trains anyway) pushing their choo-choos. Monet's water lilies and Van Gogh's sunflowers are all available in 1000-piece jigsaws, perfect for doing in the main hall of Xanadu, should one be invited to appear in a new Orson Welles film.

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**Same Sales Have New Slant**

By M.J. Smith
‘Twas the night before Xmas in seventy-one.
And the stores’ early closing put all on the run.
The prices were hung—one was cheap, one was rich
when no one was watching, I pulled a lil’ switch!
The children were racing from aisle to aisle,
and salespeople weren’t ev’n trying to smile.
And searching for parking in row triple-Z
And gifts that were bought were a weird potpourri:
The lighter I wanted for old uncle Joe
turned into a bridge set—the store’s stock was low!
And I would have gotten the slacks for fat Kate,
but all they had left was a single size eight!
And dainties I wanted for dear auntie Maude—
the last pair was ripped in a fight with some broad!
Then—what to my wondering eyes should appear
in the Bambergers’ parking lot, ever so clear—
A parking space, seeming so empty and wide,
but—darn—there’s a Volkswagen hiding inside!
One store had a Santa that’s eighty feet high—
With four-letter scrawlings for youngguns to spy.

(Instead of the reindeer that’re next in the chant,
I could tell the words that were on Santa, butshan’t.)
And then, on the corner of Main Street and Third
the kids and I spotted ol’ Santa—the bird!
The children were thrilled to see jolly Saint Nick,
and asked him and asked ‘till the old man got sick:
“How did you get down here?” “Where’s Donder and Blitz?”
“How big is your sleigh?” “Will I get all my gifts?”
I pulled them from Santa real quick. But then, who
should be on the next block but Santa Claus, too!
“Hey, somethin’s gone rotten! Two Santas!” said young Ann,
when first she saw double—“Some racket you’ve got, man!”
His eyes how they twinkled! His dimples how merry!
His cheeks were like roses! His nose like a cherry!
(And yes, you’ll recall, those two lines aren’t mine,
with the real Santa Claus, it’s not Boone’s Apple Wine!)
Visions of Sugarplums

There was a time when Christmas was magical. When everyone worked so hard and had so little, that a special holiday was the time they waited for all year.

It always snowed during the night so, in the morning, the world was covered with a crisp white blanket. The packages were under the tree, waiting for everyone, simple little things like oranges and chocolates for the children and perhaps a few toys.

Nowadays Christmas is more like a marathon — whoever gets thru New Year’s Eve should be entitled to a week’s solitary confinement to recuperate.

The season starts out with the 1000 Christmas cards and the yearly “I-know-Lila-is-buying-me-something-so-I-have-to-get-her-something-too” syndrome.

Invariably the neighborhood has an unspoken contest going among themselves to see who can produce the most garish decorations. If your neighbors across the street won last year with their reindeer and sled on the roof of their house, highlighted by a revolving strobe and blinking lights outlining every window, door, dormer and bush, your house has to top it this year.

The children are mesmerized by tv commercials that urge them to get the latest doll/game/road trip that Santa Claus and no idea what a “Grump” is.

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As the holiday season descends upon us again, we at the MONTCLARION wish you all a very merry Christmas and happy New Year. We also wish you a safe holiday, don’t imbibe too much and take to the roads. Amid all the festivities of gifts, parties, punch and hangovers, we hope the meaning of the season, namely peace and understanding, may in some way be appreciated.

Victor De Luca, History, ‘73.

To the Editor:

It seems the leaders of our local SGA have once again missed the main issue in the current college protests. Our leaders have not reached the student body with any profound statements as to what is really going on. They seem to take the whole situation very lightly by titling their duties as “Rumor Control.”

I think this is a slap in the face to the entire student cause. What attempts were made, except for a variety of fliers, to explain what was going on at Montclair? Why didn’t our leaders call a general meeting to deliver their stand on the issues? Where do they come off saying the issues are not fact, or are local to the striking schools? The fact is a bill, A2416, is in the Assembly education committee that would raise the tuition over 100%. It is unlikely this bill will reach the floor, but there is always the possibility at the lame duck session. Our state funds were cut this year, as was reported at the SGA leadership conference. The $60 student teaching fee is a reality to all prospective MSC teachers. These issues are real to us.

