Student Suspended for YouTube Comment

In an interview with CBS’ Christine Sloan, Aziz said he “was foolish and should not have done it, but [he] was responding to someone who called someone a racist.”

Ethan Fria
Assistant News Editor

The term “cyber bullying” refers to the abusive behavior that is sometimes found on the seemingly boundless internet. Montclair State University graduate student Joseph Aziz learned firsthand the consequences of cyber bullying. However, some believe that the punishment enacted upon Aziz was more drastic than his “crime” called for.

Last fall, Aziz commented on a YouTube video, saying that a female student’s legs looked like “a pair of bleached hams.” Last semester, a video was uploaded showing another Montclair stu-

Still Under Construction

This weekend, Montclair will host the first ever “hackathon” in New Jersey. Coined as “Hack Jersey,” the event will begin on Saturday afternoon. Teams of journalist and computer coders alike will have 24 hours to create something for one of five categories.

The event was co-created by Debbie Galant, director of the NJ News Commons and Tom Meagher, data editor at Digital First Media. According to Galant, teams will compete to win in the following categories: Best Overall Project, Best Design, Best Story, People’s Choice and Best Project Relating to Superstorm Sandy and its Aftermath. Hack Continued on Page 1

The Alumni Green is one of the many areas on campus under construction.

Stephanie Agudelo
Assistant News Editor

Starting last summer, many students have noticed drastic changes to the appearance of the campus mainly due to multiple construction projects that have been taking place since late June of 2012. What may have really caught the attention of many students is the new box-like structure that suddenly surfaced next to CarParC Diem (formally known as Lot 26). But while this completed structure may signify major progress, the campus still has a long way to go before returning to normalcy.

In early June, Montclair State University embarked on a $90 million construction project that would allow the campus to have its own combined heating, cooling and power system.

Construction Continued on Page 4

Photo courtesy of cbs.com.

“Through blood drawn by lash and blood drawn by sword, we learned that no union founded on the principles of liberty and equality could survive half slave and half free. We made ourselves anew and vowed to move forward together.”

- President Barack Obama

Jersey’s First ‘Hackathon’ Comes to Montclair State

Hackathons happen across the country, such as this one at foursquare.

Catherine Baxter
News Editor

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Photo courtesy of foursquare.com.
1. On Dec. 14: Michael Chiavetta, 21, of Clifton, was arrested for disorderly conduct and lewdness while in Dinallo Heights. He is scheduled to appear in Little Falls Municipal Court. (building #49)

2. On Dec. 16: Nicholas Gallombardo, 19, of Ocean, was arrested for disorderly conduct outside of Blanton Hall. He is scheduled to appear in Little Falls Municipal Court. (building #48)

3. On Jan. 14: An act of criminal mischief was reported by a faculty member in Dickson Hall. An overhead projector was tampered with in one of the classrooms. This matter is under investigation. (building #31)

4. On Jan. 16: A staff member of maintenance reported a fraudulent loan taken out in his name. This matter is under investigation. (building #47)

5. On Jan. 17: A female student reported being threatened by a known male while in Bohlin Hall last semester. This matter is under investigation. (building #47)

6. On Jan. 20: Andrew Manley, 21, of Plainsboro, and Elan Schenker, 21, of Princeton Junction, were charged with disorderly conduct and obstruction of law while in Alice Paul Hall. They are scheduled to appear in Little Falls Municipal Court. (building #62)
dependent social media sites like Facebook, America finally received a re-
sponse from Congress at 2 a.m. on Jan. 1, fears of a "fiscal cliff" were
in danger of falling over the prover-
bial "cliff" as the Bush tax cuts reached
their expiration date on Dec. 31, 2012. In order to pre-
vent or at least mitigate some of the damage Congress had
passed the Fiscal Cliff deal.

The "fiscal cliff" deal was an effort by Congress to revisit sev-
eral tax codes ranging from tax rates to medicare spending cuts.

Though the deal left some issues unresolved (such as the def-
icit reduction) and made numerous changes to the tax code and ex-
tended the Bush era tax rates to families with an income less than
$450,000 and to individuals with an income less than $400,000.

What this means is that the middle and upper-middle class
will permanently retain the Bush era tax rates.
The deal is expected to expand the American Opportunity Tax Credit. This
includes undergraduate education by allowing borrowers to deduct to
up to $2,500. It has been extend-
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the end of 2017.

The spending cuts, however, still loom. A legislation passed in An-
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from domestic programs, includ-
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have a serious effect on student

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Kantrowitz also projected that fees for federal education aid
had been frozen, and the maxi-
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As quoted in an online article by the National Association of State
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Aziz was found guilty of violating the right to free speech.

In this case, the point is that this could have been avoided if
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The Montclairion News

Hacking Continued From Page 1

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The underground piping distribution system installation is on schedule and the following should be noted:

- Lot 17 has been restored to use with the exception of the area around the new manhole.
- The entire roadway in front of Webster Hall is closed while the piping is being installed. The construction will continue and connect to the installed piping north of Stone Hall.
- The Alumni Green is closed, as is the rear exit of College Hall and the College Hall bridge. Access to the campus is through the University Promenade.

Pelican Report
from Around
the World

- On Tuesday, the United Nations Security Council adopted a resolution condemning North Korea’s recent rocket launch. This also led to the expansion of existing U.N. sanctions.

- On Tuesday, a prominent Jihadist announced that the deputy leader of al Qaeda in the Arabian Peninsula and one of the most wanted men in Saudi Arabia had been killed. However, officials in the group’s home base of Yemen said they have no evidence of his death.

- Three people were wounded in a college shooting on Tuesday. At least two have been detained after the shooting at Lone Star County College in Texas.

