Montclair State University has done away with school-based convocations and will now be holding three separate commencement ceremonies according to graduation term—prompting strong reactions from students. When news of the scheduling change was announced to students via email, some students were not pleased with the change, fearing that the length of the ceremony would be too time-consuming.

"Montclair State shouldn’t take away from the experience just because they want to save money by combining all the ceremonies," said Emily Menears, a senior general humanities and sociology major. "Alexia Paez, a junior psychology major, wondered aloud if it caused a safety issue. ‘First of all, it’s a dangerous thing to have that many people crammed in a building, not to mention the traffic it’s going to cause if commencement is held in Newark like it was last year. [The university] is only thinking about the cost.’"

The new arrangement of having students in each ceremony on Jan. 25, with a mixture of undergraduates and graduates, will allow each ceremony to last only about an hour. In the spring, undergraduates and graduates will have separate ceremonies on May 22 for graduate students and May 25 for undergraduates. "In each ceremony, all of the students’ names will be called to receive their diploma on stage while family and friends watch from the audience," said Martinez. "The ceremonies will be held indoors, and all students and their families will only have to go to one event. "I don’t think there is anything to be disparaged about," said Karen Pennington, vice president for Student Development and Campus Life. "They will still have their name called, walk across the stage, shake hands with the president, present and confer and have to limit what families or friends can watch [those graduates]." They also don’t have to worry about melting in the heat or getting rained on. They won’t have to be anxious about whether or not the event will be cancelled. If you graduate much before May, you won’t have to wait forever to have a chance to celebrate your success.”

Pennington explained why the university decided to make such a huge change, saying it was made "after facing years of unpredictable weather, which caused disruption of past convocations due to downpours and unbearable heat.”
The Montclarion is a publication of Montelican Publishing, Inc. published weekly, except during examinations, summer and winter sessions. The Montclarion is funded by student fees distributed by Montclair State University and incoming advertising revenue. The views expressed in the Opinion section, with the exception of the Main Editorial, do not necessarily reflect the views of The Montclarion.

The first issue of The Montclarion, then named The Pelican, was published on Nov. 28, 1928.

Kicking Off Homecoming with Grammer and DeGraw

“Already loved Gavin DeGraw and knew some of Andy Grammer’s songs, but after that concert, I’m in love with them all. [Wrabel included].”

-Ashleigh Burrichter

Commencement: Student Responses Question University’s Motive

Continued from page 1

She said the administration wanted to provide students with what they wanted. By using annual surveys and suggestions from previous graduating classes, the decision on the matter became clear, Pennington said.

According to Pennington, the content of the ceremonies will fit the needs of the individuals who are graduating in the moment, and there will not be a separate convocation. As well, she mentioned that the ceremony will be longer, however students will have the option of choosing one that is most convenient for them.

Some students said they felt the new arrangement was more convenient for them, knowing that they only had to go to the ceremony that they desired to go to.

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The length of the ceremony seems to be the key problem, according to student reactions, as they must wait for everyone to be called up on stage to receive their diploma.

Pennington said, “The ceremony will be longer, but will be adjusted so that it will not be a marathon-long event.”

Antonietto, a senior who preferred her last name not to be printed, expressed her thoughts on waiting and said, “If you can wait a whole four years, you can wait a couple of more hours for your diploma.”
**Web Portal for All Services of NEST**

Montclair State has opened its debate club doors for the first time since the 1970s and continues to grow in the presidential election.

The debate club officially started with its first meeting last month. It is run by college students who are not afraid to debate, people who are interested in and want to get out of their comfort zone, those who just like to argue and those who are interested in debate.

"I want to join the debate club because I consider myself an introverted person and would like to come out of my shell and be open," said Devonna Barber. "I feel like this is a good way to force myself out of it."

The debate club currently has open registration for anyone who wants to join and is also open to one-time visitors who just want to check out the club.

The club aims to establish a place where students can be generated and debated. Still, its main goal is to bring important and pertinent issues to Montclair State and other universities that may have been mishandled or ignored by the mainstream media.

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**Creepy Clown’ Rumors at Montclair State**

Sara Buren and Menendez

The sightings started in the Midwest and have been said to have been reported in over 1,500 different cities since then. Since then, there have been sightings of creepy clowns across the nation.

"Creepy clowns" across the United States and New Jersey are well aware of the clown sightings both real and in imagination. As with any trend, we take it seriously and have educated officers on what charges might be appropriates if needed and also to deal sensitively with these reporting incidents.

Some people have expressed their fear about Halloween this year. I’m so scared that people are going to dress up as clowns as a joke but I’ll be so scared I’ll probably call the cops," said junior psychology major Rachel Opdyke.

When officers arrive on the scene, they are to communicate what may be a violation of law or conduct. Police stated that community members are a safe experience for our students and faculty. Students also have the option to call the police department and be placed on a list so they are not bothered by the creepy clown sightings.

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**The Newest with NEST: Direct Deposit**

Michael Wright

The Office of Student Accounts at Montclair State University is offering a new TouchNet eRefund system, which provides students with an electronic refund check if they have no current balances or no current pending balances on their financial aid account.

