Norovirus Causes Scare Across New Jersey
Montclair and other colleges prepare students in case of outbreak

The University is taking preventative actions to avoid an outbreak of the norovirus that has spread throughout New Jersey colleges, including Rider and Princeton. The norovirus spreads easily and infects more than 20 million people each year, according to the Centers for Disease Control. The virus causes over 70,000 hospitalizations and 800 deaths in the United States each year. The illness often begins suddenly, with a person experiencing stomach cramps, vomiting or diarrhea. Less common symptoms include

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Students need to take extra health precautions during this winter season.
On Feb. 15: Lorenzo Villanueva, 20, of Point Pleasant, was arrested for possession of drug paraphernalia while in Baseline Hall. He is scheduled to appear in Little Falls Municipal Court.

On Feb. 15: A staff member reported an act of criminal mischief by a student in the Science Hall. Graffiti was discovered on an exterior wall of the building. This matter is under investigation.

On Feb. 17: A patron of Floyd Hall Arena reported the theft of a hockey stick from an unsecured locker room. This matter is under investigation.

On Feb. 17: Nasir Wells, 19, of Orange, was arrested for disorderly conduct and trespassing while in the Student Center. He is scheduled to appear in Little Falls Municipal Court.

On Feb. 17: A female resident reported a burglary of her unsecured room in Einstein Hall. Several items were discovered missing. This matter is under investigation.

On Feb. 21: A male student reported being attacked by an unknown assailant on the pathway near the track. This matter is under investigation.

On Feb. 21: A faculty member reported the theft of a laptop from a secured room inside of Science Hall. This matter is under investigation.

On Feb. 21: A staff member reported an act of criminal mischief inside of Dickson Hall. Graffiti was discovered inside of one of the bathrooms. This matter is under investigation.

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.

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Car Chase Comes to Halt on Campus

A Month Later: Recovery Room a Helpful Success

Mike Conforti
Staff Writer

Three individuals were involved in a police pursuit that ended in a crash on university grounds. The driver, Oscar Gonzalez Jr., 19, Pablo Zegarra-Lonsdale, 19 and Brendan Giammatteo, 18, were apprehended without injury on Sunday morning around 1:45 a.m. after crashing near the Floyd Hall Arena. The three were charged with eluding, resisting arrest and driving while intoxicated.

According to Lt. Kevin Barrett of the Montclair State University Police Department, the chase began on Valley Road in Clifton before ending with a 60-foot plunge that miraculously resulted in no injuries. "The vehicle had already struck a lamp post and ran a divider, plowing down a 60 foot embankment resulting in the area of the Floyd Hall Arena," wrote Barrett in an email. "Two individuals fled the vehicle on foot. One other individual remained in the vehicle and was apprehended." Zegarra-Lonsdale was the only Montclair State student involved. In addition to the municipal charges, the three will be charged with damage to university property.

"Hopefully, they learn from this mistake. It’s understandable when young kids act a little wild, but life is all about learning from your mistakes," said Tom Puriel, sophomore. "This will be a wake-up call." The incident began when Clifton police officers Sean Connor and Joelle Mumia saw a 1999 Volkswagen Jetta tailgating another vehicle and crossing the double yellow line on Valley Road. "Police tried to stop the car, but it passed another vehicle and continued," Clifton detective, Sgt. Robert Beucken, said. Once the police activated their flashing lights, the Jetta accelerated which facilitated loss of the vehicle and resulting crash. Accident debris was visible Sunday morning and a scanner report stated, "Damage to University property," the report stated. "Damage to University property will be included in the charges. It is important to note that the driver of a vehicle initiates a pursuit."

Many students agree that this is another unfortunate occurrence that does not represent the campus community accurately. "What they did was real immature, and they’re lucky they didn’t hurt anyone," said Matthew Pacharova, sophomore. "The fact that the one kid was a student is a poor reflection on the campus community!"

The Montclarion | Katherine Milsop

February 23, 2012 • The Montclarion • NEWS

Those in recovery have access to a safe, confidential environment at the Drop In center.

Words that describe college range from exams and schedules to parties and drinking. However, not every student is seeking a party-friendly lifestyle. In fact, many are looking for recovery. Those students need not look any further; the Recovery Room, held in the Drop-In Center, is their answer.

The Recovery Room, a program which began nearly a month ago, is a meet-up session where students seeking a safe, healthy environment geared towards support and recovery can interact with other students who operate under the same needs.

“The group has an open-door policy,” said Dr. Marie Cascarrano, coordinator of the Recovery Room and Health Promotion. “We have established group guidelines to make everyone feel comfortable.”

Currently, the recovery room experiences seven to 10 visitors per week, with interest continually growing. The meetings are centered on promoting peace of mind and supporting healthy choices on campus. New members are welcome and encouraged.

In the first half of the meeting, participants spend time sharing stories about their challenges, things that may have happened or accomplishments that they have experienced in the past.

The second half usually features a discussion on a specific topic, such as the portrayal of drinking in the media, and how those portrayals make the participants feel.

Certainly, the healthy continuation of this program a month after its beginning marks clear success for the meetings. Students and faculty continue to show their support and interest in this type of program.

“It has been successful because it has showed students that there are others on campus like them and that the university is supportive of them,” said Cascarrano.

