Tuition Hike Debated for Fiscal Year 2001

By Ricardo Lora, Jr
Special to The Montclarion

A tuition increase for the fiscal year 2001 was discussed at the April 6 Board of Trustees meeting, but the amount of increase remains undetermined.

The rate of tuition is a yearly issue. The BOT is yet to decide on the dollar amount or percentage they might have to raise tuition, but a possible 10 percent increase was being discussed.

The BOT stated faculty salaries and maintenance of infrastructure are some of the reasons for the tuition hike.

"[Approximately] $2.2 million would be needed to cover an unfunded salary increase," President Cole said.

According to the New Fiscal Year 2001 Expenditures report, MSU must cover $2.2 million unfunded salary increases; $843,600 to fund debt services related to MSU Capital Infrastructure, as well as $1.4 million to begin construction for the new academic building that will house the College of Education and Human Services, and a new computer technology hub.

To offset the rise in tuition, the BOT is contemplating the introduction of a flat rate like William Paterson University and other NJ schools. A flat rate allows undergraduate students to take up to 18 credits without a surcharge and pay for tuition for 12. If MSU adopted this policy, it would be instituted in Fall 2002.

Unlike prior meetings, the BOT was aiming to encourage students to speak out on the topic of tuition, a more meaningful opportunity for people to give input, said President Cole.

Maintenance of heating and air conditioning is needed and computers need replacing, Harry Schuckel, Vice President of Budget, Planning, Information Technology, said.

The amount of money allotted to MSU by the state is at a fixed rate. Only 37 percent of the tuition, a more meaningful opportunity for people to give input, said President Cole.

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NEWS

Trenton- Republican Senate President Donald T. DiFrancesco wants New Jersey to the lead on the issue of gun control with a bill that would require the sales of only personalized "smart guns" within three years after the first reliable one hits the market anywhere in the United States.

Freehold- Three Hunterdon County Freeholders turned down a proposal for a $3.6 million budget for a Hunterdon County Polytechnic.

Newark- The Newark planning board is expected to vote Wednesday to decide whether to clear the way for the destruction of properties on a 40-acre site for a possible downtown sports arena.

Montclair- Montclair police have reported the spotting of sati, semiautomatics and a Thompson submachine gun. These are just a few of the counted 800 weapons that have been turned in during the past three years this town has been purchasing backlog.

Penmberton Township- A proposal to build a new Acme shopping plaza passed its final municipal hurdle.

Trenton- A biographer in a state police uniform played "Amazing Grace" while a service at St. Mary's Cathedral persisted in commemoration of a fellow officer.

Compiled from njo.com by Christina Spatz

National News

The Oakland Tribune reported that they have made a mistake in a story.

Compiled from cnn.com by Christina Spatz

INTERNATIONAL NEWS

Jerusalem- Prime Minister Ehud Barak downplayed hopes for a breakthrough that could reunite Jerusalem peace summit in North Korea.

Lima, Peru- Peruvian President Alberto Fujimori was in the lead for the national elections on Monday. However, sources say Fujimori's margin of victory may not keep him at a runoff with challenger Alejandro Toledo.

Harare, Zimbabwe- Zimbabwe's white farmers prepared for the possibility of further invasions as the Commercial Farmers Union went back for a second court date in an attempt to force land invasions, black war veterans off more than 800 occupied farms.

An Appeal for the Presidency

The Montclarion's recent editorial board elections, it should have read that Mike Sanchez is undeclared and Carolyn Velchik, 21, is not a Journalist minor.

Compiled from cnn.com by Christina Spatz

For the Record

In an article on The Montclarion's recent editorial board elections, it should have read that Mike Sanchez is undeclared and Carolyn Velchik, 21, is not a Journalist minor.

THE MONTCLARION

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National News

Miami- United States officials announced that they will legally transfer custody of six-year-old Elisa Gonzales from the temporary state with his Miami relatives over to his father in Cuba sometime this week.

Cleveland- Eight people will have to decide this week whether Dr. Sam Sheppard is an innocent man wrongly accused of his wife's 1954 battery murder or a cheating wife and four supervisors at a fire station in 1996, in a Mississippi prison of natural causes.

Los Indios, Texas- The slain body of a Mexican journalist was discovered dumped across the border in Texas. Federal agents continue to investigate.

Washington- The United States military, whose 37,000 troops are stationed in Southern Korea peninsular, said Monday it praised the announcement that South Korea and North Korea will hold a summit in June.

Naples, Florida- A wind-driven fire that burned down 13,000 acres of land near Big Cypress Swamp, and destroyed three houses.

Compiled from cnn.com by Christina Spatz

END
Arming of University Police Still Simmering on Campus

By Jef Thompson
Staff Writer

The issue of arming campus police with guns continues to be debated on campus with numerous open forums and discussions. Students are expected to voice their opinion on the issue when a referendum is issued by the SGA, said Vice-President Kazimir.

The SGA has not yet written the bill that would put the issue up for a referendum vote. Because the bill remains unwritten, it is unlikely that the referendum question will appear in next week’s SGA elections.

Kazimir said the SGA has not specified whether they support President Susan Cole’s proposal because they are waiting to find out the public opinion of the students from the referendum vote. The vote will most likely occur before the end of the term. Students will be able to vote over the Internet, said Kazimir.

Director of University Police and Security Department, Phillip Calibre, recently sent a letter to The Montclarion (which will run in next week’s issue) responding to some misconceptions he has perceived in the course of the debate. The letter states that there has been documentation of criminal acts involving weapons on campus and that the University Police have had “to respond to these calls without proper protection.”

In some of the incidents, it was necessary for the University Police to call for assistance from police in surrounding communities. He also states that University Police are fully trained by County Police Academies that are controlled by the Police Training Commission.

Information sessions and open forums were held yesterday, and there is one being held today from 2-4 p.m. in Student Center 411. Today’s session is an open forum that is being sponsored by the SGA and The Unity Collaboration from the Dean of Students Department. Presenters include SGA President John Griffin and Director Calibre. Kazimir has also said that the SGA is planning a speak-out in the dorms.

MSU National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP) president, Chris Mitchell said his organization opposes the idea of arming campus police. They have made it a point to have presenters in every open forum. The NAACP is planning to write a letter to President Cole stating their position. They are trying to work with other organizations in writing the letter to Cole.

Freeman and Russ Hall hosted an open forum yesterday evening to address police brutality issues, and the arming of MSU police.

In Related News...

Three William Patterson University Officers were recently suspended for a 1999 alleged beating of a hand cuffed prisoner.

*Mustafa Thomas of East Orange was the victim of the alleged beating. He was taken into custody by the officers for resisting arrest and being drunk and disorderly.

*One officer, a Sargent, was suspended for 30 days without pay, and demoted.

*Only one of the three officers was fired, the other suspended for 90 days without pay.

*All involved officers were trained by the same program as the NJ municipal officers.

*The officers allegedly used mace.

All information is from The Wayne Today

CRUNCHEd: The Health and Wellness Center is only offering emergency care from its temporary residence in the Student Center Annex after the flood in Blanton Hall created a potentially dangerous mold.

**MOLD**

CONTINUED FROM P 1

It is unknown when the facility will reopen. The center has been closed for approximately two weeks now. Student Center room 106 is now being used to accommodate students with health emergencies.

Ferdinand stressed that it is not yet known what the lab results will tell us about the stachybotrys and ulocladium found at the MSU campus facilities.

The result of the lab tests is unknown. It is not yet known what stachybotrys is. Ferdinand said that it is not yet known what the results will be known.

**Fire**

CONTINUED FROM P 1

Blanton Hall cafeteria was closed for the morning of the fire, due to flooding.

"When people came down from the building, workers used a wet vac to mop up the water from the sprinklers," Pennington said.

"There was no damage to any of the other rooms, unless residents had personal belongings right up next to their doors. Blanton Hall also had a mandatory evacuation during late February, following a small fire in the building's circuit box. The evacuation lasted for a week."

"The fire [the most recent] could have been a lot worse if it were in a building without a sprinkler system," Pomponio said.

"The results could have been tragic." Out of the six residence halls on campus only two, Blanton and Russ, are equipped with emergency sprinkler systems.

"After the fire occurred we are required to send a copy of the report and photographs of the scene to the state of New Jersey," Pomponio said. "They are going to use this as an example of how important sprinkler systems in residence halls are.

In late January a similar incident occurred at Seton Hall University. Three students died in a dormitory fire. At the time, Seton Hall did not have any working sprinkler systems. Governor Whitman is giving a supposed $9 million to schools throughout the state, specifically to install sprinkler systems.

The MSU Office of Residence Life started replacing illegal extension cords and octopus plugs in all residence halls in order to increase fire safety. "The illegal plugs will be replaced with power strips that are fire safety approved," Melinda O'Brien, Director of Residence Life said. "The new strips will be a permanent fixture in the rooms, students cannot take them when they move out."

"We are increasing safety for obvious reasons," O'Brien said. "The fire in Seton Hall was a wake-up call. We need to increase the acceptable levels of safety, so the bar can be raised."

"Living with mold is unhealthy, disgusting, and scary," La Bruna said.

Sal Fam from the Passaic County Board of Health explained that stachybotrys chartarum is only one particular species of the stachybotrys fungus. All that has been confirmed thus far is that stachybotrys, the fungus, was found at the MSU campus facility.

According to Fama, the stachybotrys fungus could belong to any one of a number of species.

Results of the lab analysis will determine what species the sample was and whether or not it is a health risk. Ferdinand said that it is not yet known when the results will be known.
Montclair Staffers Sweep Journalism Program Awards

By Christina Spatz
Assistant News Editor

Three Montclair staffers won scholarship awards for their outstanding work in several categories from the English department.

The J. Raymond Paul was awarded to Kevin P. Hancock by the MSU journalism department.

The journalism department also awarded the Harold Friedlander Memorial Journalism Award to Nick Clunn, junior Broadcasting major and Joy Thompson, senior English major with a concentration in secondary education.

Senior Kevin Hancock won the J. Raymond Paul award for $750 for his journalism work.

Hancock, who is a political science major and a journalism minor, is a former Editor-In-Chief of The Montclarion.

Prior to his year as Editor-In-Chief, Hancock served as the newspaper’s Managing Editor and News Editor.

“I am very proud to have been recognized by the journalism department after I’ve had the pleasure of working with them as a journalism minor and member of The Montclarion,” Hancock said.

The second winner was junior Nick Clunn who won the Friedlander award for $100.

In addition to being a journalism minor, Clunn is a broadcasting major who has worked for Liner Notes magazine, and was News Editor of The Montclarion from 1997 through 1999.

In Spring 1999, he was awarded the Section Editor of the Year Award.

Thompson is an English major and news writer for The Montclarion. She also has contributed columns to the Opinion Page section of the newspaper and has had poems published in Four Waits.

“I certainly appreciated everyone who voted for me. I think everyone in the English department should be rewarded for their work,” said Thompson.

The $200 Friedlander award, which Thompson splits with Clunn, was for her work in Journalism.

Thompson and Clunn also split honors with the Center, for Environmental Citizenship.

The two were chosen to attend this year’s Annual Environmental Journalism Academy in Washington, D.C.

The award was started by former MSU Professor and Montclarion adviser Moe McGee in honor of Harold Friedlander, an MSU graduate from the class of 1950.

The presentation of the awards will take place at 7 p.m. next Tuesday, April 18, in Dickson Hall’s Brantl Auditorium.

Distance Learning Course Offered Next Fall

First two courses offered will be English Composition; registration has already started to fill 40 student spots

By Bill Nuber
Staff Writer

For the first time, MSU will offer a distance education course on the Internet next fall semester. Two sections of English composition will be offered.

The only requirement is computer access, whether it be at home, work, or in a residence hall. There is no scheduled time, and the class does not meet in a classroom.

“It will make life a lot easier for students who juggle their schedules because the work can be done whenever a student has time,” David Stuehler, an English professor teaching the courses, said.

