Strike Deadline: Feb. 29

by Liz Vollman

At Friday night’s meeting of the Council of NJ State College Locals, union representatives set Feb. 29 as the strike deadline for the American Federation of Teachers [AFT], unless a contract agreement is reached.

Several pivotal factors caused the AFT to finally decide on a strike deadline, and these factors have been mounting up since faculty members’ contracts terminated on June 30, 1995, said AFT Local 1904 Executive Board member and Strike Coordinator Dr. Richard Franke.

The state has proposed a four-year contract that offers no pay raises for the first two years, and then a $750 raise the third year, and an $850 raise the fourth year. The younger faculty are especially skeptical of this new contract since they have some of the lowest wages of union members, said Franke.

The second issue issue concerns possible changes within the health care plan. During the past twenty years, faculty members have chosen their own doctors. The last state proposal would require faculty to pay $1200 to remain with their preferred doctor if he or she is not included on their list of designated doctors, said Franke.

The ‘merit-based’ system that the state is trying to enforce is another faculty concern. Instead of using an 11-step increment system which is based on automatically, meaning that each year faculty members are given a raise, faculty will be judged on merit, said Franke.

This new program would deprive many faculty members from receiving regular recognition for their work which isn’t very encouraging,” said Franke.

Franke said that many faculty members fear that this type of system will create a competitive, stressful atmosphere among faculty.

Dauder urges students to voice opinion on strike

by Tom Boud

SGA President Francois Dauder is urging students to voice their strike concerns to Trenton and Congressional representatives. Dauder also said he intends to work with college administrators and teacher union representatives about ensuring student rights.

Concerning plans, Dauder said the SGA will soon be distributing a brochure entitled “Steps On How To Petition Your Assembly” in order to galvanize the MSU student body into action. “I am urging everyone to write to their state assemblyman, senator, and Governor Whitman to express their concerns about a strike on Feb. 29,” said Dauder.

“I am also going to be setting up an appointment with the administration for the benefit of student needs. I’ll be trying to get a consensus distributing a brochure titled "Steps On How To Petition Your Assembly" in order to galvanize the MSU student body into action. "I am urging everyone to write to their state assemblyman, senator, and Governor Whitman to express their concerns about a strike on Feb. 29," said Dauder.

Dauder said the SGA will soon be setting up an appointment with the administration for the benefit of student needs. I’ll be trying to get a consensus..."
Internationa

Latest IRA Bombing Sets Back Peace Process: Last Friday's truck bomb detonation in East London will not derail the peace process, according to Irish and British political leaders, but the trend maintained over the last 17 months of peace is gone. Negotiation difficulties are further complicated by rumors of rifts between the IRA's political and military factions. Nevertheless, the Irish and British governments reaffirmed their commitment to the peace process.

Sudan May Pay High Price for Islamic Connection: Accused by its neighbors and the U.N. of harboring Islamic militant terrorists, the Sudan faces economic sanctions next month. In a move that will severely cripple the economically weak African country. The Islamic military regime, in power for seven years, is mired in an internal civil war which could escalate when combined with outside pressure. The central question for the government is whether it is in the interest of the U.N. requests and surrender suspected terrorists.

French Bishops Support Use of Condoms Against AIDS: In contradiction of the Vatican's condemnation of birth control, a committee of French bishops approved the use of condoms to prevent the spread of AIDS in a 235-page report. Although it stresses abstinence as the first and most viable choice, the report sided with scientific and medical facts regarding condoms' use against the disease.

Pope Visits Venezuela: After weeks of anti-government protests, Venezuelans put aside their differences long enough to welcome Pope John Paul II over the weekend, but clashes are sure to resume once people face their daily realities. The Pope visited Guatemala, Nicaragua and El Salvador before arriving in Venezuela.

Middle East Tensions Mount Again: Fearing a retaliation from Muslim militants for the killing of a Palestinian bomb-maker in January, the Israeli government closed off the West Bank and Gaza Strip on Monday, a move that infuriated Palestinians because it bars them from worshipping at their mosques in Jerusalem during the sacred month of Ramadan. Israel has been especially wary in the past of the Islamic holy days, and Prime Minister Peres is not taking any chances with his Labor Party's lead so close to election time in May.

Defection from North Korea Hurts the Government at Its Heart: Sung Hae, the ex-wife of North Korea's "Great Leader," has reportedly defected to the West and is planning to cooperate with Western intelligence agencies, a move that may prove very damaging and humiliating to the already troubled North Korean government.

Kim Jong Il is the country's army leader and holds supreme power, but diplomats familiar with North Korea say it is fear that keeps citizens from bringing down the last Stalinist state in the world.

National

Dole Wins in Iowa by Narrow Margin: Senator Bob Dole won the Republican presidential primary last Monday by three percentage points over Pat Buchanan, with Steve Forbes a distant third in the race. It was a narrow and divisive campaign in Iowa, with New Hampshire expected to be the same next week.

Regaine Approved for Store Sales: Hope in a bottle for balding Americans will be sold over the counter alongside shampoos and hair dryers as soon as April. The FDA approved the non-prescription sales in which is considered a boon for Pharmacia & Upjohn, the pharmaceutical company who has been marketing Regaine since 1988. According to government research, the medication is moderately effective in treating hereditary baldness, with a 25 percent success rate in men and 20 percent in women, and must be continuously applied to maintain growth.

Is the Tri-State Area Healed for Permanent Decline?: The New York metropolitan region, including the New Jersey and Connecticut, is in danger of permanent economic decline into the 21st century unless residents and politicians become firmly committed to major sacrificial education, transportation and urban rejuvenation, according to the Regional Planning Association, the oldest urban planning group in the nation.

Medicaid/Welfare Proposals Attacked: The governors' plan on welfare and medicaid will "disproportionately harm African-American children," civil rights groups said in a joint letter to Congress on Wednesday. "Genuine welfare reform must provide more education, training and child care," read the statement, referring to a proposal requiring people to work after being on welfare for two years and raising the cash assistance limit of five years. Hearings on the governors' proposal will be held next week in Congress.

Sharp Rise in Use of Methamphetamine: It's called "speed" in pill form or "ice" when smoked, and its increased use in the western part of the nation has raised fears that it could spread across the country much as crack-cocaine did in the 1980s. From 1992 to 1994, "speed"-related deaths increased nationally by 145 percent, with an accompanying escalation in overdoses, emergency room admissions, drug shootings and related violence.

No-Fault Divorce Out, Blame In?: No fault divorce laws, a threat to family values according to conservative Christian groups, are now being targeted for reform in several states. No-fault divorce laws developed over the past 25 years are credited with making divorces easier, and say some, causing social problems. Following an initiative from Republican state representatives, the governor of Michigan will sign a bill, which if passed, will strike the no-fault laws from the books.
and will invoke unethical politics.

Frank said that the next scheduled negotiating session will be next Wednesday, February 21.

Governor Christie Todd Whitman's Press Office spokesman Bob Friant said, "We are doing all that we can to negotiate with the Union (AFT). We (State) are doing all that we can to avoid a strike. We definitely do not want to come to that scenario." Friant was not able to comment on any other negotiating matters at press time.

"We've been so patient this whole time, and it's disheartening to think that this merit-based system might be implemented. What it would do to us institutionally is such a concern. It will cause such unnecessary pressure and will only wind up undermining collegiality," said Local 1904 Executive Vice President of Internal Affairs Joan Ficke.

MSU Administrative Services spokesman Richard Davis said, "We hope that the bargaining will result in a contract that is mutually agreeable, but in the event of a strike we have specific contingency plans ready to be implemented.

"We plan to continue normal operations in the event of a strike and, based on past experience, we do not expect a lengthy strike." 

"We do not know how all of the classes would be covered in the event that all of the faculty did not report to classes on February 29."

Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs Richard Leppe, who Davis said would be able to further explain plans for class schedules during a strike, was not available for comment at press time.

Davis said that MSU currently has contingency plans ready for purchasing, receiving, ing, maintenance and security, to name a few. Also, there has been discussion of utilizing a "range X" salary which empowers school presidents to devise wages according to the "value" of the professor. This extra money granted to exceptional, or 'Superstar' professors would have to be usurped from the teachers' salary account, possibly causing the rest of the teachers to receive a cut in pay, explained Franke.

If a compromise isn't reached by 7 a.m. on Feb. 29, then the strike will begin. In this event, over 80 percent of MSU's faculty are expected to participate by picketing rather than holding class, said Franke.

Right now there is no predicting if or how long the strike will occur. But as the deadline gets closer, students will be furnished with the phone number at "Strike Headquarters," located at the Newman House. Someone will always be there to answer any questions and keep students aware of the current strike standing, said Franke.