Students can also visit the Office of Student Accounts website and access the hyperlink to get detailed instructions on how to setup this electronic arrangement.

"It’s a good step in the right direction for students to enroll in this time-saving electronic arrangement system. It definitely makes it more convenient for students to receive, deposit and cash their checks," said Caflin Spinach, a senior humanities major.

TouchNet’s eRefund system is free of charge and saves students the time and money of having to go through their bank or financial institution to make transactions.

Students can have their funds transferred into their personal account immediately.

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**Report of Violence in University Hall is False Alarm**

Dana Jeriv

University police responded to a call from an instructor in University Hall who has over complained students “discussing the use of weapons and gas” on Tuesday afternoon, according to Captain Kieran Barrett.

When officers arrived on the scene, they determined that the professor had over heard students discussing a class project on World War I and the next movement.

A campus-wide text alert was sent out to all students advising them of the situation.

Montclair State News

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**Debate Team on Campus is Active for the First Time in 40 Years**

Nathaly Soriano

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**Senators: Roundtable Focuses on Every Student Succeeds Act**

Continued from page 1

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Assistant News Editor

Tiani Rabb

Assistant News Editor

Rumors of “creepy clown” sightings have originated all around campus as well as on social media.

So far, Montclair State officials have confirmed that there have been sightings. Suspects were for the University Police Department, Captain Kieran Barrett said, “I am here to offer guidance.”

The sightings started in the Midwest and have been said to have been reported in over 1,500 different cities since then. Since then, there have been sightings of creepy clowns across the nation.

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Students React to NJ Legislation to Raise the Tax on Gasoline

Victoria Testa Staff Writer

The proposed 23-cent increase to the New Jersey gas tax is “going to make everything way more complicated,” said Maryem Abudurra, a junior biology major at Montclair State University. “I feel that there should be other ways to go about [raising the money].”

The increase in taxes is to help fund the Transportation Trust Fund, but students at Montclair State are generally unimpressed with the proposal.

“I feel that the money should come from a different source,” said Amanda Petersen, a junior biology major. “If it keeps increasing, I’ll have to fill up three times as opposed to two times a week, and honestly I can barely afford two times.”

“Just think it’s a bad idea,” said Abudurra. “It’s just too much.”

New Jersey lawmakers reached a settlement last week that proposes a significant increase to the New Jersey gas tax, which would leave New Jersey citizens paying 37.5 cents in taxes per gallon, well above the nation’s average of 22 cents.

The increase, due to go into effect in the beginning of November, will affect a large number of New Jersey citizens, namely college students. Montclair State University, a state school with approximately 60 percent commuter students, is especially vulnerable to the negative effects that may go hand in hand with this increase. Petersen commutes 20 minutes each way, and from campus, five days a week. She argues that over time, the increase, though seemingly small, will add up and make commuting costs much more than what they currently are.

“TIE it up with putting it to a vote or to carpool with someone, and then it’s a hassle,” said Petersen.

Governor Chris Christie is expected to sign the bill approving the tax hike in the upcoming weeks, but some Montclair State students believe that there is still a better way to raise the money without putting such a burden on people who haven’t necessarily explored it.

“You could just raise tolls,” offered Petersen, who doesn’t often travel on toll roads. “I know that gets done a lot and people already complain about that, but why not?”

On the other hand, Abudurra said that if a gas tax increase is absolutely necessary, then it should be tiered and rolled out over time. “It should be done at least gradually, so people would get used to it, not one day it’s $3.75 for gas and the next day it’s like, ‘I wasn’t prepared for that.’”

“If you’re going to do it, do it more subtly,” Petersen said. “The increase may end up inflicting future enrollment as well, students predicted.

“People will consider just giving up the gas if they were going to commute,” said Petersen, referencing prospective students in the upcoming years. “The general attitude towards commuting is just going to be anger.”

Overall, Montclair State students agreed that the gas tax increase is unwelcome and likely to affect many people on campus. However, with the hike expected to be in place sometime over the next few years, they can only begin to brace themselves.

“This is a future outcome,” joked Abudurra with a chuckle. “Car Fare [Dies] will be empty!”
Peak Performances
COLLEGE OF THE ARTS

John J. Cali School Of Music

Kaleidoscope
10th Anniversary
Concerts

October 14 @ 7:30 pm; October 15 @ 7 pm
Alexander Kasser Theater

Department of Theatre and Dance
Elton John & Tim Rice’s
AIDA

October 19 – 23
Memorial Auditorium

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Alexander Kasser Theater
Convenient Parking in the Red Hawk Deck
The faculty and students behind Montclair State Parking Services are famously known for parking citations and are even blamed for the lack of parking on campus. Staff members are constantly finding for themselves while working with furious students and dealing with constant threats. They say parking services is by far one of the most hostile departments on campus.

“For the most part we’re like that crazy, mean, evil hand that’s looming over the university, giving tickets, taking people’s money, and I understand. I was a broke college student too—I still am,” said Mariella Diaz, the professional service specialist at Montclair State. Staff in the parking services department said no one realizes that they are actually real people, sometimes even students just doing their job, and have absolutely no control over the amount of space there is. They are constantly replacing the door to their office because angry students kick, slam and pummel the door to death.