Let us ask why our student leaders did not see these issues until all the fuss. Find out what is going on and let the student body know. As our government, you owe it to us.

Victor De Luca, History, ’73.

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The Montclair State student body deserves congratulations for its failure to join other state colleges in the strike. We should be glad that there are many on this campus who are level-headed enough to check themselves and wait for the facts. It is quite easy to get caught up in a wave of emotionism. There is a tendency to accept heated arguments as fact, and to jump on the bandwagon, without ever really knowing why.

Our campus was bombarded, both from within and from without, by persistent rabble-rousers, who seize upon any and every most untenable issue for purposes of agitation and negativism. Many students were leaflated by volunteers urging a boycott of classes. I was pleased to see both “Joe College” and “Betsy Co-Rd” read them on their way to class.

It is encouraging to see Joe and Betsy reject the temptation to take a “joy ride” on the New Jersey taxpayer — not to mention the thought of getting out early. Am I to assume that most everyone has already finished Christmas shopping, and finished their term papers? Or is it that more have begun to realize why they are, and why they should be, where they belong — in their classes and at their typewriter.

Wm. Vernarec, Poli. Sci., ’72.

Letters

Letters to the editor should be submitted to the MONTCLARION office, second floor of the student life building, by noon Tuesday before the desired publication date. Letters should be typed, double spaced, and should not exceed 250 words. While the editors will not substantially change letters, they do reserve the right to edit for misspellings, style inconsistencies and excessive length. Letters should be signed with the writer's name, major and year.
Chopsticks to Phasism ... 1971 - A Bit of Everything

Nineteen seventy-one was a year of phenomenal changes all across the world. Some were unexpected, others the result of long planning, but they all contributed to the crazy, patchwork montage that has become the modern lifestyle.

Perhaps the most astonishing and certainly the most unexpected announcement was President Richard M. Nixon's intentions to visit Red China, heralding a new role of involvement for the long-isolated country. Beginning relations heralding a new role of involvement for the long-isolated

Then there was the Nixon Economic Program — phasism. Phase I froze all wages and prices for a 90-day period. Phase II introduced wage and price controls. A pay review board was established. Unfortunately, its first action was to approve a wage hike of 50% for a plasterer's union.

ELLSBERG'S HIT

The Pentagon Papers created quite a stir and became a national best seller as the government tried to suppress its serial publication by the New York Times. The government was foiled in its legal attempts by the Supreme Court. Altho the Court allowed the secrets published, Daniel Ellsberg, who allegedly stole the report, is still under prosecution.

Bengla Desh became the new country. Beginning relations with many foreign countries, the Bamboo Curtain finally began to life after 22 years.

The deaths of 42 men — prisoners and guards alike — resulted as negotiations during a riot at the Attica Correctional Facility in New York, broke down and police forcibly retook the prison.

ENGLAND'S HERO

Great Britain finally entered the Common Market while Prime Minister Edward Heath fiddled with the London Symphony Orchestra. The Baltimore Colts won the Super Bowl and the Pittsburg Pirates clinched the World Series in seven games. Disneyland-East opened in Florida as Disney World attracted thousands. Apollo 15 and Martian probes sailed the Atlantic.

The picket, held in the late Spring, brought vet John Kerry to, and a fence around, the Capitol building.

EVERYBODY'S EVERYTHING: The scene is some frires and betting at ASC's newly-coed dorm, Freeman Hall. It's just one of the innovations that arrived here in '71.

MONARCHY REIGNS

Iran celebrated its 2500th birthday with an international bash that saw Louis XIV tents pitched in the desert and ice flown from Maxim's of Paris. An emperor of Japan left his land for the first time in history as Hirohito journeyed to his birthday with an international tribute in the desert and ice flown from Maxim's of Paris.

Everyman's Everyplace

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Myths were painfully exploded in 1971. The conviction of Lt. William Calley proved to the nation that all of our soldiers weren't the John Wayne movie heroes we believed, but could be cruel and sadistic killers.