Stuehler said there were a couple experimental classes performed last year where students used computers in the university computer labs, but they encountered problems with the labs being overcrowded.

“Students aren’t guinea pigs,” Stuehler said. “Many other schools have been doing this.”

Dr. Ellen Spaldo, acting Assistant Provost for Educational Technology at Fairleigh Dickinson University, said that FDU has been offering successful distance learning programs for about five years.

FDU offers an online master for electrical engineering and management information systems.

Over 200 students participate in their program.

Rutgers University and NJIT also offer distance learning programs.

Stuehler said that distance learning programs could be considered controversial because students may need classroom interaction, but the course offered, English composition, requires much writing and little class discussion, Stuehler said.

Students must have discipline to take this type of course because they are required to check in everyday, Stuehler said.

There are 40 available seats in the course, and registration has already begun.

To register for the course, permission must be obtained from the English department.

For more information about the distance learning course, visit the course web pages at http://stuehlerd.montclair.edu/distance/.

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Tuition
CONTINUED FROM P 1

MSU Annual Undergraduate Tuition Trends

1990 $1,590
1991 $1,800
1992 $1,962
1993 $2,040
1994 $2,142
1995 $2,250
1996 $2,370
1997 $2,580
1998 $2,795
1999 $3,005
2000 $3,155

Cumulative Increase 1990-2000 $1,565

* MSU's annual rate is calculated by 30 credit per hour load per year
student government association
ELECTION 2000

Candidate for PRESIDENT

Michael Kazimir
Year: Senior - Major: speech communications - GPA: 2.7
- SGA Vice President (99-00) • SGA Legislator (96-99) •
- Former Vice President of Pi Kappa Alpha Fraternity • Multicultural Diversity Weekend •
- Unity Collaboration • Project Pride •
- Fundraising Chair, North Jersey Boy Scout Museum • Eagle Scout •

Candidate for VICE PRESIDENT

William Guardino
Year: Senior - Major: human ecology / Minor: women's studies - GPA: 3.25
- SGA Director of Services (99-00) • SGA President Pro Tempore (98-99) •
- SGA Legislator (96-99) • Legislator of the Year (98-99) • President, NJ Community Waterwatch (97-98) •
- Resident Assistant, Blanton Hall (97-98) • President, Honors Student Organization (99-00) •
- Senior Week Committee Chair (99-00) • Parking Survey Committee Chair (98-99) • Eagle Scout •

Candidate for TREASURER

Shariff Elhagin
Year: Junior - Major: music education - GPA: 3.1
- SGA Treasurer (99-00) • SGA Legislator (97-99) •
- Secretary of C.L.U.B. (98-99) • Chair of SGA Appropriations Committee (98-99) •
- Brother of Iota Phi Theta Fraternity •
- SGA Appropriations Committee Chair (98-99) • SGA Senior Committee (97-99) •

Candidate for SECRETARY

Jeannette Mammaro
Year: Sophomore - Major: speech communications / Minor: journalism - GPA: 3.3
- SGA Chief of Staff (99-00) • SGA Legislator (98-99) • SGA Interim Secretary (98-99) •
- Sister of Phi Sigma Sigma National Sorority • Social and Sunshine Chairs, Phi Sigma Sigma •
- SGA External Affairs Committee Chair (98-99) • Greek Council Representative (98-99) •
- Student Affairs Committee • Desk Assistant, Blanton Hall •

Candidate for B.O.T. STUDENT ALTERNATE

Sky G. Pippin
Year: Sophomore - Major: political science / Minor: pre-law - GPA: 2.59
- SGA Director of Residence Life (99-00) • SGA Legislator (98-99) •
- Resident Assistant, Blanton Hall (99-00) • Vice President of the Young Democrats (98-99) •
- Multicultural Diversity Weekend (98-99) •
- Student Programming Committee (98-99) • Bohn Hall C.H.E.E.R.S. (98-99) •
Quit Your Complaining!

Get Out & Vote!

Finding the Ballot Box:
WHERE AND WHEN TO VOTE IN THE SGA ELECTIONS

Monday April 17, 9 a.m. - 4 p.m.
(Student Center)

Tuesday April 18, 9 a.m. - 4 p.m.
(Student Center)

Wednesday April 19, 9 a.m. - 2 p.m.
(Student Center)

Saturday April 15, 10 a.m. - 1 p.m.
(Dickson Hall)
By Michelle Whitehead
Staff Writer

Keeping Customers Happy
One Meal at a Time

I just want to make you happy,” short order cook Ronald Thompkins Jr. ex­ plains to a student from behind his post at the American Grill in the Student Center Cafeteria as he hands him a carefully pre­ pared cheese steak sandwich. The care that Thompkins puts into making lunch and din­ ner items may surprise some customers, but not those who are familiar with him.

Making customers happy has been Thompkins’ goal since he first started with Sodexho-Marriott about four weeks ago af­ ter moving to New Jersey from Indianapo­ lis, Indiana. Polite, outgoing and conge­ nial, Thompkins is known for his positive attitude and friendly nature.

While working at the Student Center, it is obvious that Thompkins takes great pride in his demeanor and work ethic. He asks students how their morning has been or steals a moment to reheat French fries that have gotten chilly. Simple things like this make Thompkins highly regarded by cus­ tomers. He is the kind of employee who is always sure to ask students how they are doing and takes the extra time to check that meals are made their best.

“I just want to serve people the best I can,” says Thompkins of his motivation for consistently serving quality food with a wide smile. Student Center customers certainly seem to notice his cheery disposition and enthusi­ asm for his job. Thompkins does more than just cook - he chats with customers while putting the finishing touches on a grilled chicken sandwich with one hand and cook­ ing a steak sandwich with the other. Those standing in the line of the American Grill converse easily with Thompkins and he knows his more frequent customers by name.

“I develop a repertoire,” Thompkins says, adding that he is happy with his job because he likes the students and the atmos­phere of the campus.

One thing that Thompkins seems to be a little short on is time. Outside of working for Sodexho-Marriott, Thompkins has a part­ time job and manages to find time to indulge in his many hobbies. On the weekends he may be found as a DJ at a special occasion or as the menu coordinator for a party. In­ deed he is a man who wears many hats.

Above all, Thompkins considers himself to be an artist, finding creativity and beauty in all aspects of life. He is part entertainer, part musician and part chef. He believes that cooking is just another art form, like paint­ ing or music. While in Indianapolis, he spent time as the member of a stage setup crew for a few well-known bands.

“Everyone says I have a good attitude,” says Thompkins. “I just treat people the same as they’d treat me. I know what it’s like to be a student.”

Looking toward the future, Thompkins plans to keep pursuing his artistic ventures. He hopes to keep cooking, but also paint­ ing, making music, and entertaining. Those wishing to watch a free display of his tal­ ents and try some good food can find Ron Thompkins in the Student Center from 11 a.m. to 7 p.m. each weekday.

Binge Drinking: Not Everyone Plays the Game

By Susan Skalsky
Special to the Montclarion


Binge drinking was defined as the con­ sumption of five or more drinks in a row for men and four or more for women, at least once in the two weeks preceding the survey.

Body size and sex affect how our bod­ ies handle alcohol. Since women have more body fat and less stomach enzymes, they burn up alcohol more slowly. As a result, they stay drunk longer on the same amount of alcohol as their male counterparts.

According to the study, of the 14,000 students surveyed, 19.2 percent reported ab­staining while 36.6 percent were non-binge drinkers.

Compared with data from prior studies done in 1993 and 1997, the number of stu­dents abstaining increased almost 25 per­cent over the past six years.

In the current study, more students re­ported that they were abstainers. Among these were Hispanics, African Americans, Asians, freshman, and those living in resi­ dence halls and fraternity/sorority houses.

Binge drinkers were more likely than other students to experience alcohol-related problems such as missing a class, getting behind in school work, doing something they regretted, forgetting where they were or what they did, arguing with friends, engaging in unplanned sexual activities, not using pro­ tection during sex, damaging property, get­ ting into trouble with campus or local po­lice, getting hurt or injured, requiring medi­cal treatment for an alcohol overdose, and driving after drinking alcohol.

A significant increase in frequent binge drinking occurred among students who were binge drinkers in high school.

Serious medical problems can result from prolonged use of alcohol and/or drugs.

These include cancer; stomach problems; increases in “bad” cholesterol; hypertension, heart attacks; liver damage; pancreatitis; dia­betes; tingling, numbness, and tenderness in the feet, fingers, hands and arms, followed by weakness, difficulty balancing, and dif­ficulty walking; reduced vision; irregular menstrual cycles; male breast enlargement; and testicular shrinking and atrophy.

More serious alcohol-related tragedies resulting in death can also occur. These in­clude acute alcohol poisonings, falls, drown­ing, car accidents, fires, and hypothermia (exposure to cold).

Stopping the use of alcohol, improving nutrition and taking vitamin supplements with thiamine and other B Complex vitamins can improve health dramatically and reverse much of the damage that is done by alcohol.

If you have any concerns or questions about binge drinking, see someone at the Health and Wellness Center today. We can help you decide if you have a problem with alcohol or drugs. Call us today at x 4361.
Why Change is So Challenging for Today’s Men

By Robert Vincent

Editor’s note: This is the second part of a two part series on "male change."

In pursuit of discovery, the one area of masculinity that is still an enigma is male friendship. Each time that an author or a researcher thinks that he has discovered a truth, contradicting evidence erodes his conviction. There are, however, some definite patterns that have emerged.

According to Rollo May, author of Man’s Search for Himself, most men identify their wives as their friends. May writes, “Though they may be satisfied with this relationship, many men are vaguely troubled that their best friend is not another man.

Furthermore, buddies they enjoyed in college or in the service are nostalgically missed by men 30 to 50-years old.

The 45-year-old protagonist of the film Everybody’s All American laments to his old college buddy: “Years ago I thought I’d go on making friends like you forever, but it hasn’t happened... Why is that?”

Similarly, most men relish time away from their wives that is spent playing or watching sports with male friends. Men sense that these relationships are not sufficiently intimate, especially when they observe the relationships formed by their wives or girlfriends.

Yet, as strong as a man’s longing for male bonding may be, he is often unable to define precisely what is missing from his current friendships.

Do men long for those relationships perpetuated by Hollywood and Madison Avenue in which men share feelings as loyal and devoted buddies? Can men share a sense of fun and freedom and still share their deepest, darkest secrets?

The popularity of Butch Cassidy and the Sundance Kid, Luke Skywalker and Hans Solo may reflect this. Do men harbor a secret desire to bond together in a common cause, as depicted in The Dirty Dozen?

Perhaps the illustrations lie not with male fantasies, but with the past. Were our boyhood friends really as close as we recall, or do we allow sentiment to distort a bygone time and believe too dearly in films such as Stand by Me and American Graffiti?

Why is it that even those men who recognize the limitations of their friendships with other men, and desire to transcend the triviality of sports conversation over beer, find it so difficult to alter these patterns?

What are the barriers that prevent men from developing and maintaining closer relationships with other men?

It is believed a number of factors are responsible for this impasse: men’s adherence to a narrow definition of “masculinity,” homophobia, unresolved conflicts with fathers and the influence of past stereotypes.

**CELEBRATING NATIONAL POETRY MONTH**

L’ete en Or a Nice

De l’avenue jean medicin
Au promenade des Anglais
On voit defiler des femmes sainte
Pour se rendent vers ta plage parfaite.

Nice tu es sans mesure sur la cote d’azure
Tu es l’ori qui fait rever les chats qui dort
De tes coteaux charmants qu’est vraiment moulure
Ta lumineuse image, s’allume au couchant d’or.

En avion, par bateau, en train
En voiture, cheval ou patin
Ta beaute est incomparable
De toute autre ville de France, fiable.

La clarte du soleil qui brille sur tes monts
Et la grace eloblissante de toutes tes portes
Sont tellement super, on dirait un sermont
Ecrit pour les amoureux de tous les sortes.