“Many have expressed that it is nice to know that there are other students in recovery who also attend Montclair State University and this is a way to bring them together.” Indeed, those who take part in the program have felt its positive effects. A participating junior student who wishes to remain anonymous said, “So far, my experiences have been pleasant and reassuring.”

The group allows me the chance I need to step into an informal recovery environment to speak frankly with those I can identify with and vice versa, without being judged. It is very positive and it is a relief.”

This student, who found out about the program via email, currently commutes to campus and has a very busy schedule, yet plans to make more time to attend meetings due to their healing and beneficial value.

“At the meetings, we talk, express, vent, embrace. We also listen, identify, comfort and reassure one another,” the student said.

The student also cites a desire for more meeting times and formal recovery groups held on campus.

Because of the success of this program, residential education is taking further steps into having confidential substance-free housing in the fall.

“This is a supportive community for students who choose not to smoke, use tobacco products, consume alcoholic beverages or use other illegal drugs,” said Dominic Petrueaux, executive director of residential education and services.

The community will be located in one of our traditional halls. If you are interested in this community, please email Kevin Schaefer at schaefk@montclair.edu.

Any students that are looking for more information on the Recovery Room can contact Cascarrano at cascarrano@mail.montclair.edu.

Photo Credit: Katherine Milsop

February 23, 2012 • The Montclarion • NEWS

The damage along the embankment facing Floyd Hall.

Car Chase Comes to Halt on Campus

The Montclarion | Katherine Milsop

February 23, 2012 • The Montclarion • NEWS

These in recovery have access to a safe, confidential environment at the Drop In center.
Tips to avoid the Norovirus:

-Wash your hands with soap and water after using the toilet.

-Wash your hands before preparing or eating food or beverages.

-Don't prepare food if you have diarrhea or vomiting.

-Promptly clean and disinfect any contaminated surfaces with a bleach-based household cleaner.

-Stay home if you are ill, even for 24-48 hours after symptoms go away.

Tips from http://www.diggernews.com

low-grade fever, chills, headache, muscle aches and fatigue. Most people recover within one to two days. The virus is found in the stool of those who are infected. It is spread by direct or indirect contact by touching food and surfaces. There is no treatment besides drinking fluids to prevent dehydration, so prevention is key.

The university's primary strategy has been preventing infection. Members of the University's facilities staff routinely clean all common areas across campus that might spread any type of virus, such as bathroom, door handles, elevator buttons and table surfaces. Cleaning is especially focused in all residence halls and food service areas; numerous cleanings take place every day.

University officials have also distributed information to all resident students about the norovirus, its symptoms, how it is spread and what to do if one becomes ill. The University Health Center, facilities and residential education are working closely to implement these initiatives.

“In a community as large as Montclair State, it is not uncommon to sporadically see all kinds of illnesses and viruses,” said Donna Barry, of the University Health Center.

Other universities have been hit hard with the virus, prompting them to take extra protective measures. “I didn’t have the virus, but over 100 people did,” said Elizabeth Ritacco, a freshman at Rider University, which took extensive preventative actions to help prevent the norovirus from further spreading in their dining hall facilities.

There are currently about 5870 students at Montclair State University who are eating in their dining hall facilities.

According to Peruzeau, the man is wanted for assault. The campus police have not yet reported the incident over the radio to help find him.

Lt. Kieran Barrett of the Montclair State University Police Department reported that a male student came to police headquarters to report an assault outside of University Hall near handicapped parking spaces and the tennis courts. The male student stated that he and another driver entered into a verbal dispute over handicap parking and that the driver of the other vehicle referred to the male as handicapped and punched him in the face. The male student said that he was punched in the face, put his head down and tried not to punch the other driver back off of him.

Although the university police have been working to catch the man in question, Peruzeau still has his worries. “When you have this guy from assaultin’ someone else that doesn’t look handicapped at first, but might have serious internal problems,” said Peruzeau. “What worries me is if he didn’t care about messing with me, what would stop him from accidentally picking a fight with a person with a more serious problem that you cannot see just by looking at them? You don’t have to have a cast or something just to be handicapped.”

The man who allegedly assaulted Peruzeau is an older white male driving a grey-black Nissan pick-up truck, usually seen near the University Hall.

However, another concern that some students have is why there was no alert about this assault. “From everything that’s going on, you’d think we would get notifications about these things happening,” said Bailey Knox, freshman.

“Our school is usually so safe in general. I feel like we have a right to know when these things happen because we go to this school and we should be aware of these instances,” said Carter. “Many students were confused about why they received an alert regarding one assault and not the other. However, Barrett explained that the lack of an alert on Tuesday was an assault by an unknown person, which, due to federal law, the university is not allowed to discuss.

“[However, both cases are] being taken very seriously,” said Barrett. “It is not minimizing the effect of the investigations.”

Information regarding either assault should contact MSUPD at 973-655-5222, leave a message on the confidential tip line at extension 8477 on campus or email hew@montclair.edu.

“When I look at the in- and off-campus activities and I think, ‘What is the university doing about these issues?’ I feel like we have a right to know when these things happen because we go to this school and we should be aware of these instances,” said Carter. “Many students were confused about why they received an alert regarding one assault and not the other. However, Barrett explained that the lack of an alert on Tuesday was an assault by an unknown person, which, due to federal law, the university is not allowed to discuss.