- In response to recent school shootings, a Florida mother concerned about safety has donated more than $11,000 so that armed deputies can patrol the elementary school where her child attends.
Transform your life

Graduate Open House

Sunday, February 10, 2013
12 p.m. / University Hall

REGISTER ONLINE
montclair.edu/graduate

The Graduate School
MONTCLAIR STATE UNIVERSITY
1 Normal Avenue | Montclair, NJ 07043
Emerald With Envy: Pantone’s Color of the Year

Every year, Pantone – famous for the Pantone color wheel – picks a specific color to be the “color of the year.” This year, Pantone has chosen emerald, the rich tone we associate with the deep green stone of the same name. Incorporating this bold color into your wardrobe can not only help keep you fashionably current, but it can add an appropriate splash of happiness into the often drab winter colors.

**Clothes**

It’s impossible not to find a top, bottom or dress in your desired style that incorporates emerald. Pairing a deep green blazer with all black is a classy way to make the typical business look pop. If one thinks ahead, a tan body would look great paired with a jewel-tone bikini.

**Nails**

Essie nail polish offers shades of emerald nail polish in “Going Incognito,” “Pretty Edgy” and the more muted “Mojito Madness.” A splash of green on your fingers and toes is sure to keep you smiling and stylish with the start of the new semester.

**Accessories**

Accessories are the easiest way to incorporate any color into your wardrobe. For Pantone’s color, sprinkle into your wardrobe a chunky green necklace, bangles in shades of emerald, a leather satchel or even earrings — think Beyonce at the Inauguration. Add green laces to a pair of your favorite Converse shoes or purchase a green beanie to keep you warm as the campus continues to grow colder. Emerald can be paired with almost any color combination and will accentuate even the most basic of outfits.

**Decor**

Using shades of green can brighten and liven up your room at home. Adding pieces of green furniture and bedding to your dorm can energize the space and give it a fresh new start. With so many shades, the color can invoke warmth with rich tones or bright energy in lighter tones.

Rocking the color of the year? Tweet your picture to @MSU_fashion.
STUDY ABROAD SPECIAL SESSIONS
WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 6, 2013
Global Education Center
22 Normal Avenue, Montclair, New Jersey 07043

11:30 a.m.
Exchange Program Information Session

12:30 p.m.
Budgeting Tips for Study Abroad: Saving, Raising, and Winning $

1:30 p.m.
Applying for a Gilman Scholarship for Study Abroad (Pell Grant Recipients Only)

2:30 p.m.
Study Abroad Information Session

DID YOU KNOW?
- Montclair State University offers academic programs in over 50 countries
- Semester, academic year, summer, and short-term programs are available
- Programs can fit into most majors’ study plans without delaying graduation
- Financial aid is available (grants, loans, scholarships)
- Credits for study abroad towards major, minor or general education requirements are possible
- Classes are available in English
- Employers value international experience and it’s a resume booster
- You will have the experience of a lifetime!

Register via the link on our website: montclair.edu/GlobalEd/studyabroad
Bi-ing Out Feminism

Lieslise Doucet
Staff Writer

Young women are accused of many things. As little girls, they may be tossed aside as frivolous or overly-imaginative. As teenagers, they suffer dramatics and are desperate for attention, and as young adults in college, they are prone to phases and promiscuity. Particularly, bisexual women are often cast aside as lesbians in denial or straight girls "going through" something. This is such an observed phenomenon that the moniker L.U.G. (Lesbian Until Graduation) threatens to follow any woman who explores her sexuality in college.

Why are bisexual women so desired? In "lesbian" porn, the actresses typically perform for a third, presumably male viewer. The inclusion of this male consumer is not necessarily limited to lesbian porn, but because the genre allegedly centers on men and women, they are identified as having a "lesbian" side and a "straight" side. Bisexual individuals are thus split between these conflicting identities. Bisexual women are often accused of wanting "the best of both worlds" or "fence-sitting." They are also perceived as more able and willing to assimilate into straight, mainstream society than lesbians. One element of oppression some lesbians face comes from an overly masculine appearance. To "pass" for straight, in this sense, is a cop-out, compared to lesbians whose sexuality is less than ambiguous. The bisexual woman is characterized by many lesbian scholars as an interloper who can play straight in the streets but queer in the sheets.

Because she can have the option of avoiding conflicts or judgment many lesbians face, she is viewed as more likely to abandon the gay rights’ struggle. Coupled with this perceived willingness to switch between men and women and thus bring back diseases, the bisexual woman becomes a dangerous assumption.

Not only could this result in the demeaning of female bisexuality as an invalid phase, but it may lead a straight male to mistakenly read into every woman's sexuality as a cry for his attention. Bi-ing out lesbians threaten to follow any woman who explores her sexuality in college.

One prominent scholar on bisexuality, Paula Rust, observes that environment can alter identities. A woman who loves other women may call herself a lesbian; a woman who loves other men may call herself a bisexual. "Queer" represents a viable alternative for many, yet there remain those who stand by "bisexual."

By Alfred Kinsey's scale, the majority of people in America fall in the gray areas between an entirely heterosexual 0 and an entirely homosexual 6. This scale measures three elements of sexuality: practices, desires and identity.

According to a study by Rust, almost half of the lesbians she surveyed had been with a man; of lesbians who had been out for 20+ years, 93 percent of them had sex with men. Perhaps seeing sexuality as a colorful spectrum is helpful in understanding its fluidity for many. If sexuality is so fluid, let’s just go with the flow.

"I believe in the radical possibilities of pleasure, babe," spat punk band, Bikini Kill front runner Kathleen Hanna as a rallying cry to feminists to reclaim sexuality on their own terms.

Give us your feedback!
Comment Online
themontclarion.org

Bisexuality, like feminism, has freedom at its root - the need to have more, not less, to say 'and' not 'or.'

