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NYPD Surveillance Affects Local Muslims

Muslim students come together to support each other and rally the NYPD over the confirmed accounts of spying on Muslim communities. The Students of Passaic County and a director of the Islamic Center at Montclair State University, said he was also aware of the spying, but claims that the news is now established as a fact. "They have details like the number of prayers Muslims pray and they follow prayers," said Hamsho. What does it matter how someone eats or prays? Disappointed, Al-Khatahtbeh believes that this has heightened paranoia among students. He believes that the NYPD should continue to do what it takes to stop NYPD Surveillance Affects Local Muslims

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Students Speak Out Against Tuition Hikes

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Pelican Police Report

The Montclarion

Members of The Montclarion staff recently won three awards in the 2011-2012 New Jersey Collegiate Newspaper Contest sponsored by the NJPA (New Jersey Press Association).

Opinion Editor Jacob Mercer-Pontier won third place in editorial writing at a four-year school for his editorial entitled, “Put Your Adult Pants On.”

Columnist Dylan Soltis won second place in column/opinion writing for the column, “He Wants More for the Money.”

Sports Editor Nick Verhagen won third place in sports writing for his MSU basketball coverage in the article, “Men Splits Home Weekend.”

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.

The Montclarion

The Montclarion is a freely distributed newspaper providing one copy per person. Additional copies are $0.25.

Corrections

The Montclarion willingly corrects its factual errors. If you think we’ve made a mistake in a story, please call Editor-in-Chief Katherine at ext. 5230.

The Advertiser

The Advertiser is published every Wednesday by the Montclair State Advertising Department. The Montclarion wishes to express its appreciation for the cooperation of the advertising agencies and individuals who have contributed to the success of The Advertiser. All rates are subject to change without notice.

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Addressing the issue of surveillance and detention, Jacques D’Amboise noted that any action that diminishes protections we had as citizens against being spied on or detained, is increasingly bewildering. The science and Middle Eastern student body at MSU, believes that people are affecting the mental health of Muslims.

Murray states that there has been a certain level of negative self-perception among Muslims because of the negative communication being delivered towards them. "Historically, we know what discrimination versus our progress and cause even more difficulty to carry."

Recognized with the New York City’s most thought-ful and informative talk show. Lehrer is also a commentator on local and national issues on television and in print. "The Brian Lehrer Show" which reports on all sides of the issue, the terrorism from taking action. Bloomberg also claims that taking caution will prevent future attacks, such as the 1993 World Trade Center bombing and the 9/11 attacks.

In an essay for the New York Times, Hamdeh also criticized the NYPD’s actions are very likely to ping beyond their jurisdiction. They are young college students trying to better themselves in the social fabric of our society according to local and national issues on television and in print. "The Brian Lehrer Show" which reports on all sides of the issue, also claimed that the NYPD is "arrogant and paranoid" for stepping towards NYPD’s spying activity and claimed that the NYPD is "arrogant and paranoid" for stepping beyond their jurisdiction.

Al-Khatahtbeh asserts that NYPD’s actions are very likely to affect the mental health of Muslims. "It is driving a rift between communities by instigating paranoia, not just among Muslims towards the government but also among other Americans towards Muslims," Al-Khatahtbeh said. She also said that there have been "a lot of wounds that were created in the social fabric of our society after 9/11 and while we are actively trying to heal them, things like the NYPD surveillance completely reverse our progress and cause even greater damage."

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"Frankly, I think this sort of solidarity and unity within our community is what we have been lacking. It’s not freedom when people are spying on mosques and Muslim students in Newark. He has also served as a board of trustees of the New Jersey Institute of Technology. He also serves on the Boards of Directors of the New Jersey Performing Arts Center and the New Jersey Utilities Authority Act made it legal for us to be indeﬁnitely detained with- out trial,” said Al-Khatahtbeh.

"We’ve been aware of the govern- ment’s increasingly bewildering restrictions on our civil rights since then: The Patriot Act momentous- ely eliminated protections we had against being spied on or detained, and the recent National Defense Authorization Act made it legal for us to be indeﬁnitely detained without trial," said Al-Khatahtbeh.

"Are we going to be spied on?" asked Hamdeh. "I have a fam- ily. It’s not freedom when people are spying on everything I do, where I take my daughters to eat or shop."

Hamdeh also criticized Bloombergs’s response to the NYPD’s tactics to dif- ferentiate between Muslims and non-Muslims. "are you not taking our freedom; we’re taking away our own free- dom," he added. And on stereotypical things being put out there.