Montclair State Parking Services staff said that they are not out to get anyone on campus. They said their actual purpose is to provide everyone on campus with the guidance and help they need whenever dealing with a misunderstanding or a citation issue.

“We have sympathy, but the reality is, we’re trying to manage a space for 20,000 students,” said Diaz. “We have about 7,000 permits that are out, and there’s usually three vehicles to one space.”

If anyone receives a parking citation and feels that they have a good reason as to why they shouldn’t receive it, there’s some good news.

“Last year I was accumulating tickets and it was pretty serious. I had about 13 tickets,” said Rebecca Innocent, a senior sociology major. “I came here, and Mariella was really helpful. She helped me get a parking pass so I could stop getting tickets, and that’s how I ended up getting this job to help pay off these tickets.”

The appeals process gives anyone who’s received a citation the chance to defend themselves and get their point across.

“People are angry when they get tickets. That’s why the appeals process is good because we hear them out and help them out,” said Raul Igartua, campus events coordinator and former ticket administrator. The administrators and staff of parking services stressed the importance of communication and that the way students can communicate is through the appeals process. They even admit that the first time someone appeals a ticket, the person is given a little freebee. I’ve gotten tickets, and I have to appeal just like everyone else. I don’t get special treatment just because I work here,” said Laurie Osias, a senior accounting major, who was also having issues with getting constant parking tickets. “Students can always appeal tickets,” she continued. “That’s the number one thing I recommend.”

There is also a free app that can help anyone on campus find a parking space. “I strongly encourage students to download The Parker App, which can help students find parking spaces even before they get to campus,” said Diaz. “It’s updated every hour, and I’m surprised that no one’s using it.”

To learn more about parking and view the regulations, visit montclair.edu/parking.

Aleksandra Mufceska
Staff Writer

Laurie Osias and Rebecca Innocent work for parking services and are also students at Montclair State.

The Other Side of the Story: Parking Services

FOLLOW US ON TWITTER! @themontclarion
A salmon burger with fries can be enjoyed at Raymond’s, a restaurant located in Montclair, New Jersey — only a few minutes away from Montclair State’s campus.

Raymond's

Raymond’s

Grapefruit juice is a beverage served at Raymond’s restaurant, located on Church Street.

THE MONTCLEARITIS:
A WEEKLY FOOD REVIEW BY TUNMISE ODUFUYE

Mmm, tastes like privilege.

Growing up in the suburbs of Montclair, there was always one street that carried an affluent prestige to its environment. That street was, and still is, Church Street. Boasting a city-like street littered with mid-to-luxury cars and restaurants not made for Julius Rock from the show “Everybody Hates Chris,” Church Street was always a place that kids wouldn’t retreat to after school unless their parents hooked them up with allowance money or they just wanted to see an elegant setting they could not yet exploit.

Now I’m 23 years old and I exploit the heck out of this street. I can buy whatever I want because I have the money to do so, and I walk around with my hefty camera bothering all of the people that think they are too good to get flicks snapped of them. I am the kid they didn’t want growing up and realizing $30 is not too bad for a great meal on a Saturday night. Their uptown class of an Italian-American crossover doesn’t scare me. New York City has enough of that. OK, rant over.

With the aroma of prestige the street aggrandizes comes a great level of expectation from each and every restaurant and store that calls Church Street home. Today, it was Raymond’s turn to prove that bravado to me. Mind you, it’s not easy doing so when New Jersey is trying to drop the hottest climate tape of the year and it’s 1 o’clock, but if your doors are open for business, then it’s time for me to eat!

Today, grapefruit juice, a salmon burger and scrumptious apple pie with chocolate ice cream were privileged to enter my sacred bowels. The grapefruit was pressed, yet it still maintained its bittersweet taste. But remember, the world isn’t perfect and boy did it show today. As my front teeth unleashed a force of dominance on the salmon burger, there was no force to push them back. Instead of flavor, all I felt was bread. Dry Olive Garden bread, disguised as a Raymond’s burger bun. Naturally, the sriracha tartar sauce on the salmon would have to kick in to save the day (and the flavor), but there were no legs for it to kick. The sriracha was missing its violent, mouth watering, tear-causing flavor. There was no indication of spice from the sauce, which was a letdown at its best. You know the veggie slaw and the tomato had nothing to say about this. In this case, they are the kids that have to tell mom that big brother broke the vase while she wasn’t home. Scared and quiet but expected. The behavior from the sauce? Unreported. Oh, and the worst part? The server didn’t even check on us, so water was scarce. I had to have my meal with the bittersweet grapefruit. MARRY grapefruit and dry bread together. What do you get? Divorce!

So, what could save this marriage if divorce was not the only option? Only the apple pie with chocolate ice cream. I didn’t apply the ice cream on the apple pie directly because I still wanted to keep it cold. The sun was beaming on my skin, releasing waves of sunrays summoned to burn me to a chocolate crisp, and I didn’t want the ice cream to suffer the same fate. Nonetheless, it was marvelous. The apple pie connected on layers of greatness, starting with the soft, yet crumbly cinnamon crust, followed by the gushy apple layers that brought more tart than the actual tartar sauce from the burger. The chocolate ice cream only made it better, a combination that was erotic to me. Raymond’s, you’ve escaped this time, with a head of sweat on your nervous faces. Next time we meet, you better flaunt that Church Street badge on your chest a little more.