— Jennifer Baumgardner, Look Both Ways
‘Don’t You Worry Child’
Letters from Jordan

Jack Smith IV

Never underestimate the power of a small group of committed people to change the world. In fact, it is the only thing that ever has.”
- Margaret Mead

Over the past two weeks, me and two other students went with two members of the Montclair faculty to Amman, Jordan to film a documentary before the semester began. The project was “Hayatuna Amman,” a program designed to give arts education to the underserved children of Jordan, whether in the areas of deepest poverty or the orphaned and abandoned youth of Amman. The children were approaching the time of their first performance on Jan. 19, and we were going to go to film the trials and tribulations of these teachers and children leading up to the event. It was a last-minute assignment, as we had expedited passports, throwing together equipment and extensive consulting of students who had travelled to the area in recent memory. We flew out to Frankfurt two weeks from being notified that we received the funding with little understanding of the region, arriving in the dead of night on Jan. 11.

In my capacity as a documentarian, I was concerned about heading over to Amman. I was going to make a film, to document a project, to do so in a way that would be moving and compelling to an international audience. To do so, we had to capture the story, find our way into the heart. I needed the funding with little understanding of the region, arriving in the dead of night on Jan. 11.

Our understanding of the climate of the Middle East resembled that of our conceptions of the American Southwest: there were the cacti, scorpions and harsh sands, but in reality it resembled our familiar mild summers and cold, dry winters. Spiritus Mundi, the Swedish NGO that funds the Hayatuna project housed us at their apartment, which served mostly as their headquarters and secondarily as lodging for the pedagogues that come internationally to teach. The crew and I were mostly holed up with a tattooed Swedish rapper who comes periodically to teach songwriting.

In my capacity as a documentarian, I was concerned heading over to Amman. I was going to make a film, to document a project, to do so in a way that would be moving and compelling to an international audience. To do so, we had to capture the story, find our way into the heart.

As to be expected, in any narrative, our expectations were insufficient to prepare us for the work ahead. Amman wasn’t the third-world dust-bowl we’d anticipated. It was a sprawling, densely populated city of five million; western, metropolitan and safe to roam at all times of day and night. The Jordanian and Palestinian people were the most energetic and welcoming we’d ever met, with infectious energy and unmatched hospitality.

We started filming meetings and rehearsals and learning about the pedagogues, including the singers, thespians, rappers, dancers and other diverse talents that made up the Hayatuna team. The more time we spent in the workshops, however, the more we started to observe the children. Islam, the rambunctious wild child who they were considering pulling from the show, and Saja, the girl from the slums who’d risen to be the star of the show. There was a cast of characters whose story desperately needed telling.

Islam was one of the main subjects of the upcoming film. When we’d allowed ourselves this kind of rededication to our subjects, it was as if every door opened to us. When we went to visit the orphanage where Islam and some of the other children in the program spent their days and nights, we were led on a guided tour of the facilities by none other than Islam herself. Saja Naji took us to Jabal Al-Natheef, Amman’s most impoverished neighborhood where she grew up. She took us into her home, introduced us to her parents, aunts, uncles and friends and walked us to the community center to show us the photographs she’d taken as part of a workshop. For a society we were certain would be chaste, conservative and resistant, we were allowed to look in on their lives in ways almost no casual observer is ever permitted.

Our experience in Amman was of blissful failure: a failure of prejudice, a failure of expectation, a failure of resignation. We were pushed to our greatest triumphs as documentary filmmakers by our subjects and the commitment that we developed through our attention and involvement. There is a certain emotionally dangerous attachment that comes with that kind of immersion in your subject.

It was hard for any of us to leave Jordan, though the work had just begun. We were already receiving Facebook messages from the kids in Jabal Al-Natheef. “When can we see the movie?” “What time is it in America?” “When will you return? We miss you!”

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There’s a gratification in a job well done, or even in knowing you’ve just set out in a larger endeavor, or in knowing that your love and labor is needed. For those of us who returned from Amman, that gratification is expressed in our commitment and will constantly live on in our heart.

To read the complete day-to-day chronicles of the trip, and find out about how the performance went, read “Letters from Jordan” at themontclarion.org.
Greetings from Newcastle upon Tyne! Four fellow Red Hawks and I made the journey to the United Kingdom to study abroad for a semester at Northumbria University. Upon arriving, we were greeted by friendly people and helpful advisors. We were all skeptical as to what we should expect and most of us did not really prepare ourselves mentally to be alone in a completely foreign country. But we were all pleasantly surprised at how helpful and welcoming the locals were.

I was expecting to get some sort of culture shock, but British culture is extremely similar to ours in the United States. There are a few differences, however, like the amount of time people spend partying. Compared to Montclair State University, students here go out almost every night. There are even a few pubs on campus that cater to students. Besides that, life abroad pretty much mimics that of a normal student back at MSU.

With the first two days of classes over, we are still figuring out how classes will lay out for the rest of the semester. Unlike Montclair, most of my classes do not have exams during the term. Instead, a single paper or final exam counts as 100 percent of your grade. In other classes, professors are more lax with attendance, as long as all of your work is handed in.

Rosemary Soto, a junior, was surprised when she went to her classes. “The people here were friendly. The tutors were very helpful and explained the course in great detail and made the course sound fun. They really linked the class content to real world situations.”

To read the rest of Adriana’s story, visit our website themontclarion.org

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21 "I Am In ___"
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A Gun Controlled Environment

This past year has truly struck by its name as the “chaos year.” The end of the world may have not happened, but an enormous amount of tragedy happened in 2012. With both the Aurora, Colo. and Sandy Hook shootings happening only a few months after one another, these incidents have caused a major debate about gun control laws. Obama has just been inaugurated for the next four years. The on-going debate has definitely concerned our president. He has posted his stance on the matter on the White House’s website. Some of the policies he touches upon are as follows: Obama and Biden support community campaigns to prevent youth violence. They plan to make the “Assault Weapons Ban” permanent and give police officers access to the nation’s gun trace information, making it easier to solve gun crimes and illegal arms trades. The president has not made any of these policies official, but these are some speculations as to what will be changed over the course of his presidency.