"I can understand the reasons for this possible up and coming strike. However, it isn't fair that the students will be the ones who receive the repercussions of this whole incident. We're just here to enrich our lives with a good education," said Laura Yessis, a Biology major.

When asked about the impending strike, Dr. Irvin Reid said, "I think it's understandable that the current economic package isn't appealing to faculty. The possible disruption of the educational process is most unfortunate. I'm remaining hopeful that further negotiations will bring an acceptable resolution to the present conflict."

When asked about the strike's possible affect on students, Franke explained, "Historically speaking, MSU has experience two other strikes and there was never a problem where students lost credit or permission to graduate. I assume things would be worked out in order that all students were justly accredited."

The faculty hopes that upcoming negotiations will enable them to avoid striking, said Franke.

"We, on this side, are working towards a compromise," Davis said. "We've had a couple of meetings and now it's simply a matter of receiving some fair consideration that will adequately take care of everyone's needs," said Ficke.

Dauer said that quick action is the best remedy to avert a strike. "This situation poses a serious circumstance that we will have to deal with immediately. As students, we must be aware of what could occur. We should do what we can in order to reduce the threat of strike because students will be caught in the middle. We need a communal effort to support the teachers." 

Junior Debra DeNicolo stated that a strike would wreak havoc with student schedules. "It's bad for everyone. It's going to set back our graduation date. We should not be hindered from going out into the real world. It's hard enough to graduate in four years as it is," she said.

"I do think teachers are entitled to pay raises, but it'll be a total outrage if the university goes on strike. What would that say to other universities with contract disputes?" said DeNicolo.

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**Parking from p. 1**

explained that 64 of the 99 lost spots have been recovered but the faculty needs the remaining spots as well.

"We want the remaining 35 spots back. We are not negotiating for anything extra, we are just trying to get back what we used to have," said Brook.

Brook said that the negotiations for the parking spots are not associated in any way with the current American Federation of Teachers Union contract negotiations. Brook added that under no circumstances will the faculty support a move to take more parking away from the students.

Union official and faculty member of the Women Studies Program Dr. Joan Ficke said that a clause in the contract entitles the faculty to a reasonably accessible parking spot.

"We understand how the students feel about parking and we are very sympathetic to their problem," said Ficke.

Ficke added that many faculty members leave campus three or four times a day to supervise students at internships and that without adequate parking many of them would not be able to return to meetings and or classes in time.

"We feel that the administration has been very reluctant to implement the means to regain the lost parking spots," said Brook.

Brook, however, was pleased with the reaction from the Board of Trustees. "The Board of Trustees was very reassuring. They asked President Reid to give them an update on the progress of the parking problem at the next meeting." 

"We not only want to solve our parking problem but we are interested in a long term parking solution for the entire campus."

"I don't understand why we can't have a more user friendly campus when it comes to parking," said Brook.

The union made numerous proposals to the MSU administration on how to solve the parking problem. One such solution was to open up College Avenue in front of Dickson Hall and behind Sprague Library to faculty members so they could parallel park along the sides of the road, said Brook.

"We were told that parking along College Avenue in front of Dickson Hall would be too dangerous to do," said Brook.

One option that Brook said "was an absolute last option" would be to revoke faculty parking privileges to graduate assistants and to SGA officials.
Wellspring Program supports binge drinking decrease

by Dylan M. Archilla

According to a Sept. 1995 memo circulated by the School of Professional Studies, a survey indicated that 37 percent of MSU college students participate in binge drinking. While this number does represent a drop from the national average of 43 percent, it is still an alarming statistic.

The project takes credit for the drop in binge drinking at MSU. According to the Sept. 1995 memo, "The positive results reported are certainly largely due to the intensive educational and preventive programming mounted by the campus Wellspring Program."

The Wellspring Project, a federally funded grant, is designed for the education and prevention of drugs and alcohol on campus. The program is willing to sponsor any social, recreational or educational event that a fraternity, sorority or organization holds.

The Wellspring Project is run by coordinator MaryAnne DiMasi and community liaison Laura Ostheimer. As it is a two year grant, the program will end in June 1996. "We would hope the university would want to make us permanent," said Ostheimer.

The project promotes "wellness," a lifestyle centered around the "spiritual, vocational, educational, physical, and sexual well-being of the individual."

According to DiMasi, "People have really taken our message to heart. The program is very effective and people have really embraced it. They want alternatives."

DiMasi said, "Of course we would like the fraternities and sororities to embrace the drug and alcohol-free lifestyle, and we've actually had positive feedback from the various groups. In fact, the president of the Greek Council, John Czelic, approached us about sponsoring a speech."

Last semester, a speech entitled, "The Perfect Party-Host Liability and Risk Management" focused on the responsibility a host has to his guests and their safety. A good example is the Tau Phi Beta fraternity providing rides to and from their parties," said DiMasi.

Upcoming Wellspring-sponsored events include a speech on dating violence given by Sigma Psi Phi sorority called, "When Love Hurts," and a speech entitled, "Athletes and Performance: Wellness and Well-being as a Way of Life," by NCAA speaker Mike Green.

Any further information on the Wellspring Project can be obtained by calling 655-7746.

CANDIDATES ARE INTERVIEWED FOR VP OF ADMINISTRATION AND FINANCE

by Gente Feran

In an extensive interviewing process conducted last month by an executive search committee, recommendations were made for the next Vice President of Administration and Finance, with President Reid to give final approval in time for the next board meeting on March 14.

It is expected that the Board of Trustees will make the offer to one of four candidates, two men and two women, who came from as far as Georgia and Illinois seeking the opportunity to work for MSU. The competition is tough: two are MBA’s and the other two have doctorate degrees in education.

All the candidates are currently employed in academia’s higher echelons and have at least fifteen years’ experience in financial operations, facilities management and human resources.

The new vice-president will work closely with President Reid and other senior officers in devising new strategies for serving the MSU by maximizing its financial potential and evaluating its different business functions to create a stronger and more efficient system.

In addition, the vice-president will be responsible for the school’s $80 million operations, ranging from financial control, to contracted services to facilities management.

Another important aspect of the position is the frequent interaction between the vice-president and the SGA, said current Vice-President of Administration and Finance Tom Auch.

Auch, who’s been on the job for six years, frequently informs the SGA about trends and appropriations for the SGA and a participant in the committee, composed of students, administration and staff members, spent considerable time and effort interviewing the candidates. " ruining the process, their primary concern was for the students and the university’s best interests, " said Auch.

While specific details concerning the final decision are confidential, the search committee, composed of students, administration and staff members, spent considerable time and effort interviewing the candidates. Julio Marcano, vice-president of the SGA and a participant in the committee, said. "Very impressed with the group. Throughout the process, their primary concern was for the students and the university’s best interests."
We Will Strike Unless...

To the Montclair State University Community:

On February 9, the Council of New Jersey State College Locals, AFT/AFL-CIO set Thursday, 29 February as a strike deadline. The council’s actions mean the following:

If no acceptable settlement is reached by 7:00 am on Thursday, 29 February, the faculty, librarians, and professional staff of all the state colleges and Montclair State University will go on strike. The strike will last until we, the faculty, librarians, and professional staff, receive a fair and reasonable contract offer from the State of New Jersey.

Substantial issues are involved in our dispute with the State and with the college presidents:

1. The State is offering salary increases of:
   - 1995-96: zero
   - 1996-97: zero
   - 1997-98: $750
   - 1998-99: $850

   With even modest inflation, this “offer” amounts to a pay cut that could reach 10% to 20% by the end of the contract. This pay offer also means that Montclair State will not be able to attract the highest quality and most dedicated new faculty and staff. They are not going to come here to work in such conditions.

2. The Presidents are trying to impose a system of mini-increments available “at the sole discretion of the President.” Faculty and staff would be competing with each other annually for a raise of about 2% that only some would get. We cannot let them pit us against each other. We will not let them destroy our current positive and collegial relations with excessive and destructive competition.

3. The presidents are also proposing a new unlimited Salary Range X. This would provide super high salaries to let them hire a few new superstars. It would harm most students by draining off funds for the majority of professors.

4. The State wants to force us to pay for health benefits we have received for 20 years or lose our choice of doctors.

THE STATE’S PROPOSALS ARE UNFAIR AND INSULTING TO THE FACULTY, LIBRARIANS, AND PROFESSIONAL STAFF.

FURTHERMORE, THE EFFECT OF THESE PROPOSALS ON STUDENTS WILL BE TO LOWER THE QUALITY OF YOUR EDUCATION AND REDUCE THE PRESTIGE AND EARNING POWER OF YOUR MONTCLAIR STATE DEGREE.