Tunmise Odufuye

Montclair State students can enjoy apple pie and chocolate ice cream at Raymond’s restaurant in Montclair, N.J.

Raymond’s

The Montclairitis: A Weekly Food Review by Tunmise Odufuye

Grapefruit juice is a beverage served at Raymond’s restaurant, located on Church Street.

Tunmise Odufuye | The Montclarion

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Tunmise Odufuye | The Montclarion

Tunmise Odufuye | The Montclarion

Tunmise Odufuye | The Montclarion
Combatting the Common Cold

1. Eat more fruits and vegetables
   It is no secret that fruits and vegetables contain a large number of vitamins and minerals. But, the most important thing to know is which ones help prevent the common cold and where they can be found. Vitamin C is the most common vitamin to lower a person’s chances of getting the common cold. Fruits and vegetables that contain Vitamin C are citrus fruits (oranges, lemons and limes), strawberries and honeydew melon. A few vegetables that contain Vitamin C are broccoli and dark leafy greens.

2. Drink a cup of green tea with lemon daily
   Hot beverages have the tendency to thin out mucus, and adding a slice of lemon to it in a bonus because lemon has the same effect. Another benefit of drinking a cup of green tea with lemon is that it lowers the risk of certain diseases such as cardiovascular disease.

3. Wipe down mats and machines at the gym
   It is an awesome feeling to sweat it out at the gym, relieve stress and make the body feel good. It is very important to stretch before jumping on that elliptical, but want to know something even more important? Wiping down that mat and elliptical before beginning your exercise. Not wiping down equipment is one of the easiest ways to spread germs when trying to be active at the gym. Almost all gyms provide sanitizing spray, towels or wipes for patrons to use. Take a few seconds before and after your workout to sanitize your equipment or workout space.

4. Wash or sanitize your hands
   Germs travel through many ways — in the air, from object to object, and by the most notorious culprit: our hands. You may think there is no way around this because your hands are stuck with you everywhere you go, but we do have a solution. Washing your hands with warm soap and water can often help wash away germs that could potentially be on your hands and prevent you from spreading them to others. Can’t get to a restroom? Purchase a travel-size hand sanitizer and use that when needed.

5. Stay in your own personal bubble
   Ok, you can still talk to people because it will be impossible to completely isolate yourself from everyone on Montclair State University’s campus, but what you can do is try to keep a little space between people in crowded areas. The main hot spots that are always crowded are the shuttles. If you’re waiting for a shuttle and you notice that it is packed and your only option would be to sit on another person’s lap, wait for the next one because it will most likely come in about 5 minutes. When you get on a close-to-empty shuttle, aim to get a window seat. That way you only have to worry about one other person potentially sitting next to you.

Jennifer Okorie
Staff Writer

The first day of fall was only a few weeks ago, and Mother Nature wasn’t going to let a day go by before she made us break out our warm hats and sweaters here at Montclair State. There are so many things to look forward to in fall: pumpkin spice lattes, apple picking and hay rides, just to name a few.

But one thing everyone wants to stay clear of is the common cold. There are so many preventative actions that can be taken to lower your chances of getting the common cold. But, the most important thing to know is which ones help prevent the common cold and where they can be found. Vitamin C is the most common vitamin to lower a person’s chances of getting the common cold. Fruits and vegetables that contain Vitamin C are citrus fruits (oranges, lemons and limes), strawberries and honeydew melon. A few vegetables that contain Vitamin C are broccoli and dark leafy greens.

Eat more fruits and vegetables

Drink a cup of green tea with lemon daily

Wipe down mats and machines at the gym

Wash or sanitize your hands

Stay in your own personal bubble
HELP WANTED

AFTER-SCHOOL NANNY NEEDED, MONTCLAIR

Afternoon sitter needed for our 2 children, ages 10 & 11), 2:40-4:30 pm. Responsibilities include: School pick up (your car or ours), drop off, helping with homework, preparing dinner, helping get kids ready for bed, etc. $15-20 / HR, AFTER-SCHOOL & EARLY EVENING CHILD CARE NEEDED, MONTCLAIR

A Montclair family is seeking a baby-sitter who is able to watch our 3-5 year-old daughter. Care for the boys is not difficult. Child care is needed for 7-9 am & 4-6 pm, four days per week for our 9 year-old son & 12 year-old daughter. Mon, Tues, Thurs & Fri, 3-6 pm. Responsibilities include, picking up kids from school, and 2:45-7:00 pm. We have flexibility with the morning/afternoon. Thank you for your interest. Please send resumes to Taratersigni@patch.com for more information.
Choose from a wide range of courses that meet December 28-January 14 on the Edison campus.

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Obliteration of our Graduation

Dan Evans | The Montclarion

Montclair State has recently recorded graduation—eliminating school-based convocations for the 2016-17 school year and separating the graduation celebrations of undergraduate and graduate students. For previous Montclair State graduates, convocation, which was held on campus, was a time to celebrate with their respective schools and to receive their diplomas. Then, at a later date, commencement served as an opportunity for all graduates to gather for a final time to celebrate. But from here on out, conversations will be done away with.