Lociano Benjamin

Poete Au Coeur Blesse

“The Poet with the Broken Heart”

Editor’s Note: A profile on Lociano Benjamin and his love and appreciation of writing will be featured in next week’s edition of The Montclarion.

**MSU CAMPUS CALENDAR**

**April**

- National Alcohol Abuse Screening, 11-3 p.m.
  SC Ballroom C
- Unity Collaboration, 2-4 p.m. SC 411
- LeCercle Francais, 3 p.m. DI 115
- National Youth Service Day!

- SPECTRUMS Party, 9 p.m. SC Ballrooms
- Mass, 11:00 a.m. Kopps Lounge, Russ Hall
- Yoga, 1-2 p.m. SC 419
- Cardio Kickboxing, 5-6 p.m. Gym 6
- Marketing Club Fashion Show, 7 p.m. SC Ballrooms
- Writer’s Support Group, 10-11 a.m. Montclair Public Library
- Panzer Scholarship Honors Convocation, 1 p.m. SC Ballrooms
- Geo Club, 4 p.m. MA 252
- PreMed Club, 4 p.m. Science Hall 126
- Women’s Center Eco-Feminism Lecture, 7:45-9 p.m. SC 419

- Conservation Club, 4 p.m. SC 104
- Step & Tone, 4-5 p.m. BL Hall
- Unity Collaboration, 2-4 p.m. SC 411
- LeCercle Francais, 3 p.m. DI 115

- SPECTRUMS, 2-3 p.m. SC 416
- LASO, 3:30 p.m. SC Cafe C

- Writer’s Support Group, 10-11 a.m. Montclair Public Library
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- Geo Club, 4 p.m. MA 252
- PreMed Club, 4 p.m. Science Hall 126
- Women’s Center Eco-Feminism Lecture, 7:45-9 p.m. SC 419
Out There

A column exploring important issues to gay, lesbian, bisexual, and transgender communities

By Kristina Zombardo

Perhaps, like many, you’ve become quite tired of the bubblegum pop music scene that has crept its way back into mainstream American pop culture. If you feel like pulling the hair out of your head the next time you hear another *NSync or Britney Spears song overplayed on the radio, and you’ve had enough of “Total Request Live” telling you what good music is, take a trip over to the indie side of things.

So far the year 2000 has brought forth some excellent music contributions from GLBT artists.

The most notable of these efforts is Melissa Ferrick’s fourth full-length studio album, Freedom. Released in March, Ferrick presents 11 new songs, including two versions of the title track Freedom, one acoustic and one souped-up electronic version.

On this album, Ferrick’s sound is very groovy, backed up by Marika Tjelios’s slick bass lines, and a funky beat background.

Ferrick sings a beautiful tribute to one of her favorite musicians, Shawn Colvin on “Win ’em Over,” which in itself sort of sounds like a Colvin tune, but is definitely Melissa’s style with its catchy lyrics, and smooth melody.

Other great songs on this album include the biting break-up tune “Some Kind of Nerve,” and the sexy, sultry, bedroom song “Drive,” which has long been a favorite of her live audiences.

Like her preceding albums, Freedom contains songs dealing with love and life and the truth in human emotion but shows a new kind of maturity that she’s gained from her years on the road.

Anyone familiar with Ferrick’s music and live performances will attest to her incredible guitar and vocal skills, both of which are well represented on Freedom.

Freshmen Year: The Experience of a Lifetime

The Inside Scoop on Residence Life

By Jackie Parker

Staff Writer

From the first moment I walked into shadow Hall as a freshman, I knew that my life was going to be different. Just how different, no one could have possibly known! The things we learn in college are things that we could never forget no matter how hard we try. I don’t remember how I became such good friends with all “my girls.” It’s pretty strange how close we all are, practically like sisters! After all, we share each other’s clothes, shoes, makeup, and we know each other’s deepest secrets and fears.

We know just who we can turn to when ever we just need to “vent,” shed a few tears, or when we need a smiling face. When one of us has a date, we are all excited and wait up like little girls waiting for the scoop.

Throughout these past eight months we’ve all experienced feelings of joy, sadness, hatred, loneliness, and maybe (perhaps even) LOVE. We’ve all had our eyes set upon a particular someone only to find out that there was someone else holding his hand, or we decided he just wasn’t worth the wait! Our first Frat party, our first time clubbing, and even our first drinking/drug “event” will never be erased from our memory, especially if it involved throwing bagels at each other in the Flatt.

Along with all this, we’ve learned to be independent, to fend for ourselves, and not only that, but we also learned about LIFE! Really isn’t it as sugarcoated as we thought? We’ve learned the true meaning of maturation and lifelong friendships, but never could we possibly forget the value of money, especially as struggling college students. Learning to balance work and school, making sure to leave time to party (forget about eating and sleeping) has led to many rough mornings.

College surely is the place to learn, but sometimes the real lessons we learn are not from a professor or textbook, but from the people we meet and the friends we keep.

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College surely is the place to learn, but sometimes the real lessons we learn are not from a professor or textbook, but from the people we meet and the friends we keep.
The Manuel of Love:

How young is too young when it comes to settling down?

By Lisa Gamarkein
Special to the Montclarion

H e instantly stood out from the rest of the guys that were at Filly's bar that night and any other night that I had frequented the place. He is about 5'8" tall and his brown hair was cut military style. His jawline was perfectly chiseled and the big brown eyes that were staring back at me were so inviting. I was wearing a blue, fitted shirt that showed off his well defined biceps and the big brown eyes that revealed his trim waist and perfect butt.

I sat at the smoky bar and washed down a shot of vodka with a sip of my cold Amstel Light. My hair was cut military style. His jawline was clearly defined and his brown eyes were off of him. She glanced at me and knew instantly who I was. She continued to sing without taking my eyes off of her. She was talking about after dinner and in an attempt to get a glimpse of him, I got caught. Just as I lifted my eyes to see where he was, I realized he was looking right at me.

Before we planned our first date on the phone, I assumed that we would do the "dinner" thing on a Friday night and maybe get to know each other even more over a few drinks afterwards. However, to my surprise, our first conversation revealed that this guy, Alex, whom I met in a bar, didn't drink and wasn't really excited by the idea of hanging out in bars or clubs.

On our first date we went to Wheels In Motion, a roller-skating rink 30 minutes away. The place was filled with 13 and 14 year-old boys and girls that stared at us as we 22 year olds like we were crashing their private party. We had an amazing time that night and now, seven months later, we're still having fun.

However, according to some of my friends and family, a girl in her early twenties should be filled with massive dating rituals. Most girls my age don't plan on getting married until they are 26 or 27 years old, and I certainly don't see myself sending out wedding invitations anytime soon. But does that mean I'm supposed to cram in and meet as many men as I possibly can over the next five years? According to most of the people that offer me advice even when I don't ask for it, the answer is yes.

Sure there are plenty of girls out there that thrive on some of the things that define their twenty-some-thing single night outs. This includes, flirtatious pickup lines, and dance with some guy you know nothing about. But does that mean I'm supposed to hold up his glass in an attempt to toast you, spills half of it on his shirt. Those nights get old real fast and shouldn't define every weekend of your youth.

You feel sick from the warm beer you drank and your shoes are covered with the alcohol people have "accidentally" spilled on your feet all night. You watch in horror as some freak across the bar sends you a drink and while holding up his glass in an attempt to toast you, spills half of it on his shirt. Those nights get old real fast and shouldn't define every weekend of your youth. Yes, it's important to go out, have fun and meet as many different kinds of people as you can when you are young. But if you should be so lucky to find someone who stands out from the rest, even if you do meet him at a bar, you should let your feelings determine what you should do with it, not your age.

real students. real issues.

TWENTY somethin

Dharma Boys

• SATURDAYS •
Girls: Free Admission
DJ Spins the Smart Dance Mix & $200 Import Pints
OPEN WEDNESDAY - SATURDAY TILL 3 AM
Directions from campus: Rt. 3 East to Passaic Ave. Nutley/Passaic Ave. exit, go right off ramp, go three traffic lights & make a left. (Van Houten Ave) Go to first traffic light, make a right onto Broadway. Loop in on right.
JH: How did the pleasure begin? How did we form Pleasurecraft?

MK: I think it was a collaborative effort between Steve and Cyriaque, but I don’t know. Ask Steve.

SH: Uh, nobody really thought of it so much as it was given to us. We just were Pleasurecraft, there was no debate, and nothing we do to change it.

JH: Where is the Pleasurecraft located?

MK: Halifax.

SH: What was your earliest memory of pleasure?

SI: I squeezed lotion out of an Jar-Jar Binks’ head.

MK: Spanish Inquisition.

SH: I was there when Kraftwerk (German rock band) formed. They met on a bus. I don’t know why they didn’t release a radioactivity album right there on the bus. I don’t know why they didn’t release that album. It was dropped out. So we formed to fill the void. We logged on and the interview commenced.

MK: What is the definition of the word “pleasure”?

SH: We mostly play funerals and weddings.

MK: No. That’s not important. We have not yet perfected our sound, or our chemistry. Soon our shows will be like LACE.

JH: If you could think of a fruit that encompasses your sound, or become a fruit, which fruit would you be?

SH: We would be summer squash

MK: Antelope.

SH: Psycho killers.

JH: How many shows have you had?

MK: We mostly play funerals and weddings.

SH: And births.

JH: I think my music is perfect for births.

JH: Do you play high school dances?

SH: Oh. I do not. We are happy to play anywhere. Especially closer to Trenton, because then we have easy access to opera singers and orchestras.

SH: I think you guys sound a lot like KC and the Sunshine Band on ether. Did you know that?

SH: That is an excellent question. And one I can’t answer.

MK: I think you wanted to do something called Pleasurecraft for a while with various misunderstandings in various circumstances doing various things.

Steve Harder and Mickey Kane have ventured into the unknown with a totally different approach to modern music. Playing rock band (for the entire show. The combination of Steve Harder’s rants and Mickey Kane’s fuzz face pedal destroy the dissonant spect­rum. I remembered to take a nice long shower before I began speaking with Steve and Mickey, for I knew I would feel dirty afterwards. We logged on and the interview commenced.

By Jeff Hill

Staff Writer

Mission to Mars

most of his time grinning

sional characters being sketched into a

half of cinema with awful dialogue. Sinise

Boasting a great director and a cast that in­

Games),

considered sexy. Hailing from the Philly

JH: Do you have a lovechild?

MK: The nation of Islam.

SH: Get With Mike!

JH: Who is Mike?

MK: A fine, fine man.

SH: Do you play high school dances?

SH: It’s not that easy. We are happy to play anywhere. Especially closer to Trenton, because then we have easy access to opera singers and orchestras.

JH: I think you guys sound a lot like KC and the Sunshine Band on ether. Did someone ever tell you that?

Steve Harder

Pleasurecraft Focuses on the Experience Not the Sound

Mission to Mars

asked if we’d get something together for a show he was putting on at Rowan, and we said yes, so I guess that’s how it began.

By David Pinto

Staff Writer

JH: I think you guys sound a lot like KC and the Sunshine Band on ether. Did someone ever tell you that?

Mission a Go For Launch but Barely Gets off the Ground

A s NASA speculates an estimated launch date for the first manned flight to Mars, a film that chronicles our expectations, excitement, and even our fears, could not have come at a better time; especially one with all the technical accuracy and visual panache as Mission to Mars. Boasting a great director and a cast that includes Gary Sinise ( Forrest Gump, Reindeer Games), Tim Robbins ( The Shawshank Redemption, The Player), Steve Harder and Mickey Kane have ventured into the unknown with a totally different approach to modern music. Playing rock band (for the entire show. The combination of Steve Harder’s rants and Mickey Kane’s fuzz face pedal destroy the dissonant spectrum. I remembered to take a nice long shower before I began speaking with Steve and Mickey, for I knew I would feel dirty afterwards. We logged on and the interview commenced.