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In these challenging times, every move you make to advance your career becomes critical to your success. Motivated individuals looking to take the next step have pursued graduate education at Montclair State for over 75 years. Our outstanding faculty, nearly 100 innovative, real-world programs, and state-of-the-art facilities will help you build a unique blend of knowledge and skills that will make you stand out from the crowd. Best of all, you can count on us to be with you every step of the way, from the time you apply and are admitted, straight through to the day you receive your graduate degree.

Montclair State University. Advanced thinking that advances careers.

GRADUATE OPEN HOUSE
Sunday, February 26, 12 p.m.
University Hall
Register online
Eats flies. Dates a pig. Hollywood star. **LIVE YOUR DREAMS** Pass It On
The FroYo Craze: Probiotics Galore

Michaela Caton
Staff Writer

I happen to love frozen yogurt, as do many of my friends. Being a nutrition major I can't help but wonder if the idea of “healthy ice cream” is just too good to be true. Unfortunately, frozen yogurt may not be the guilt-free dessert we think it is. To understand why yogurt itself is healthy, we must first comprehend reformulation, this tart taste has been achieved by adding fruit and toppings. Frozen yogurt is not a healthy food and should not be viewed as equal to our old friend yoghurt.

The FroYo craze shows no signs of slowing down and has become a ubiquitous food in college dorm rooms. However, despite the huge interest and popularity of the frozen yogurt craze, misinformation regarding the health benefits of fortified yogurt is everywhere. Yogurt is a dairy product containing live active cultures that produce two distinct health benefits. The live cultures in yogurt provide probiotics and prebiotics.

Probiotics are beneficial bacteria that are found in yogurt and other dairy products. Prebiotics are inulin and fructooligosaccharides that are found in fruits, vegetables, and yogurt. Prebiotics are not digested by the body, but are utilized by probiotics. Prebiotics are found in foods, but they are better utilized by the body when combined with probiotics. Prebiotics are nutrients that provide a food source for the probiotics, and they stimulate the growth of beneficial bacteria.

According to Martin Burros of the New York Times, “Where you find one, you find the other.” For every probiotic, there is a prebiotic. Prebiotics stimulate the growth of beneficial bacteria, and it is through prebiotics that probiotics are enhanced.

A healthy gut is necessary for normal digestion, nutrient absorption, and immune function. Probiotics are beneficial bacteria that are found in yogurt and other dairy products. Prebiotics are inulin and fructooligosaccharides that are found in fruits, vegetables, and yogurt. Prebiotics are not digested by the body, but are utilized by probiotics. Prebiotics are found in foods, but they are better utilized by the body when combined with probiotics. Prebiotics are nutrients that provide a food source for the probiotics, and they stimulate the growth of beneficial bacteria.

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One of the perks of living in a not-college-town is the constant need for a DD. Designated drivers, or taken sober person of the group. This is the person danging keys in place of a red cup in hand, making face at drunken stories and trying to speak the drunk language of "OMG I love you" and "I have to pee" when they’re really speaking "I hope we get home by three because I have work in the morning." The designated driver is completely aware of the nonsense that is going on, which can be hilarious or frightening. The designated driver is, at the root of the job, responsible for risk management. Her primary duty is the safety of the group; the lives of the leakers, also known as her friends, to and from their destination. Without her, they could make the deadly de- cision to get behind a wheel of a car wasted, or worse, be stuck on frat row for the rest of their lives. But there are other risks to be managed, as well. When a friend gets to the calling-the-cab-of-phase of "drunk," it is the designated driver’s job to at least attempt removing the phone from her possession. When a friend gets to the "TMI" phase and asks if you can turn on the radio, the designated driver admits that when the power went out, her room was pitch black because she used all the batteries for her dildos, it is the DD’s job to change the subject in the painful silence that follows. When a friend gets to the "truth serum" phase and asks if she should continue talking to her recently married, every-FL-default-with-bis- gi-grab crash from high school, it is time to get into the car and remind her that it is something she would regret tomor- row, when she’s sober and hungover.

Because of the amnesia-like nature of its appeal, the designated driver is a thankless job, like the first few years of motherhood: cleaning up bodily fluids and dealing with crying, with no recollection from the cared-for. The designated driver: always remember to thank your Des- ignated Driver. She may have helped you more than you can ever remem- ber.

As Alice Walker wrote in Search of Our Mother’s Gardens: Womanism Dose, she was creating a movement. When she first began to describe a lifestyle that catered to women of color and for their intersectional identities, Walker was articulating the simulta- neous hope and bitterness felt by a group that had been marginalized even by the most marginalized groups. Born out of the ashes of ancient Afri- can texts on the powerful spirituality of women, the fire of the Civil Rights Movement and steeped in feminism, womanism emerged as a time-consum- ing, second-wave feminism, for all its gains in reproductive, workplace and legal arenas, was largely ex- clusive of women of color and their particular set of issues. Just as sec- ond-wave feminists were fighting for the right to become economically in- dependent, women of color were busy holding steady jobs to protest. Feminists were often accused of be- ing a “middle-class white women’s” movement, and pre-existing tension between people of color and women as oppressed minority groups were even more pronounced. By the time the Civil Rights movement of the 1960s, black women were slighted by their male counterparts, and African American writers, in particular, began to question conventional gender roles and dis- missed them as powerful leaders. By the time second-wave feminism emerged, many black women were eager for change, but when feminism spoke more to white women, ignor- ing women of color, some of these women began to question their role in creat- ing their own revolution.

