April 20: A Day for Arrests, Not Celebrations

Montclair State University Police Department arrested eight different people for the illegal use of marijuana. The arrests occurred in Bohm Hall, Freeman Hall and Fenwick Hall.

One of these arrests also included a criminal mischief charge. One of the students was caught tampering with a fire alarm system, so it would not react to the smoke within the room.

Throughout the years, April 20 (or 4/20) has slowly become a national holiday in certain fellow society’s lives — those who indulge in illegally smoking marijuana.

The mention of 4/20 was very popular nationwide across Facebook and Twitter pages for statements such as “Happy Holidaze.” This so-called “holiday” was celebrated by many people across the nation, even by students at Montclair State University.

“The University Police Department arrested eight different people for the illegal use of marijuana. The arrests occurred in Bohm Hall, Freeman Hall and Fenwick Hall. One of these arrests also included a criminal mischief charge. One of the students was caught tampering with a fire alarm system, so it would not react to the smoke within the room.”

Barrett also said that campus residents were very “vigilant” throughout the day.

That’s like making drinking alcohol a national holiday. If you want to drink or smoke, you’re going to do it any day you want.”

Tracy Hunt, also a sophomore, does not have much of an interest in the day, saying “It is heartening to see that our American culture constructed a ‘holiday’ for smoking marijuana.”

While many people look forward to every 4/20 of the year, many believe that it is an “overrated and pointless” day.

Mariana Tota, sophomore, said, “I think that it is pointless, because people are going to smoke weed every single day anyway, so why do we make an entire day out of it? It’s just advertising something that is wrong.”

Sophomore Leah McClish wants to know why there is a day dedicated to smoking marijuana.

“I mean, people who want to smoke, smoke whenever they want to anyway. So to me, why make it a holiday?”

Harry A. Sprague Library Archives Opened to the Public the History of Montclair State University

Nicole Simonetti | The Montclarion

Montclair State University opened the Sprague Library Archives to give everyone access to the institution’s history. Judith Lin Hunt, dean of library services, said, “It was a wonderful day for the history of the university.”

Hunt also said that Montclair State always had archives for its history, but now the location that holds them is much larger. The expanded location will enable the organization of the archives to be much easier.

Paul Martinez, librarian archivist of MSU, put a lot of work into the educational project. “It was something that was dreamt about for a while,” he said. He also referred to the opening of the archives as the opening of a project.

Nicole Simonetti | The Montclarion

MSU Holds Tuition Hearing on Campus

Nicole Simonetti | The Montclarion

Last week, Montclair State University’s Board of Trustees held a hearing that students and faculty could attend to comment on the issue related to tuition rates. Though the hearing was for the university’s community to attend, there were only 13 students in attendance.

There was no exact number, or definite answer, to the question on everyone’s mind: is tuition going to be raised?

This past year, Forbes Magazine ranked Montclair State University among the 25 top best buys in the Northeast.

The proportion of revenues provided by the State appropriation has been declining over the past decade, while the proportion generated through tuition and fees has been increasing,” as stated by the pamphlet handed out at the meeting.

This trend is expected to continue with the governor again proposing the reduction in the general appropriations to higher education.

“With the annual undergraduate student tuition rate of $7,042 for Fiscal Year 2010, Montclair State University is charging 35 percent less than the average of New Jersey’s private institutions and 11 percent less than the most expensive publics. Though the proportion generated through tuition and fees has been increasing,” as stated by the pamphlet handed out at the meeting.

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On April 13:

- A student reported the theft of his backpack and its contents left unsecured outside of the Student Center.

On April 14:

- A student reported the theft of his wallet and its contents while in University Hall.

On April 15:

- A student reported the theft of her parking hangtag from her unsecured vehicle parked in Lot T1.

On April 16:

- Seven laptop computers, one mobile phone and one iPod were reported stolen from unsecured residences in Freeman Hall.

On April 17:

- A student reported the theft of her wallet and its contents while in University Hall.

On April 18:

- A student reported the theft of the abuse of his mobile phone left unsecured in the Recreation Center.

- Seven laptop computers, one mobile phone and one iPod were reported stolen from unsecured residences in Freeman Hall.

- A student reported being harassed by a known suspect while in Freeman Hall. The victim refused to file criminal charges.

- An MSU employee reported the theft of mulch by a known suspect in Lot 28. The mulch was returned and criminal charges are not being pursued.

- A student reported criminal mischief damage to his vehicle parked in Lot 19.