Your faculty and professional staff want your education to prepare you for rewarding and decent-paying jobs. For this to occur, we must maintain the standard of living and professional integrity of Montclair State.

Over the past 18 months we have appealed to reason, logic, and fairness. The State and the college presidents have turned deaf ears to our appeals. Now we must prepare to use our remaining weapon: the strike.

What Can You Do?

- Write to President Reid. Do it today.
- Tell Him to press the State’s negotiators for a fair contract offer.
- Tell him you want Montclair State to maintain the quality of the degree you are paying for and studying for.
- Tell him you do not want your education interrupted by a strike.
- Talk to your parents, friends, and fellow students.
- Urge them to contact President Reid also.

Write to President Reid at the President’s Office, College Hall, or e-mail him at: Reid@saturn.montclair.edu

Catherine Becker, President, Local 1904
Gil Klajman, External Vice-President, Local 1904
Richard W. Franke, Strike Coordinator, Local 1904
Celebrate ASH WEDNESDAY
February 21, 1996

“Putting ashes on our foreheads; placing Christ in our hearts”

12:15 p.m. Scripture Service
1:15 p.m. Blessing Ceremony
3:15 p.m. Scripture Service
7:15 p.m. Evening Mass

The ashes will be blessed and imposed during each of the four services in the Student Center—Ballroom A.
No ashes available at the Newman Catholic Center.

For more information call 746-2323

Sponsored by
Newman Catholic Campus Ministry
A Class III Organization of the SGA, Inc.
The debate between whole language and phonics is a topic which educators, teachers and parents both are always searching for the answer to which appeal is better. In her presentation of her experiences with the New Zealand school system, Dr. Joyce Stone, chairperson of the Department of Reading and Educational Media, emphasized how successful whole language (which incorporates phonics) can be.

For those wondering what whole language is, Arthur Heilman, Timothy Blair and William Rupley, authors of Principles and Practices of Teaching Reading, offer a definition: whole language is "an orientation toward development of literacy." Dr. Stone explained that whole language concentrates on having children understand that reading and writing are connected and both are necessary to communicate and create meaning in their world. In addition, whole language uses authentic materials to teach reading, rather than books and other teaching tools which specifically isolate vocabulary, phonemes or grammar.

Since New Zealand has the highest literacy rate in the world, it is a nation which deserves investigation. In her lecture, Dr. Stone noted that New Zealand has a national curriculum: specific books and materials are used throughout the country. This is quite a contrast to the United States where materials used vary not only from state to state, but also from district to district. The New Zealand curriculum is child-centered as well, an affective approach which is finally surfacing in more and more American schools.

Another important aspect Dr. Stone focused on as the "key to literacy" is parental involvement. She noted that the parents in New Zealand have more of a responsibility to engage in their child's educational attainment than do American parents. Although American parents have their meetings, the parents in New Zealand are more involved within the classroom, they are even encouraged to participate during classes. Also, the teachers in New Zealand must contact parents a minimum of three times per year while the parents come in on a monthly basis to discuss their child's progress.

Overall, the education offered in New Zealand focuses on children learning through their environment at their own pace. Therefore, to promote literacy, the classrooms are "print drenched" to expose children constantly to the elements of reading and writing. Americans have termed this approach whole language.

Dr. Joyce Stone, chairperson of the Department of Reading and Educational Media.
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MONTCLARION
The Real World
by the students of the Co-operative Education Program

by Greg lacullo

"This semester I was given the oppor­tunity to work in the cooperative education program at Montclair State University for psychology. After enduring the usual amount of re­jections that co-op students re­ceive from employers, I was finally hired at a drug detoxification center in Essex county. I would later find that my education as an intern could not have been supplemented in the classroom.

For those of us who aspire to be counselors, there are many things that the DSM-IV and other manuals do not warn us about. The excessive amount of paperwork involved is one example. Unfortunately, this is a major part of the therapeutic process. But more importantly, there is a greater difference between reading about the Narcissistic personality disorder and actually seeing it. Most psychology majors know that it is characterized by a pervasive pattern of grandiosity, but these traits become more real when they are observed in the flesh and not by technical euphemisms.

Everyday, I performed intakes on the clients (patients). This is the initial interview that clients must do when they enter the detox center. It is the closest I have ever come to ac­tual one-on-one counseling with a client. Much of the difficulty lies in maintaining a balance between en­gaging the client in discussion and not getting too close personally. One is necessary to facilitate comfort and cooperation and the other is critical for avoiding biases in the patient-counselor interaction.

Many of the clients are exhausted or angry. But more importantly, the majority of the drug addicts I have seen have a strong desire to clean up. We must always allude to the 12­step process, which asks the addict to admit helplessness and ask for the aid of God.

Another major part of the detoxi­fication process is group therapy. The majority of our client suffer from heroin, crack, or cocaine addiction. Since they have all suffered in a sim­i­lar manner, the clients can relate to each other. Knowing that they are not alone makes it easier for them to let out their bottled up emotions. When clients admit the urge to quit therapy and get high, it helps them to talk about what they are feeling. It is the goal of the group counselor or intern to engage the clients in discussion.

From day one of my co-op I have been fascinated by the therapeutic philosophies of my employer. The concepts that I have incessantly

studied into memory for four years in college are being applied right in front of my eyes, Carl Jung, Heinz Kohut, Karen Horney. These names have always been a part of my jour­ney to understanding psychology but their work always seemed so distant from me. I must confess that I have often wondered if anyone in the world is actually applying the theo­rized of these psychologists. We use the work that these great personality theorists have provided.

Many people say that Sigmund Freud is primitive and is not taken seriously any more. Tell that to the counselors that I worked with. I saw almost every ego defense mechanism displayed on a daily basis. Many cli­ents have displaced their suffering on loved ones. A majority clients enter the program with either re­pressed emotions or with so much chemical intoxication that they are not even aware of their feelings.

I am not familiar with other fields such as biology or business. How­ever, if my experience is indicative of most co-operative education courses, then I recommend that every client look into it. The training I have received has been irreplace­able and has given me a great deal of insight about my own personal field of choice.
Dear Career Services,

Q. I am majoring in history and am wondering what jobs others in my major got after they graduated.

A. Probably any job you can think of. Liberal arts majors develop such skills as the ability to research, write, and synthesize complex information—skills used by a wide variety of organizations in all sectors of the economy. The kind of job that is right for you depends on who you are as a whole person. The fact that one of last year’s history grads is doing well in sales or writing may or may not be meaningful to you, depending on your personality, values, interests and other skills.

However, some other occupational areas that other history majors have enjoyed which are worth your personal investigation include: fund raising, counseling, criminology, teaching, gerontology, human services, journalism, marketing, research, public relations, the protective services of the government and more.

If graduate work is in your future, you may also consider careers in public history, psychology, museums, and archives, public administration, law and lots more. Come to the office and use the Career Library to start reading about the jobs that interest you. The more you know about what is possible for you, the more you can enjoy your major and take the steps needed before graduation to get the job you want after graduation.

Q. I understand employees are “dressing down” at work? Does that mean I don’t need to buy a suit to interview?

A. No! You should always dress conservatively for a job interview, even if the company has a dress down policy. Dress down is a trend mainly in the business world where employees can dress in causal attire (even jeans), on a designated day or days (usually Fridays), but it depends on the company.

However, you do not need to concern yourself with “dress down” because it pertains to persons already employed and you have not been hired yet, you are only going for an interview.

The rule of thumb for any job interview regardless of the dress code of the organization is that you should look professional. Remember, the first impression sets the tone for the rest of the interview.

Whatever happened to hell?

by Michael Rapanos

Whatever happened to good old hell? Why I remember the days when a person could walk down the street and hell is all you would hear. Hell this and hell that. What the hell is the matter with you? Who in the hell do you think you are? And my personal favorite, go to hell. Today there are no flames, not even a puff of smoke.

Sunday used to be a horror show for God’s sake. You would throw a dollar in the basket and the Divine would proceed to scare the living hell out of you. With all his talk of how many are called, but chosen are few. How the many would be thrown into the fiery bowels of hell. The mere thought of it would burn the soles of your feet. Oh sure, you would forget everything by Monday morning. Nowadays, everything has turned 180 degrees.

Today hell is forgotten, even the concept. People just assume we move on to a better place. The bad people of course become some lower form of life, like a slug that some rotten kid just poured salt on. Maybe so. I have heard it said that hell is an illusion for religious fanatics, but a reality for those who live through it every day. If you don’t believe it, just turn on the evening news. So naturally, we deserve if not heaven then at least some tasty treat for surviving this nasty trick our Master makes us perform.