Hamdeh added that New York has other issues that should be educating about multiculturalism by spying on an entire group of people that have no accusations against them.

Newark Mayor Cory Booker immediately revealed his comments and concern after being aware of the NYPD spying on mosques and Muslim students in Newark. He said that the Newark Police Depart- ment was not aware of the NYPD’s surveillance on Muslim communi- ties in Newark.

Gov. Chris Christie made harsh remarks towards NYPD’s spying activity and claimed that the NYPD is “arrogant and paranoid” for stop- ping beyond their jurisdiction. Al-Khatahtbeh asserts that NYPD’s actions are very likely to affect the mental health of Muslims. "It is driving a rift between communities by instigating paranoia, not just among Muslims towards the government but also among other Americans towards Muslims," Al-Khatahtbeh said.

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The Brian Lehrer Show was awarded the National Association of Broadcasters’ (“Best Interview” Awards.

Jacques D’Amboise starred on the bal- let stage and also Raymond Murray. “They’re spying on kids. We don’t consider this to be a threat in our society, as this is an issue that threatens every American.”

NYDP continued from Page 1

his time in this history in point that Muslims are going to be an inheritance. According to Murray, the sus- picion has been an additional bur- den for Muslims, who have to rise a cup of water for an hour," he said. "It doesn’t get heavier, but it becomes more difﬁcult to carry."

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The Brian Lehrer Show was awarded the National Association of Broadcasters’ (“Best Interview” Awards. Convocation Speakers Announced

Graduate School

College of Business

School of Education and Human Services

College of Humanities and Social Sciences

College of Science and Mathematics

Jacques D’Amboise

Michael Cryor

Three Brides for Seven Brothers, Carousel and The Best Things in Life are Free. D’Amboise has written and directed for the- ter, film and television. He is a founding member of the National Dance Institute in 1976. He has also served as a full professor and Dean of Dance for two years at SUNY Purchase and eleven years as visiting professor at the College of Creative Studies, University of California at Santa Barbara. His contributions in arts education have earned him nu- merous awards and honors.

Jacques D’Amboise starred and performed at the School of Ameri- can Ballet, the Ballet Society and the New York City Ballet. D’Amboise travelled on Broadway in the musical Shin Bone Alley and appeared in films including Smokey and the Bandit. He was also seen in the 1982 film The Best Things in Life are Free. D’Amboise has written and directed for the- ter, film and television. He is a founding member of the National Dance Institute in 1976. He has also served as a full professor and Dean of Dance for two years at SUNY Purchase and eleven years as visiting professor at the College of Creative Studies, University of California at Santa Barbara. His contributions in arts education have earned him nu- merous awards and honors.

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Over the past two weeks, at least seven mulch fires linked to cigarette butts on campus have been reported.

The fires were contained primarily by MSUPD and local fire departments as well. The main areas of concern for the fire centered around Freeman Hall, Chapin Hall, Sprague Library and Machuga Heights. All fires were attributed to either property or students, but with heavy winds, there is an increased concern by both fire safety officials and MSUPD.

“(The fires) obviously concern us as conditions for fires starting and spreading increase as there has been little rainfall, conditions are dry and wind can exacerbate the situation,” said Lt. Kieran Barrett, “as we have seen across the state simple fires turn into larger fires with the current conditions.”

Many students have expressed their concerns about the fires and are wondering if there are ways for them to prevent the fires.

Even students who smoke cigarettes are expressing their concern. “I always try to make sure I put my cigarettes in the cigarette deposit and never throw them in the grass,” said junior Arianny Filaretos. “I think it’s something we need to be aware, especially now.”

However, many students think that the solution regarding cigarettes causing the fires is very simple. “I believe students, as well as teachers, should be more aware and cautious of where they smoke and how they dispose of their cigarette,” said junior Kristen Owens. “There are plenty of designated smoking areas that can be used.”

Barrett strongly urges students and staff who smoke to properly discard cigarette butts, as these are also a primary cause of many of the fires. New mulch in locations such as the gardens around Freeman Hall have been catching on fire due to cigarette butts.

Students who spoke to the board asked whether the rising tuition would go in order to receive a quality education.

Students who spoke to the board asked whether the rising tuition and the resulting debt makes college practical anymore. Students argued that a tuition hike is essentially an attack on education.

Despite the fear of rising tuition, MSU is currently charging 35 percent less than the most expensive New Jersey senior public institutions and ten percent less than the average of New Jersey’s public colleges.