Womanism is a more holistic ap- proach to the experiences of a specific and designate person of the group. This is the person danging keys in place of a red cup in hand, making face at drunken stories and trying to speak the drunk language of "OMG I love you" and "I have to pee" when they’re really speaking "I hope we get home by three because I have work in the morning." The designated driver is completely aware of the nonsense that is going on, which can be hilarious or frightening. The designated driver is, at the root of the job, responsible for risk management. Her primary duty is the safety of the group; the lives of the leakers, also known as her friends, to and from their destination. Without her, they could make the deadly de- cision to get behind a wheel of a car wasted, or worse, be stuck on frat row for the rest of their lives. But there are other risks to be managed, as well. When a friend gets to the calling-the-cab-of-phase of "drunk," it is the designated driver’s job to at least attempt removing the phone from her possession. When a friend gets to the "TMI" phase and asks if you can turn on the radio, the designated driver admits that when the power went out, her room was pitch black because she

A Violet by Any Other Name: Womanism and Feminism

"Womanist is to feminist as purple is to lavender" -Alice Walker

as a response to a series of troubling events that could answer to problems feminism wasn’t ready to answer at the time. In the end, there must be a battle of the same-sexes, feminism versus womanism. It is instead help- ful to read the history of womanism as a response to a series of troubling events that could answer to problems feminism wasn’t ready to answer at the time. In the end, there must be a battle of the same-sexes, feminism versus womanism. It is instead help- ful to read the history of womanism as a response to a series of troubling events that could answer to problems feminism wasn’t ready to answer at the time. In the end, there must be a battle of the same-sexes, feminism versus womanism. It is instead help- ful to read the history of womanism as a response to a series of troubling events that could answer to problems feminism wasn’t ready to answer at the time. In the end, there must be a battle of the same-sexes, feminism versus womanism. It is instead help- ful to read the history of womanism as a response to a series of troubling events that could answer to problems feminism wasn’t ready to answer at the time.

In 1999, Joan Morgan coined the term “hip hop feminism” to relate specifically to young women of color born between 1965 and 1985 — out of the reaches of the 1970s black feminism movement; it spoke to these young women through the same speakers as hip hop and rap music, familiar. Wom- enism is further reaching: both criticize the battle of the same-sexes, feminism versus womanism.
Peak Performances

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Feb. 24 • 1:00 p.m. & 7:30 p.m.|
Feb. 25 • 8:00 p.m. | Feb. 26 • 2:00 p.m.

Department of Theatre and Dance

Dance Collage 2012
Memorial Auditorium

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Mar. 3 • 8:00 p.m. | Mar. 4 & 10 • 2:00 p.m.

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*Undergraduate students at MSU receive one ticket at no additional charge to every event through the Performing Arts Fee with their valid student I.D.
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Help Wanted

Full service salon and spa in Clifton, NJ seeks part-time receptionist with managerial duties. Must be outgoing, hardworking, flexible and reliable. Basic computer skills required. Retail experience helpful, but not necessary. Salary commensurate with experience. Benefits available. Please call (973) 340-4200 or email hairworksnj@verizon.net.

Part-time
Homework/ General Helper needed ASAP
$13+ hourly.
(WAYNE)
Approx 15 hours per week; three boys (10/12/13) oversee homework and general supervision. Flexible hours but THURSDAYS 4-8 p.m. are a must - education major helpful. Great working environment.
(201) 602-8870 Kingston.
Robyn@gmail.com
Email kingston.robyn@gmail.com.

Child Care

Full service salon and spa in Clifton, NJ seeks part-time receptionist with managerial duties. Must be outgoing, hardworking, flexible and reliable. Basic computer skills required. Retail experience helpful, but not necessary. Salary commensurate with experience. Benefits available. Please call (973) 340-4200 or email hairworksnj@verizon.net.

Open Positions
The Montclarion is looking for Cartoonists Writers Photographers and MORE!
Stop by our office at The Student Center Annex Room 113 for more information!
There will be no issue of The Montclarion next week. Our next issue will be on March 8.
I always come back to the money. As many of you have probably noticed, gas prices are on the rise once again and they don’t show signs of stopping.

Despite recent signs of possible economic recovery on Wall Street and with unemployment numbers down to the lowest in over three years, it seems that getting back to normal isn’t quite as close as we thought.

The average national price of gas has been rising by more than three cents a week since mid-December, and experts are less than enthusiastic about a quick turnaround — expecting it to hit the $4 mark in the coming weeks and possibly up to $5 by the summer.

The reason behind all of this? Over the last three months, the U.S. has lost over 700,000 barrels of crude oil — about 5 percent of the nation’s gasoline production — and the supply of gasoline just keeps declining.

This, in addition to the fears that tension over Iran’s nuclear programs will disrupt global oil supplies, leaves us with the unsettling reality that the gasoline fallout economists have been warning us about for years is becoming more than a mere hypothesis.