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The first half-hour of Mission to Mars is useless and perhaps even advantageous to the viewer if slept through. It’s somewhat painful to witness poorly drawn, one-dimen­sional characters being sketched into a storyline that plagues the next hour and a half with a cinematic aura. Sinise looks bored, his excitement contrived at best. Robbins is fatally miscast; he spends most of his time grinning for no good, because some­thing neither the audi­ence nor the other actors seem to know much about. Perhaps it’s the huge Buck Rogers pendant roughly the size of a cucumber he wears around his neck. Plus, the story is set in the year 2020 which means Robbins’ character will have been young enough to be into Picard or Yoda and not Buck Rogers.

To add insult to injury, the very first thing our space cadets do when they land on Mars is to erect the American flag. This comes about half-hour after pre­senting the “World Space Station” with a very pronounced multi-eth­nic crew on board. It only suggests a genuine gesture the scene seems, especially if the film is marketed internationally. It’s rather shortsighted of the film­makers to overlook the coopera­tive effort required for such an en­deavor.

The absolute worst thing about Mission to Mars is its soundtrack. It only repeats for the “Old Hollywood” sound of classic cinema, which was worked beautifully in his previous Snake Eyes (1998), an underrated film superior to Mission. In this case, however, Ennio Morricone’s orchestral score is completely ill-suited and exceptionally distracting. During every dramatic mo­ment in the film, the audio is flushed with bombastic, “up­lifting” theme music. It’s not that Mission is such a bad movie. Given what it is (or what it would like to be), we’ve seen other mediocre sci-fi films pass as great cinematic to the genre, such as Stargate (1994), which even spurred its own high profile series on Showtime. Stargate also had poorly written dialogue, flat characterization, and a ridicu­lous plot; but there is a kind of innocence, a sense of infi­nite wonder that is conveyed in Mission. At one point (after the above mentioned horrendous first half hour), it seems that DePalma strives for the same. Instead of laboring through “gravity,” “light,” “hard,” cliches (a tired sci-fi staple), he drops his signature roving camera onto the red planet where a team of researchers are al­ready underway on a geological survey of sorts. This is the first extended sequence actually set on Mars, with images of vast, haun­tiously desolate red landscapes littered with canyons and mountains that effectively dwarf the characters caught in the panorama. All of this is accompanied by howling and rhythmically pulsing gusts of wind, proved later to be a furtive plot device. The events, leading to the disastrous incident that follows, are truly tense and creepy. It’s here that DePalma manages to tickle the imagi­nation of the viewer.

Unfortunately it doesn’t get any better than this. DePalma gets so wrapped up in creating his first science fiction film that his status as a newcomer bleeds more red than the cinematography. Ironically, his effort to create a good movie that happens to be sci-fi is instead lost in a typical movie. Unfortunately it doesn’t get any better than this. DePalma gets so wrapped up in creating his first science fiction film that his status as a newcomer bleeds more red than the cinematography. Ironically, his effort to create a good movie that happens to be sci-fi is instead lost in a typical movie.

COURTESY OF TOUCHSTONE PICTURES
Thursday, April 13, 2000 - THE MONTGARLON - 13

ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

What's Up, Tiggerly?
Out and about in the local scene.

Concert Calendar
Thursday, April 13
Medeski, Martin and Wood. Angel Orensaz Foundation Center for the Arts, New York, NY. (212)529-7194
Herbie Mann. Blue Note, New York, NY. (212)475-8992
They Might Be Giants. Bowery Ballroom, New York, NY. (212)862-6137
Tom Jones. Carnegie Hall, New York, NY. (212)477-7800
Duncan Sheik. Joe's Pub, New York, NY. (212)477-7800

Friday, April 14
Catherine Wheel. Bowery Ballroom, New York, NY. (212)862-6138
Joan Baez. Renaissance Weschester, Westchester, NY. (212)475-8992
Herbie Mann. Blue Note, New York, NY. (212)475-8992
Medeski, Martin and Wood. Angel Orensaz Foundation Center for the Arts, New York, NY. (212)529-7194

Saturday, April 15
Herbie Mann. Blue Note, New York, NY. (212)475-8992
Medeski, Martin and Wood. Angel Orensaz Foundation Center for the Arts, New York, NY. (212)529-7194

Sunday, April 16
Herbie Mann. Blue Note, New York, NY. (212)475-8992
Medeski, Martin and Wood. Angel Orensaz Foundation Center for the Arts, New York, NY. (212)529-7194

By Krista Stroebel
Staff Writer

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Monday, April 17
Les Paul. Iridium Jazz Club, New York, NY. (212)777-6817
Flaming Lips w/ Loop. Irving Plaza, New York, NY. (212)777-6817
Tito Puente. S.O.B.'s, New York, NY.

Tuesday, April 18
Dr. John. Blue Note, New York, NY. (212)475-8992
Mick Jagger. S.O.B.'s, New York, NY. (212)529-7194
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Movie Releases
Friday, April 14
American Psycho, Dir: Mary Harron. Universal Pictures. (212)219-3056

Theatre Performances
All My Sons, at The Barrow Mansion. Jersey City, NJ. April 14-23, running Thursdays through Saturdays at 8 p.m., Sundays at 3 p.m.
The Decade That Just Won't Go Away is Focus of Lecture

By Duane Kilgore
Staff Writer

Illy or so students sit in a dark room whose only illumination is a projector showing some of the best (and worst) of the decade of decadence. It was 80s night at the Student Center and not a dud was seen as Barry Drake, historian and college lecturer, gave an insightful and entertaining retrospective of the decade known for wild hair, bad clothes, and above all, great music.

The free multimedia event, sponsored by Class I Concerts, was well-attended and well received by the student body. It was quite a success in light of the failed Goo- Goo Dolls concert of last fall. It was also surprisingly informative as Barry Drake gave us an artist by artist rundown of the popular decade's most influential artists. In his words, there were the fantastic, kitschy songs of the New wave which included such legends as The Police, Culture Club and Dire Straits; the Australian influence of Men at Work; Ireland's biggest band, U2; the American sounds of Bruce Springsteen, John Cougar Mellencamp, Bob Seger, Bonnie Raitt, Hall and Oates, ZZ Top, Huey Lewis and the News, Tom Petty; the Weezer women, Madonna, the Go-Go's, Pat Benatar, the Bangles and Cyndi Lauper. Eighties hip-hop brought about the birth of modern rap with such artists as Sugarhill Gang, Grand Master Flash, Run DMC, The Beastie Boys and the arrival of gangsta rap with Compton's N.W.A. The hard rockers and infamous big hair bands like Aerosmith, Guns 'n' Roses, Van Halen, White Snake, Poison and Bon Jovi.

Among these artists were the pop solos of such as Michael Bolton, Amy Grant, Lionel Richie, Whitney Houston, Don Henley, Peter Gabriel and Michael Jackson. In the latter of the song, Knox, D'Aloia and O'Brien explained, "I like this particular choice because it is something that they have made a permanent fixture in their lives, the end product will leave more of a lasting impression on their listeners, and they will have the drive to take their music past the local open mic nights and battles of the bands and into the big leagues of New York venues.

Chapter One, a band local to MSU, offers more than just powerful love songs, a typical chord progressions, or the basic musical instruments. They fuse rock and jazz, guitar, drums, piano and saxophones and influences ranging from Billy Joel to Red Hot Chili Peppers into one magical, musical experience. The band consists of six members, most of whom played multiple instruments throughout the show. Those who remained on one primary instrument all night included Tom O'Brien on piano and vocals (although he did manage to slide over to center stage to play a little bass guitar on a few numbers). Also at Jamie Segal's drums. Alex Knox switched from alto to soprano saxophone, as well as cello, which he taught himself. Frank Scillieri played alto and bar- tone saxophones. Joan Goncalves also played the alto and baritone saxes. Paul D'Aloia lent his talents to electric guitar, bass guitar and some vocals. All the songs were written by O'Brien, Knox, Scillieri or D'Aloia, or were collaborations between two.

The lighting was dim on their premier performance on Thursday, April 13, in Recital Hall, which helped give the hall a more of a laidback, jazzy setting. The Recital Hall is the most well known classroom and concert space on campus. Knox also got in a mean solo on guitar and O'Brien on piano playing a trio together. It was an interesting blend; then again, so are peanut butter and banana sandwiches. They both work.

While all their songs were amazing, a few were still managed to find themselves above the rest. "Home" featured a steady military march-like drum beat and an O'Brien playing the bass guitar. Knox also got in a solo on his saxophone. "Do It All Again," the aforementioned song that had Knox playing the cello, had a heavy driving riff, catchy vocals and a strong acapella, harmonizing vocalization from all the band members. It was actually almost comical. They all stopped playing their instruments and sang. Through no one's fault, the saxophonists had to bend over to get near enough to the original songs. It was actually quite funny. It was a beautiful, poetic way to accommodate their horns and not their vocal chords.

Not that anyone really cared. Chapter One played to a full crowd and received a standing ovation. Ask someone like that of your local garage band. Chapter One can be contacted through O'Brien at x5550.

Marvellous Music Made by Music Majors

By Anna Lawrence
Assistant Artistic Director

It's a common high school and college tradition - four or friends to get together and form a band. Forming a band involves a few things: knowledge of a few easy popular chords, a pretty good drummer, someone who can sing (or moan, scream and wail) and someone who can write music. More often than not, these bands get together and maybe play one or two very small local venues before breaking up for one petty reason or another. They move on, and the band becomes nothing more than a memory. However, when this said group of friends consisting of a garage band, a group of people who not only excel at their craft, are all down to earth and dedicated to their music. They also covered "Baby" by the most popular of musicans including Queen, Tina Turner and the Rolling Stones.

Two. The most of the band are the concert events that raised 44 million dollars for African family relief. Despite how the 80s might look in retro respect it was a very exciting and entertaining decade for the world of music. It begins with the question: How does the 90s compare?

"The 90s is definitely the weakest decade of the last five," Drake said of the last ten years in music. "You guys settle for very little."

In fact, the 90s have been so dull that record sales have seen no substantial increases in vintage music. Revivals of bands, like Fleetwood Mac and Kiss have littered the decade past. Some musicians claim that if the days of rock 'n roll are gone right along with the big bands (who played jeans and big hair)

"If Aerosmith is still here, you really can't say rock 'n roll is dead," says Drake.

So ended a great night of music and nostalgia. One can only hope that the decades to come are as colorful and as fun loving as the eternal 80s. Until that day arrives, we should hold fast to Drake's last bit of advice: "Beware of a middle aged rock star with a hat on. He must be bald."
EARTH WEEK 2000

Saturday, 4/15

White Water Rafting  SC REVOLVING DOORS 7AM

Sunday, 4/16

Bergen County Zoo Trip  SC REVOLVING DOORS, 12 NOON

Monday, 4/17

Tree Planting  w/ JSU, A CLASS II OF THE SGA, SC REVOLVING DOORS, 11:30AM
Career Night  w/ THE GEO CLUB, A CLASS III OF THE SGA, MA260, 6-8PM
Rainforest Animal Presentation  COMMUTER LOUNGE, 8PM

Tuesday, 4/18

Earth Week Vendors  SC QUAD, 9AM-3PM
Who Wants to Be an Environmental Hundredaire?  7PM, COMMUTER LOUNGE

Wednesday, 4/19

Eco-Feminism Presentation  w/ THE WOMEN’S CENTER, 7:45PM, SC 419
Possible Side Effects  SPECIAL SHOWING IN THE RATT, 9PM

Thursday, 4/20

Conservation Club Meeting  COMMUTER LOUNGE, 4PM
MOVIE: “The Great Outdoors”  COMMUTER LOUNGE 5:30PM
Environmental Coffeehouse – FREE MUGS WITH ASSIST, A CLASS III OF THE SGA, IN THE RATT, 10PM-1:30AM

EARTH WEEK IS SPONSORED BY THE CONSERVATION CLUB, A CLASS I ORGANIZATION OF THE SGA
MSU Experiences More Fiery Episodes

MSU has developed a fire-fetish of sorts. At about 6:30 a.m. Tuesday morning, a fire broke out in the A-wing of the fifth floor of Blanton Hall. After an investigation by the Little Falls Fire Department, it was discovered that the fire was the result of faulty wiring in a desk lamp, which was attached to a university-issued desk. It is speculated that after the desk was ablaze, the surrounding materials around the desk caught also. The fire then reached the ceiling of the room, and the fire alarm and sprinkler systems were set off. The fire was contained to the room, however some considerable damage was done from the water of the sprinkler systems.