“I find it outright insulting that you (the board) are trying to jujufy the budget increases by showing that MSU is one of the cheapest schools in New Jersey,” Lula Grah, president of MSU’s Students for a Democratic Society, said in her address to the board. “Although we are one of the cheapest schools, we had the largest tuition increase last year, so it is not going to be the cheapest much longer.”

The students’ tuition is directly related to the amount of state appropriations provided to the university. Unfortunately, the amount of money available to the 12 public colleges in New Jersey is approximately what it was in 1997, when there were 44,000 fewer students enrolled.

In the last decade, the state provided $4,100 in support per full-time student. In the proposed budget for next year, that same full-time student’s support will drop to $2,450.

The students at the tuition hearing seemed to share one opinion: Whatever MSU and the state have been doing isn’t working and it’s time for a change. Student debt in the United States is over $1 trillion, surpassing credit card debt.

“I am pleased that (the students) came forward to express their views,” Karen Pennington, vice president of student affairs, said. “They were very effective.”

“I think that the hearing was a major success. Some of my peers made exceptional speeches that were very moving and I cannot see how the board would justify raising tuition after the stories people shared of hardship and heartbreak,” Chapman added. “I am hoping the board listened. However, they usually have a fixed agenda that will not change for anything or in this case, for anyone. If they really want to raise tuition, they will. I just hope that we made an impact on their decision regarding how much tuition will rise.”

Lack of adequate state support continues to create economic pressures for state universities and their students. While state appropriations for higher education are expected to remain flat for next year, the final decision will be made in July when Gov. Chris Christie and the New Jersey legislature approve the state’s budget for next year.

“[The fires] obviously concern by both fire safety officials and MSUPD,” Barrett strongly urges students and staff who smoke to properly discard cigarette butts, as these are also a primary cause of many of the fires.
At William Paterson University, we make it possible for our students to find the perfect balance every day. We tailor our graduate programs to meet the demands of the evolving workplace and the lives of working professionals. Let the flexibility and convenience of our programs empower you to improve your life—while you live it. Turn what’s possible into what’s next.

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Well-Behaved Women Seem to Make History
The feminism of women acting badly

Linusse Doyle

What do femme fatales, Sylvia Plath, groupies and Nicki Minaj all have in common? They are all women who have made their mark through cunning, beauty and an attitude to con- testing. If well-behaved women seldom make history, these women know that a bad attitude and genius can go hand in hand. Calling one of these ladies a “bitch” only proves the point.

Women behaving badly have a nasty reputation. If their male counterparts carry on multiple sex partners, they are called stud; if a woman does, she’s a “slut.” If a male artist has a mood swings or a full-blown disorder, he’s a tortured genius in a woman does, she’s crazy. If a famous actor behaves poorly, he’s a rebel (or revolutionary); if a woman does it, she’s a bitch.

This is the framework in which rebellion — women have to struggle to make an impact. In the 2008 election, the main concern to choose between Hillary Clinton and Barack Obama, what they got was a tidal wave of groupie campaigns against Hillary’s qualifications as a woman. If she spoke professionally and fixed Saturday Night Live view- ers with her “Bitch is the new black” skirt. She identified herself as a bitch and was emotional and manipu- lative. Hillary was perceived as a bitch for all the right qualities that made her appear self-destructive and, around her appear ineffectual: she was in control of her emotions and unemotional. In response to the hypocrisy surrounding Hillary, Tina Fey ad- dressed Saturday Night Live view- ers with her “Bitch is the new black” skirt. She identified herself as a bitch proclaiming, “Bitches get stuff done.” And in not so many words, women throughout history have tended to wear a scarlet “F” to get stuff done as well.

In life, Sylvia Plath was a deep- ly disturbed woman whose cheating husband’s work was famed beyond her own. Across thousands of class-

rooms of angry teenagers, how- ever, Plath has become a totemic genius post-mortem. Sylvia Plath is either romantically depressed or self-centered; both are justified pending on the source of criticism. Those who get close to her work and her mind have a tendency of calling her a “bitch” for her de- mands and her unlikelihood to settle as a young, married woman of the 1950s with two children. Instead, she killed herself, and destroyed, as well as cemented, her own legacy. With this, Plath paves the way for products in these genius madmen from miserable to tolerate in life, and irreplaceable in death. In their inap- propriability, death is a bitch.

Sylvia Plath: "If I were in love it would otherwise be written off as a ‘duh’ comes closest to performing the same note as her male counter- parts.