Nineteen seventy-one may not even rate a page in future history books, but it will be interesting to see what will be remembered — the wars, the poverty or man's supreme cooperation.
By Susan Kelly
Sports Writer

"When watching me play, I guess many of you are asking why I'm not playing professional basketball," quipped ABC sports commentator Jim Bouton at Monday's benefit basketball game in which six sports personalities and six area coaches played against MSC's football team. The football players narrowly defeated the celebrities, 60-57.

Proceeds from the game will help meet the expenses of the baseball team's trip to Florida in March.

THE GRIDDERS established a lead early in the first quarter when Glenn Mochracher, Mike Van Zile, Jerry Caputo and Bob Brewster tallied for MSC. The celebrities included ahead, however, in the second period when Bouton, former MSC All-American Frank Rossi and WPIX-TV commentator Audrey Lewis hit the nets to end the half, 33-31.

Bouton, leaving early to prepare for "Eyewitness News," briefly answered questions from the spectators. "People ask if we (the "Eyewitness News" team) really like each other. As a matter of fact," he remarked, "some of us love each other, but we won't go into that."

Noting the small attendance at the game, Bouton, a former pro-baseball player, expressed a hope that more people attend MSC's baseball games. He thanked those attending, saying "it is a very nice thing to give these guys a chance to do the hotels and bars."

BOULTON DENOUNCED ABC sports commentator Howard Cosell as being "just another pretty face" and proceeded to entertain the crowd with an imitation of the persecuted Cosell. In answer to a question about Bill Beutel's girl friends, Bouton proclaimed that "Beutel is an eagle scout." The man is married and "is fanatic" about it, he continued.

When asked what commentator Geraldo Rivera is presently doing, Bouton remarked that "Geraldo, or Gerry, depending upon what part of Manhattan he is in, is probably doing an in-depth study on marijuana." The celebrities maintained their edge through the third quarter until a basket by Caputo in the fourth quarter gave the football players the lead at 51-50. From then on, it was touch-and-go, with both sides alternating leading by one point until the football team forged ahead to end the game with a three-point lead.

IN ADDITION to Bouton, Rossi and Lewis, the other sports personalities were Earll Williams, the National League Rookie of last year, Frank Tripucka, former NFL and AFL quarterback and Angelo Bertiell, former Heisman Trophy winner.

The coaches participating in the game were Don MacKay and Tim Sullivan, assistant MSC football coaches, Ken Trimmer of Caldwell High School, Doug Gaffney of Verona High School, Jack Lynch of Cedar Grove High School and Gil Gibbs of Montclair High School.

HOLD EVERYTHING: Referee snatches ball away during celebrity game.
APPLE OF HIS EYE: Jerry Stein, Montclair State graduate teaching in Parsippany, spends his spare time on the stock car circuit and is a current 1971 record-holder. Pictured above is his Plymouth Fury, "Teacher's Pet."

YOU'RE NOT SEEING THINGS: It's not your imagination playing games despite the name on the side of the car. It's actually one of the dragsters which appear weekly at Englishtown's Raceway Park.

Funny Cars No Joke on Track

By Vinnie Pietrucha Special to the Montclarion

Today, drag racing is getting attention from the outside world because of a high-powered vehicle known as the funny car. The funny car did not happen overnight, as many would be led to believe. Drag racers did not just start dropping plastic (fiberglass) replicas of stock-bodied cars over a tubular dragster chassis. It began way back in 1963 and the following is an attempt to trace the progress of the funny car.

In the early 60s, Detroit started developing "super cars," high performance street machines. These cars quickly fell into the super stock classes of National Hot Rod Association drag racing. With minor modifications, they were running in the 10 and 11-second bracket at speeds in the 120 m.p.h. range. In 1964, A/FX machines (factory experimental) were making it big at the track. There were modified super stockers. In 1965, these stock-bodied cars took on an altered wheelbase and to be competitive, they had to run low 10s at 130 m.p.h.

TODAY'S TOP pro stock drivers were the big names in the funny car ranks at this time. The list included: "Dyno" Don Nicholson, "Dandy" Dick Landy, Bill "Grumpy" Jenkins and "Fast" Eddie Schartman.