And this time there’s nothing that we can do about it. There is no immediate shortage in supply (we’re actually exporting gasoline since natural gas prices are so low) and we can’t cut down on our mileage or turn off the gas heating while we’re out of the house to directly affect bringing the prices down because these hikes are merely the result of speculation and future worries of supply problems.

In addition to the rising cost of tuition and the constant burdening of seemingly unnecessary associated fees, gas prices are becoming, once again, a major economic factor in deciding how to ration out what little income you receive.

For such a gasoline-dependent society, this has the potential to affect many different areas of the nation where the extra 40 or 50 dollars a month could mean the difference between store brand and name brand at the grocery store or having to pick up an extra shift just to keep everything copacetic.

With a school of over 14,000 commuting students, this means that the disparity between paying for on-campus residence and saving money with off-campus housing is growing smaller and less enticing.

For the majority of Americans, rising gas prices mean less money in their wallet as the tank continues to mercilessly devour the fuel, but to every exhaust cloud, a silver lining there will be. That silver lining comes in the form of a potential economic boost in the auto industry as people begin to take hybrid technology and even America’s underdog, the electric car, more and more seriously.

What would you cut back on to afford the rising gas prices?

Sam Donovan, Senior, Music Therapy

“I personally believe that I will cut back on a lot of my travelling. I’ve stopped visiting people and I’ve started carpooling when I do or telling them to come to me.”

Owen Luddy, Senior, History

“I would stop driving and I would bike everywhere. Everywhere.”

Kyle Williams, Senior, Broadcasting

“I would have to cut out eating take-out because I like to eat garbage food and I eat it too much.”

Gillian Peterson, Senior, Fine Arts

“I’d have to cut back on my social life... and by social life I mean being a complete raging drunk.”
Lori Wieczorek: A Broad in Florence
An expatriate wannabe’s reflections on contemporary Italian culture

The bell tower chimes softly beneath the laughter, banter and haggling of Piazza della Repubblica. Every local that walks by breathes the air of deliverance, of release as if time itself played no role in their lives.

They disregarded the cast iron cow that serves as a testament to innocence and that childish fixation to stare at flashlights and ornamental animals. The cobblestone streets are just another road to walk on, the Duomo just another building for them, and I realize that for the next four months I will remain an immigrant in this beautiful place.

I am in Florence, Italy, and I will never take for granted the scenery that greets me every day. You can hardly believe that can actually fit down the narrow streets of Florence. I am a foreign correspondent, and I live one month as a columnist for The Montclarion.

If you have the money or resources — which prescription medications are not necessary to be doing so.

Somehow we need to get away from that “been there done that” Italian stare to achieve cultural shock. I could never detach myself from the laughter and the joy.

I have spoken to many people that have studied abroad from Spain to France and everyone tells me the same thing — that it truly was a life changing experience, and I’m beginning to believe it.

I urge all you to disregard your reservations, to hell with the fear of being on your own in a foreign place. Take a chance and you can experience your own little piece of Europe. One month down, four to go.

Lori Wieczorek, an English major, is the former Opinion Editor for The Montclarion.
I was watching the Republican debate and I was shocked. Chelsea, one of my favorite shows, is a few nights back, and I came across an interesting article. The CEO of Ashley Madison, Noel Biderman, states that people are disappointed with their spouse’s lack of effort and ultimately save a marriage, in some cases. Divorce may not be an ideal situation, but it gives people an alternative to ending a relationship until the end. I feel that people are taking advantage of the Catholic Church to avoid the misfortune of others. Maybe I’m just a traditionalist because my parents are still happily married, but I do hope that children of divorced parents would not also want to be married and healthy and not carried out in a deceitful manner. We should instill trust and honesty in the next generation, or there will be nothing when the future holds in terms of relationships in America. — Noel Bujas, a communications major, is in her first year as a columnist for The Montclarion.
The best picture category nominations this year are: The Artist, The Descendants, Extremely Loud & Incredibly Close, The Help, Hugo, midnight in Paris, Moneyball, The Tree of Life and War Horse.

My pick: The Artist.
Possible spoiler: The Descendants.
Should have been nominated: Drive.

The Academy could have nominated up to ten best pictures this year, but they decided to go with just nine, because it has no business being nominated for best picture and should have been replaced with Drive. The Help will do well in the acting categories, has no chance for best picture.


Should have been nominated: Michael Shannon, Take Shelter.

Before I make my predictions, let me just say that Michael Shannon deserves a ton of praise for his brilliant work in Take Shelter, as well as Michael Fassbender for his work in Shame. While those actors were left out of the race due to their films being too “low-key,” we are left with five deserving nominees who will compete for the golden statue come Sunday. Demian Bichir and Gary Oldman both carried their films to critical acclaim, but unfortunately they won’t be carrying gold out of the Kodak theatre. Brad Pitt, who was branded an early favorite, was tremendous in his portrayal of Oakland A’s manager Billy Beane, but he has run out of steam and now has a very slim shot at winning. Essentially we are left with a two-person race between George Clooney for his raw, humble performance in The Descendants and Jean Dujardin, who was so good in The Artist that words literally can’t describe it.