To sell records, you can write a love song about devotion, or you can churn out songs about bookups and partying as hard as they boys. Women in rock defy gender norms and are perceived as wild cards for their mere presence and attitude, demonstrated by books like Sex, Women, and Rock ’n’ Roll: "Trouble Girls and She’s a Rebel: The History of Women in Rock. Riot grrrl and earlier girl groups entertained the notion of girl-girl mentalities, but rap and hip hop take a curiously opposite approach: only one girl may be a crew’s token female, and any nearby women represent a threat to this cherished position. "The Bitch Queen" title is passed around by rappers like Lil’ Kim, Fousy Brown and Nicki Minaj — with rap battles breaking out over each rival’s credentials.

"The ‘bitch’ mentality is that female rappers willingly embrace friction is not wholly separate from punk, from bad girls/females, from women as equally misbehaved. In truth, this is the truly poorly behaved women, not just the girls going wild, with a tight grasp on rewriting history in bold red. By Hollywood bad girl Max West’s own quip, “There are no good girls gone wrong — just bad ones found out.” With that attitude, any bad girl with ambition and an interest in bettering other girls may stand a chance at making history.

Now, let’s take a look at the product launch, and add to it. Again, very simple, but at the time of its launch, it was every ‘phone- having-hipster-kwazimzulu’s dream. I would describe it as a picture ver- sion of Twitter where you can follow

Facebook founder Mark Zuckerberg (right) bought the popular photo app Instagram for $1 billion. Image courtesy of Google.

Follow me @ <twitter>
@themontclair

A. Vosku Garcia-Gomez

Finally, the mega popular pic- ture app, Instagram, is available for Droid users. However, nobody expected Facebook was swooping in and buying the app for one billion dollars. If you are not familiar with Instagram — it’s awesome. It’s an app that allows you to share photos. Sounds simple enough; the company based out of San Francisco had only 13 employees, and was built in just three months.

I’m remembering think to myself, ‘Instagram is going to be something,” said Instagram’s cofounder and System of launching the app, and he was right.

The app allows you to take a picture, or upload one from your phone’s gallery, and add a filter to it. Again, very simple, but at the time of its launch, it was every ‘phone- having-hipster-kwazimzulu’s dream. I would describe it as a picture ver- sion of Twitter where you can follow a person’s profile and his pictures will appear on your timeline.

The app was launched on Oc- tober 6, 2011, and by that December, it was named the “App of the Year” by Apple, reaching one million fol- lowers in only three months. Facebook’s purchase of Insta- gram has caused different reactions: critics of the one billion dollars is too much for the app to be valued at 500 million dollars, to wor- ried users of Facebook who might impose on their beloved app.

The Facebook concern is people’s distrust of Facebook due to the mini- mal privacy and its never-ending ads. Through when someone wants to keep Instagram indepen- dent and does not plan on making them a part of Facebook. Twitter, as they often do, to backlash many changes, people turned to Twitter, as they often do, to backlash the sale. "Facegram," “Instagram” and “one billion dollars” were all trending topics on Monday. their mere presence and attitude, demonstrated by books like Sex, Women, and Rock ’n’ Roll: "Trouble Girls and She’s a Rebel: The History of Women in Rock. Riot grrrl and earlier girl groups

Bitch: Sylvia Plath and rebel “bitch” Kathleen Hanna often get bad reputation due to their willingness to collaborate with other females. Pictures courtesy of Google.

\textbf{Fusegol girl}. Nicki Minaj and rebel “bitch” Kathleen Hanna often get bad reputation due to their willingness to collaborate with other females. Pictures courtesy of Google.

This is the framework in which rebellion — women have to struggle to make an impact. In the 2008 election, the main concern to choose between Hillary Clinton and Barack Obama, what they got was a tidal wave of groupie campaigns against Hillary’s qualifications as a woman. If she spoke professionally and fixed Saturday Night Live view- ers with her “Bitch is the new black” skirt. She identified herself as a bitch and was emotional and manipu- lative. Hillary was perceived as a bitch for all the right qualities that made her appear self-destructive and, around her appear ineffectual: she was in control of her emotions and unemotional. In response to the hypocrisy surrounding Hillary, Tina Fey ad- dressed Saturday Night Live view- ers with her “Bitch is the new black” skirt. She identified herself as a bitch proclaiming, “Bitches get stuff done.” And in not so many words, women throughout history have tended to wear a scarlet “F” to get stuff done as well.