Something is not right. I always thought that hell was a fire that burned flesh without consuming it, a worm that does not die burrowing in and out of an eye, and finally being cast into outer darkness where there would be weeping and gnashing of teeth forever and ever. The one who dies.

Well there was that one guy, a long time ago. He told me “son, I am the elevator operator and your question is no puzzle to me. My ridings are one way and I give them for free. If you choose to go up, then up you will go, but chose to go down, then... well, you know.” But there ain’t no stairs.
Leaving Las Vegas: An Alcoholic Fantasy

by John Spratman

Leaving Las Vegas, a movie currently being marketed as "a touching love story," is about the relationship between a dying alcoholic and an abused whore. It's received many critical accolades, and I went in expecting one of the best movies of the year; however, I didn't find it. Brilliant performances by Elisabeth Shue and Nicholas Cage couldn't quite hide the formulaic quality of the story and the lack of true character development. Leaving Las Vegas is a worthwhile movie, but not one of the best films of the year.

Nicholas Cage brings charm and a note of nobility to the role of Ben Sanderson, the deteriorating alcoholic writer. Ben is sad and witty, smart and pathetic. He's not simply a hopeless alcoholic; Ben has consciously decided to drink himself to death, so he sells all of his possessions for booze money and moves to Las Vegas. There he runs into (literally) and pays for Sera, an abused prostitute (Elisabeth Shue).

Sera (pronounced Sara) falls for Ben because he's the least abusive man she's met and the only one who's interested in talking to her. Shue's performance as Sera is complex and believable on many levels. Sera is a strong character who's somehow locked into a cycle of abuse with her pimp and customers. She's wary yet vulnerable with Ben, the one human being who counts on her and is more pitiful than herself. It is touching that these two lost souls are able to find kindness and acceptance with each other. However, their relationship is overshadowed and limited by Ben's one demand of Sera; that she not ask him to stop drinking. It's a doomed romance on a short timetable. Ben has estimated it will take about four weeks to succeed in killing himself, and his progressive blackouts and delirium tremens (DTS) seem to confirm it.

The major weakness of Leaving Las Vegas is a lack of true character development. Ben has lost his job, wife and child because of his drinking, but is this what makes him suicidal? Writer/director Mike Figgis fails to explore Ben's psyche. He starts out as a suicidal drunk, he meets Sera and continues to be a suicidal drunk, and eventually dies as a drunk. In other words, his great romance with Sera fails to have any impact on him.

On the other hand, Sera supposedly changes, ending up on an unseen psychiatrist's couch, discussing Ben and her days as a prostitute. However, I couldn't buy Ben as being the catalyst for that change, because he had nothing of himself to give to her.

Ben cheats on her, embarrasses her in public and gets her evicted from her apartment. In a 10 or 20-year relationship, this is considered abusive; how is it romantic in a four-week fling? This love story left me cold because it's not about love; Leaving Las Vegas is an alcoholic's fantasy.

There are other weaknesses: the movie is simply too long. Also, Leaving Las Vegas contains a brutal rape scene and explicit sexual language that many may find unpleasant. However, the performances by Cage and Shue are memorable, earning this sad tale a rating of a B.
Inventory/Essays by Michel Butor: The most unusual book I’ve ever read

by Tom Boud

Last September, I reviewed Louis Malle’s Murmuru Of The Heart; the most unusual film I’ve ever seen. Since then, I’ve been dying to do a piece on the most unusual book I’ve ever read. However, I could never turn up any gold mines that might qualify. Finally, last week at Sprague Library, I bumped into Inventory/Essays By Michel Butor. Talk about treasures! I didn’t discover El Dorado—no, I discovered El Dorado!

Written in 1961, and edited by Richard Howard, Inventory/Essays By Michel Butor is the first of six such treatises by this French scholar. In this rare English translation, Butor handles a host of highbrow topics. He expounds on: The golden mine—El Dorado!

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Page 29: The difference between the events of a novel and those of life lies not only in the fact that we can verify the latter while the former can be a result of a surprising and unexpected event. The difference between the events of a novel and those of life lies not only in the fact that we can verify the latter while the former can be a result of a surprising and unexpected event.

Page 37: Space, as we experience it, is not at all the Euclidean space whose parts are mutually exclusive. Every site is the focal point of a horizon of other points or of series of routes through more or less regions.

Page 116: Jules Verne is the first to have been able to put into words not only a real love of maps and prints, but also that disturbing feeling we may have had as children when we leaved through the manuals of physics, chemistry, and astronomy, poor ugly books, too hard for us. Full of new words undecipherable and promises.

What really blew my mind about Inventory/Essays By Michel Butor was the ease with which Butor handles his material. It doesn’t matter if he’s discussing music, analyzing Dutch artist Piet Mondrian’s canvases, or waxing intellectual about the Greek city of Delphi (one of the four cities in Butor’s novel Le Genie du Lieu). Butor’s encyclopedic knowledge permeates all throughout his work. For instance, Butor says that even cultivated people make black and white judgments about French Author Honoré de Balzac, although they have only read a small portion of his Comédie Humaine (Balzac’s collection of works).

Among other comments, Butor states on page 43 that books are under increasing pressure to become more dense in order to compete with television and radio. However, Butor points out that the advent of the paperback has given the public a taste of the smorgasbord. There are reams of riveting ruminations done with Butor’s spirited posts, gears, manuals, the newspapers which discuss them, the images and films which show them to me, my memories of them, and the novels which make me pass through them.

Page 118: (Jules) Verne is the first to have been able to put into words not only a real love of maps and prints, but also that disturbing feeling we may have had as children when we leaved through the manuals of physics, chemistry, and astronomy, poor ugly books, too hard for us. Full of new words undecipherable and promises.

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Truth is, Inventory/Essays By Michel Butor is a treasure par excellence. His exploration of diverse phenomena is 24 carat gold for your gray matter. Butor’s brainchild is also the ideal antidote for prime-time tabubulum. So scamper down to Sprague Library and get a good gander at Inventory/Essays By Michel Butor. It’s a cerebral compendium definitely worth taking stock of.
Not a film for the squeamish
by Erin Perry

Most people have an opinion on capital punishment. They are either for or against it, there is no middle ground. These are the people who have not seen Dead Man Walking, a film based on the autobiographical novel by Sister Helen Prejean. Written and directed by Tim Robbins, the movie delves into the Louisiana State Penitentiary and into the heart of the death penalty.

Sister Susan Sarandon plays Sister Helen Prejean, who is contacted by convicted murderer, Matthew Poncelet, (Sean Penn) by letter. After spending six years on death row, Poncelet reaches out to the sister as his last hope for help. He asks Prejean, because of his financial situation, to help get a lawyer for appeal or pardon Poncelet before he is executed. Poncelet claims that he was only a witness to the crime that left two teenagers brutally killed and raped, thus he should only serve a life sentence for being an accomplice.

Through their relationship and by a convincing character by Sean Penn, the audience is slowly faced to look at the humane side of a convicted murderer. Sister Prejean finds herself in a situation she has never dealt with before, as a spiritual advisor trying to find redemption for a condemned man. She enters the horrific life of a man, on death row, about to face lethal injection.

Susan Sarandon’s character is filled with empathy and internal struggles. Through her interaction with attorneys, priests, police officers, the governor, and the grieving families on both sides, Dead Man Walking creates the controversial depiction of capital punishment. Every aspect, whether pro or con, is represented by a stereotypical character. From the desensitized attitude of the police officer, whose job is to hold down the left leg, to the priest who advocates the Old Testament: an eye for an eye. From the political justifications of a governor up for re-election to the emotional turmoil created from the situation.

Dead Man Walking is not a film for the squeamish. It is graphic and violent, utilizing flashbacks to illustrate the murders and rapes of the two teenagers. It is honest in its descriptions and illustrations of capital punishment. The movie forces the audience to look at every aspect of the death penalty and makes you re-evaluate each one.

Boston in a nutshell
by Jodi Kaste

I love Reading Days. Though I’d love to tell all my professors that I devoted both days to studying their respective subjects, I didn’t. Instead I went to Boston with Al, my boyfriend. We had a blast and wished we could have stayed longer but reality called us back.

We stayed at a Cambridge House Bed and Breakfast Inn on Mass Ave. in Cambridge. It is absolutely beautiful. We spent the first two nights in a regular room and splurged on a deluxe room with a four-poster canopy bed, marble fireplace, and private bath. Every night from 5:30 to 8 p.m. the inn lays out a complimentary wine and cheese spread, complete with focaccia bread, crackers, cheeses, and fruit. The third night we splurged for the overpriced but beautiful room with a canopy bed, marble fireplace, and private bath. It was worth every penny. I’ve never felt so pampered.