If you would have said in the beginning of the year to make a bet as to who will win best actor between the iconic George Clooney and the virtually unknown Frenchman, Jean Dujardin, I would have called you crazy and picked Clooney. A year later, call me crazy, but now I’m putting my money on Jean Dujardin.

The nominees for animated feature film are: A Cat in Paris, Chico & Rita, Kung Fu Panda 2, Puss in Boots and Rango.

My pick: Rango. Possible spoiler: Chico & Rita.
Should have been nominated: The Adventures of Tintin.

Has anyone even seen A Cat in Paris? Or how about Chico & Rita? I’m simply going to have to pick Rango because people have actually seen it, and it wasn’t half bad. On a side note, did they simply forget that The Adventures of Tintin was eligible?
The nominees for best director are: Woody Allen for Midnight in Paris, Michael Hazanavicius for The Artist, Terrence Malick for The Tree of Life, Alexander Payne for The Descendants and Martin Scorsese for Hugo.

My pick: Michael Hazanavicius, The Artist
Possible spoiler: Martin Scorsese, Hugo

Malick and Allen’s nominations will certainly boost ratings due to their profound careers and huge fan base, but I have a feeling they will be nothing more than seat-fillers come the big night. Hazanavicius turned Hollywood and the critics upside down when his unconventional, black and white feature, The Artist, hit theaters, and now he garners the attention of millions of moviegoers. He will be up against Payne and Scorsese, who each have Oscar nominees under their belt. While Scorsese has

The best supporting actress nominees are: Berenice Bejo for The Artist, Jessica Chastain for The Help, Melissa McCarthy for Bridesmaids, Janet McTeer for Albert Nobbs and Octavia Spencer for The Help.

My pick: Berenice Bejo, The Artist
Possible spoiler: Octavia Spencer, The Help

Should have been nominated: Shailene Woodley, The Descendants

McCarthy’s nomination for Bridesmaids (which was solid, but not great, in my view) was a nice treat for the comedic crowd, but she has no shot, so let’s move on. I already said Albert Nobbs was a major sleeper, so unless the Academy wants its audience to change the channel, they won’t be calling McTeer’s name. Chastain had a terrific year on the big screen as she was in four major films (The Debt, The Help, The Tree of Life and Take Shelter), so while she certainly deserved a nomination, I

The best supporting actor nominees are: Kenneth Branagh for My Week with Marilyn, Jonah Hill for Moneyball, Nick Nolte for Warrior, Christopher Plummer for Beginners and Max Von Sydow for Extremely Loud & Incredibly Close.

My pick: Christopher Plummer, Beginners
Possible Spoiler: None
Should Have Been Nominated: Albert Brooks, Drive

Unlike last year’s best supporting actor race, which was totally up for grabs, this year’s race seems pretty set in stone; Plummer will win for Beginners, for his portrayal of an older, gay widower who moves in with his son. Although Plummer is my definite pick to win, that doesn’t necessarily mean I would pick him myself. I thought Nolte shined in Warrior, more than any other actor this year, as a recovering alcoholic trying to rekindle his relationship with his two boys. Hill also made a key switch from comedy to drama this year and I really enjoyed him alongside Brad Pitt in Moneyball. Even Branagh gave a career-best performance in My Week with Marilyn, although this is all for naught because Plummer is much overdue for a gold statue at age 82.

Best Supporting Actress

Best Supporting Actor
The best actress nominees are: Claire Danes for Albert Nobbs, Viola Davis for The Help, Rooney Mara for The Girl with the Dragon Tattoo, Meryl Streep for The Iron Lady and Michelle Williams for My Week with Marilyn.

My pick: Viola Davis, The Help
Possible spoiler: Meryl Streep, The Iron Lady

Should have been nominated: Kristen Dunst, Melancholia

While I was delighted to see Mara receive a nomination this year for her dark performance in The Girl with the Dragon Tattoo, it was short performance, it was the most the opera had gotten a chance for so far. It was Mont Clair State’s previous provost, Richard Lynde, who stood during a question and answer panel to ask, “When are we going to see this here?” according to Aldridge. “And when the provocates says that, that’s good.”

Although it was a short performance, it is very difficult to record an opera,” Aldridge explained. “It’s complicated with the singer, the stage and stage noise. The stage and the orchestra noise. It’s just a really complicated thing; you are not that immersed in it once it’s recorded. It wasn’t until a random Wednesday afternoon in 2005 in Kasser Theater when the opera was given a chance. Aldridge, who had continued to work on the piece for years and was rejected dozen of times, was honored by the administration when he was asked to give a performance of a few acts from his opera with Henschel Garfin.

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Aldridge explained, “This was the contemporary opera needed to bring it back to life. With MSU’s Peak Performances and the Nashville Opera collaborating on this expensive proposition (most operas cost around $100,000), it co-premiered in both Nashville in 2007 and Kasser Theatre two months later in January 2008, when it made The New York Times’ Arts and Leisuer section front page.

Redone in several places after being shown at MSU and Nashville, it was in Milwaukee where three separate live stage performances were recorded, for which the opera won a Grammy for Best Engineered Album. “They did a wonderful job because it is very difficult to record an opera,” Aldridge explained. “It is complicated with a lot going on with the orchestra, the singer, the stage and stage noise. That was the biggest challenge to a great recording from a live recording.”