In life, Sylvia Plath was a deep- ly disturbed woman whose cheating husband’s work was famed beyond her own. Across thousands of class-
Thanks for leaving your car here last night and not ending my family’s lives.

Maria Punjabi

SAVE A LIFE. DON’T DRIVE HOME BUZZED.
BUZZED DRIVING IS DRUNK DRIVING.
The Ambiguity of College Relationships: “Is this going well?” Could Mean, “Sayonara”

Melanie Solomon

In the college dating scene, it is sometimes very difficult to gauge partners’ feelings. Sometimes, people are looking for one night stands while other are seeking relationships. It is a sign of one’s maturity if they can distinguish between the two, but if there is potential for more than one, people are fickle and want to see if there is more intimacy or are your vertical conversa-
tions can get away with by declaring that your “friend zone” is open but somewhere with new eyes.

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2 30 ____ or less
5 I Am Number ____
7 The Girl with the ____ Tattoo
8 The Adventures of
9 ____ of the Lost Ark
10 The ____ Games
11 Crazy, ____ Love
12 Horrible ____
14 ____ Surfer
18 The ____ Diary
Recently, New York City’s boys in blue have been getting a bad reputation—and for good reason.

With half of the country up in arms about racial profiling in the Trayvon Martin case and the other half still buzzing about bullying issues across our great nation, the NYPD has found their neat little niche somewhere in the gray area between the two controversial subjects and has been hoping to keep their private business out of the public eye.

That private business just so happens to be the unconstitutional surveillance of Muslim communities and it stems from ideologically-abetted Islamophobia, the intense fear or dislike of Muslims, which has been a major issue in this country since the World Trade Center attacks on 9/11.

Though its intensity has hopefully flagged over the past ten and a half years, the fear that followers of Islam are a threat to the greater good of our country is still far too prevalent and continues to provide our government justification for many civil rights violations under the veil of safety and security.

Islamophobia justified training NYPD recruits by forcing repeated viewings of anti-Muslim propaganda specifically created to portray all Muslims as threatening extremists and now it apparently justifies unlawful and unwarranted espionage targeting the unfortunately villainized community.

After an Associated Press investigation revealed that the NYPD were in New Jersey documenting the whereabouts and activities of peaceful Muslim-Americans including where they ate, where they prayed and, in some cases, the details of the sermons themselves, the question of “how far is too far?” comes predominantly to mind.

This isn’t to say that the surveillance of suspected criminals is wrong and that we should leave matters up to chance, but crusading against a group of people based on their religious beliefs seems to be splitting in the face of the very American ideals we are told are in danger.

But, let’s be honest, this is really just old news simply with another scary face emblazoned upon the ever-growing list of threats to the greater good.

Whether it’s the English tax, the communist spy, the black revolutionary or the Mexican laborer, the list of public menaces seems to find no resolution nor does it have an end in sight.

Maybe now, with the country’s focus back on the blatant discrimination that has riddled our country’s economical and social development since its birth, we can become the country we have always believed we are where people actually free to speak their minds, follow their hearts and even practice their own religions without duress.

As the world’s melting pot, we owe a lot of our contemporary culture to the subtle, and sometimes not-so-subtle (I’m looking at you, English skinny jeans), influences of people from all around the world.

How we repay these fine folks, however, is by distancing ourselves and then denying them even the chance to be equal members of a society that they help forge day in and day out.

Now the question isn’t if change everyone’s minds one-by-one, maybe the first step is doing something to change a system that constantly encourages prejudice towards other cultures.

---

Students Speak

Do you think that George Zimmerman should have been arrested?

Judissa Martinez
Sophomore French Translation/Religion

“I do definitely think it’s good that he’s arrested. It definitely won’t be enough justice for Trayvon’s family though.”

Ariel Flood
Senior Business Management

“Considering his actions afterwards and the fact that it was a kid, then yeah, there is really not much in his defense.”

Erin Doyle
Senior Fine Arts/ Painting

“I do think it is just. From what I understand, there wasn’t much justification in the reason for his shooting. Also, based on his background, I think it’s a little sketchy.”

Graham Howard Preston
Junior Fine Arts/ Painting

“Yeah, for sure. I think the main issue is that this whole thing could have been avoided if the neighborhood watch weren’t allowed to carry guns. Just make the police do their job.”
Shake Off Stress or Let It Fuel You?

Don’t let stress slow you down, use it to your advantage.

I'm not talking about getting to sleep for ten hours after a busy day of work or school. Rather, the feeling that nothing else matters but just staring at a cloud for hours can be very relaxing. It has numerous benefits to your physical and mental health. For example, it can help you focus and return your mind to its normal state, or at least its normal state for that particular moment.