Many states have also been debating the issue of having armed guards patrolling public schools. Long Island citizens have voted to have armed guards in their schools, although Mayor Bloomberg himself doesn’t agree with their decision. He believes this would be promoting guns instead of restricting gun use. A Florida mother named Laura Lauria has donated $11,000 to her child’s elementary school so that the school may hire armed guards, but once again, seeing guns may not be the most suitable approach when it comes to securing schools. Not only can the sight of a gun leave an impression on children, it is also not a fool-proof defense mechanism. For example, Columbine had armed guards present, but that didn’t stop Klebold and Harris to commit their crime. Others have suggested that professors and teachers should be armed with weapons, which once again leaves a very impressionable image in a child’s mind.

Also, having professors armed would be outra- geous. No student will feel safe knowing there is a gun in their classroom.

The answer to our gun laws isn’t what is in question, though. In fact, the question is about making public schools and universities safer. How many times have we had people sleeping in our libraries and lounges and have found out they are neither staff nor stu- dents of the university? There needs to be improvements made to our own school’s security. The first step would be to install more cameras on campus. Many public schools use building security booths as an access point into a building. Others are even investing in metal detectors and bulletproof glass. This may be some things to consider when discussing improvement of campus security. Let’s face the facts: it is impossible to stop illegal activity, which includes illegal firearm trades, but school secu- rity is one thing we can focus on that may actu- ally make a difference.

In what ways can Montclair improve security on campus?

Mike Panepinto
Sophomore
Broadcasting

“Montclair can improve security on campus by adding some video cameras in certain places that aren’t accessible, like the Student Center because I know that some robberies have occurred down there and I think that would help. Also, [they should] have more cops in the Student Center and [other] popular places because I think that the cops are around. [However,] they’re not in the places that are too popu- lated and they don’t help the students out that much.”

Vicky Lota | The Montclarion

Lisa Burnup
Junior
Family and Child Studies

“I think that they should put cameras near every dorm building, just because when you walk at night time alone, it can be really scary, but that can be prevented by the cam- eras, so you know someone is always watching.”

Amber Kusching
Sophomore
Theater Studies

“Bill supporters are under the impression that professors and teach- ers should be armed with weapons, which once again leaves a very impressionable image in a child’s mind. Also, having professors armed would be outra- geous. No student will feel safe knowing there is a gun in their classroom.”

Josue Guijarro
Freshman
Undeclared

“I think that in order to have more security around campus, they should have more security guards.”

In what ways can Montclair improve security on campus?
In regard to “The Defamation of Faron Furz” (printed in the December 13 edition of the Montclarion),

“The fact remains that he is a Professional Media Personality, posing as a historian at MSU. Based on student complaints, his lectures are not all that rigorous and can be quite unsatisfactory. As a result, he has used his position to force students to respect his views, which is clearly not appropriate.”

Fred Perkins

Kristen Bryfogle, Classics major, is in her first year as assistant opinions editor of The Montclarion.

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The Man of A Thousand Locks
An investigation into Nicolas Cage’s ever-changing, ever-beautiful hairdos

Toward the end of last semester, an esteemed colleague of mine took the liberty to write an article highlighting the work of art that is Nicolas Cage, whose reputation, as she pointed out, is seemingly impe- nable, especially after considering some of the roles he has chosen in the past (The Wicker Man immediately comes to mind).

That is not to say he is a bad actor, as my colleague also clearly noted that his talent shows through in films such as “Adaptation” or “Leaving Las Vegas.” Perhaps Nicolas Cage simply loves making films, particularly bad films, so that he can keep his “good” reputation among his new-'est fans, especially those who have scoured YouTube for compilations of his filmography.

Not only does Cage have the talent for choosing bad roles but then using these roles to advance his popularity, he also has a knack for buying extravagant and extrava- gant properties, only to foreclose on them a few years later. Over the past six years, Nicolas Cage has purchased at least six different properties, which included a castle in Bavaria and his $10.5 million Bel Air Home, which real estate agent Brett Panasone described as a “true house bordello,” according to an article on Accountant Web’s website entitled “Nicolas Cage: A Tale of Multiple Foreclosures.”

Even after paying $6.25 million in back taxes last year, Mr. Cage still owes the Internal Revenue Service $7 million in back tax d ating as early as 2002.

Many actors would crumble and fade away under such circum- stances, yet Nicolas Cage continues to act with his resil- ience in Hollywood circles. How is this possible? Is there some sort of secret weapon that Nicolas Cage has in his arsenal that allows him to bounce back so rigorously? After doing some in-depth research regarding this phenomenon, it has been discovered that the key to Nicholas Cage’s resilience and success is his hair.

Nicolas Cage’s hair, the secret to his success, was discovered by his hair—from “Peggy Sue Got Married” in 1986 to “Con Air” in 1999 to “Seas of the Witch” in 2011—is consistently bad, had to the point where critics and fans tend not to care about the movies he stars in as much as they care about what type of hair a new role will be resting atop his head next. His hair is a metaphor for his career: it is often ugly, but it is this ugliness that allows for a more personable approach when regarding his work, allowing Mr. Cage the freedom to abuse his hair to the advantage of his acting career.

What is Nicolas Cage’s hair made of? This question has per- fected scientists for years, and much to their dismay has left a distinct anomaly in the field of magnetism.

What most researchers failed to recognize is that Nicolas Cage’s hair is actually grafted from multiple sources to fit whatever role he is currently portraying. For ex- ample, in “Raising Arizona,” Mr. Cage used grafts from his back and chest hair in order to create that memorable “my head hair looks like it was grated from my chest hair” look.