In 1966, the stock bodies were being substituted with fiberglass components, namely doors, fenders and the hood. The bodies were lengthened and injectors were being used by everyone. Times were 8.80 at 155 m.p.h. Clocking funny car as time passed and, finally, superchargers were added, dropping the times to an unbelievable (at that time) 8.0 seconds.

In 1969, the funny car as we know it today was really born. Everyone had the tubular chassis and fiberglass and aluminum body. Times were now in the 7s, with speeds approaching 200 m.p.h.

Today, every track makes it big with funny car shows. Anywhere from two to 10 cars are at a show with the minimum purse of $1000 going to the winning car. The top names are in such a demand that the usually weekend-operating tracks have to open up during the week to put on a show.

One of today's biggest stars, Richard Tharp, driving Harry Schmidt's "Blue Max" Mustang, has the official record of most consecutive dates with six. This past summer, starting on July 1, he was in Canada; July 2, Wisconsin; July 3, Michigan; July 4, Minnesota (afternoon) and Iowa (evening) and July 5, South Dakota.

Jake Johnston and "Jungle Jim" Liberman have also done the six day/meet routine. On his excursion, Jungle Jim used sixty-five gallons of nitro-methane (racing fuel) at $7.50 a gallon. The cost, the tight schedule and breakage are what brings the price up on these guys, but it's well worth it, as right now the unofficial elapsed time record is a 6.49 seconds by Tom "Mongoose" McEwen of "Hot Wheels" fame and most big names have trap speeds of 220 m.p.h.

Funny cars have come a long way and they're going to stay right on top of the drag racing world.
A LOVELY DAY FOR RACING: Pete Lovely (30) outdistances an opponent in the U.S. Grand Prix (Formula I) race at Watkins Glen. Lovely’s vehicle was sponsored by none other than Volkswagen.

ACCIDENTS WILL HAPPEN: But not as often on professional race tracks as many believe. Shown here is Johnny Cox as his midget car overturned on the track at the 1970 Flemington Fair in Flemington, N.J. Cox wasn’t hurt in the accident, although his car needed some repairs.

WINGING IT: Midget racing champion Johnny Cox works against time and opponents in his super sprint at Flemington, N.J. Super sprints are actually stretch midgets with wings added.

The Indy Racing

By John Lare
Special to the Montclarion

Auto racing ranks as the second largest spectator sport in the country in paid attendance. There are many types of auto racing throughout the United States: oval-track racing, road racing, drag and hill climbs.

One of the most popular in the U.S. is the closed circuit oval. This is a dirt or asphalt track located inside a plot of ground and the competitors travel this closed course over a predetermined distance for a certain length of time. Two of the most widely known races of this type are the Indianapolis 500 and the Daytona 500.

In racing there are many different control organizations: United States Automobile Club (USAC), National Association for Stock Car Auto Racing (NASCAR), Sports Cars Club of America (SCCA) and National Hot Rod Association (NHRA).

These are the national organizations which are very influential in the U.S.

To be a member of USAC as a competitor-owner, one must be sponsored by a large firm; for instance: Coca-Cola STP, Sprite soda or even Johnny Lightning toys.

THE FIRST 500

In 1911, the Indianapolis 500 was introduced on a brick-paved 2½ mile oval track. Ron Harroun was the first man to win the 500 with an average speed of 79 miles per hour. The 1971 Indianapolis 500 hero, Al Unser, won at speeds over 180 m.p.h.

The Indy-type race cars used today are low-profile, with a low center of gravity, designed and engineered in a low, rear-engine race car that even fits the driver’s body specifications.

The car is usually worth $50,000 without accessories.

Tires are big factors in this speedy sport. The cars wear out many sets of tires depending on the size and condition of the race course and length of the race.

Actually, over $100 for a tire made with special compounds is not unusual. Most drivers own some type of tire store, for with the amount of racing they cover within a year, it helps keep tire costs within reason.

ENGINE WEAR

At the Indy 500 when practicing or running qualification, a driver can easily lose an engine; therefore, spare engines are needed. Mechanics can replace an engine within a short time to qualify their cars for race day.