After doing some research, here are some tips I found that may interest those who feel way too stressed.

Stress can also lower your immune system, which may cause a stressed person to get sick easier than a relaxed person. The body is less able to fight off germs, and it can lead to aches and pains throughout the body.

After four years of exhausting myself and giving up on things, I realized that the only thing that was going to make me more productive was to start over. Let's let go of the past and move on.

There are several reasons why stress is bad for you.

Stress can lead to other problems, such as heart disease, depression, and anxiety.

The more stress you have, the harder it is to relax. And when you relax, your body starts to heal itself.

Stress is a natural part of life, but it's important to find ways to deal with it.

Don't spend too much time thinking about the future or the past. Instead, focus on the present and enjoy the moment.

The past is behind you. The future is uncertain. The present is your chance to create the life you want. So make the most of it.

Travis Lancaster, an English major, is in his first year as the columnist at The Montclarion.
The Montclarion

ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

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Laughs and Learning With Lewis Black
Comedian delivers a heartfelt performance

David Arora
Staff Writer

Stand-up comedian Lewis Black took the stage at Memorial Auditorium Tuesday in a no boundaries act that left the crowd laughing, applauding and most importantly: learning. After a quick entertaining opening act by John Bowman, Black took the stage and walked onto loud applause from the audience and began his stampeade of comedy, facts and life lessons. From taking on topics from his life as a child dealing with four channels on the television, to his proposal for his generation to have a lasting effect on the country by getting marijuana legalized instead of being known as the generation who could “hang out better than any other generation ever.”

Black’s act dealt heavily with politics and the Republican primary elections for a majority of the night. After informing the audience of news in the world including foreign aid and the war in Afghanistan, Black repeatedly stated that he sided with neither Democrats nor Republicans and stayed in the middle after complaining about both parties. Black then single-handedly exposed all of the GOP candidate and informed the audience of his anger about the conflicts between Democracy and Republicans and how the two parties need to find a common goal on all the conflicts in our country.

Black has the personality of a very frustrated man who suffers from ADD and anxiety, as he stated and his opening act reiterated his building anger and frustration throughout his act in a key and largely loved part of his comedy and personality. Yelling at the audience, cursing every other word and most importantly, getting his point across while keeping the topics and jokes funny; that is the general overview of Black’s comedic style.

Black, 63, finished his act with an inspirational section. He told the audience that as the current youth and generation, we have to do what makes us happy. “College are some of the best years of your life and I know you hear this over and over but it’s because it’s true!” Black left the audience questioning what makes them happy and how to achieve that in our lives, as well as leaving us with a night of laughs, fun and knowledge.

ALSO IN THE ISSUE

What I’m Playing this Week
Skullgirls destroys clichés

Alan Valle
Assistant Editor

It’s noon right now and I’m in my living room with some friends. On the television is the newest game to take residency in our apartment — Skullgirls. I just released on Xbox Live and PSN, it’s a fighting game made by independent studio Reverge Labs and spearheaded by veteran designer Mike Zaimont, better known by his moniker “Mike Z.”

If you ever saw the tutorial videos that came with the original Skullgirls you may remember him for those, as I do. Skullgirls is his baby.

After the “Dead Era” of fighting games from 2001-2008, there has been a resurgence of the fighting genre with Capcom leading the way with Street Fighter IV, the game that single-handedly reestablished a genre and lead to the development of Marvel vs Capcom 3, Street Fighter X Tekken and the newest entry, Reverge Labs’ Skullgirls.

Over the course of this game, the most striking aspect is the visuals. Each sprite is animated at twice the resolution modern systems are capable of and also features the most frames of animation in any fighting game in history. When combined with its fast-paced, compelling anime/art deco抛弃 style, the game is a joy to look at even if you don’t play.

The running commentary of character comparisons, callouts, strategies, moves performed and gaming in general makes it a little hard to hear the soundtrack, composed by Michiru Yamane of Castlevania fame. However, hearing barely leaves of the tracks, the only word to say is “wow.” The jazzy tunes for all eight characters suit the deco looks of the game and makes you nostalgic for an era that never actually existed. But that’s just the presentation, the real meat and bones of the game are far more impressive.