Aldridge an important part of the team;

To Aldridge an important part of the team; he said, “It really taught me to stick to what I believe in.”

O’Brother as a unit has a confidence and a stage presence that is rare nowadays, and this is apparent not only in their music, but in their spoken word, as well. Towards the end of the set, someone in the back of the venue yelled for them to play “True Love” (as some jerk inevitably does at every concert) and Merritt handled the situation with grace, claiming that “one day, we’re going to learn that this is not a song we’re going to play.”

Merritt is not only a confident and strong leader, but he is also witty and quick-thinking, which are both traits that are important to have in the music performance business. Hearing O’Brother perform live sticks out in my mind as a privilege; these boys certainly deliver on their album, but seeing them perform live is almost like a religious experience - they will take your expectations of rock performances and exceed them like you wouldn’t believe.
"ONCE WE WERE ROBOTS"

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"The Robot With Human Hair, Pt. 2 1/2" by Dance Gavin Dance
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AT SCHOOL
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The Montclarion • January 26, 2012 A&E 19
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The New York Rangers continue to creep closer to a World Series, as being eligible for AARP and social security. The team’s mandate, on the other hand, crawl closer to irrelevancy with each year that isn’t New York more experienced than a college team. Neither local team has made huge headwinds on the home front, though, when the team pushed hardest. Rangers was shaken off by November, when the team seamed like a sure thing after the beginning of the season. They went 4-3-0-3 in attempts to bring their team to the top of the division with a 9-2 record. Under the guidance of goalie Henrik Lundqvist and team captain Ryan Callahan, the team has a strong gathering of fans who managed to reach a deal with Darvish. In total, the Rangers spent over $111 million dollars for a stellar Japanese pitcher who is unproven here in the United States. These next six years will prove whether Darvish was worth the money or whether the only proven commodity from Japan worth his contract — and the hype — in major league history was Ichiro Suzuki. Albert Pujols has gone from Cardinal red and white to the Los Angeles Angels’ white and red. Pujols, one of, if not the greatest player of this era, was a bigger landmark in St. Louis than the Gateway Arch and surprised everyone when he left the area to go to California. He signed a contract for $240 million over a 10-year period; even though he is already 32 years old. One must wonder how long he can stay at the top of the baseball universe before age causes his skills to deteriorate. In an era scrutinized by steroids, Pujols has given baseball fans reason to believe that greatness can come without cheating.

The same cannot be said for the reigning National League MVP, Ryan Braun. Braun tested positive for performance-enhancing drugs this off-season. However, he has denied taking them. Alex Rodriguez, Roger Clemens and Rafael Palmeiro all denied using them, but look where they ended up in the public’s perception. Andy Pettitte admitted he used HGH and everyone still loves him. Unfortunately for Braun, he is likely to lose his appeal and will have to serve his 50-game suspension at the start of the season alongside Manny Ramirez.

Rangers Standing Strong in Eastern Conference

Kyle Chmura

Eighth place and knocked out of the playoffs in the first round — that’s how the New York Rangers ended the 2010-2011 NHL season. To deepen the wounding already dealt to the Rangers, on May 13, forward Derek Boogaard was found dead in his home. The team has been hurting for a long time, and last season was another reminder of the fact that the team had fallen on hard times. It’s been almost 20 years since the Rangers have played in the Stanley Cup, but the 2012-2013 season might finally be the year that the boys in blue make their triumphant return. The NHL off-season started with the announcement in December, competing for the top spot in the conference with last year’s Stanley Cup champions, the Boston Bruins. The team’s uncertainty was pushed even more so to the forefront of the NHL when they outplayed last year’s third place team of the entire league, the Flyers. Though the team has a strong roster, they are supported by a large gathering of fans who managed to vote in four of their players, Lundqvist, Brad Richards (former captain of New York’s Islanders), the Montclairian • February 23, 2012

MLB off-season gives fans plenty to talk about

Jay Fritz
Assistant Sports Editor

As we approach the MLB off-season, fans are on the lookout. With more than half of the season already played, teams are in blue to warrant a parade in New York. There have been plenty of storylines. Manny Ramirez has come out of retirement, signed a one-year deal with the Oakland Athletics. Ex-Yankees star Alex Rodriques and Matsui must feel terrible; both players haven’t gotten a call from a major league team, yet Ramirez gets a contract that comes with a 50-game suspension to start the season. He isn’t much better than those two players, and the New York Mets were ready to pay him. They will primarily serve as a designated hitter, but not run the risk of Ramirez being a problem. Team president and GM John Mozeliak will only help the clubhouse atmosphere as professionals. The Texas Rangers acquired a Daredevil’s avenger for the upcoming season when they signed Japanese pitcher Yu Darvish to a six-year, $60 million deal. Similar to when Matsui signed with the Boston Red Sox, the Rangers plucked a bid of $51.7 million dollars just to talk to the guy (the money would have been given back if Texas couldn’t reach a deal with Darvish). In total, the Rangers spent over $111 million dollars for a stellar Japanese pitcher who is unproven here in the United States. These next six years will prove whether Darvish was worth the money or whether the only proven commodity from Japan worth his contract — and the hype — in major league history was Ichiro Suzuki.