The changes, explained on the Montclair State website, are due to an increasing number of graduates along with “the university’s limited ability to hold graduation-sized events with the possibility of having a student’s name botched in front of thousands of people. With a record number of students graduating from Montclair State each year, each class will have a longer ceremony than the year before them. However, in May 2015, 581 students graduated from College of Education and Human Services and attended the College of Education and Human Services Convocation. Clearly, watching 581 graduates walk across a stage is far more palatable than watching 3,446 individuals get their name called. What makes convocations so personal is that graduates are able to celebrate with their friends and professors at home on Sprague Field. These ceremonies highlight what it is like to be part of a specific school at Montclair State. It is where students can share their relief, joy and happiness not only with their family, but also with the professors they studied under for four years, and the classmates who helped them through everything. It is a special moment, and graduates will be losing out on that intimacy at commencement.

Even just being at home on Sprague Field offers a sentimental feeling as student close a chapter of their life. Graduating from Montclair State just does not feel right. Although one ceremony to attend, rather than several, will feel as if their achievements are personally recognized. “I think it’s really cool. When I graduate, I want to walk as soon as possible, because that just makes sense. You want to get out as soon as you can,” Lataya Roth-Miller, Journalism, Senior.

“On one hand, it’s good for the student, the events, for the professors, for the students. They’re going to be able to celebrate properly. It’s going to be less personal and it’s going to be a little bit of a hassle,” Danny Scarra | The Montclarion

“‘It’s a step in the right direction, but they only seem to hurt those who matter the most, graduating students. While it is too late for the Class of 2017, hopefully, future graduating classes will be able to celebrate properly.’”

Thumbs Up

Coming Out Week

New sidewalk along Pittser Field

Presidential debate lip reading

Thumbs Down

Willowbrook Mall bomb threat

Increasing N.J. gas tax

Donald Trump and Billy Bush

CAMPUS VOICES:

How do you feel about Montclair’s new graduation plan?

“I think everyone who made your college experience, either your friends or just classmates.”

-Alessia Pellicane

Biology, Freshman

“I would like to walk with people I have known, not just 581 students. I wouldn’t want to graduate without them. So that would be pretty disappointing.”

-Bradley Satchel

Acting, Freshman

“I think it’s really cool. When I graduate, I want to walk as soon as possible, because that just makes sense. You want to get out as soon as you can.”

-Lataya Roth-Miller

Journalism, Junior
Virginity: A Lackluster Powerhouse

How complex and dynamic can the concept of virginity really be?

R aise your hand if you’ve ever been victimized by your virginity. How about your lack thereon? I have never met a female over the age of 16 whose sacred thoughts and fantasies have not been prided by outside voices. The destructive force of virginity is palpable by the blood of a broken men, which is not even reliable. Technically speaking, it’s all matters—sexual or not—even between couples. This might be the reality that hurts at a sporting event. While some fans were arrested, but authorities are still investigating how they got there. Concerning Editorials and Columns

Virginity: A Lackluster Powerhouse

How complex and dynamic can the concept of virginity really be?

One person can have over another. The push to hook up clashes with the expectation to plug into a potential partner. If you don’t fit the bill, perhaps the attraction, all it blurs

Virginity: A Lackluster Powerhouse

How complex and dynamic can the concept of virginity really be?

Not much is clear about virginity except that it’s a societal concept that is muddled at the hands of everyone. The problem is, it can be altered by the hands of anyone. We are not asking everyone to create a powerhouse, forming a millennial sum in which they never once decide to begin. This perpetrator is too much of a thought, often pushed into the background. The expectation is conditioned to believe that all of the world’s best interest is to be seen and not be so badly damaged.

Women should also become so comfortable with pitting themselves against each other. This might be the reality that hurts at a sporting event. While some fans were arrested, but authorities are still investigating how they got there. Concerning Editorials and Columns

Virginity: A Lackluster Powerhouse

How complex and dynamic can the concept of virginity really be?

One person can have over another. The push to hook up clashes with the expectation to plug into a potential partner. If you don’t fit the bill, perhaps the attraction, all it blurs.
our networks open doors.

THE GRADUATE SCHOOL OPEN HOUSE

sunday, october 16, 2016
noon – 3 p.m.

register at montclair.edu/graduate/open-house

attendees receive $60 application fee waiver.

Montclair State University
IT’S ALL HERE.
Gavin DeGraw and Andy Grammer
Hit Big at SLAM
Homecoming Concert

This year’s homecoming concert at Yogi Berra Stadium on Friday was a non-stop incredible experience. The concert, hosted by Student Life at Montclair (SLAM), had everything from DJ Trill’s eclectic playlist exciting the audience, to Wrabel’s soothing vocals with piano accompaniment, to Andy Grammer’s auto-tuned silliness, and finally, Gavin DeGraw closed the show with “I Don’t Wanna Be.”

George Koutsouradis, the Student Government Association (SCA) vice president said that putting together the concert was a 3 to 4 month process. “Kraemer Clayton is the Live Entertainment Chair who communicates with musical artists and brings each homecoming concert to life,” Koutsouradis said. “Tonight, there are between 1300 and 1400 people in the crowd.”