Skullgirls was designed primarily by Mike Zaimont, a tournament veteran and legend in the fighting game community. With this perspective, Zaimont designed the game with tournament players as the target audience as opposed to more typical design choices of making it accessible to casual players and having the tournament level players discover the advanced strategies. In spite of this focus on building the most serious fighting game in history, the game is highly accessible to the most casual of players thanks to the single best tutorial mode in the history of videogames. Whereas typical tutorials only teach you how to do special moves and specific combos, Skullgirls teaches you everything you need to know to compete at a high level. From the basics of movement to high-low mix-ups with tick throws culminating into supers, it walks you through the process and holds your hand the entire time until you’re ready for your first real match.

When comparing games and finding advantage, it’s a fine time to mention Skullgirls. The game is a little bit odd as it borrows from other long-standing franchises to ultimately make the game both fun and unique. With only eight characters, the game can be learned fairly quickly which is good since tournament season is in full swing.

For anyone who doesn’t have a solid understanding of fighting games, there are far worse places to start than Skullgirls. When every aspect is as excellent and filled with love as this game, the criticism is no excuse not to buy it.
Progressive rapper Will Sheridan made a major splash on the web when the former Villanova starter came out of the closet. This gutsy move was followed by an even riskier one. After he was done dominating the basketball court, Sheridan decided to set his sights on recording music. Sheridan is now producing fast-paced dance tracks like “Welcome to the Jungle” and even some hard-core hip hop tracks like “302,” which can be downloaded on iTunes.

On April 3, Sheridan headlined a concert at Fat Baby in the Lower East Side of New York with a slew of other out performers. These performers are defying the odds by making music that spans across various genres while staying true to themselves. The show was two hours of pop, rock and hip hop music from fresh faces and showed that the future of music may have to make room for openly gay artists.

The lineup included Swaggjesty, a pint-sized rapper that packs a major punch. His flow, which he laid over upbeat instrumentals, kept the crowd swaying from side to side of the dimly lit bar. His content ranged from overly vulgar to full on narcissistic, and the crowd loved every minute of it. He definitely lived up to the swag in his name as he confidently tugged at the brim of his snap back hat while he danced to his own tracks.

The host, house singer SAMN, added his own flair of dance music to the showcase. He performed two tracks off his latest project, Synthet-ic Hearts. His humorous way with words kept the crowd, of about 25 people, entertained between each set.

The crowd was enchanted by the vocal performance of drag queen superstar Sir Honey Davenport. With her face illuminated thanks to an amazing spotlight, she twirled and sashayed across the stage. A slight malfunction occurred when she lost her wig, but like a true performer she recovered quickly.

The concert was rounded out with new wave pixie Heven whose campy pop music was a nice contrast to the male dominated lineup. Will Sheridan’s set was like an off-Broadway production and definitely delivered an amazing show. His use of elaborate props and intense backup dancers prevented any onlooker from looking away as he performed his new single “Here Comes the Sun.” The show quickly turned into a full on party since the crowd couldn’t contain their energy! The show was a huge success thanks to the intimate setting and the endless energy of the acts. Everyone seemed to enjoy the music as well as each other’s company as they danced till the DJ said it was time to leave.

Will Sheridan isn’t letting his sexuality stop his flow.

Photo courtesy of mareadyphotography.com

Rashard’s Grade:
4 out of 5

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AROUND THE WORLD PLAYLIST

1. Yakko’s World from “Animaniacs”
   Nick Taylor – Assistant Copy Editor

2. Waka Waka by Shakira
   Catherine Baxter – Co-News

3. Africa by Toto
   – Nick Verhagen
   Sports Editor

4. Run the World
   by Beyonce
   – Erica Krivda
   Graphics Editor

5. African Child
   by Aldous Snow
   – Craig McCarthy
   Web Editor

6. Wavin’ Flag by K’naan
   Nick Patriarca – Sports Writer

7. Roam by B-82’s
   Monika Bujas – Opinion Assistant

8. Around the World by Red Hot Chili Peppers
   Jacob-Mercer Pontier – Opinion Editor

9. All Around the World by Mac Miller
   Carley Hussain – Production Editor

10. Party in the U.S.A
    by Miley Cyrus
    – Lindsay Rassmann
    Feature Editor

11. Drive There Now!
    by The Almost
    – Ian Elliott
    Webmaster

12. Where the Hood At
    by DMX
    – Alan Vallee
    Arts Editor

13. Walk Like An Egyptian by The Bangles
    Steph Milot – Copy Editor

14. Been Around the World by Puff Daddy
    Rashard Bradshaw – Assistant Arts

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A message from the NBA and its players

THINKB4YOUSPEAK.COM
It only took newly-acquired Mi-
ami Marlins manager Ozzie Guillen five
games to stir up yet another one of
baseball’s most competitive
managers.  Newsflash, Guillen has
become famous for the controversy
he brings to the MLB.  He is known for
his rants, tirades, out-
curses, and most recently, saying whatever
he’s been thinking.  He is the epitome
of the controversial manager.