Fire safety at this university is about as good as the one the Russians had at Chernobyl. The only things that kept MSU’s Blanton Hall from erupting like Mt. Vesuvius, like Seton Hall’s Boland Hall, which caught fire in January, was the sprinklers. Currently, there are still several dormitories at MSU that do not have water sprinklers. The state of New Jersey has recently been working on equipping all colleges in New Jersey with working sprinkler systems—9 million to be exact. Where is MSU’s share of this money?

It is certainly a desperately needed sigh of relief that no one was hurt in the fire, but why does the university so frequently run into these problems of fire control lately? Just Wednesday morning, a fire alarm sounded in Science Hall, and classes were delayed for 20 minutes. Another fire alarm occurred in Calcita Hall under a week ago.

Holy Pyrotechnics, Batman! MSU’s burning up!

Are resident students going to have to die before MSU receives its share of the money for fire-prevention? Incidents such as the Seton Hall fire should not happen at all, let alone more than once. When is this school going to realize that there needs to be more done? If the fire had spread to Bohn, or Freeman Hall, where there are no sprinkler systems, MSU would have had to explain to a large group of very angry parents why their children’s names were included in the body count. Safety is worth any cost. Resident students shouldn’t have to worry that the dorms they sleep in at night may be fiery death traps. When are the appropriate measures going to be taken? How about a new MSU add slogan? “Come to good old, MSU. Home of burning rugs and exploding desks.” In fact, to raise money for the appropriate fire safety systems, MSU could start making and selling its own line of flammable furniture. “Get your new combustible and exploding desks.” In fact, to raise money for the appropriate fire safety systems, MSU could start making and selling its own line of flammable furniture. “Get your new combustible furniture to complete your would-be inferno of a dorm room! Get ‘em while they’re hot. Oh wait, they already are!”

Do we want students on campus to end up scarred like the ones who lived in Seton Hall?

MSU needs a working fire safety system now.

Question of the Week:

What further measures must be taken to ensure fire safety to resident students?

Next week’s opinions belong to:

Justin Velucci     Bill Gray
Jerome D’Angelo/Liz Hutchinson     Head to Head
Lou Ruggieri     Bill Guardino
Justin N. BOURGEOS

 Clarifying Points is Key
 In Winning Campus Support

Dear President Cole,

If there’s one thing I’m getting tired of hearing, it’s all the negativity surrounding the issue of arming MSU police. It’s about time we take a look and stand up for these officers. But, as a point of view I may be, I agree that there are many issues preventing me from lending a firm, supportive hand to the proposed idea.

Personally, I think these officers should have been armed from the start. They take part in the same tasks as the city and small town cops, and the badges they receive are no different from those who end up in New York City or Los Angeles. As you state in your proposal, they are all required by state law to qualitatively semi-annually in firearms training. The only reason they are being opposed is because they are guarding college students instead of tax-paying, home-owning United States citizens. But we do pay taxes and some of us even own homes.

I also think you bring up a good point when you cite the mutual aid agreements under which MSU police officers have agreed to. The one thing many MSU students do not realize is that campus police do not only protect the students of MSU, although that is their top priority, they also assist other police departments. Once they leave campus, they still do not have the right to arm themselves with guns, and if they end up in a potentially dangerous situation, they will not be adequately equipped to protect themselves.

One point you may want to express further is more what is followed your previous point. You stated that MSU police officers, last year, required armed back-up eight times from the three towns and two counties in which the campus is located. If you noticed the concern that these other areas may not always be available due to the needs of their own community, then maybe people not begin to open their eyes a bit more to the idea of arming our own police officers.

Next, it is my opinion that we are basing some of our negativity on recent occurrences with firearms. At Columbia High School, Amadou Diallo: these things are going to happen with guns. There are always a few out there not playing with a full deck of cards, and while I think it’s good to try to protect MSU students from them, we must realize that those occurrences are long and far between.

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Justin N. Bourgeois is a junior BA theatre major. This is his first year as Opinion Editor and second as a columnist.

Thursday, April 13, 2000 • THE MONTCLARION • 17

Justin VELLucci

Safety Concerns at MSU? Guns Are Not the Answer

Dear President Cole,

When I first read the memo that you issued on arming our university police force, I felt that the initial proposal, while still sketchy, could spark some interesting debates about campus safety concerns at MSU. In the last few weeks, the campus has seen a substantial and passionate amount of debate over the issue of arming officers, to say the least, and I for one, am glad to see so many people taking it upon themselves to voice their opinions.

I feel, then, that it is my duty and responsibility as a student at this university to provide feedback, as requested in your memo, on this highly-sensitve and potentially-explosive issue: Arming campus police is a bad idea. Period.

In 1994, a proposal to arm our campus police force was brought before the Board of Trustees and, in April of 1995, that proposal was overwhelmingly (and almost unanimously) denied. During the period that the proposal was being considered, there was an average of 5.1 property crimes for every 1,000 students at MSU, according to a report from "The Chronicle of Higher Education." While this might seem to be a relatively low number, it is considerably higher than the average at institutions of comparable size and enrollment - an average of 2.6 per 1,000 students. "The Chronicle" went on to report that, in the period 1993-1995, MSU fared better in violent crimes, racks up an average of 0.3 for every 1,000 students compared to the class average of 0.7 per 1,000. More concerned, possibly, with building MSU from a college into a university, the Board of Trustees struck the idea to arm our police force. And for good reason.

Now, it’s roughly five years later and the same people in support of arming the police force are being aired. Some say we need to legitimize MSU police instead of viewing them as a batch of rented security officers. Some claim we simply need to protect the campus against the potential for violent crimes. Supporters of arming the police are quick to cite the number of crimes that allegedly plague our campus and, when that doesn’t quite work out, they turn to the angle that almost every other state college has an armed police force. Well, everybody else is doing it, so why can’t we?

Before we jump off the proverbial Brooklyn Bridge to meet the icy waters of having an armed (or even partially-armed) police force, let’s really take a look at the facts.

Both the number of violent crimes and property crimes dropped substantially throughout the state in the three years following the Board’s vote against arming MSU police. According to the Federal Bureau of Investigation’s “Uniform Crime Reports,” New Jersey saw its total number of reported violent crimes drop from 47,652 to 35,405 between 1995 and 1997. And these numbers don’t just seem to reflect state trends.

Right here at MSU, violent crimes began to slowly fade, with the number of reported sexual offenses dropping from six in the two years before 1997. The number of burglaries also noticeably declined, dropping from 38 in 1996 to 18 in 1997. While “The Chronicle of Higher Education” reports that New York University- New Brunswick (41 burglaries in 1997 compared to 23 the year before) and Rutgers University-New Brunswick (55 burglaries in 1997 compared to 49 in 1996), MSU seems to not have only leveled off, but to have improved. And all of this was without the use of firearms.

Now, this is not to say that some degree of campus crime is explained. In 1998 alone, MSU reported seven violent crimes, which I think in anyone’s opinion, is seven too many. However, the number is, again, relative to similar institutions throughout the state. In the same “Uniform Crime Report,” Monmouth University reported seven violent crimes, and Kean reported eight. If MSU can manage to maintain a safer campus, comparable to sister institutions throughout New Jersey, why would we need to push to introduce an entirely new (and, again, potentially-explosive) element to our police force?

The fact of the matter is that there is no

Justin Vellucci is a junior English major. This is his first year as Editor-in-Chief and third as a columnist.

Two Open Letters to Susan Cole

Clarifying Points is Key
In Winning Campus Support

All of these are great ideas. They just need to be explained in greater detail if you wish people to take this into consideration.

When assisting other agencies under mutual aid agreements -- What does this mean? Are we talking about crimes where Little Falls Police or Montclair Police respond as well as MSU officers? Yet again, too much white space. All of these are great ideas. They just need to be explained to the student body in greater detail if you really want people to take this into serious consideration. When trying to convince the largest group of people that may have a problem

SEE BOURGEOS ON P 19

Coming Next Week:

Justin Vellucci is a junior English major. This is his first year as Editor-in-Chief and third as a columnist.

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No Police Competency, No Guns

Upon reading Susan A. Cole's Proposal of the University Police Officers with Firearms, I find the biggest problem to be on page six of Appendix A. It states that one of the duties of MSU officers is to "reduce the fear of crime." In light of the protests on campus about this issue, it seems that fear remains prevalent throughout the students and faculty. There are many reasons why this fear remains and why there is such hesitance for them to approve of officers carrying guns on campus.

First, the proposal states that the students have had more difficulty in "intervening techniques, non-violent conflict resolution..." (p.6), as well as that the office should work with students "in the use of carrying weapons..." (p.6), and that eight more officers will be added to the staff. These statements sound like all the mass media talk about the "war on drugs"..." In other words, maybe the police officers that are already here seem inexperienced in their duties and irresponsible. I feel that more police officers should be in place.

I have this seemingly harsh opinion because of my experiences thus far on campus. I have already written to the Montclarion once, complaining about the time it takes for the officers to get to a situation (i.e. to break up a fight). Other than that, the proposal also states officers' duties on campus, including supervising parking attendants, the welcome booth, etc. The proposal states that no Incompetencies are noted in these departments. I have seen the parking attendants asleep in the booth on more than one occasion. I have ever seen any of my off-campus friends been stopped at a welcome booth and I have heard that these attendants can be callous.

If these are the duties of the MSU officers and they are not being done, then how do we expect them to be able to start carrying guns? I am not opposed to guns on campus, due to the situations that have occurred, but I do think that the police were to need to be more efficient in their competencies and responsibilities. Maybe then the students would not be so afraid of other students.

Jessica Borrell
Eagle herp. biology

In 1999, a request was made to allow MSU campus police to carry firearms. In 1995, the request was denied. Now, five years later, the SGA and University Police have written another proposal. The proposal is being directed to the campus community by MSU's president, Susan Cole, and feed-

back on the proposal is requested prior to the May 1 deadline. Some may agree that campus police should be armed in order to cut down on crime on campus, but would this be in the interest of the faculty, staff and students? Compared with nine other NJ schools, MSU has the fifth largest violent crime rate, and is the only campus that does not have armed police. If four other campuses have a higher violent crime rate with armed police, how is arming the police going to help MSU? This just proves that crime is going to happen whether the police are armed or not.

For comparison, according to the proposal directed to the campus community, the University Police Department has 51 sworn officers, 30 police officers, and 4 University Police civilians. MSU has 12,757 students. Kean currently has twice as many police (22) as MSU (10). Kean reported 223 total crimes, while MSU reported 189 crimes. MSU has no more students, less police officers and fewer police officers than Kean. The report also doesn't make note of an officer being shot or killed while on a crime scene. Just because officers on campus are trained in the Police Academy doesn't mean they have the ability to handle themselves with firearms in a desperate situation. It's not like their job requires the use of firearms on a daily basis. Violent crimes aren't an everyday occurrences on campus.

Not only is the proposal absurd, it couldn't have come at a worse time, especially with the recent shootings of three un armed men in New York City. If the NYPD, with more experience in handling violent crimes, can't control the use of their firearms, then how can one expect the inexperienced campus police to be able to have comparable and not shoot unarmed people.

A study was conducted two years ago by the Chicago Police Department. Results showed that police shootings reached a decade high in 1998. Of the 505 shootings that took place between 1990 and 1998, 71 were fatal. Out of these shootings, 139 resulted in death, 24 in 1994, which was the highest total of the decade. Violence and police shootings are every where, and it seems to get worse every year. MSU is a safe and public environment, as the campus report states. Recent events and current trends involving police shootings are a good reason why campus police should not be armed.