In “The Wicker Man,” the cast and crew put together dried shrubs and left over fur from the bear suit used in the movie in order to create the beautiful quaff we saw on screen.

In “Con Air,” Nicolas Cage actually had threads from the Shroud of Turin woven into his existing strands in order to create that Jesus Christ look he pulled off so well. Where there is a movie or a actor, there will be Nicolas Cage’s hair. Cage has provided the cornerstone with which he has en- dured. It has provided comic relief for countless YouTube enthusiasts watching him flip out on screen, and has also quelled the aggres- sion he is often faced with from the IRS.

It has helped him win over millions and will continue to do so until it decides to leave us and join the alien race from whence it came.

It has been donated to New Orleans near one of his now sold properties, Cage actually used patches of his hair in order to treat a stab wound victim prior to the arrival of the ambulance.

Not only was the wound completely healed by the time they arrived to the hospital, but there was also a small imprint of what looked like Nicolas Cage’s face under the wound used to be. More research needs to be done before this rumor can be confirmed.

If you are looking for more supplemental material, it is sug- gested that you should watch “The Evolution of Nicolas Cage’s Hair.”

Evolution of Nicolas Cage’s Hair.

In 2004 and place a ban on high-cal- orie weapons while in the wrong state of mind. More research needs to be done before this rumor can be confirmed.

Changing gun control laws will pose a difficult challenge for Obama. Those who oppose strict- er gun laws cling to the Second Amendment, which was intended more for militias than anything else, but fail to see what we have become. The U.S. is one of the countries with the least amount of gun control laws and regula- tions.

It is reported an American is 20 times more likely to get shot than a civilian in developed countries in the world. These are facts that cannot be argued with. Perhaps stricter gun control is the solution for our problem.

Trevor Palmer is an English and Psychology major in her first year as a columnist for The Montclarion.

The Second Amendment Calls for Recoil

Recent shootings call for the reevaluation of the second amendment

This year alone, 47 people have been killed in gun-related crimes. 23 of those deaths occurred during mass shootings. The Sandy Hook massacre has called for the reformation of gun control laws.

Since Sandy Hook, President Obama and other government of- ficials have made the reformation of gun control laws their top prior- ity. However, gun control laws are going to pose a difficult challenge to change because many want to keep the Second Amendment.

Others say that Sandy Hook is an exception to the law. Some say this will make the stu- dents safer.

Others argue that having guns around children is asking for another Virginia Tech or Columbine. While Long Island residents have voted, many are still opposed.

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Ken Macri  
Staff Writer

The 85th Academy Awards are approaching and Hollywood's biggest night is sure to be a nail biter. Here are my official predictions for all the major categories, but as we all know, anything can happen at the Oscars! Be sure to tune in on Feb. 24 at 7 p.m. on ABC to see if your favorite stars and movies from 2012 take home the gold statues.

**Best Picture Nominees:**  

The Best Picture field this year is a crowded one, with nine nominees in total, but overall I see this being a three horse race in the end. The fact that Ben Affleck and Kathryn Bigelow were both shockingly left out of the best director race puts Argo and Zero Dark Thirty at a major hurdle.

Argo took home the Golden Globe for Best Picture: Drama, and would be my personal choice for the win, but Affleck's snub makes an Argo win highly unlikely.

**My Pick for Best Director:**  
Steven Spielberg, Lincoln

Being that I picked Lincoln to win Best Picture, Steven Spielberg is my obvious choice in this category. But remember, the last time that a director from the Best Picture winner didn’t win the award was in 2005, when Paul Haggis was snubbed for Crash by none other than Ang Lee for Brokeback Mountain.

So even if Lincoln wins the top prize, I wouldn’t be shocked if Ang Lee repeated history and won Best Director at the 2013 Oscars. But that doesn’t mean he deserves it. He was snubbed for a second Best Picture nomination, because he didn’t find a way to incorporate Ben Affleck into his film. Let’s just say if he wins Best Director at the 85th Academy Awards, he’ll be the butt of every meme for the next 85 years.

On the flip side, Lincoln is a very likely contender for Best Picture. It is Spielberg’s first serious drama, which isdefined by its political message and technical mastery. It’s a film that’s sure to make an impression.

I have a feeling that the Academy is going to reward Spielberg for his historical drama. He’s been in the game for a long time, and it’s about time he’s recognized for directing a film that’s truly breathtaking. I believe that Lincoln will make an incredible impact at the Oscars, and I’m excited to see how it does.

**Best Director Nominees:**
Michael Haneke for Amour  
Benh Zeitlin for Beast of the Southern Wild  
Ang Lee for Life of Pi  
David O. Russell for The Silver Linings Playbook.
More Oscar Predictions

The Best Lead Actor race is one of the very few categories this year with a clear frontrunner, Daniel Day-Lewis. Lewis' performance almost made it seem like we were watching the 16th president himself on the big screen in some lost footage. From his towering presence to his famous beard, Lewis embodied Abraham Lincoln in ways that no man could ever emulate. It was a performance for the ages, conveying a man who led America through a grave constitutional and moral crisis. Joaquin Phoenix was also brilliant in his return to the big screen in 


My Pick: Daniel Day-Lewis, Lincoln


My Pick: Anne Hathaway, Les Misérables

Like Best Lead Actor, Best Supporting Actress is pretty much set in stone. Anne Hathaway might as well start preparing her speech now, as she is a lock. After all, she didn’t get a haircut for nothing either before the Oscars even air. Recent winners such as DVD, while the film received a ton of that from the Academy, I’m cautiously picking Jennifer Lawrence over Riva, who, at 86, had a career-defining role as a scarred musician after suffering a stroke. This also means I’m picking against Jessica Chastain. Even though Chastain took home ever major award so far, including a Golden Globe, I see the Academy throwing us their yearly curveball in this category; Lawrence is building a ton of steam in the underdog category. Naomi Watts, while brilliant in

The Impossible, Naomi Watts in The Impossible.