Both Boston and Cambridge are thriving with cute little shops, book stores, clubs, restaurants, and historic points of interest.

We started in Cambridge, at Harvard Square. We roamed around Harvard’s spacious campus, walked through its three art museums (Busch-Reisinger, Fogg, and Sackler), and browsed the shops in the square.

The three galleries house some 150,000 works of art in their collections, including Klee, Kandinsky, Mondrian, Picasso, Toulouse-Lautrec, Cezanne, Monet, and Manet. We also saw Widener Library, one of the largest libraries in the country with 3.4 million books! It is only open to Harvard students, so we didn’t go in.

We ate dinner at Ristorante Marino in Cambridge. The restaurant boasts that only organically homegrown vegetables and meat without steroids are served. After dinner we tried to drive around Boston, but driving around the city at night is something I wouldn’t recommend. There are many one-way streets and confusing forks in the road. We were very lost for awhile, but at least the view of the city was good.

Sunday we tackled Boston, by “T” (the subway system) and in the rain. Taking the T is very easy and inexpensive. There are only four T lines: red, blue, green, and orange, that will take you anywhere in the city and its environs, and tokens only cost 85 cents.

We had planned on walking the Freedom Trail, hitting all the major historic sights, and eating lunch at Cheers, and weren’t going to let the rain ruin our plans. But about a half hour into the trail we decided to take a trolley tour instead. John our hilarious driver/ tour guide on the white trolley showed us all the major sights and then some, giving facts, anecdotes, and bits of his own personal wisdom throughout.

We received a brief look at a number of sights including, The Granary Burying Ground, the Old and New State Houses, the Old South Meeting House, the sight of the Boston Massacre, Faneuil Hall, The Paul Revere House, Old North Church, USS Constitution, the Bunker Hill Monument, and the sight of the Boston Tea Party. The trolley cost almost $20 each, but it was well worth the complete and dry tour we received.

We ate lunch at Faneuil Hall, in the marketplace, which includes three different market halls: Quincy, North, and South. Each features various specialty shops and food booths.

The shops sell everything-jewelry, wool sweaters, candles, arts and crafts, personalized clothing, incense, leather goods—anything you can imagine. The food court offers many different types of food: Chinese, Italian, Greek, Cajun, and specialty each better than the one before it.

Boston was great and I can’t wait to go back. It has everything that’s great about New York, but none of the bad. It is cleaner, friendlier, cheaper, has an easier subway system, and more historical sights. Educational, fun, cheap, and safe.
Calle's appeal to SGA E-Board called "nonsense"

As an Alumnus of LASO, from time to time the membership makes me aware of the many things that are happening at MSU, particularly the innovative changes at the campus. This week they provided me with a copy of the Montclarion, where I was upset to see a stupid comment by Mr. Calle. He seems to be envisioning the philosophy of the Republican party, and has decided that a solution to his money saving problem is to compact and merge two of the most important cultural organizations at MSU into one and save "his money." This is the same nonsense that has been holding us up as a society, and most people still don't understand these cultural groups, which make up the greater portion of the minority population of our society. I strongly suggest this young man take a couple of courses in our history starting in or around the 50's to the present, in order for him to understand why these organizations need to stand on their own, and not be merged into a multicultural organization.

While other colleges are celebrating culture, diversity, history, and human relations, individuals like Mr. Calle spend their time minimizing the reality that these two cultural organizations make a significant contribution to our campuses, schools, community, and country at large, but still are underrepresented. Look at the history of what LASO, and OSAU have contributed to MSU, read up some of the Montclarions from the 70's and 80's, and he will realize that MSU would not have the quality of culture that it has if they had not existed.

Jose M. Gonzalez, Class of '87
Former LASO member
Founding Brother of Lambda Sigma Upsilon, 1984

Ash Wednesday's message of renewal

Next Wednesday, a unique ritual will occur. Hundreds of people will show up around campus with blackened smears, resembling crosses, on their foreheads. The usual intelligent remarks will be heard such as: "Hey, you forgot to wash your face today?" or "Did you fall asleep in an ash tray?" Let's look at the reason behind the ritual of Ash Wednesday.

When people needed to change their lives around, the Torah recounts that prophets would stand up in their midst and announce the need for a change of heart. Often the messenger was killed because of the message. Sometimes, such as in Jonah 3: 1-10, a city or nation listened to the call of reform and set their lives in order. The outward sign of conversion was to take off the fine garments, put on coarse burlap, and sit in public covered with cinders. The outer dirt was only a symbol without power unless the inner change followed. The preaching of Jonah caused both the great and the lowly to turn back to Yahweh who did not curse, but blessed them and spared the great city of Nineveh.

Those who choose to wear ashes on February 21 will approach those imposing the ashes and say: "This Lent, I promise to turn away from my sins and live more faithfully in the message of the Gospel." Ashes are not just a reminder of mortality (ashes to ashes, dust to dust), but a truly a call to Christian responsibility.

The call to responsibility is seen in Matthew 6:18 when Jesus declares: "When you fast, you are to groan your hair and wash your face. In this way no one can see you are fasting but your Father who is hidden." Rather than going against the words of scripture, we are uniting publicly for one day to start our Lenten journey for the remaining 40 days.

Where do ashes come from? They are made by burning the dried Palm branches from Palm Sunday day 1995. This action reminds us of how quickly our good intentions slacken off. The crowd that waved branches with cries of 'Hosanna to the King' were among the first to yell "Crucify Him!" a few days later. The opportunity to renew our efforts is the positive spirit of Lent. Catholics are often accused at trying to "work out" their salvation. Ash Wednesday is one of the many ways we acknowledge we are "being saved" and rejoice in Jesus' forgiving love.

Early Christians used the legendary Phoenix as a symbol for Jesus Christ. The majestic bird rose from ashes to soar to new heights. Thus did Jesus rise from death to give us new life in Him. Ashes can be seen as the first step in a growth process.

Those who display ashes outwardly for one day are called to inner renewal in Christ to lives of faith, honesty, truth, charity, good words, respect, equality, justice, patience, love, and joy. To take ashes with any other intention is to create for yourself a second Halloween.

A smeared forehead next week is no laughing matter. It means that someone is attempting to grow, to renew, and to change. Be glad for them. Think of it in terms of a quote seen so often on bulletin boards: "Be patient: God is not finished with me yet!"

Father Art Humphrey, Catholic Campus Minister
Chair, Campus Ministry Council

February 19

After working through seven months who need the Council of New Jersey State CTEC strike on February 29th. If the strike onions a f should be left intact. But if the state ministers teachers, there may be problems.

The state's current offer to the teachers utilizes increases for the next two. This amount to a possibly four, as years three and four on contract respectively. But even these last two don't help inflation.

The state also includes a system that inflate raises with a mini-increment around 2.5% per year. Of which will engender a disastrous compulsion to curry favor with those who decide on teaching.

Perhaps most insidious is the proposed limit designed to allow the schools to hire higher. I purposes at a salary range far beyond usual academic showpieces who would teach rates at that go to pay the majority of professors who teach those funds come from our tuitions.

The teachers aren't really asking for much. They sue inflation, and they want to keep the same health last 20 years.

The state may be asking for provisions in may cations, our teachers, and the future of alma mater's union tells us.

We haven't heard much from the state mediator like them to be as forthcoming as the teaching information when it seems likely that the educati
Concerned student calls for action on epidemic of car theft

As a Second Career Student I have become dissatisfied with our campus security. Cars are being professionally stolen from the student parking lots with absolute precision and ease. Last Tuesday a neighbor and student acquaintance of mine had his automobile stolen, even with the use of "the Club." This security device is no longer a deterrent to "professional trespassing thieves at MSU. Why? Because our campus police are negligent and unqualified in their security duties. Let it be known that it only takes 6-seconds to remove "The Club" from the steering column of your automobile.

This past week alone, I am told that a total of eight automobiles have been stolen. I am calling upon all students to go to their SGA representatives to demand that security gate houses be constructed at all major entrances. All students should be supplied with entrance passes.

If the faculty of this University is entitled to this luxury, then we, the students, deserve the same equal consideration. This is no time to remain silent. It is time to speak out. Automobiles are one of our most expensive assets and should not be ignored. How is it that professionally able thieves are allowed to infiltrate our parking lots without being detected by campus police? There is something severely wrong going on here, and the students must figure it out for themselves.

I invite both the President of the Student Government Association and the Montclarion Editor to contact me by E-mail. I would like to offer a proposed plan that will not go unnoticed. Such a plan will require investigative research.