But the thing that’s currently causing a
big stir is Guillen’s in-fidel-ity.  He
has been suspended for five games without pay.
This has been a severe
penalty for Guillen, who has been an integral part of
the Marlins for the last 60 years, but that’s
probably not the worst of it.  Guillen
will have to contend for the win-
take-back the title back to Chicago this year.

The single most interesting match-up
of the Western Conference is go-
ing to be between the Red Wings
and the Nashville Predators. The Preda-
tors are making a surge to the top
they faced at the hands of the Red
Wings in the playoffs back in 2008. At
the same time, the Red Wings are looking
to get back the Stanley Cup after a four-year drought.

The game is going to end up with
a lot of scrap outs, as the Red Wings have
been known to play dirty, while the Predators have over the
years picked up an attitude of not
taking guff from their opponents. It’s
clear who in the Eastern Conference has the
guts to make it to the second round this year. The
number one New York Rangers have
been going full steam all season long and
are looking to quickly brush the Chi-
waukee Senators out of the playoffs in four
games. With the line-up they have been
carrying over the season, they are
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the same time, the Red Wings are looking
to get back the Stanley Cup after a four-year drought.

The game is going to end up with
a lot of scrap outs, as the Red Wings have
been known to play dirty, while the Predators have over the
years picked up an attitude of not
taking guff from their opponents. It’s
clear who in the Eastern Conference has the
guts to make it to the second round this year. The
number one New York Rangers have
been going full steam all season long and
are looking to quickly brush the Chi-
waukee Senators out of the playoffs in four
games. With the line-up they have been
carrying over the season, they are
looking to be between the Red Wings and
the Nashville Predators. The Preda-
tors are looking to avenge the beat-
ing they faced at the hands of the Red
Wings in the playoffs back in 2008. At
the same time, the Red Wings are looking
to get back the Stanley Cup after a four-year drought.
nada, zip, zilch

(What most kids know about preparing for college.)

Without the help of an adult, it may be confusing for students to find their way to college. If you know a student with dreams of a higher education, do your part and help lead the way. Learn how at...

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I believe that high-profile athletes and coaches should stay out of the sensitive realms of politics and religion. Everyone is allowed to have their own beliefs, and that includes my representatives being open about his political stance, and that should have learned from his other countless verbal gaffes that he is not the best at speaking his opinion. It would be understandable if he simply said something stupid and they slapped him on the wrist, but the fact that he praised someone who has caused so many problems is dumb, even for Guillen. Hopefully this suspension will finally teach Guillen a lesson.

For updates, check out: www.montclairathletics.com @TheMontclarion on Twitter

Melany Zeller
Infielder — Softball
Zeller couldn’t have picked a better time to hit her first collegiate homerun. Down to the team’s final strike, Zeller launched a game-tying, solo homerun to send the game into extra-innings. Montclair State would go ahead and win the game 5-4.

The Montclair State Red Hawks will defend first place and the best record in the NJAC conference (24-1) against the Rowan Profs, who currently hold the second-best record in the NJAC conference (23-4).

The Montclair State Red Hawks

Women’s Lacrosse

Softball vs Rowan
April 14, 1 p.m.

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Jack Skeels
Attack — Lacrosse
Skeels scored four goals on five shots in the Red Hawks’ 14-8 win over Richard Stockton. Montclair had scored nine unanswered goals in that game with Skeels contributing three of them during that stretch. The win puts MSU in second place in the Skyline conference with a perfect 2-0 record (5-5 overall).

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Softball Shows No Sign of Slowing Down

Red Hawks still undefeated in NJAC play

Jeff Onorato

The 21-ranked Montclair State University softball team continued to add to its conference record, staying atop the competition. This time it was Rutgers-Newark’s chance to stop the Red Hawks. 11 hits and one walk. MSU added runs in the third inning. Montclair was able to make up in the ninth, but they came up just short of a comeback. A base hit and a walk put twinrunners on for Bond, who popped a two-out RBI-single to make it 4-3, but that would be all from Montclair, snapping their win streak and giving MSU its final run came as

Sophomore Dylan Papa came on in the eighth and pitched two scoreless

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