A flag waves in the wind that states, “To change everything, we need everyone.”

Olivia Kearns | The Montclarion

Students walking by the Center for Environmental Life Sciences (CELS) building on Friday were greeted with more than just breezy weather and sunny skies. The PSEG Institute for Sustainability Studies (PSEGISS) put on the Point of Intervention (POI) tour for students to take a trip and learn more about different sustainable initiatives.

The Post Landfill Action Network (PLAN) puts on this annual POI tour to raise awareness about sustainability on college campuses around the nation. At Montclair State University, the theme for this tour was “Passport for Sustainability.”

Different “countries” represented specific topics regarding sustainability, like donations and current issues. Ambassadors from places like Goodwill, Toni’s Kitchen and the Ameri-corps New Jersey Watershed Ambassadors Program spoke about ways to contribute to a more environmentally friendly lifestyle.

PLAN Tour Coordinator An-sley Pope explained the linear waste process of how people tend to produce products by using them once and then throwing them away. He mentioned alternatives and how students can prevent more of this process.

“Everything from resisting pipelines, to redesigning products, to getting out and voting,” Pope said. “There’s a way in which everyone can shift and challenge this system.”

Pope was in a booth that held a repair station with various colors of thread as well as needles. Students could create their own repair kit for when their clothes rip. Instead of throwing them away, Pope encouraged students to fix them with thread, needles and even patches.

Pope encouraged students to visit countries on the POI tour and join in on their passions of contributing to a sustainability commitment.

“What we’re trying to pro-

Sustainability continued on Page 4

Crossword puzzle & more on p. 13
Anyone who has information regarding these incidents is urged to call the police station at T-1-PS (3477). All calls are strictly confidential.
Smoke and the smell of grilling burgers wafted through the air as Red Hawks gathered together, cheering on their favorite teams. On Wednesday, Montclair State University students had the opportunity to build their own burgers and serve them to judges for the chance to win prizes. There was a bonus round of Coke Floats to go around so each judge could wash down the teams’ mouthwatering burgers.

While all teams were praised for their excellent cooking skills, the red team was awarded third place, the blue team awarded second and the green team was awarded first place for their unbeatable burgers. Not only did each team walk away with different prizes, everyone had a great time and got to enjoy free refreshments and Coke Floats.
Sustainability: Students were pleased with the intentions behind the event.

Continued from page 1

mote with all of these different countries is that no one person can fix this system by themselves,” Pope said. “Collectively and together, nobody can do everything, but everyone can do something.”

Many organizations were present on the tour, including Goodwill, FoamCycle, and Montclair Animal Activists Club. PSEG-BIS Community Engagement Ambassador Heather Francis was part of the team that planned the POI tour. “This is a collaborative effort between other ambassadors, and it is to showcase sustainability issues and talk about waste on campus,” said Francis, a senior international justice major with minors in environmental justice and nutrition. “Our campus community, I feel like, needs to be more engaged in climate change and sustainability issues.”

Montclair Animal Activists Club President Emily Klesitz had a booth set up to inform students of how to be more sustainable in the food products they consume. “We’re participating in this event because what we eat in terms of animal products has a really big effect on the environment,” Klesitz said. “Typically eating meat and fish in most cases is not a sustainable way to eat.”

Klesitz stressed the importance of doing research and learning about the impact our population has on the Earth. “We need to start being smarter about how we eat, how we produce and how we dispose of waste or else we’re not going to have a planet soon enough,” Klesitz said.

QR codes were placed on each country’s “flag” for students to scan and submit their names. Once they attended all five countries, they were allowed to pick from a table of prizes, which included reusable straws, metal chopsticks, pencils made from recycled products and even chocolate. Students, like junior theater studies major Jane Baduini, crowded around the booths in front of CELS because of the many prizes and giveaways. “It’s a wonderful thing to bring awareness to the environment because we only have one planet so we’ve got to take care of it,” Baduini said.

Baduini’s favorite part of the event was knowing some booths were giving away free reusable straws because her and her friends “love to save the turtles.”

Francis believes the campus community was receptive and the event went really well. “Students care about this kind of stuff,” Francis said. “Having it on campus, I think showing the awareness, more people will care about it.”