K. Demarest
DemarestK@alpha.montclair.edu

Montclarion teacher survey: Wilcox voices reservations

I support the concept of students providing evaluations of professors and of providing such information in summary form to other students. Many colleges do this and a large body of research has been accumulated on the "do's and don't's" of such evaluations.

I do have a problem with some of the questions on the proposed Montclarion survey form. For example, two of the ten questions imply that the easier the material and the lighter the workload the better. I do not agree. Another rates the relevance of the material, which is about the course - not the faculty member. None of the questions ask about how much was learned which, after all, should be what distinguishes good professors.

I applaud the Montclarion for their efforts to provide students with relevant information about professors and I encourage them to do this at least every two years.

Lee Wilcox
Vice President for Student Development and Campus Life

E-mail the Montclarion staff!

You can now send your comments and suggestions to the Montclarion staff via e-mail. All accounts are on alpha@montclair.edu.

News: MathisonK
Editorial: NavettaJ
Sports: CzechowiczR
Life: DuncanE
Arts: CaldesV
Humour: OsullivanJ
Rubino
by Michael Rubin

With the Republican primaries in full swing, much attention has been given to tax cut proposals, particularly the flat tax. Do I think we'll see a flat tax anytime soon? No way. Would I want to see a flat tax? I do not know. But I do know that it's worth the debate. And whether we implement a flat tax or simply reduce marginal tax rates, we must do something. Something to spur the economy. Something to increase jobs and, hence, increase the revenue base. Something to give us the right to keep more of our hard-earned dollars and give us incentives to save and invest. So then, let us debate the flat tax.

There are a couple of unequivocal facts that represent the current tax structure. One, as noted in The Wall Street Journal, is the system's "bias against savings." Returns on savings are taxed repeatedly. All income is taxed at the time it is earned. But if an individual buys stock, that income is taxed twice - once at the time of earning and again when the stock generates a return. And if a stock is sold for profit, it is taxed a third time on capital gains. This makes saving and investing much less attractive.

Second, we currently have ridiculously high marginal tax rates. Today the average American's marginal rate for federal, state, and local governments is 48 percent. According to the Office of Management and Budget, the average family spends more on taxes than on food, clothing, and shelter combined. In addition, all the income of every American's earnings from January 1 to July 10 is not spent on themselves or their families, but instead given to the government.

Advantages to a flat tax appear to be many. First, and perhaps most acknowledged, is the alleged simplicity of a flat tax. Federal income taxes would literally be completed within minutes and done so on a form the size of a postcard. Second is the overall fairness of a flat tax. Everyone would pay the same rate, yet there is progressivity due to generous family allowances. Third, is its ability to force politicians to spend less, aiding in deficit neutrality, if not a flat-out reduction. Fourth is that it would lower top marginal rates from 39.6 percent to 17 percent and lower the average rate from 28 percent to 17 percent.

Steve Forbes has helped give the flat tax attention, but he is actually running on the flat tax model of House Majority Leader Dick Armey (R-Texas). The flat tax would ostensibly reward investment by permitting businesses to deduct all expenses. The result would be increased production, employment, and wages. The same effects of increased economic growth occurred in the 20's, the 60's, and the 80's, all decades that saw a reduction in tax rates.

As in the 80's, reduced marginal rates would generate more revenue, booming the economy and causing the tax base to grow. More people would be paying taxes, but all at lower tax rates. Because the increased revenue would take time to develop, Rep. Armey proposes a 20 percent flat tax rate for the first two years before moving to a 17 percent rate. The idea here is that supermajority vote (3/5 in the House and Senate) would be required to increase the flat rate, restore tax loopholes, or lower the family exemption.

Maybe the flat tax just sounds good on paper. But if the flat tax is not the answer, then reducing marginal rates is imperative. The naysayers who denounce tax cuts as a decrease in revenue and an increase in the deficit should heed the knowledge of Milton Friedman, who said, "The real rate of taxation is the rate of spending." A simple message for Washington: cut taxes and cut spending!

Native American
by Joseph Paternoster

February 6th was President Ronald Reagan's eighty-fifth birthday. Aside from causing many people to reflect on the economic boom of the 1980s, it also recalled the last time that America had a real president with a positive message for the country. The Republican candidates would do well to remember President Reagan's Eleventh Commandment which stated that "A Republican shall never speak ill of another Republican."

In 1980, President Reagan lost the Iowa Caucus to George Bush. In his autobiography, President Reagan stated that he was glad that he had lost in Iowa because it "fired me up" and made him refocus on his goal. During this entire time, however, there was very little, if any, negative advertising used by the President. This is a sharp contrast from the current Republican primaries. Political cannibalism seems to be the strategy of today's Republican presidential hopefuls. In Iowa, saturating the airwaves with negative advertising was the plan this year, and it backfired miserably. Of 1.5 million eligible voters, just under 100,000 turned out on Monday, the lowest total in over twelve years. Prior to the voting one Iowa Republican summed it up by saying, "It's all been 'don't vote for him' so far, and I don't like that."

After noticing that his standing in the polls was dropping, Steve Forbes lashed out at Bob Dole and Patrick Buchanan, accusing them of placing negative phone calls about him. This is after Forbes spent millions of dollars solely on negative ads in Iowa. Mr. Forbes was the leader of the mud slinging pack, and it showed in the polls. He dropped from second to finish a disappointing fourth.

The rest of the GOP contenders are not without blame either, however. All of the major candidates, from Dole to Alexander, have denounced the flat tax. Federal income taxes would literally be completed within minutes and done so on a form the size of a postcard. Second is the overall fairness of a flat tax. Everyone would pay the same rate, yet there is progressivity due to generous family allowances. Third, is its ability to force politicians to spend less, aiding in deficit neutrality, if not a flat-out reduction. Fourth is that it would lower top marginal rates from 39.6 percent to 17 percent and lower the average rate from 28 percent to 17 percent.

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Flat tax proposals send messages to Washington on voters' needs

Republican candidates must outline their visions to succeed in 1996 race

"It's not that our liberal friends are wrong, it's just that they know so much that isn't so." - Ronald Reagan
IRA's terrorism is sad and cowardly

On the lighter side of...elections

The New Hampshire primary will be held next week. With the plethora of GOP candidates, the future of the campaign trail holds endless possibilities. However, this primary is considered to be a defining point for the candidates.

Members of the Montclarion editorial board and staff have offered their predictions for the race:

- **Jean-Marc Navette, Editorial Director**
  Bob Dole, Steve Forbes, and Pat Buchanan. In the end, people will go for Dole's experience over Forbes' flat tax.

- **Tom Tracy, Managing Editor**
  Krusty the Clown, Bob Dole (because people love dunk or sourpusses like him), Pat Buchanan (since America is going to hell in a handbasket), and Steve Forbes (although his freaky grin scares me.)

- **Anthony R. O'Connell, Editor-in-Chief**
  The winner of the New Hampshire Primary always goes on to win the nomination, so it's hard to imagine a refreshing outsider beating the Doleful One.

- **Raj Ricci, Assistant Editorial Editor**
  Bob Dole will falter after a slim victory in New Hampshire. Steve Forbes' flat tax is a transparent campaign gimmick. Buchanan doesn't play well in the big cities. So I'm going out on a limb and predicting Lamar Alexander. He's young, smart, and once he takes off that blasted red flannel shirt he may be the candidate with enough ideas and vision to compete with Clinton.

- **Mark Lee, Editorial Columnist**
  Bob Dole, Pat Buchanan, and Steve Forbes. Bob Dole is going to be the next President of the United States.

- **Michael Reeser, Treasurer**
  Bob Dole, Pat Buchanan, and Lamar Alexander.

- **Victoria Linder, Arts Editor**
  Steve Forbes. I think that he's the youngest, and after Reagan, I want someone young as a candidate.

- **Amy Dodge, Assistant Campus Life Editor**
  Bob Dole. I'm politically unaware. Sorry.

- **Nick Guevara, Sports Editor**
  Bob Dole. He'll get the nomination, but he'll lose to Clinton in the election... If it were any other year he'd be OK, but not this time against Clinton.
Humour, Notional Freezer Cleaning Day

FIRST –

STPLIEBXCUQNJD
YZWTQNKHLDAXURP
MLIETJANJGD
XVSDQNIUOCNKI
FDAMNOSAVTDQOM
JHFCAAIYWEURPN
LJHMHFTMFD&BDZX
VRTQAEIYRORQOFL
MKHFTDEBREZYW
VRTQOAEMANNESAB
LKHRLDFCAZXWVU

Find the listed words in the diagram. They run in all directions-forward, backward, up, down and diagonally.