My Pick: Naomi Watts, The Impossible

The Best Supporting Actor category is by far the toughest category to predict this year and let me say right off the bat – Anyone could get some at winning and I believe should win, the fact that

was left out of the Best Picture race really makes me question his chances. That leaves us with two Oscar veterans, Rob- ter Niro, provided


My Pick: Tommy Lee Jones, Lincoln


My Pick: Amy Adams, The Master

Best Animated Film Nominees: Brave, Frankenweenie, ParaNor- man, The Pirates! Band of Misfits, Wreck-It Ralph.

My Pick: Frankenweenie

Best Animated Film is typically the award that has a clear win-
ner before the Oscars even air. Recent winners such as Up, Ran- go and Toy Story 3 made this category easy to predict in the past, but this year its one of the toughest to forecast. Brave was an ear-
ly frontrunner, but the fact that it came out so early in the year makes it seem somewhat forgettable in the midst of the more cur-
rent releases, Frankenweenie and Wreck-It Ralph. The combination of Disney’s track record in this category and the prospect of Tim Burton finally winning an Oscar makes Frankenweenie my pick.
The City Before the Sex
A Look at The Carrie Diaries

Regan Brown
Staff Writer

A new year brings new episodes from some of your favorite “can’t miss” TV shows. A new year also brings new TV shows that have the potential to reach that golden “can’t miss” status.

At this time, I’d like to call out to all you Sex and the City fans. For six years (1998-2004), millions of people fell in love with a show that was bold, funny, sexy and creative, taking place in the iconic location known as “the city that never sleeps,” New York. No one can deny that Sex and the City reached cult status by the time of its departure in 2004, taking eight Golden Globes with it. In 2008, Sex and the City was brought back to life as a movie, which produced a sequel in 2010.

The most notable character from Sex and the City was its protagonist played by Sarah Jessica Parker, Carrie Bradshaw. Throughout the years of watching her navigate the ins-and-outs of her life, you might wonder what Carrie was like before she made it big in the city. Guess what? You don’t have to wonder anymore.

On Monday, Jan. 14, the pilot episode of The Carrie Diaries aired. The show, which is a prequel to Sex and the City and based on the book series written by Candace Bushnell, follows Carrie Bradshaw, a junior in high school living in Connecticut with her father and her 14 year-old sister, Dorrit.

The show begins in the year 1984, a year belonging to the decade where the music revolution of rock n’ roll was in its golden years, the fashion scene was being reborn, diversity and culture were springing up around every corner and people were embracing their individuality while trying to bring their dreams to life (If I had the chance to be alive to experience any decade of my choosing, it would be the 1980s, without a doubt).

The pilot introduced the young Carrie Bradshaw, portrayed by AnnaSophia Robb, trying to get over the loss of her mother to cancer. Luckily, Carrie has her three best friends: Jill, Maggie and Walt. Maggie and Walt have been together for two years, but Walt is slowly realizing that he’s gay and Maggie definitely isn’t deserving of the “girlfriend of the year” title. In an effort to raise her spirits, Carrie’s father gets her an internship for one day a week at a law firm in Carrie’s dream city, Manhattan.

On her first day of her internship, Carrie meets Larissa Loughlin, a style-editor for Interview Magazine, and is automatically taken under Larissa’s wing due to her purse. The pilot focused on the importance of having family and friends around you, especially in a time of mourning.

The second episode, “Lie to Me,” which aired Jan. 21, showed the importance of being honest and trustworthy to and for the ones you love and care about because lies have the tendency to catch up to you at some point or another. Carrie experiences the consequences and the rewards of honesty with her father, her sister, her boss at the law firm and with her love interest, Sebastian Kydd, portrayed by Austin Butler.

I’ll be honest, I wasn’t sure if I was going to like this show, but after watching the first two episodes, I’ll admit that they have kept me interested in wanting to see how everything plays out. So if you were a fan of Sex and the City and of Carrie Bradshaw, I definitely recommend that you give The Carrie Diaries a glance. The Carrie Diaries airs Monday nights at 8 p.m. on the CW network.
19th Century Classic Gets a Hollywood Debut

Review of the Drama Les Misérables

Kelly McGraty
Staff Writer

Do you know the people the people sing? I mean singing for the long-awaited arrival of Les Misérables to theaters. Tom Hooper’s adaptation of the hit musical that shares its name erupted in theaters this Christmas. The motion picture is based on the long beloved Broadway sensation which has been seen by more than 60 million people in 42 countries and in 21 languages around the globe and is still breaking box office records everywhere in its 28th year.

Originally based on Victor Hugo’s novel Les Misérables set against the backdrop of 19th century France, the story dictates the journey of ex-prisoner Jean Valjean and his endless chase with policeman Javert, who誓约了 life to hunt down Valjean after he breaks his parole. After 10 years of hiding and what he thinks is a new start, Valjean agrees to care for factory worker Fantine’s young daughter, Cosette.

In Season 2, Hannah’s best friend, Marnie, who has a side of drama and will be steering out of control at times, the overall show is entertaining and has some really fantastic comic moments.

The characters are also lovable and I rooted for them to achieve their goals throughout the episodes.

Hugh-Jackman also won a very well-deserved Golden Globe for Best Actor in a Comedy or Musical. But although the actor has Broadway experience, his vocals fell slightly short. The sharp quality of his voice did not quite fit. He seemed to be suffering from a slightly nasally case of overactive vibrato. But Jackman gave a truly heart-wrenching performance as the lovable ex-criminal and did an astounding job conveying the myriad of complex emotions.