There are only 33 cars qualified for May 30, race day. This is why a number of owners have two, three and possibly four cars as back-up to their number one car. Parnelli Jones had four cars at the Indy 500 this past May. One of the four was the winner, Al Unser, who drove Parnelli’s number one car, was sponsored by the Johnny Lightning Toy Company.

Cars from other countries have to meet USAC specifications in order to race any USAC circuits.

The same holds true for the NASCAR trails, where
Any Taste

money and glory go together to make it a very profitable business.

NASCAR consists of late model stock cars similar to those used on the nation’s highways. There are some restrictions but these cars are close to factory-made cars. These cars run at speeds of 180 m.p.h. and are very exciting to watch.

Richard Petty, driving a 1971 Plymouth, recently won the Delaware 500 and his total winnings for this year so far have reached the $250,000 mark.

THE LOCAL SCENE

On the local scene many drivers run the modified stock cars at various tracks. Stock-car racing became very popular throughout the U.S. after World War II. They are constructed from 1937 to 1971 model cars with high powered 427 cubic inch engines as a maximum.

The cars are strengthened with roll bars and safety belts to make vehicles safer for the drivers. Most of these drivers like Stan Ploski, Sam Beavers, Will Cagle, Jeff Bodine, Richie Evans and Ray Hendrick are stars to the local fans. They can win as much as $700 to $1000 in one evening’s racing.

Gerald Chamberlain of Everett, Pa., who recently won 23 races at one track, also won over $20,000 racing just on weekends. Chamberlain, a member of the Reading Stock Car Association (RSCA), became track champion for the 1971 season.

Still another type of local racing is sprint cars. Unlike the modified stocks, it has a homemade body and frame. All the parts are custom-built and the power comes from a 350 cubic inch to a 427 cubic inch engine. With accessories added, the name changes to Super Sprints. A wing arrangement placed on top of the roll cage acts as a weight as the wind passes, forcing a pressure down toward the rear tires. Traction is the word when three super sprints plow into turns side by side full blast.

There are also midgets that are the same as the sprints only the chassis is shorter and contains six cylinder or four cylinder power plants.

The baby of the midget is the three-quarter midget which runs at Pinebrook, N.J., during the summer. However, during the winter, shows are held inside convention halls and armories. Atlantic City Convention Hall has been very successful in the past three years, racing three-quarter midgets in January.

DIRT AND ASPHALT

Oval tracks vary in size depending on what cars are racing there. Most championship races are held on large tracks either dirt or asphalt. Just as dirt and asphalt are two different track bases, so too must the cars be different. This is where high and low profiles become a major factor.

Road racing and hill climb interest mainly the sports car set and these races are more of a hobby. However, races such as the 24-hour Sebring or the Watkins Glen Grand Prix draw stars from all over the world.

Auto Racing - A Very Moving Sport

By Rocco Lionetti
Special to the Montclarion.

America's fastest growing spectator sport is drag racing. Today there are drag strips all over the country jammed to the hilt every Sunday afternoon.

Why? Because people are watching men and machines battle brutally with time and 440 yards of grueling, death-defying power. While blasting down the 1/4 mile at speeds in excess of 230 miles per hour, sensations that befuddle the mind send adrenalin pumping thru your veins.

A FEELING NOT FORGOTTEN

What's it like to drive one of those monsters? Well, it's a feeling you will never forget once you do it. And there is quite a bit of skill involved.

In high power machines (500 horses or more) you come down the fire up road and approach the line. At the line is a Christmas tree which is actually a very accurate timing device. You approach the line and the car rumbles and snorts and wants to blast off. Yellow lights let you know you're staged and you wait for the Christmas tree to blink down. You get three amber lights and a green.

POP GOES THE CLUTCH

When the green lights appear, you put your foot to the floor and 'pop' the clutch. Smoke and rubber fill the air and a phenomenal force is exerted on your face and body. A thrill runs thru your body and you keep your eyes glued on the track.

At 10,000 r.p.m.s you pull off a lightning shift and seconds later you fly thru the traps at the end of the strip. In B/A drag racing you fly thru the traps at about 130 m.p.h. in 10 seconds, a ride you don't forget until you pull up to that Christmas tree again.