Montclair State students surrounded the stage and danced to DJ Trill’s variety of music. His songs included throwbacks from Montell Jordan’s “This is How We Do It,” to Fergie’s “London Bridge,” and Bowling for Soup’s “1985.”

Wrabel performed about seven songs. He performed his new song “11 Blocks,” inspired by his grandmother. Spectators waved their hands during Wrabel’s slower ballads and anxiously waited to dance to Grammer’s upbeat style. Grammer opened up with “Gotta Keep Your Head Up,” and the crowd went ballistic. Grammer wooed the screaming crowd, did a Jackson 5 inspired dance and sang from two microphones while using auto-tune.

“Oh my God he is so hot,” shouted senior Bridget Bayer. “I want to marry him.”

Andy Grammer satisfied the audience with his talented vocals and instrumental performance. Gavin DeGraw kicked off the remaining hour of the concert with “Chariot.” Green and yellow lights illuminated the stage as he played the piano, and DeGraw was the final act of the entertaining night.

Top Ten Songs of the Week

1. Heathens - Twenty One Pilots
2. Spin the Dial - Beach Slang
3. Masters - Local Natives
4. The Currents - Bastille
5. Punks in a Disco Bar - Beach Slang
6. Keep You On My Side - CHVRCHES
7. Ship of Fools - Elephant Stone
8. Big Mess - Grouplove
9. Getaway - Blossoms
10. Awkward - Hunger
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Karlee SanGiovanni has always known she was meant to be a performer. She has been singing since before she could speak and knew performing was in her blood when she first stepped on stage at the age of 7.

SanGiovanni participated in theater all throughout her high school career. When she was applying to colleges, she knew she wanted to keep performing in her life, but she was torn on what type of performing to pursue.

“I had gone through life thinking I wanted to do musical theater but when it came down to applying to colleges, I split it up a lot,” said SanGiovanni. “I applied to a few schools for musical theater, a few schools for vocal performance and one for communications.”

SanGiovanni chose to continue her journey of being a performer at Montclair State where she was accepted as a music major.

“As a vocal major, you can apply for either Classical or Jazz. I had always pushed jazz away as an option when deciding my future. I never thought I had an interest in it,” said SanGiovanni.

Despite her initial skepticism, she soon realized how important jazz music really is, not just to her, but to her family.

“My grandfather was a musician,” she said. “He played the saxophone and loved jazz music so much. I feel that I connect with my grandfather on a much bigger level after realizing my love for jazz.”

“The decision to go to school for jazz just fell in my lap. It was as if God was giving me a sign. I know now that he was, because jazz is perfect for me,” said SanGiovanni. “I have always been an old soul and have always had an appreciation for jazz music and the types of music that push musical boundaries, which is what keeps jazz alive.”

As one of four jazz vocal majors in the entire university, SanGiovanni is always working to make her mark on the jazz community, particularly through her performances here at Montclair State. “Montclair has provided me with performance opportunities and the ability to connect with other musicians,” stated SanGiovanni.

While SanGiovanni is an immensely talented vocalist, not every performance opportunity she has experienced has been a good one. SanGiovanni knows this is part of the craft and uses her failures as lessons for the future.

“I have great pride in myself when I have a bad performance and am able to get back up and perform five times better the next performance,” said SanGiovanni. “The ability to find strength in myself when I fail is one of the greatest lessons I’ve learned through performing.”

Not only does SanGiovanni find confidence in herself, she also finds confidence in her large support system of family and friends. “Going into music, I was a bit nervous of others reactions and if my family and friends would take me seriously,” expressed SanGiovanni. “Not only did they take me seriously, they supported me 100 percent in my dreams. They believed in me when I couldn’t believe in myself.”

“My boyfriend is also a huge support for me. He’s a musician as well at Belmont University and never fails to make me feel like I am moving in the right direction. It’s great to be able to talk to someone who understands what it’s like to be a music major, and he really gets it.”

Having someone by her side who understands her struggles is extremely important to SanGiovanni, especially due to the nature of being a performance major. “Being a performance major is hard. Not only because of the insane hours and workload, but also looking at your future, knowing it is not set in stone,” said SanGiovanni. “Knowing that I am doing what I love and what I feel I am meant to do is what helps me forget about the uncertainty of my future. I am able to keep going by working hard and being dedicated to my music.”

SanGiovanni knows her future is bright and is excited to continue her work as a performer and a jazz musician.

“After a summer of creating videos for ‘Dissonant,’ a vocal video, I am part of, I am diving back into the jazz world,” she said. “This year, my goal is to push my boundaries as a jazz musician and see what I’m really made of as a performer.”
Leading Lady Saves ‘Girl on the Train’ from Becoming a Trainwreck

By Noah Orent

With the fall season in full swing, the time has come for major movie studios to re-release their most coveted films and prepare for the battle royale that is the 2016-17 Academy Awards. In most cases, the films that are released during the Oscar season either provide movie-goers with an unforgettable viewing experience or miss the mark and fail to live up to expectations. “The Girl on the Train,” a poorly-made adaptation of a popular page-turner, falls under the latter category.