Jason Kaplan

unlisted

Statistics Don't Lie: MSU Should Learn from Past Events
I turned 24 yesterday and I’m starting to feel older, not so much in age, but understanding what sort of an impact my life has made and could make, reflected on my life thus far. If you ask people on campus, what is society doing wrong? A likely response would be “the students of MSU.” There is little doubt that the majority of our community has little interest in controversial or political affairs. Maybe they are complacent because of the cushy and lovely life our nation has given them, or maybe they are lazy, or maybe they think, “This doesn’t affect me.” Of the 13,000 students here, about 700, not even 1,000, voted in the last SGA election. Of the 13,000 here, only about 100 bothered to show up last week at the NAACP’s Unity Rally and Walk-out against police brutality. Wake up MSU! Things do affect you. It might not seem like it, but indirectly we are all affected by police brutality or racism or sexism or any of the others that haunt our society. At 24, I have 10 years of activism in politics and society behind me.

In high school, my sister and I demanded the courtyard of our school be opened for students to use and enjoy. Things do affect you. It might not seem like it, but indirectly we are all affected by police brutality or racism or sexism or any of the others that haunt our society.

As I walk around campus everyday I become more and more disgusted at what I see: half-eaten, discarded pieces of food, paper plates, cups, plastic forks and napkins, lint on the coating of cigarette butts that seem to exist in some places. I see discarded shoeboxes and used-up microwaveable popcorn bags, and oh, yeah, the plastic bags that get trampled into the ground or blown up into the trees.

I think to myself, "What animals were set out of their cages that caused this mess?" And then I see these animals in, I guess, their natural habitat. I see students, staff, and faculty feeding and allowing fraying stuff on the ground and watching it blow away in the wind.

do take pride in the fact that I come to MSU. I do enjoy the campus, but it is becoming harder and harder to do with these “animals” running loose around here. The most frustrating part of this, I think, is that there are more than enough garbage cans on campus for use. Yet still I see a faculty member walk out of a building, smoke a cigarette and throw it on the ground. There are still students, who after drinking from a cup, decide what better place to leave it than in the middle of the SC quad, or on some all patch of grass.

Why is it so hard to dispose of your garbage in a trash can? Why is it so difficult to pick up that piece of garbage that you attempted to throw at a wall like you were Michael Jordan, but so horribly missed. It’s just plain laziness. It’s not caring about the fact that some people live here, and that some people actually enjoy this campus and enjoy sitting around and not having to look at everyone else’s trash.

The levels of consideration at this campus are dropping and it’s repulsive. I have been to many college campuses and this one is so much worse then them. Why don’t we care? I guess I shouldn’t be surprised, after all, I am at MSU.

Matthew Cipoletti
business management

Matthew Cipoletti

The Montclarion if you think it’s a sham. There are many opportunities for you to do something, many of which, like voting or signing a petition, take only a minute. Oh, but I’m sorry, you need only minute to specialize or shop or check your beloved e-mail. The recent surge of protests and petitions on campus lately have given me hope, may get even more hope depending on the responses YOU provide. But for the most part, I am apathetic at the apathy of our generation. We’re so lazy we barely even voted in the last presidential election, not even 20 percent of us.

I am urging, badgering and insisting that you lazy and apathetic bums do something! Join one of the numerous worthwhile organizations on campus, write a letter, vote, as Nike implies, “just do it!” If we don’t become a formidable, unified and politically active generation then we will surely end up worse than our parents in both economic and social terms. In this regard we are well on our way.

Come on, MSU! Show me how angry you can get, how loud your voice is! I’m tired of being the only activist in many of my classes, show me some support! Or at least protest me and this article! Get off that cell phone and off the computer and pound the pavement down to the voting booth or to City Hall. Just remember: these people won’t give a damn about you if you don’t shout your opinions in the ear of the nation.

Vullocci

FROM P. 17

Continued from P. 17

With such a proposal, it’s a good idea to act as if they know nothing, and fill them in on everything.

The only part that I have a problem with is timing. Even I have to agree that nothing has happened in recent memory to war up the MSU office in Grant. Granted, there was a shooting at Clove Road last year and luckily no one was hurt. Other cases like this have happened, and if an MSU police office had a gun, everything would have worked out better. We can’t do it because it hasn’t happened.

I also have to agree that there will be significant reaction to arming MSU police, and I know all of that it will not be positive. There will be problems, as there need for our university police to carry firearms. A similar issue arose some time back. If this seemingly ever-present issue was initially proposed, and there is no need now, as we seem to be seeing a decrease in the number of violent crimes on campus.

When you introduce "lethal weapons," as you refer to them in your memo, to a closed community, it only realistic response that you should expect from the community is that more people will defend or protect themselves using these same "lethal weapons." Now, I know and truly respect many of the officers on this university’s police force, but I still feel giving them firearms is like lighting a match in a field of gasoline for no other reason than to see what’s going to happen.

In the April 20, 1995 edition of The Montclarion, Robert Becker, an attorney for the New Jersey Law Enforcement Support Association, said that arming MSU's police force would not necessarily reduce crime on campus, but that a firearm was an "essential item of equipment" for officers on duty. Four years later, in the time of MSU armed robbery and a sexual assault (both at the Clove Road Apartments), the arming of campus police again publicly reared its head, this time more as an icon of MSU being reactive rather than pro-active. In the April 15, 1998 edition of The Montclarion, Dean of Students Helen Manosaw-Ayers said that "Propriately-trained police should have weapons available to protect themselves," but no mention was made of actually making crime or making the campus more safe.

The future will always be exceptions to the rule, this campus is safe. We will occasionally be hit with violent crimes, or a string of broken bottles, as we seem to be seeing a decrease in the number of violent crimes on campus, but that a firearm was an "essential item of equipment" for officers on duty. Or at least protest me and this article! Get off that cell phone and off the computer and pound the pavement down to the voting booth or to City Hall. Just remember: these people won’t give a damn about you if you don’t shout your opinions in the ear of the nation.

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In case you haven't already heard, there is a growing number of misinformed Americans out there in support of school vouchers. Governor Bush happens to be one of them, and he is currently proposing a voucher initiative on a national level. A state level voucher program, which provides tax dollars to place kids from failing public schools into private schools, has been a part of the state's education system for several years now. Texas is not alone either. Several cities with a history of failing schools, including Milwaukee and Cleveland, also have voucher systems in place as huge sums of public dollars are being channeled out of public schools and into private ones. In Milwaukee, 1,500 kids from low income families get about $4,700 each to attend private secular schools. In Cleveland, 1,300 kids receive vouchers of up to $2,500 each to attend both secular and religious private schools.

It is clearly too early to determine whether or not voucher reform has been successful in those states that now have voucher legislation in place. But, we can get a glimpse in evaluating data from Milwaukee, which pioneered the concept in 1990. According to the NEA (National Education Association), annual evaluations by independent researchers have shown no improvement in student learning for the students receiving vouchers compared to similar students in the Milwaukee public schools. The goal of voucher reformation is simple enough: to provide all students with an equal opportunity to get an education at a good school. But this is nothing more than an ill thought out and idealistic agenda that will make the situation far worse for our nation's poorest students. Realistically, there is no way a comparatively small number of private schools could possibly accommodate the huge influx of students that a national voucher agenda would create. But even if, by some stroke of magic, they could private schools are unregulated. This means that they don't have to accept students, voucher or no voucher, which makes problems worse for those students left behind. These students would then be at an even greater disadvantage because of the budget cuts the already failing schools would face due to the reallocation of tax dollars to fund the private schools.

Part of the reason why vouchers have become so increasingly popular, among politicians and citizens alike, is because people believe that they afford parents the luxury of school choice. But this conception is merely an illusion. Vouchers provide nothing more than an empty promise. The real choice still lies within the discretion of the private school administrators. Regardless of voucher status, administrators still evaluate students on criteria such as family background, grades, and state test scores.

If elected president, Vice President Al Gore proposes to spend a very promising $115 billion over the course of the next decade on education. He has outlined several avenues for spending this sum, which would be the largest education budget our nation has ever seen, including an increase in teacher salaries, a reduction in class sizes, the building of new schools, the modernization of old schools, and public pre-K for all children. In a stark and frightening contrast, George W. Bush has proposed a mere $13.4 billion for education to be spent over the course of the next five years.

There is plenty wrong with a proposed national level initiative for school vouchers. In fact, there is clearly nothing right with it. On the most basic level, it is an initiative that says it's OK to give up on our nation's public schools. But it is clearly not OK to give up on these schools. Nor is it OK to give up on the students and educators within their walls. Do yourself, and this nation's future a favor this election year and vote for Al Gore. Because there is no one solution to failing schools, but $115 billion isn't a bad start, and it sure as hell beats $13.4 billion worth of empty promises.

Frank Fusco is a junior English major.

This is his first year as a columnist for The Montclarion.
Walk-Out Serves as Wake-Up to MSU Students

Any doubts that the administration had about the ability of the student body at MSU to ban together and stand up for a common cause were emphatically put to rest last Wednesday, as the MSU chapter of the NAACP held a walk-out and rally against police violence and racial inequality. Despite the biting cold, over 100 concerned students, faculty, administrators, and even members of the campus police came out against violence and racial tension. The event, organized entirely by the students here on campus, was perhaps so great because it showed that MSU students did have the ability to speak up and stand together for what they wanted.

The event had a colorful array of guest speakers, including People's Organization for Progress president Lawrence Ham, Assemblyman Craig A. Stanley, and the Reverend William Rutherford, NJ State Chaplin president of the NAACP. The powerful message of freedom and equality was resounding, as listeners heard the passionate testimony of the community leaders. Attendees were also treated to the poetry of students Kenyada Mitchell and Trina Talafiero, secretary of the MSU NAACP. Mitchell, a senior history education major, delivered a crowd-pumping verbal cry for an end to police brutality entitled "Cycle of Brutality." In it, Mitchell describes the horror of police brutality and says, "Police brutality is a disgrace in this land of freedom and equality. How can we live in this country of Uganda last month. Over 500

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Dangers of Alcohol Abuse

Alcohol is one of the leading causes of death in the United States. About 64 percent of Americans over the age of 12 drink alcohol in some form. Through homicide, suicide, and automobile crashes and other incidents, alcohol kills over 100,000 Americans each year. In addition, alcohol abuse contributes to over 50 percent of all murders, assaults, and rapes, and alcohol is frequently found in the bloodstream of both perpetrators and victims. Alcohol causes a rapid blood pulse, and accelerated breathing. It also leads to insomnia, nightmares, anxiety, and gastrointestinal upset. There are many ways to control alcohol abuse and one of them is to educate people about the causes of alcoholism and its effects. The media should provide more information about how alcohol is absorbed and metabolized by the body and the immediate and long-term effects of drinking alcohol. Most alcoholics require a treatment program such as Alcoholics Anonymous, which consists of self-help groups. There are also other types of programs such as in-patient and rehabilitation programs. By obtaining more information about alcohol abuse, we might encourage someone to use it for his/her benefits.

Wendy Santana

Stress Management

Most people define stress as more than the sum of chores, responsibilities and financial troubles. Stress can also be defined as a way of interpreting the world, your state of mind and pattern of behavior. For instance, when our perception of the world is negative, we tend to internalize this negativity. Once we have acknowledged this negative picture of the world our state of mind becomes affected negatively. And because we think negatively we will act negatively. Studies have shown that stress lowers the immune system and leaves the body vulnerable to infection. Hence, the pattern of our behavior changes, causing distress. We can use stress to prevent this. By enabling ourselves to think positively we learn to become aware of our own reactions to stressful events. Only a few students have found that various forms of meditation relieve tension. Meditation involves focusing on a positive thought or object to calm the mind. Scientists have found that during meditation the body undergoes physical changes, such as a lower heart beat or lower blood pressure, which indicates a state of deep relaxation.