The official Crossword Puzzle of National Freezer Cleaning Day!

MONTCLARION
Flourder of the Absurd.

by John J. O'Sullivan

Well, February 15th is National Clean Your Freezer Out Day, and I hope that all of you out there are having a great National Clean Your Freezer Out Day by cleaning your freezers. Since it is National Clean Your Freezer Out Day, you shouldn't be focusing on your oven, coffee machine, or even chainsaws, but on your freezers since that is what National Clean Your Freezer Out Day is all about. Duh. To clean any other appliance would just be silly. At any rate, we here at the Humour section feel that all of you would like to hear a story to spur you on, about the typical stuff.

When I was at the Montclarion laying out the section that you are all seeing and loving Sunday night, the folks that I live with, and consequently share my Atari 2600 with, decided that they wanted to celebrate National Clean Your Freezer Out Day early, by cleaning out the house freezer. When they did clean the freezer out, they found quite a bit of frozen food. They then went downstairs and after the kids played, they looked at its molecular composition under an electron microscope; they even tried it on. Obviously, the kids were some markings on the tin foil, in some cryptic bastardization of the English language. In the crude language that some ancient person must have used to describe this frozen anomaly said the following word: FLOURDER (we figured that it was pronounced “fer der”)

FLOURDER!!! WHAT THE HELL IS FLOURDER? All that they knew was that it was hard as a boulder, and smelled something terrible. When they unwrapped the tin foil, and took a sniff of this flourder, it smelled as if that it might have been the excrement of some extinct dinosaur, nicely wrapped up in tin foil to make it look cheerful. One of the guys lost their grip on the flourder, and consequently broke his foot. It is, perhaps, one of the hardest substances that was ever formed on the surface of this planet. They subjected it to various different tests, looked at its molecular composition under an electron microscope; they even tried it on. Obviously, the kids, to see if it might be some ancient toy, not unlike Slinky™. It wasn't. It just thudded down the damn stairs, turning our staircase into a hole filled deathtrap. When I finally got home from MSU, we tried playing hockey with it, and it broke all of our sticks. Crap. We finally felt defeated, and we put the flourder back in the freezer where we found it, sulking with sad, tired eyes. The astrophysicists went deep, deep, deep into the woods, and smelled something terrible. When they got home from MSU, we tried playing hockey with it, and it broke all of our sticks. When I finally got home from MSU, we tried playing hockey with it, and it broke all of our sticks. We never knew what the hell flourder is. Here it is, the Flourder™ Song:

The Flourder Song (sung to the tune of the Slinky™ Theme Song)

It rolls downstairs and under chairs
It just broke the paper boy's foot
It's probably fake, it's right by the bake
Everyone knows it's flourder!

It's flourder, it's flourder
It's smelly, it's slimy, it's gross
It's flourder, it's flourder
It hangs out right next to the roast

It ain't no fruit, nor meat substitute
But it still can hold open a door
It'll break a tooth, throw it right off the roof
Everyone knows it's flourder!

It's flourder, it's flourder
e it smells like my dead pet fish Fred
It's flourder, it's flourder
Trust me, it's worse than we said.

(Written by David “Uncle Bob” Cozzi, Alfred Richard Bron, John Jeremiah “Yes, Jeremiah is my real middle name” O'Sullivan, and Geoff “Lumpy” Campitellis.)

Well, have a happy NCYFO Day, and save some Flourder™ for me; I need a new anchor for my inflatable canoe!

By the Way...

Remember to separate your frozen food garbage from your normal garbage. The frozen foods are more organized, and may rally the normal garbage to rebellion. And let me tell you, it is certainly not a very pretty sight seeing coffee grinds beat up your cat.

The Answers!

CULTURAL INOCITY QUIZ ANSWERS

1. MCROWDER
2. DANGER
3. INFECTIONS WASTE
4. CULTURAL INOCITY
5. 1001
6. 2020
7. FLOURDER
8. ENDER

To decipher, replace each number with its corresponding letter in the alphabet (i.e. A = 1, B = 2, etc.)
FINANCIAL AID INFORMATION 1996-97

FILING DEADLINE: MARCH 1, 1996

IT'S NEW! - THE RENEWAL APPLICATION

If you filed a free application for federal student aid (FAFSA) for the 1995-96 Academic Year, you should have received a new Kind of federal student aid application - The Renewal Free Application for Federal Student Aid, designed to simplify the application process for 1996-97. The new form will allow you to update only that information which may have changed rather than require you to fill out a whole new Application.

WHAT DOES THE RENEWAL APPLICATION LOOK LIKE?
The Renewal Application looks a lot like the 1995-96 Student Aid Report (SAR) you received this year, but it will be printed on white paper. It will also include an instruction booklet and envelope for mailing it back to the processor.

NOW THAT'S IT'S HERE, WHAT DO I DO WITH THE RENEWAL APPLICATION?
Essentially, you treat it like a new 1996-97 FAFSA. Carefully follow the instruction for completion, change those items which need updating, and leave the others as they are.

WHEN CAN I SUBMIT THE RENEWAL APPLICATION TO THE PROCESSOR?
Just like an original FAFSA, you may file this form anytime after January 1, 1996. All students must file the Renewal Application by March 1, 1996 to ensure compliance with our deadline.

WHAT IF I DIDN'T RECEIVE A RENEWAL APPLICATION BEFORE JANUARY 1, 1996?
Not to worry! If you have not received a renewal application by the end of the holiday break, come by the Financial Aid Office and pick up a regular 1996-97 FAFSA. The same applies if you misplace the one sent to you. Duplicate renewal applications are not available. The processor will accept either form. However, Don't send both in- just submit one or the other by the priority deadline date.

WHAT IF I DID NOT APPLY FOR FINANCIAL AID IN 1995-96 BUT WANT TO APPLY FOR AID IN 1996-97?
Come to the Financial Aid Office in Co-321 of College Hall, pick up a 1996-97 FAFSA and instruction sheet. Be certain to complete and file the FAFSA by March 1, 1996.

SPECIAL NOTE FOR GRADUATE STUDENTS
Proceed as described above and submit the “Institutional Application For graduate Student Financial Aid - Academic year 1996-97” by March 1, 1996. This form is available in the Financial Aid Office, College Hall, Room Co-321.

FILE THE FAFSA ON OR BEFORE MARCH 1, 1996

Applicants who fail to submit the FAFSA by the deadline date are not guaranteed award notification for Fall 1996 billing (about July 7, 1996) and must be prepared to pay the term bill in full from personal resources.
**Classifieds...**

**Cruise ships hiring...**


N/S Student needed for 2 yr. old girl & 6 yr. old boy, Mon. & Wed. 10am-1:00 & some evenings. Must be dog friendly. Experience and references needed. Call 744-8348.

Part-time Telemarketing. Seeking enthusiastic people to work 9-1 or 4-8. Flex. days. Ideal for students. 88-12 p/hr.

Student Wanted for after-school care (2:30-5:50) for our 9 year old son in our Montclair home. References and own transportation required. Call 744-1055.

To place a Classified Ad, please call 655-5237. The cost per week is $10 for 25 to 30 words. $20 per week for 30 words or more.

**HERE, FUN IS SERIOUS BUSINESS!**

Six Flags Great Adventure, the Northeast's premiere Theme Park, has the following opportunities available:

**MARKET RESEARCH INTERVIEWERS**

To qualify, you must have good communication skills to survey Guests in the Park.

**GUEST SERVICES REPRESENTATIVES**

Excellent interpersonal skills are required to work in our in-park Guest Services office.

**We offer:**
- • Up to $6.80/Hour
- • A Variety of Full Time Seasonal Shifts
- • Merchandise Discounts
- • Extensive Training Program

For immediate consideration, please fax your resume or apply in person, Monday-Saturday, 9am-5pm, at the Six Flags Great Adventure Human Resources Employment Center, Route 237, Jackson, NJ; Fax attn: S.B. at (908) 928-9395. (You must fax your resume or apply in person by March 1). Equal Opportunity Employer.

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**Personals**

WE LOVE BOB THE GUY. I WANT TO CLIMB ON YOUR BACK AGAIN. LOVE, YOUR SEX SLAVE

BEC (AIK), SCROLL TO 1-800-426-7710.

**TO THE PHONE PRANKSTERS OF THE 50'S AGAIN?**

TO THE PHONE PRANKSTERS OF THE 10th FLOOR WHOEVER: YEAH, I'M GONNA CALL UP YOU GUYS AND GET YOU BACK.