Russell Crowe plays Javert, the policeman who not only fights with protagonist Valjean, but also undergoes intense internal conflict as he tries to balance his infallible sense of right and wrong and obedience to the law with his own moral compass. Though Crowe began his career in musical theater, the Oscar-winning actor’s performance falls short. His monochrome demeanor throughout the film does this complex character no justice. All in all, however, the major picture movement rendition of Les Misérables marries the classic Broadway masterpiece with meticulous attention to detail and incredible artistic vision from director Tom Hooper.

Girls: A Breath of Fresh Air

Daniell DeCerto
Staff Writer

Girls, an up-and-coming comedy series on HBO, premiered its second season on Jan. 13. While I had never heard of the series before a few weeks ago, everyone I approached about the show had plenty to rave/over, from the brilliance of creator and star Lena Dunham to the realistic light shed upon spoiled white women in their 20s.

Girls managed to match two Golden Globes this year (Best Television Series — Comedy or Musical and Best Performance by an Actress in a Television Series to creator and star Lena Dunham) along with numerous Emmy nominations. Clearly, this is a show that gets people talking. The series follows Hannah Horvth (played by Lena Dunham), an aspiring writer attempting to balance her life after her parents choose to stop financially supporting her.

In Season 2, Hannah’s challenges include taking care of her father, Horvth (who was hit by a truck on her behalf as well as getting involved in a new casual relationship). Along for the ride are Hannah’s best friend, Marnie, who loses her job in the Season 2 opener after her company “downsizes,” Jessa, who just recently returned from her honeymoon after rushing into marriage; Shoshanna, a quirky and innocent girl dealing with the aftermath of losing her virginity; and Elijah, Hannah’s ex-boyfriend-turned-gay now residing as her roommate.

I found the first two episodes of Season 2 (all that have aired so far) to be enjoyable and easy to follow, considering my prior lack of knowledge. Despite the fact that the plot line seems to be steerin out of control at times, the overall show is entertaining and has some really fantastic comic moments.

The characters are also lovable and I rooted for them to achieve their goals throughout the episodes.

Nevertheless, the aspect I found most interesting about Girls was its portrayal of the average-looking woman. Lena Dunham, while by no means “fat,” is not the skinniest actress on the planet, nor the most attractive overall. However she chooses (after all, she writes and directs the show) to appear naked or scantily clad in numerous scenes. I myself can’t think of many shows in television who shed light on women who don’t possess perfect figures. I found that aspect of Girls to be extremely refreshing and re-enforced the realistic tone of the series.

Girls is certainly a show worth checking out for anyone looking for a light comedy with a side of drama and will be a breath of fresh air for those tired of seeing models rule the television scene. Girls airs on HBO on Sundays at 9 p.m.
You can start putting away your Mighty Ducks VHS tapes because a lockout this season means a locked-out season can be put to rest. The Montclair State women’s basketball team kept their undefeated season alive with two dominating performances against conference rivals Rowan and Rutgers-Newark last week. Junior guard Nicosia Henry has a lot to do with that. The senior’s 20-point road victory over Rutgers-Newark. Tobie led the Red Hawks return to action on Saturday, January 24, 2013.

nothing like the fresh smell of ice again

women’s basketball remains unbeaten

nich patriarca

assistant sports editor

the montclair state women’s basketball team kept their undefeated season alive with two dominating performances against conference rivals rowan and rutgers-newark last week. junior guard nicosia henry has a lot to do with that. the senior’s 20-point road victory over rutgers-newark. tobie led the red hawks return to action on saturday, january 24, 2013.

bruins have the deepest roster in the nhl. when you have three centers who each who eclipsed over 60 points last season, then you know that this team can poten-tually win another cup with-in from the last three seasons. new york’s second game was against the pittsburgh penguins. let’s just say they have a player who recorded 40 goals and 40 assists last year who’s name was not evgeni malkin or sydney cros- by. james neal adds to the three-headed monster and easily makes pittsburgh the most dangerous team in the nhl. i wouldn’t say the rangers are panicking just yet, but due to the shortened season and high ex-pectations, neal already feels a sense of urgency. he said, “this is not last year anymore — it’s a new team. we have to get our iden-tity back, and it has to happen quick.” richards and rangers fans should remember that the rangers didn’t register their first win until midway through the past season and last year they were able to get things rolling. on paper, they seem to have all the neces-sary pieces in pursuit to hoist the cup, especially since this past off-season they acquired rick niess in a deal to help bolster their of-ense. on the other hand, the new jersey devils have started off very sharp. the defending eastern conference champs de feated the new york islanders and more impressively shutout the philadelphia flyers 3-0 in their home opener. martin bro deur capped off his 120th career shutout while also making it a personal best against the fly-ers with 10 blanked sheets. the motor city is indeed back, and the hawks return to action on saturday, january 24, 2013.

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**THE FOUNDATION FOR A BETTER LIFE**
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Who’s Hot This Week

Esteban Morales
Men’s Swimming and Diving
Morales became the second Red Hawk to win NJAC Diver of the Week this season after his performance against NJAC rival, Rowan. After tying for second in the first diving event with a score of 101.30, Morales claimed first place in the second with a score of 111.60.

Nicosia Henry
Guard - Basketball
Henry earned NJAC Player of the Week for the second time after averaging 12 points, 10.5 rebounds and 8 steals as the Red Hawks went 2-0 last weekend. Henry also posted a school record 12 steals in a 68-48 win over Rutgers-Newark. Henry currently leads the NJAC in field goal percentage with .519.

Game of the Week

Women’s Basketball
vs. William Paterson
January 23, 8 p.m.

The 12th ranked Montclair State Red Hawks look to continue their unbeaten season with a win against conference foe William Paterson.