Tambudzai G. Ndoro

Opinion Section 2000-2001

Editor: Jerome D’Angelo
Asst. Editors: Justin N. Bourgeois, Christine Gilliland

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ISO IS A CLASS I OF SGA
The board of trust-me held a meeting concerning whether to fix up the dorms or add to the wonderful collection of rocks in the rock garden of the science building.

The meltdown, which occurred on Feb. 28, left a crater the size of a football field where the dormitory used to be. The cause of the meltdown, which left 5,000 students radioactive, has not yet been determined. President Wally has indicated that Lobo the sheepdog, acting vice president of Senate Propaganda, was toying around with some Uranium-235 he found in Science Hall when he had a "mishap." The radioactive students were given a free decontamination shower and a years subscription to the "Waffle of the Month Club" for the inconvenience.

The thefts were not really thefts, per se, but "eatings," Wally said. Lulu the goat, Public Propaganda Director, got lost for three days in Blown Hall and began eating everything in sight. He said, "We have evidence that Lulu ate $5000 worth of clothes, packaged food, computers, and paper goods. The girls' got quite an appetite, but there's no way to compensate the students who suffered losses. We all have to make sacrifices, and besides, we don't like students very much. Why do you think we make them park in Garlic Road?"

The decision was financial, Wally said, because the BOTM had concerns about raising administrative salaries. Farm animals occupied the same amount of space, but the upkeep was less expensive and, in some cases, the animals made money for the school.

"Our vice president of Student Stuff is actually a dairy cow. They figured that Bessie would earn her keep by producing milk for the cafeteria. She also saved them money because they didn't have to worry about severance packages, 401k plans, or pension funds. They were just going to turn her into a couch in the executive board room when they were done," said Wally.

="You have to see this from our point of view," said veteran BOTM member Louis Fishlips, "Buddy the sheep is just as good a Dean of Annoying Students as his predecessor. But, instead of wanting money in return for sitting in an office doing nothing, he's happy to eat grass in the Student Center Quad. And he produces high-quality wool too!"

The Horoscope
Never Lies

ARIES (March 21 to April 19): Enjoy Spring Week, play the games, for beware this campus will kill it by next year. Get a bicycle, the world has enough pollution.

TAURUS (April 20 to May 20): Go see Of Mice And Men and when it ends bring a box of tissues, you'll need it.

GEMINI (May 21 to June 21): There are two kinds of people in life. Those who talk about it, and those who live it. You are neither, you're just sitting there.

CANCER (June 22 to July 22): Your car breaks down on the side of Route 46. When you open the hood you discover the small hamster in the wheel has dropped dead.
Dilbert

By Scott Adams

Thursday April 13, 2000

CATBERT EVIL H.R. DIRECTOR

TECHNOLOGY BUDDHA

I'D QUIT THIS JOB, OF VACATION. J

GET AN EXTRA WEEK

BUT NEXT YEAR I'LL

HARDER IF WE

WOULD YOU WORK

OFFERED STOCK

ENLIGHTENED?

HOW DID YOU

BECOME SO

GOD (LIGHT?)

BELIEVE

BUT YOU

DON'T WORK

YOU WENT TO COLLEGE, RIGHT?

I'M LOOSE

CANNON BABY!

REMERNBER THE

TIME YOU WENT EKDIVING?

NO?

YOU WILL. I'M

PLANTING FALSE

MEMORIES IN YOUR

SUB-CONSCIOUS.

IT WON'T WORK.

BUT YOU

WENT TO COLLEGE, RIGHT?

DID I EVER TELL

YOU ABOUT THE

TIME I WENT SKYDIVING?

OHH!

THAT SOUNDS LIKE A FALSE

MEMORY PLANTED BY DOOMER.

MY PARACHUTE

DIDN'T OPEN.

LUCKILY I LANDED ON A TRAMPOLINE AND

BOUNCED BACK INTO THE PLANET.

TECHNOLOGY BUDDHA

HOW DID YOU

BECOME ENLIGHTENED?

HE'S BUSY

MEDITATING.

HE MUST BE

VERY

WISE.

HUGE BOWL OF VANILLA

ICE CREAM.

SAY WHAT?

SAY WHAT?

SO I QUIT THIS JOB,

BUT NEXT YEAR I'LL

GET AN EXTRA WEEK

OF VACATION.

IF YOU GET AN

EXTRA WEEK FOR

EVERY TEN YEARS

OF SERVICE...

YOU'LL BE HAPPY

IN 180 YEARS.

GOOD PLAN.

SHUT UP.

CATWOMAN EVIL HR DIRECTOR

WOULD YOU WORK

HARDER IF WE

OFFERED STOCK

TO WAGON?

SO YOU ADMIT

YOU'RE NOT

WORKING HARD

ENOUGH NOW.

LASTLY, ARE YOU

STILL BEATING UP

CUSTOMERS?

DILBERT

ANSWERS

The crossword this week is on

strike. It is sick

and tired of only

being half

finished.
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"As far as Muckler goes, he lost the players in November when Smith asked for and was denied permission to fire him..."
The bell has rung and this week’s edition of The First Row is under way! Welcome back from a wild week of wrestling action. There was more shooting going on this past Monday in WCW and WWF than a Smith and Wesson convention! This week I’m going to start off by taking a special look at WCW’s “new era.”

This past Monday on WCW’s Nitro, the slates were clean and a “new era” began. As you already know by now, former WWF storyline writer Vince Russo and Eric Bishoff have joined forces and are now the head creative team for WCW.

Where do I begin? First, I want to say that after watching Nitro I feel that WCW is now ready to compete with WWF once again. Although the new Turner Tron is a direct copy of the Titan Tron, it adds something that was missing from the entrance ramp.

For someone who said that they never would be seen on camera, Russo sure spent a lot of time in front of them Monday night! The program started off with most of the roster in the ring with some of the bigger names still filling in.

After a nice introduction by the chosen one himself, Double J Jeff Jarrett, Russo came into the ring with the safety off and his finger on the trigger. Russo started off by saying that he came to WCW to “beat the show.” Russo then made his way into the ring and attacked Nash from behind. I’ll get to the story of how Mike’s appearance was made possible in a minute.

Immediately after the brawl, Eric Bishoff asked Sid about the scissors? If so, could you believe he said that? Didn’t Eric Bishoff mention the scissors? Where was Miss Handcock and why wasn’t she in Nitro? I missed her so!

Have you ever seen Hulk Hogan in that frame before? It’s easier to take Buff seriously as a wrestler without that ridiculous hat on his head, isn’t it?

Three part question: Did you get it when Eric Bishoff asked Sid about the scissors? If so, could you believe he said that? Didn’t you think Sid was going to snap when Bishoff mentioned the scissors?

Did you ever think that you would see the white Hummer again? How great was it to see Bret Hart on Nitro even if it was only for a second? What a great way to end such a great show.

This past Monday’s Nitro was by far the best show I’ve seen from WCW since before I can even remember.

Now back to Mike Awesome... Is he with ECW or WCW? Well, as of now he is under contract with both. Russo told WCW that he was not under any official contract with ECW, so WCW signed him to a contract. ECW produced his signed contract and put a stop to Awesome’s appearance on Nitro. After some negotiations, WCW paid ECW a sum of money that was in the range of six figures to release Awesome from that contract. The other terms of his release were that the ECW championship belt could not be shown on TV and that Mike would be referred to as the ECW World Heavyweight Champion.

Also, WCW had to announce that Awesome would be making a title defense the following day in Indianapolis. WCW also had to guarantee that he would make that title defense. Obviously, Mike will lose the belt, but at this time it is not known who his opponent will be. The only thing I have to talk about is the new era of the WWF is The Rock.

As the end of the summer, Eric Bishoff was relieved of his duties as president of WCW. Writer Vince Russo was hired away from the WWF to take over the head creative position. Above, the two shake hands as finally their paths cross and they take control of the WCW creative department. They brought in ECW Champion Mike Awesome (bottom left) to help their takeover. Meanwhile, Bret Hart (left) kept an eye on them all night long, wondering where this union will leave him.

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That bell means that our time has expired on this week’s edition of the First Row. Questions? Comments?? Send me email at: FirstRowFred@ast.com. Also, be sure to tune into 90.3fm WMSC and let me quench your thirst for Hip Hop and wrestling talk every Thirsty Thursday from 4 p.m. until 7 p.m. Until next week, stay out of the cheap seats!
Every sport has its own intricacies and individual tendencies, and every level of playing is separated by certain rule changes, levels of maturity, and expected codes of conduct. Certainly, football and basketball are very different sports, as are tee ball and college leagues. But for all the differences between sports, there are always going to be a few universal themes that run across the board of team competition.

Be it basketball, volleyball or hockey, someone is always going to have a problem with trash-talking. Someone is always going to feel that sometimes things are "more fair" than the team for than for the other. There's always going to be the questioning of the ethics of the referees or umpires, and suspected payoffs and cheating, no matter what sport is being played. At that level it's being played at.

One of those universal complaints has recently come to my attention, with the scoring sprees of the baseball and men's lacrosse teams here at MSU. For all my life, in both professional and amateur sports, there have been the problems with running up the score.

Be it little league, college sports, semi-pro leagues, or professional sports, there is forever going to be the ethical question of whether or not adding stunts and padding scores is morally acceptable in sports.

On Saturday, the men's lacrosse team put a beating on the City College of New York. CCNY only got off 17 shots during the game, compared to the Red Hawks' 82. MSU won, 28-3.

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MSU's Steve Urbanowycz (in white) nets the ball in Saturday's game against the City College of New York. CCNY only got off 17 shots during the game, compared to the Red Hawks' 82. MSU won, 28-3.

Pride and Prejudice
When scores go up, tempers tend to follow, often without reason.

"If a running back gets the ball with 5:00 left in the game, and their team is winning by 30, are they supposed to pretend they don't see the gaping hole in the defensive line?"

By Mike Halper
Softball Classic, and the championship came down to run differential during playoff games. Running up the score wasn't an issue in this case, since all the games were close, but it potentially could have made a huge difference.

There's also the example of college football. The ratings and points systems to determine the top teams in Division I are partially based upon points scored and points allowed. Teams like the Florida Gators of the mid-90's were renowned for their scoring prowess, and score they did. The Gators would pick up victories by scoring 40 or 50 points more than their opponents. Sure, some people got mad, but the Gators had a National Championship on their minds.

Also, you have to think about the sports that were played ball, I went out on the field to do my best, and to win. If a baseball team is up 10-0 in the third inning, isn't it conceivable that the other team could possibly come back? There are fewer innings left in the game, and there is always that threat. To put it down, you pour it on. Athletes that aren't getting paid to play are there to do one thing: enjoy themselves. If an athlete goes up to bat in the ninth inning, and their team is winning by 20, are they going to want to get out on purpose? I wouldn't. I'd go out to play. And play is what I expect athletes to do.

If a running back gets the ball with 5:00 left in the game, and their team is winning by 30, are they supposed to pretend they don't see the gaping hole in the defensive line?

Is it wrong when Rickey Henderson steals third base in the eighth inning when the Mets have a 10-2 lead? A lot of people say yes, including other players, managers, radio personalities, and columnists. But Rickey's contracts are based upon his stats. Why not take the opportunity to steal a base?

Maybe it is expected that athletes stop being competitors when they're winning. I would have to strongly disagree with that statement. Maybe it's thought that when Rickey steals the base, he's laughing at the opposing team. I would also have to strongly disagree with that. When Rickey steals a base, he's looking to get into scoring position for his team. He's looking to make his fans and his kids proud.

In our society, we tend to condemn people for taking for themselves at the expense of others. I can understand it when Bill Gates is cornering the computer market and making billions of dollars, but in a game? The game is there to provide us with fun, and for the stronger to prevail. Pride and competitiveness drive athletes to compete and perform at high levels.