Anyone who has information regarding these incidents is urged to call the police station from any campus phone at T-I-P-S (8477). All calls are strictly confidential.

In last week’s article “Fires Sweep Campus,” the student who was removed from Freeman Hall still attends MSU as a commuter and has not been charged with arson.

**Corrections**

The Montclarion is a publication of Montclair State University. The Montclarion is distributed to students and faculty. The views expressed in the Opinion section, with the exception of the Main Editorial, do not necessarily reflect the views of The Montclarion.
Aside from just the archives being opened, Martinez has other aspirations for them as well. He wants to make the archives more accessible to the students. He also wants to conserve the status of physical items, such as a scrapbook that was wrapped safely. He wants to preserve materials digitally as well, such as the digital version of The Montclarion.

For example, Martinez preserved an ice cream glass from the Bond House on campus. The Bond House was an ice cream parlor in the 1950s before it became the Center for Child Advocacy.

“Archives

The Sprague Library Archives are still a work in progress, because a lot of detailed work will go into the organization of them. Martinez wants the archives to be cataloged in “proper ways.” If things are cataloged correctly, it will make research much easier.

Martinez anticipates that archaeology classes will compile research on the university’s history through the archives.

Not just history researchers will be using these archives though. Wendy Neill, a current student and employee of the Multimedia department, plans on using them as soon as possible. Neill wants to look up family members that graduated from Montclair State University. “They all had a good start here,” Neill said.

She had relatives that attended Montclair State University when it was named Montclair Normal School. Her family members’ graduation years ranged from the 1930s to the 1970s.

Neill considers herself the “genealogist” of the family, because she is very interested in her family’s backgrounds. She intends to gain more information through articles and photographs of those years. Scanning the pictures to print and sending them out to fellow family members is another task she also hopes to accomplish through the archives.

James Brun, vice president for university advancement, stated that “documents ultimately reveal the story.”

He also believes that having the original of something holds a true power. He is excited to know that documents of MSU will be preserved for decades.

Many of those preserved documents are newspaper clippings, public releases, course catalogs for Montclair State’s undergraduates and graduates, student newspapers, staff newsletters, etc.

The Sprague Library Archives are currently located in the Multimedia department, on the lower level of the library.

They can only be viewed through appointment with Paul Martinez, due to the fact that many of the items are delicate. You can e-mail Paul Martinez at martinezp@mail.montclair.edu.

“It was a wonderful day for the history of the university.”

Judith Lin Hunt
Dean of Library Services
The annual graduate student tuition rate is $11,682, which is 18 percent less than the most expensive institution, $7,042.

Top Reasons Why Cedar Crest College is a Leader

Gain the knowledge and experience that prepare you for positions of authority in forensic science research, administration and public policy. Top Reasons Why Cedar Crest College is a Leader

Honor Society Scams Scam their Way to Montclair State University

Sadly, there is nothing illegal about how these companies operate. If you look deep enough and read all of the fine print, they are operating within the boundaries of the law.

It is the student's responsibility to verify that the 'honor' bestowed upon them by these organizations are worth more than the few cents of paper and ink that they are printed on. Normally, honors society are required to be registered with the university or college that they are recruiting at, and in addition are usually required to have a faculty advisor.

To that extent, before you send your money to any of these societies, especially ones that you did not apply to, take the time to check that they are indeed registered with your school. Find out who their faculty advisor is and verify the organization's legitimacy with them.

The most recent invitation letter I received stated right on the letterhead that they were an "officially registered student organization on the campus of Montclair State University." However, a search of the SGA organization listings turned up no record of their existence.

The head of the organization's executive director in Florida, they took it upon themselves to get in touch with MSU and have our affiliation verified. As it turned out, they did have a local chapter on campus here at MSU, they just didn't take the necessary steps to get fully listed as a student organization.

Like many other scams that are around today, these honor society scams play to the victim's ego and play on your feelings of pride aside and do some research on those organization who wanted to "honor" people.

A simple Google search of the term "honor society" suggested many things, among the first few were "honor society scam." After a bit of searching around, there was a discovery that "honor society" scams were a classic scam that target college students all around the world.

The premise is simple. All one has to do is start a corporation with an academic sounding name (in most cases they use Greek letters). Then, they obtain lists of students' information, either directly from a school (universities sometimes sell student information) or from social networking sites like Facebook or MySpace. The company will produce official looking letterheads and mail out "invitations" to students that their "established criteria" for membership.