Based on the 2015 bestselling debut novel of the same name written by Paula Hawkins, the film stars Emily Blunt as Rachel Watson, an unemployed divorcée who rides the train to and from Manhattan, despite the fact that her debilitating alcoholism brought an end to her career and her marriage. During her daily commute, she becomes fond of a young couple living a seemingly blissful life in her old neighborhood. One day, after witnessing a shocking event at the couple’s house, Rachel falls into a drunken rage and wakes up the next morning to find herself bruised and bloodied. When she learns that the wife has been reported missing, Rachel becomes enragéd in an investigation that promises to forever alter the lives of everyone involved.

Though it manages to hit all the fundamental mandates of psychological thrillers, “The Girl on the Train” unfortunately falls short of its full potential. This is primarily due to the fact that screenwriter Erin Cressida Wilson and director Tate Taylor make it extremely difficult to become fully engaged. Wilson spends the first half-hour either setting the scene or introducing the central characters and, as a result, makes the film feel sluggish in areas where it should have been suspenseful. Consequently, several characters fail to leave the same lasting impression that Hawkins left when the book was first published.

Taylor, meanwhile, creates a suitable Hitchcockian atmosphere, but fails to create a coherent narrative because he chooses to constantly skip around the timeline. This over-reliance on flashbacks makes it even harder for the audience to understand the characters’ respective situations and perspectives.

Even after all of these criticisms, the movie still functions largely due to Blunt’s portrayal of the titular protagonist. An actress whose career has been filled with memorable roles ranging from Queen Victoria in Joan-Marie Vallée’s “The Young Victoria” to the baker’s wife in Rob Marshall’s adaptation of “Into the Woods,” Blunt delivers a chilling, yet captivating performance, despite the thin sketch of a script. Her Rachel is an emotionally vulnerable woman who is determined to unearth the truth but constantly struggles to trust her fractured mind. She is so immersed in the role that, at times, it feels as if the audience is watching a man show.

“Detailed by a razor-thin sketch of a script and a director who clearly did not know what he was doing, “The Girl on the Train” is not the best film adaptation but can definitely be considered another of Emily Blunt’s most memorable performances.

THE BIRTH OF A NATION

By Bryan Sudfield

If there’s one film that has been getting award buzz for the entirety of 2016, it’d be the historical epic “The Birth of a Nation.” Since its world premiere at the Sundance Film Festival earlier this year, the film has been on many people’s radar, and everyone has been waiting to see if this acclaimed historical epic follows the story of Nat Turner, a slave who also happens to be a preacher, as he becomes the leader of the 48-hour slave rebellion in mid-December 1831.

This has been a passion project for Nate Parker, who writes, directs and stars in the film. He learned about it in an African-American course during his studies at the University of Oklahoma. Reviews started off calling the film “incredible” and since the Toronto International Film Festival, reviews have been back and forth. There has been controversy surrounding Parker’s personal life, since this is about the art and not the artist’s personal problems. I liked it, but I felt it was way too over-hyped.

Nate Parker’s direction is solid, especially since this is his directorial debut. This is a beautifully well-crafted and directed film. You can tell that he was extremely passionate about this story and had a strong desire of telling it to the audience. His performance is fantastic, as well as the others, particularly Armie Hammer as Nat’s master, Samuel. There’s going to be lots of award talk for Parker’s direction as well as his and Hammer’s performances. The screenplay was quite good, but not masterful. I also appreciated the cinematography, costume design and score. This is by no means a story for everyone to experience. If you cringe during unsettling sequences, then be warned. It was definitely hard for me to watch, but that’s what makes it so realistic and not “Hollywoodized.” Parker doesn’t shy away from the realism and emotional core of this amazing, but intense story. What big issue with the film was that there was something funky about the pacing.
plained that, during class last personal reasons, Shakir longed hockey at Montclair State her Since playing varsity field is president and co-captain of kir, a junior English major who how to do it,” said Koedi Sha- “Field hockey is the kind of create a special bond between the team. Montclair State’s varsity teams are much different than their club sports programs. The