For updates, check out:
www.montclairathletics.com
and
@TheMontclarion on Twitter
Due to a last minute scheduling change, both the men's and women's swimming teams had to face off against Fairleigh Dickinson College at Florham on Jan. 5. The MSU men’s and women’s swimming teams kicked off their winter breaks by traveling to Madison to face off with the Devils. The Montclair State men’s team prevailed with a 106-82 win, while the women completed their winter break the day by putting together a time of 2.34.97. The Red Hawks Swimming Team also started their winter break scheduled against the Lady Devils of Fairleigh Dickinson-College at Florham on Jan. 5. The MSU Women’s swimming team ended up with the win by a score of 106-82.

On Jan. 19, the Montclair State Women’s Swimming Team hosted the Rowan University Lady Professors Swimming Team. MSU ultimately ended up losing by a result of 153-123. LaCava, Werner and Hansen all had first place finishes in the loss. LaCava recorded a time of 2:15.86 when she won the 200m butterfly.

Vallone grabbed first in the 200m breaststroke by crossing the finish line at a time of 2:34.97. Vallone came in a time of 2:19.23, which earned her first place finish in the 200m individual medley. Hansen’s individual win came in the 100m butterfly, when she recorded a time of 1:02.32.

Over the break, both the MSU men’s and women’s swimming teams took a trip to St. Croix. Werner came in a time while they were there on Jan. 12, the teams took part in the ninth annual Dolphina Swim Team Sea Swim. Zak Westerberg finished with a time of 22.48 in the swim, which was the overall best time for all categories including his own male 18-25 classification. His teammate Michael Smith was second in the male 18-25 division, posting a time of 22.55.

On the women’s side, Katherine LaCava raced to a time of 25.08, which was second overall among all the women in the event, and first overall in the 19-24 female age category. Danahue was third overall, and recorded a time of 26.06.

The Red Hawks and Lady Red Hawks each collected Weekly NJAC (New Jersey Athletic Conference) Honors this week. Junior Esteban Morales was awarded Men’s Diver of the Week, and freshman Julie Hansen was selected as the NJAC’s Women Rookie of the Week. The Montclair State men’s swimming team record is 3-7 overall (6-2 in the NJAC), while the NJAC’s Women Rookie of the Week. The Montclair State men’s swimming team record is 3-7 overall (6-2 in the NJAC), while the Montclair State Women’s Swimming Team also has a record of 4-5 overall (0-2 in the NJAC). This Saturday, Jan. 26, is the last home meet for both the Men’s and Women’s teams as they welcome the Raritan College of New Jersey to the Pan Am Athletic Center at 1 p.m.

Close Doesn’t Count in Swimming

Mike Pereski / MSU Staff

While most of us were able to enjoy the time off between semesters, both the Montclair State men’s and women’s swimming teams were busy in the pool. The men’s team competed in three meets over the winter break, while the women’s team swam in two meets, winning 1 and losing 1. Both teams also took part in a training trip to St. Croix, where they swam in an exhibition match that did not count on either team’s record.

The MSU men’s swimming team kicked off their winter break action on Jan. 5 against Fairleigh Dickinson College at Florham. The 400m freestyle relay by ending up with the win by a score of 106-82. MSU won all 11 events that took place in the competition. MSU was anchored by seniors Thomas Long, Zak Westerberg and junior Michael Smith who each won two events while also leading the team to a win in the 200m medley relay.

Junior Joseph Berry, sophomore Richard Sang and freshman Alan Baob also claimed firsts in one event each. Along with freshman David DuBois, the 200m medley relay team combined to swim a 1:45.51. Smith was the top dog in the 200m freestyle with a time of 1:49.94, and he later combined with senior Julie Hansen, 250m freestyle recording a time of 5:17.08. Long claimed first in the 50m freestyle by finishing in 22.10 seconds. In the 100m freestyle, Long also took first by finishing in 49.52 seconds. Westerberg was the third and final man for the Red Hawks who traveled to Madison to face off with the Devils. The Montclair State men’s team prevailed with a 106-82 win. MSU took second place finishes in the 100m butterfly by coming in at the 58.48 mark and in the 50m freestyle where he came in at a time of 22.05. Long finished in second place in the 100m breaststroke with a time of 59.78. DuBois also took second place in a separate event by swimming a 2:37.94.

Junior Esteban Morales captured first in the second section of diving, out-dueling his teammates, sophomore Tommy Dreisbach by a total of 111.60 to 105.60. Both divers tied for second place, scoring a total of 101.30 points from the first set of dives. Smith, Sang, Zang and Becker who made up MSU’s 400m freestyle relay team finished in second with a time of 3:32.96. The group of Berry, DuBois, Westerberg and Long had the Red Hawks final second place finish of the day by putting together a time of 1.43.16 in the 200m medley relay.

On Jan. 1, MSU welcomed the NJIT Highlanders for their final swim meet over the winter break. Montclair State fought hard but ended up losing a nail-biter by a final score of 107-96. Berry claimed the titles in the 200m individual medley and the 200m backstroke respectively with times of 2:05.42 and 2:07.36. Westerberg captured his victories in the 50m freestyle by finishing with a time of 22.10 and the 100m butterfly by ending with a time of 2.05.20. Berry also had a second place finish in the 100m freestyle by recording a time of 18.08.16. The Red Hawks finished the meet on a high note when the 200m freestyle relay team of Smith, Quentz, Boub and Long grabbed first place by coming in at a time of 1:26.86. The Montclair State Lady Red Hawks Swimming Team also started their winter break scheduled against the Lady Devils of Fairleigh Dickinson-College at Florham on Jan. 5. The MSU Women’s swimming team ended up with the win by a score of 106-82.

Both teams also took part in the ninth annual Dolfina Swim Team Sea Swim. Zak Westerberg finished with a time of 22.48 in the swim, which was the overall best time for all categories including his own male 18-25 classification. His teammate Michael Smith was second in the male 18-25 division, posting a time of 22.55.

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