Albert Pujols has gone from Cardinal red and white to the Los Angeles Angels’ white and red. Pujols, one of, if not the greatest player of this era, was a bigger landmark in St. Louis than the Gateway Arch and surprised everyone when he left the area to go to California. He signed a contract for $240 million over a 10-year period; even though he is already 32 years old. One must wonder how long he can stay at the top of the baseball universe before age causes his skills to deteriorate. In an era scrutinized by steroids, Pujols has given baseball fans reason to believe that greatness can come without cheating.

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QUESTION OF THE WEEK

HOW IMPORTANT IS THE NFL COMBINE TO A PLAYERS DRAFT VALUE?

Nick Patriarca
Senior Writer

A player’s physical abilities are put on display at the NFL combine. I also think a player’s performance at the combine can provide coaches with a glimpse of how he will perform under game-day pressure. Players at the combine have been performing the same drills for their entire playing careers, but unfortunately, I don’t make the decisions and many organizations get on that gridiron every Sunday mean you have what it takes to perform well in a controlled environment doesn’t necessarily mean you have what it takes to get on that gridiron every Sunday and pull through for your team. Personally, I feel that the combine proves nothing about a player’s skill, yet it doesn’t prove how good their initiative is. I look at Tim Tebow, the quarterback from Florida who was a top draft pick. When he performed in the combine, his results did not meet Denver’s expectations. Now look at last season as he becomes the NFL’s latest sensation, simply because he replaced Kyle Orton as starter. I say the combine is necessary, but it should not undermine a prospect’s performance. I would say the NFL combine is a good way of testing the players’ skill, yet it doesn’t prove how good their initiative is. I look at Tim Tebow, the quarterback from Florida who was a top draft pick. When he performed in the combine, his results did not meet Denver’s expectations. Now look at last season as he becomes the NFL’s latest sensation, simply because he replaced Kyle Orton as starter. I say the combine is necessary, but it should not undermine.

Who’s Hot This Week

Zak Westerberg
Junior — Men’s Swimming & Diving
Westerberg managed to set three individual records and was the leadoff man in the 400-meter medley relay that set the school record. Westerberg also set school records in the 50-meter freestyle, 100-meter butterfly and 100-meter freestyle.

Melissa Tobie
Forward — Women’s Basketball
Tobie helped lead the Red Hawks to the Semifinals of the 2011-12 NJAC Tournament with an outstanding 43 points. Tobie also recorded 19 rebounds and had a .500 shooting percentage.

Game of the Week

Women’s/Men’s Track & Field
Friday, Feb. 24
@ The Armory

Both the men’s and women’s track & field teams will head to The Armory in New York, NY to take part in the 2011-2012 NJAC Indoor Championships.

2/17-19 Metropolitan Conference Championships
Men - 6th Place
Women - 6th Place

2/18 MSU 76, Stockton 67
2/21 Kean 78, MSU 68

No meets until 3/21

WPSR-Philadelphia

2/23 MSU 76, Ramapo 73
The women’s basketball team finished their 2011-12 season with a 76-68 loss to Kean University in the NJAC tournament semifinals on Tuesday. After starting the season with an 8-6 record and four conference losses, it looked as though the Red Hawks were not going to make it to the NJAC tournament. Whereas most teams would hang their heads in disappointment, the Red Hawks stuck together and used their situation as motivation for an outstanding playoff push. The Red Hawks went on a 10-1 run, including nine straight conference wins and advanced to the 2011-12 NJAC tournament. Montclair State went up against Richard Stockton on Saturday in the NJAC quarterfinals. When the teams met earlier in the season, Richard Stockton walked away with a 76-67 victory. Coincidentally, the Red Hawks not only defeated the Ospreys but reversed the score from their first meeting and won 76-67.

The first half was a little too close for comfort in the eyes of MSU. After going shot-for-shot with the Ospreys, the Red Hawks had their work cut out for them against Kean. MSU managed to take the lead four times and tie the game once, but went into the locker room down 37-35.

Things started to look good when the Red Hawks went on a 10-0 run to tie the game at 42-42 during the first few minutes of the second half. The Red Hawks were right on the Cougars’ heels throughout the second half, but a late 10-0 push by Kean in the closing minutes sealed the Cougar victory and sent the Red Hawks home with their second loss in their last 13 games.

Overall, the team is very young and looks to have a lot of potential and room for immense growth. The Red Hawks will definitely be the team to beat over the next year or two.

The Red Hawks enter the season as three-time defending champions of the Skyline Conference. Kivlen and his new staff, it is their first chance to win a conference title and compete on a national stage, which has created a “revived energy” with the team.

“With the new staff, we have never been there before, so we are very hungry to get to that level,” says Kivlen. Despite losing four All-Conference players, Kivlen is very confident that his senior class will step up as team leaders and get it done on the field. Top returners include Meth, who led the team in goals last year with 27 and has amassed 118 goals over his career at Montclair State. Kiel Dietrich, standing a dominating six-foot-four-inches, 215 pounds, has earned a spot as a starting defender. This mix of youth and experience along with an entire new coaching staff will surely make for an interesting 2012 season for the Red Hawks as they push for a fourth consecutive Skyline Conference title. They will kick off their home schedule this Saturday at 1 p.m. as they host 19th ranked Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute at Sprague Field.

For a recap of last night’s game, visit themontclarion.org.