Former Varsity Athlete Starts Club Field Hockey Team

Deanna Ross

“Field hockey is the kind of sport—it’s kind of like riding a bike—you don’t really forget how to do it,” said Koedi Shakir, a junior major who is president and co-captain of the new club field hockey team. Since playing varsity field hockey at Montclair State her freshman year and quitting for personal reasons, Shakir forced to get back on the field. She explained that, during class last semester, she and her former high school team mate Meszaros were reminiscing about high school, when they decided to start a club hockey team at Montclair State. After a summer of sending emails, pricing equipment, re- creating sponsors’ letters and compiling paperwork, Shakir submitted her application for the new team to the Student Recreation Center on Aug. 1, and it was approved by Sep- tember. Shakir, along with Meszaros, who is now vice president and co-captain of the team, hosted tryouts earlier this semester. They had a “good turnout,” ac- cording to Shakir and kept 20 of the 25 girls who tried out. “We paid a $200 fee to cover torma- tion costs for the National Field Hockey League, equipment, ap- parel and travel expenses.” This team finished their first three-game tournament at University of Connecticut with a 1-1-1 record on Oct. 1. The first game of the tournament was a 1-0 loss against University of Connecticut, the second was 2-0 loss against University of Massachusetts Lowell, and the third was 3-1 win against University of Connecticut. Montclair State Club Field Hockey is looking forward to tournaments at Barnard University and Lafayette College dur- ing the remainder of the season. “It’s been a part of my life for since sixth grade, so I’ve been playing for about seven or eight years,” Shakir said, explaining her passion for field hockey. “Our team has really come together this year. We may not be the best team around, but we’re also friends,” Davey said. “We do so much together whether it’s soccer related or school related, we have always created a comfortable environ- ment where friendships are constantly made.” It doesn’t matter whether a player is new to the team or returning, because everyone looks out for one another and has grown to consider their teammates as part of their fam- ily. “The team tries to have as many team bonding activities so everyone can learn more about each other on a personal basis and not just soccer-relat- ed,” junior Rachel Belsky said. “The objective is to spend time together and grow as a unit so on and off the field the team unity will carry along with us.” The intention of the team spending time with one anoth- er is to learn each other’s strengths and weaknesses on the field so everyone can un- derstand one another’s playing style. Together, this team has developed each week to be- come a talented cohesive unit. “The team continues to grow and, throughout the season all of us are noticing the improve- ments being executed,” Belsky said. “Our true potential will be shown each game.” Each game has either been a blowout win or an incredibly- close game, which is why the team has proven to be a strong competitor this year. Each day, someone rises above the rest, which motivates others to in- crease their level of play. The team established in 2012 with the intention of the team for players who love soccer but don’t want to compete at the varsity level. We still travel like the varsity team to schools like Rider, Rowan, Monmouth and Rutgers,” club president, Tori Davey said. Davey is a senior in her fourth year with the team. With Davey’s experience leading the way, the team looks like they are really coming together this year with strength, agility, en- durance and teamwork. The chemistry of the team really adds to the dynamic as well. "It’s hard to get up and just leave something completely when it’s such a big part of your life and it really makes you the person that you are.” Shakir, currently acting as co- captain and president for the team, is also coaching and play- ing in the games. Though she described the added responsi- bility as “an adjustment,” for her it is all worth it just to be back on the field.
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Red Hawks Look to Stay on Course This Fall

Anthony Paradiso
Contributing Writer

The Montclair State women’s soccer team entered the 2016 season with a .781 winning percentage, seven years under the guidance of Head Coach Patrick Naughter. Naughter has the program’s top three finishes since 1990, and this year he and game as head coach. Naughter applauded several members of his team who have led the way this season. "It’s just really fun to go to work every day," the head coach said. "This team has its injuries and responded by putting up eight goals against two very good conference teams." Senior forward Jenessa Harmotta scored her fifth goal of the year that the seniors have on his Red Hawk team. "[Senior Captain] Emmy Maguire re- ally has a great read on the kids. It’s like having another assistant coach out there," Naughter said. He also spoke about sophomore Sophie Cal- verty, who has played almost every position this year, say- ing, "That was like my playing the middle of September to Oc- tober, before losing at Rowan University last Saturday, Oct. 9. Coach Naughter had much to say about the efforts his as- sistant coaches have made to help this team perform so well throughout this season. "[As- sistant Coaches] Chris Owen, Mike Caglione and Pam Kep- fensteiner have done a great job this year overcoming every- thing we’ve had to," Naughter said. "They’ve been unbeliev- able. Our kids always say, ‘We’d be lost without them.’ Naughter highlighted the impact his father has had on his coaching career, saying his father always taught him “to be humble, and that there is never any excuse to get outworked.” He said that he now sees those same qualities in his team, al- ways working hard to the best. The Red Hawks have won two New Jersey Athletic Con- ference (NJAC) titles since 2010, losing last year in the opening round to Rutger- Newark in the NJAC Playoff Tournament. Putting this be- hind them, the team is focused on the task at hand — winning.

There is never any excuse to get outworked.” - Head Coach Pat Naughter

Southern Virginia was stepped in their tracks by a dominating Red Hawks de- fense, led by Senior Joe Falato. Falato picked up eight tackles on the night, followed close behind by Junior Vincent Cor- dasco with seven. The other touchdown was a 30-yard fumble return by Junior Linebacker Joshua Bette. The final three points of the game came off the clutch of sophomore Ryan DeLeon after he landed a 36-yard field goal in the 3rd quarter. The Red Hawks will head on the road this Saturday, Oct. 15 to take on Christopher New- port in Newport News, Va. Kickoff is at 1 p.m.

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Montclair State Shuts Out Southern Virginia 17-0

Emma Cimo
Sports Editor

Montclair State improved to 5-2 (2-2 in NJAC) this season af- ter a 17-0 shutout victory over Southern Virginia at home on Saturday, Oct. 8, making this their second shut-out win over the Knights in two years. Senior running back John DiStefano continued his stellar season, coming off the field with 41 carries for 175 yards and a touchdown. DiStefano’s 175 yards on his own were more than the Knights’ 157 offensive yards in total. DiStefano looked to anoth- er man for the ball this time as sophomore John Apicella stepped into the quarterback position, connecting for 41 pass- ing yards on the game.

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