After paying a "membership fee" to join, members are usually then given the "opportunity" to purchase more services, ranging from "Letters of Good Standing" with the organization, to graduation garb and attire. Some offer small scholarships to some members, but the actual amount the "honor" is worth more than the fives cents of paper and ink that they take.

Remember, do your homework, especially before you shell out cash to anyone!
Stay on Track

Summer Sessions at Montclair State University

View our summer course schedule online today. Registration opens April 5.

Summer Sessions at Montclair State can keep you on track to graduation or help accelerate your degree program. With undergraduate and graduate courses available, your goals are within your reach. Sessions range from 3 to 12 weeks long and meet on campus or online—giving you a variety of scheduling options to earn up to 15 credits. Plus our convenient, accessible location makes it easy to earn credits en route to graduation and still enjoy your summer.

Visit us at www.montclair.edu/summer or contact us via e-mail at summer@montclair.edu.

1 Normal Avenue • Montclair, NJ 07043 • 973-655-4352 • montclair.edu/summer
There were a number of thefts in- volving students’ electronics this past week. Four residents from Fronman Hall were robbed.

Montclair State University Police Department Lieutenant Rivas Barrett said that the case is still under investigation.

A cellphone and an iPod were re- ported missing on April 16. None of the rooms showed signs of forced en- trance.

The thefts occurred between 11 p.m. on April 15 and 11 a.m. on April 16, while their rooms were unlocked and unsecured.

The thefts prompted university po- lice to send campus-wide notices stat- ing safety precautions to be taken. Several leads are being actively pursued by the Detective Bureau. Anyone with further information is encouraged to contact the university police at x5222 or confidentially.

Lieutenant Barrett advises, “Resi- dents are strongly encouraged to lock their main and connecting doors, es- pecially when leaving the room or when sleeping.”

He also advises students to “re- port suspicious activity as it is oc- curring. If it does not seem right to you, chances are it may not be right, and we can help prevent crimes to- gether.”

The campus-wide e-mail sent out by Paul Cell indicated:

“The University Police Depart- ment would like to take this op- portunity to remind all community members to be consistently vigilant throughout the academic year when it comes to personal safety and theft prevention.”

All community members should report any suspicious activity im- mediately to the University Police Department by dialing ext. 5222 on campus phones or (973) 655-5222 from your personal phone.

In addition, a confidential univer- sity TIPS line may be accessed by dialing ext. 4847 (TIPS) on campus. The TIPS line is strictly confidential, and all information will be investi- gated.

To reduce the opportunity of theft of personal and Montclair State property and to increase your personal safety, we suggest the following general tips:

In Residence Halls:
- Lock your exterior room door and interior bathroom door before going to bed or leaving the room.
- Keep items of value out of plain view and in a secure area.
- Immediately report any suspicious person(s) or activity.

In vehicles:
- Lock all vehicle doors and windows.
- Utilize any vehicle theft prevention devices your vehicle may have.
- Take any items of value out of your vehicle.

In University facilities:
- Secure all university property that is under your direct control and encourage others to do the same.
- Lock all offices, laboratories, cabinets and classrooms with special- ized equipment when not in use.
- Report unauthorized vendors attempting to sell or purchase items directly and immediately to the University Police.
- Inventory purchased items at time of receipt to track assets for department.

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Select from hundreds of courses, including times and locations, costs, admission and registration services — all online. Start or re-start one of the many certificate programs.

Select offices open Thursday, May 15 on the Edison campus and at the New Brunswick and Perth Amboy Centers.

Information available on scholarships, financial aid, honors courses, NJ STARS, student support programs and more.

Visit: www.middlesexcc.edu

A natural fire broke out on Tues- day night on the train tracks that connect from Montclair Heights sta- tion and Montclair State University station. The fire started around 7:45 p.m.

The grind of wheels on the metal tracks caused a spark, which escali- nated into a brush fire.

The brush fire caught due to the amount of dry leaves around the train tracks.

Montclair State University Police Department and Little Falls fire de-

partment arrived on scene.

The small brush fire luckily did not harm anyone, and it did not cause damage to the area either.

Montclair State University Po-
lice Department had everything un- der control even before the Little Falls Fire Department arrived to the scene.

Although the fire was out, Little Falls Fire Department proceeded to spray the area as a precautionary ac-

tion. The fire occurred just in time for students to be getting out of classes, causing an inconvenience for them, as the exit that goes behind the police department was blocked off moment-

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