TO THE PHONE PRANKSTERS OF THE 14th FLOOR, WHOEVER: YOU GUYS ARE OUT OF CONTROL, BUT IT'S ALL GOOD.-LOVE, THE LOUD BUNCH

TO OUR R.A. AND A.R.A.: YOU GUYS ARE THE BEST. LOVE, THE LOUD BUNCH

TO (COACH) KIM, WE LOVE YOU. THANK YOU FOR YOUR DEDICATION.-LOVE, M.E. DANCE TEAM

TO THE MSU DANCE TEAM, ARE THE BEST KNOW WHO TO CALL YOU GIRLS IF YOU EVER NEED MEATBALLS, YOU KNOW WHO TO CALL YOU GIRLS.-LOVE, MSU DANCE TEAM

TO (COACH) KIM, WE LOVE YOU. THANK YOU FOR YOUR DEDICATION.-LOVE, THE LOUD BUNCH

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TO THE PHONE PRANKSTERS OF THE 14th FLOOR, WHOEVER: YOU GUYS ARE OUT OF CONTROL, BUT IT'S ALL GOOD.-LOVE, THE LOUD BUNCH
EATING DISORDERS
WORKSHOP

FEBRUARY 26, 1996

12:00-2:00 PM

STUDENT CENTER ROOM 419

JOIN US FOR A PANEL DISCUSSION AND SCREENING.
COUNSELORS WILL BE AVAILABLE FOR CONSULTATION.

CO-SPONSORED BY:

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The Wellspring Program
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• COPY EDITORS
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THESE ARE JUST A FEW OF THE MANY POSITIONS STILL AVAILABLE.

CALL X 5169 AND LEAVE MESSAGE OR STOP BY ROOM 113 STUDENT CENTER ANNEX.

*The Montclarion is a Class 1 Organization of the SGA, Inc.*
MSU wins swimming championships

Over the weekend, the Montclair State University women's swimming team had an extremely strong showing at the Division 3 Metropolitan Swimming Championships at Kings Point, NY. MSU came away with a first-place team finish, as well as numerous individual accolades.

Maureen Morlando, who was named the top senior swimmer, won three individual events (the 1650, the 500, and the 200-yard freestyle). Also winning three events was the meet's most outstanding competitor, Karen Currie. She won the 100-yard butterfly, the 200 backstroke and the 200 IM. MSU beat out William Paterson by a score of 488-370.

Jen Melsch, who won the 200-yard butterfly, captured Rookie of the Year honors. Brian McLaughlin was named Coach of the Year to round out a great season for the MSU women's swim team.

Wrestling has up and down week

Last Thursday, the wrestling team participated in the ESU/Kean Tri-Match in which MSU won one and dropped another.

In the first match, MSU faced off with Kean as they notched a 40-16 victory to lift their overall record to 6-9, while Kean dropped to 2-15. Chris Rea (Weehawken) and Barret Ceretto (West Creek) continued to shine for the Red Hawks, as Rea pinned Aaron Davis of Kean in 2:55 at the Metropolitan Championships at Kings Point, NY. MSU came away with a first-place team finish, as well as numerous individual awards.

Karen Currie, who was named the top senior swimmer, won three individual events (the 1650, the 500, and the 200-yard freestyle). Also winning three events was the meet's most outstanding competitor, Karen Currie. She won the 100-yard butterfly, the 200 backstroke and the 200 IM. MSU beat out William Paterson by a score of 488-370.

Jen Melsch, who won the 200-yard butterfly, captured Rookie of the Year honors. Brian McLaughlin was named Coach of the Year to round out a great season for the MSU women's swim team.

What a week for sports fans! It was filled with questions, answers, and awards.

First, the questions. Should Shaquille O'Neal have been awarded the MVP of the All-Star Game over Michael Jordan? Many say yes, including myself. Yeah, Jordan had a great game, but he sat almost the whole fourth quarter. Now, all of us basketball fans know that the first three quarters of an all-star game is all show, and it's the fourth quarter that really counts. Shaq was a pivotal force in the fourth, and did you see when he dunked on hometown boy David Robinson? He gave him a facial, he threw it down his throat, he gave him a taste of Shaq Fu. In other words, it was nice.

Next, the answers. Yes, Tommy Morrison is HIV positive. It is a shame that his boxing career will be over. Let me see, Morrison is a big guy. Probably got a good jumper. Hey, Willis Reed, if you're reading (he likes the Montclarion), sign him up! If Magic can play, so can Tommy. Finally, the awards. More precisely, the Espys. Or is it Espieys? Well, whatever. I like the Espieys. They're a chance for us sports fans to sit back and watch as our favorite overpaid athletes get another ego boost. At least the Espieys are funny. Well, everyone but Tony Danza.

In my opinion, ESPN has the best sportscasters in the business. They have so many great catch phrases. Such as: Robert Goulet-up, to be used when a basketball player makes a lay-up. Jumanji, to be used when something exciting or good happens. Ohhhhhhh, Webber, to be used when Chris Webber does something good (that one was kind of self-explanatory). Back, back, back, back, back, back, back, back, back, back, back, back, Game, to be used when a baseball is hit back, back, back, back, back, back, back, back, back, back, and then goes over the fence. And now my personal favorite, En Fuego, to be used when a player is making all of his shots.

I hope you enjoyed my little lesson on ESPN catch phrases. I play on the playground, and swing on the monkey bars.

Shaq got ripped; at least the ESPY's were cool

by Bob "Jumanji" Czechowicz

Red Hawk Sports Week

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At Rutgers-Camden 4:00 p.m.

At Rutgers-Camden 2:00 p.m.

Metropolitans TBA

Men's Metropolitan Championships at Trenton State College

CTC. Championships at Southern Connecticut, CT

NJAC Play-Offs TBA
MSU bows to Rowan 88-62

_by Nick Gantalos_

The women’s basketball team dropped their fourth conference game last Saturday to unbeaten Rowan College 88-62 in Glassboro. The victory for Rowan was the one they needed as they clinched the No. 1 seed in the New Jersey Athletic Conference women’s basketball tournament.

Takiyah Bowen led the way for the Profs behind her 21 point performance, scoring four points during a 9-0 run that gave Rowan a comfortable 10 point lead 19-9. During the second half, Rowan’s lead was extended to 33 points, which enabled Rowan to improve their overall record to 22-0 overall and 16-0 in the NJAC.

Besides Bowen’s scoring performance, she grabbed nine rebounds, while teammates Jen Denby contributed with 17 points, 13 rebounds and six steals and Sharon Laddey added 15 points. Leading the way for the Red Hawks was Heidi Klingert (Linwood) and Aidil Borrero who both poured in 16 points apiece.

At halftime, the Red Hawks trailed by 14 as they were down 44-30. Senior center Kim Kowar (Hazel), who has been contributing strongly all season long, scored only 5 points as she scored only 4 points from the field. As a team, Rowan hit 34 field goals from the floor, including one 3-pointer and 17 points from the free throw line. MSU connected on 20 field goals, two 3-pointers, and 16 points from the charity line.

Coming up for the Red Hawks is Rutgers-Camden this Saturday at 2:00 PM. Next Wednesday begins the NJAC Play-Offs. Currently the Red Hawks are in fourth place in the NJAC as they trail Trenton State and WPC by one game. MSU’s final two games of the season could be crucial when final NJAC basketball standings are released. If the Red Hawks play the way they have all season long, winning their final games and getting a high seed come tournament time should be no problem.

Not enough firepower for Men’s hoops vs. Rowan

_by Bob Czechowicz_

Last Saturday the MSU men’s basketball team took on the powerful Profs of Rowan, and came out on the down side of a 110-81 game. Rowan had their own Marist High connection as senior guard Antwan Dasher scored 20 points with 3 three-pointers, and former Marist High teammate Roscoe Harris scored 20 for Rowan (19-3, 14-2 NJAC).

MSU was in the game in the first half as Rowan led 18-16 with 12:10 remaining, when Rowan went on an 8-0 run, and they never looked back. Rowan led 49-32 at the half.

The loss gave MSU an overall 14-8 record, and an NJAC record of 5-11. The Red Hawks were led by Rohan Sutherland’s 19 points and six rebounds. Richard Rivera, a big contributor as of late, came up big scoring 15 points. Another contributor for the Red Hawks was Andrew Weinman, who scored 11 points. MSU had four three-pointers on the game, one from Pauldo, one from Sutherland, one from Weips and one from Anderson. Rowan had 11 threes on the game, which may have been a considerable factor in the loss. Next up for the Red Hawks will be Rutgers-Camden, a game the Red Hawks should win considering Rutgers-Camden has the longest losing streak in the country.

The game is on Saturday at 4:00 PM at Rutgers-Camden. On the 22nd, the NJAC playoffs begin.