Why are their complaints when they do just that?
MSU Begins Streak Anew

Erik Lopez
Staff Writer

Greg Belson recorded his fifth win of the season this past Friday as he helped MSU win their third consecutive game by a score of 11-8 over Kean. Belson had a great outing as he pitched eight innings, giving up eight hits to improve his record to 5-0.

Dave Wurst went 3-4 with two RBI’s in the game. The save was picked up by Brian Ellerson as he earned his third of the year.

Thursday afternoon’s home game at Yogi Berra Stadium saw the Red Hawks snap Rutgers-Newark’s two game winning streak and win 5-3. Wurst and Jeff Schriber led the team as they both had a double and a triple. Sophomore left-hander Corey Hamman had a solid performance as he pitched 7 2/3 innings to improve his record to 3-1 on the year. Steve Ballerini and Jesus Torres each homered for the Scarlet Raiders, but to no avail. Kevin Rakowski-Kuhlman was credited with his first save of the season as he retired all five of the batters he faced to close the game.

The Red Hawks started their newest streak by beating the Adelphi University Panthers 10-8 at Adelphi on Wednesday afternoon. MSU jumped on the board early, scoring two runs in the first and two more in the top of the second. The runs came due to a pair of singles from Chris Baran and a two-run single from Jeff Schriber. Adelphi cut the deficit to one on a three-run Homerun by Henry Castillo in the bottom of the third inning.

In the top of the fifth the Red Hawks took a commanding lead, scoring three more runs due in part to an RBI double from Frank Francia. The Panthers rallied for three runs in the bottom of the eighth, but MSU added an insurance run in the top of the ninth making it 10-8. Belson picked up his second save of the season as he struck out the side. The Red Hawks were led by pitcher Scott Allan as he went seven innings, striking out six. The win was the third for Allan on the season. Offensively, Schriber went 2-2 with three RBIs while Baran went 3-6 with three RBIs.

George Gallagher leads off third while Brian Ellerson takes a pitch on Thursday, and he also leads the MSU baseball team in eight offensive categories, including home runs and batting average.

Blowout

CONTINUED FROM P. 32

run to MSU’s rally with a sacrifice fly to right field. NJCU’s defense was not much to speak of, either, as MSU’s Frank Francia reached on an error by left fielder Chris White. Craig Conway scored on the play to make it 9-5. But the Red Hawks were just getting started.

Ellerson picked up two RBIs with a single to left field. On the day, Ellerson went 6-9 with three RBIs and five runs. After his two-run single, Gothic Knight starter Pete Amadeo was removed. Amadeo (0-3) gave up 12 hits and 10 earned runs over 3 1/3 innings pitched. His replacement, Harold Fortunato, walked March Houser.

Then the Gothic Knights’ defense fell apart. Schriber reached on a throwing error by Yanez. Houser scored on the play to give the Red Hawks a 13-5 lead. MSU sent 12 players to the plate in the inning, scoring eight runs on only three hits. NJCU made three errors during the inning.

Steve Trongone picked up the win in relief for the Red Hawks. Trongone (2-0) gave up eight hits and only one run in 5 2/3 innings of relief. He did not walk a batter and struck out two. Yanez entered the game for NJCU in the top of the fifth. He was touched up for nine earned runs on 10 hits in the five innings. Scott Allan, who entered the game as a pinch hitter in the fifth inning, went 3-4 with four RBIs and three runs scored. He belted a three-run homerun in the top of the ninth. It was his first of the year.

The Red Hawks next play at NJAC opponent Ramapo on Friday before taking on Rutgers-Camden at home on Saturday, at noon.

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Athlete of the Week

Chris Baran, MSU Baseball

Sophomore outfielder Chris Baran had a hot week, earning NJAC Rookie of the Week honors, hitting .391 in five games, and contributing nine RBIs to MSU's potent offense. He helped the Red Hawks to a 18-3-1 overall record, including 7-1 in the NJAC, good for first place. Friday and Saturday, Baran drove in eight runs on eight hits, and also scored four runs while racing to a pair of triples. For the season, Baran has compiled a .379 batting average, 27 runs, 28 RBI, and 11 extra-base hits, including four homeruns. He's also hit for a .621 slugging percentage and stolen four bases on four attempts.

Notable Performances

Vinnie DeGennaro, the freshman goalkeeper for the men's lacrosse team, scored his first goal of the season as he ran downfield to score MSU's twenty-first goal to cap off the first half scoring during their 28-3 victory over CCNY.

In two games this past week, Will Van Danen added nine assists to bring his team-leading total to 46, 32 ahead of Piet Landaka's second-place 12 assists. MSU pitcher Tara Todaro was named NJAC Pitcher-of-the-Week for her play last week. She recorded two wins, and gave up only one earned run in the two games, one of which was a 7-1 win over Rowan.

Kim Caruso of the MSU softball team pitched a no hitter against NJCU for a 6-0 victory in the second game on Thursday last week. She had a perfect doubleheader at NJCU. In the first game, he was 2-3 with a run and two RBI. Brian Ellerson had a superb Saturday, going 6-9 at the plate, with five runs and three RBI.

Freshman Chris Baran was named the NJAC Rookie-of-the-Week for last week's play. In a five-game week, Baran recorded nine RBIs while batting .391. He is now tied for second on the team with a total of 27 RBIs. He also picked up two triples, raising his total to four for the season, tied for the team lead.

New Jersey Athletic Conference Sports

Standings
(as of 4/10/00)

**Baseball**

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**Softball**

**White Division**

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**Results**

**Baseball**

4/5 - MSU 10 @ Adelphi 8
4/6 - Rutgers-New. 5 @ MSU 3
4/7 - MSU 11 @ Kean 8
4/8 - MSU 24 @ NJCU 9
MSU 15 @ NJCU 5
4/11 - Eau. Comm. @ MSU postponed

**Softball**

4/6 - MSU 4 @ NJCU 1
MSU 6 @ NJCU 0
4/8 - Rowan 10 @ MSU 2
Rowan 1 @ MSU 7
4/11 - MSU @ TCNJ postponed

**Men's Lacrosse**

4/5 - MSU 13 @ Montclair 7
4/8 - CCNY 3 @ MSU 28

**Men's Tennis**

4/8 - MSU 6 @ Stevens. Tech. 3
4/4 - MSU @ Manhattanville postponed

**Men's Lacrosse**

4/6 - FDU-Mad. 16 @ MSU 15
4/8 - Phil. Tex. 19 @ MSU 12
4/11 - MSU @ Gwyn. Mercy postponed

**Men's Tennis**

4/14 - 3:30 p.m.
MSU @ Ramapo College
4/15 - 3:00 p.m.
Rutgers-Camden @ MSU

**Upcoming**

**Baseball**

4/14 - 3:30 p.m.
MSU @ Ramapo College
4/15 - Noon
Rutgers-Camden @ MSU

**Softball**

4/13 - 3 p.m.
FDU-Mad. vs MSU
4/14 - 3:30 p.m.
Rutgers @ MSU
4/15 - 1 p.m.
Savannah @ MSU

**Men's Lacrosse**

4/17 - 4 p.m.
MSU @ Long Island
4/19 - 4 p.m.
MSU @ Cabrini

**Women's Lacrosse**

4/15 - 1 p.m.
Kean @ MSU
4/18 - 4 p.m.
Savannah New Paltz @ MSU

**Men's Tennis**

4/14 - 3:30 p.m.
MSU @ East Stroudsburg
4/17 - 4 p.m.
MSU @ Cadwell
Hawks Dominate NJCU; Extend Winning Streak to Five

By Andy Seyka
Staff Writer

The Red Hawks pummeled the hapless Gothic Knights of New Jersey City University on Saturday afternoon, sweeping a doubleheader at the Gerrity Complex in Jersey City. The runs just kept coming as MSU (18-3-1, 7-1 NJAC) took game one by a score of 24-9, and the nichetop, 15-5. NJCU (3-16, 0-6 NJAC) was unable to contain the Red Hawks high-powered offense.

Gallagher, an RBI machine this season, struck again in the top of the third, doubling to left field, scoring Wurst and catcher Jeff Schriber. Gallagher had a huge game, going 4-4 with three RBIs. Currently, he holds the team lead with 33 runs batted in. Gallagher came in when Longo, who also had a big game, singled to right field.

NJCU starter Steve Doherty really took one for the team, saving the pitching staff and remaining in the game for most of the Red Hawk damage. He left the game after five innings, responsible for 16 hits and 12 runs, all of them earned.

MSU added another in the fourth inning when Wurst singled to center, bringing in Brian Ellison and putting MSU up by 10, with an 11-1 score.

Jim Whalen, the starting pitcher for the Red Hawks, was the beneficiary of all this offense as he improved his record to 2-0 on the season. Whalen gave up 11 hits and five earned runs over six innings. He also struck out five.

The Red Hawks had an even greater offensive output in the opening game of the doubleheader. MSU scored in all but one inning as they picked up 23 hits, including

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Softball Opens NJAC Play With Split

By Mike Sanchez
Assistant Sports Editor

It was as if MSU’s Kim Caruso had stepped into opposing worlds. First she went from a slugger to a pitcher Thursday afternoon as she pitched her first game of the season. Although her slugger status went away as she went 0-4 at the plate, Caruso played the game differently at the mound. She was almost perfect as she tossed a no hitter at New Jersey City University (11-12), retiring 21 of the 22 batters she faced and striking out three, while one runner got on base due to an error in the bottom of the sixth inning.

Her seven hitless innings would give MSU a 6-0 victory as they went on to sweep NJCU of the 22 batters she faced and striking out nine runs on 12 hits by Rowan bats. Her ERA ballooned from 0.00 to 6.39, and MSU’s offensive output in the opening game of the doubleheader.

MSU scored one run in the first inning, seven in the second, and three more in the third. Lead-off hitter Dave Wurst was MSU’s 15 on the board setter to the NJCU 5 top of the first. He doubled to start the inning, and later scored on George Gallagher’s single to left field. Wurst ended the game at 3-4 with an RBI and two runs scored.

In the top of the second, MSU opened the floodgates, scoring seven runs on seven hits. Chris Baran delivered a two-run double to left center, and Craig Conway picked up an RBI with a single to center. Fred Longo got into the act with a two-run triple to left.

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See BLOWOUT on p. 30

9-2 record with a 1.50 ERA, and her arm only allowed five hits with one unearned run to the Profs to help even the Red Hawks conference record to 1-1 in the year with the 7-1 win. Todaro was also named the NJAC Pitcher of the Week for her efforts.

Her 14 innings pitched between NICU and Rowan saw more strikeouts then hits as she continues to dominate the plate, striking out a team-high 49 batters in her team-high 13 appearances.

Unlike Todaro, the MSU bats found their way back to level the playing field in the second game of the doubleheader Saturday by shellouting five runs in the top of the fourth inning against Rowan, led by Alex Lamont’s three-run triple off of Rowan relief pitcher Elias. MSU drilled two different pitchers that inning.

Like Todaro, the MSU bats found their way back to level the playing field in the second game of the doubleheader Saturday by shellouting five runs in the top of the fourth inning against Rowan, led by Alex Lamont’s three-run triple off of Rowan relief pitcher Elias. MSU drilled two different pitchers that inning.

The Red Hawks’ 3-1 record over the week keeps them heading in the right direction. The team is playing well now. As long as the top of the order produces its runs and RBU’s and the pitchers don’t step into the world of beach ball-sized softballs, MSU will once again be a force in final two weeks of the regular season.

Men Win Two

The men’s lacrosse team picked up two big wins last week with a 13-7 win over Manhattanville on Wednesday and a 28-3 victory over CCNY on Saturday.

The backups got a chance to play against CCNY as MSU left the first half with a 21-2 lead. Even goaltender Vinny Dell’Emme got in on the scoring, netting MSU’s final goal of the first half.

Against Manhattanville, MSU jumped out to an 8-2 lead before trading goals during the second half. The Red Hawks now hold a 4-1 record in the Knickerbocker Conference, and have only three games left in the season. They play at Lycoming on Monday.

See R 30 for the rest of last week’s baseball results.