“...”

“We need to start being smarter about how we eat, how we produce and how we dispose of waste or else we’re not going to have a planet soon enough”

- Emily Klesitz, Montclair Animal Activists Club President
Students Make Their Voices Heard at Annual Tuition Hearing

Teresa Gomez
Assistant Feature Editor

Montclair State University invited students to the board of trustees annual tuition hearing to address their concerns. Students proposed some possible solutions to rising fees.

A concern was brought up by Amanda Christiano, an English major who suggested a new idea that the school could enact.

"When I am unable to pay due to a layoff at work or just something else, I am being told I am going to be kicked out of school or suspended," Christiano said.

"If there is a program or something that can help students continue to stay and further their education, and replicate other universities where you can continue going but cannot receive your diploma until you can continue going but can," Christiano said.

Christiano continued even more, saying this suggestion is a way for students to have the confidence to stay and further their education.

Montclair State University, and [I've] never felt unsafe."

While incoming freshmen may not receive your diploma until you can continue going but cannot receive your diploma until you are fully paid up," Christiano said.

Christiano continued even more, saying this suggestion is a way for students to have the ability to continue their education without having to take off so many semesters.

While incoming freshman may be experiencing the hearing for the first time, other students have made it a priority to attend each annual meeting. Heather Francis, a graduating senior studying international justice, has been speaking at tuition hearings for three years.

She made a statement about how students may not be as grateful as we should be. "I'm really grateful for my educational opportunity here," Francis said. "I'm grateful because I can go to school, and I'm grateful that [the school] worked so tremendously hard to receive funding from the state of New Jersey to provide this educational opportunity."

Environmental concerns are increasing among students at Montclair State. One student at the hearing discussed issues with light pollution in the Dillon Heights area on campus.

Journalism major Zoey Gleason, a Montclair staff writer who dorms on campus in Dillon Heights, has experienced this issue firsthand.

"I hear birds that are awake at night singing to each other. They get confused because of the lights that come in from Car Park and from other posts on campus," Gleason said. "I believe this a very well-lit university, and [I've] never felt unsafe." 

While Christiano and Gleason mentioned issues related to struggling finances and mechanical operations, other students proposed cutting programs on campus.

"We get confused because of the lights that come in from Car Park and from other posts on campus," Gleason said. "I believe this a very well-lit university, and [I've] never felt unsafe."

While Christiano and Gleason mentioned issues related to struggling finances and mechanical operations, other students proposed cutting programs on campus.

"I do think that if there are certain buildings that lock after certain hours, we can swipe in with key card," Gleason said. "There should be a way we can shut off all the lights that are not being used and if someone does need to access the building, they can flip on the switch." 

While Christiano and Gleason mentioned issues related to struggling finances and mechanical operations, other students proposed cutting programs on campus.

"I'm going to ask you to cut money from programs so that to ensure the tuition increase is minimal," Lyons said. "I believe that some of the services have become outdated and are completely unneeded, and would be right for budget cuts or [a] complete dismantle."

The only program Lyons suggested cutting funding to was The Montclarion.

Two contributors from The Montclarion later rebutted this statement in defense of the multi-platform news organization.

The board then thanked the students and reassured their voices were heard. University President Susan Cole encouraged students to continue advocating for themselves and being leaders on campus.
Who is Going to the A Boogie Wit Da Hoodie Concert?

Carly Henriquez
Staff Writer

Spring is here at Montclair State University, which means the Student Life At Montclair (SLAM) Spring Concert is preparing to welcome this year’s performers, A Boogie wit da Hoodie featuring Trap Manny. However, due to the high volume of interest, many students will be missing out on the opportunity.

The concert venue rented out for the SLAM Spring Concert was Memorial Auditorium, which is located next to the Center for Environmental and Life Sciences (CELS) here on campus.

Many students are questioning the decision of the location since it is a fairly small theater capable of only holding 988 seats, according to Montclair State’s website. However, it is the largest performance facility on campus.

Alderiyike Adeyemo, a junior studying chemistry, is one of the students who criticized the venue choice.

“Memorial Auditorium is really small. It’s not for a concert, for A Boogie. They should’ve done it somewhere bigger,” Adeyemo said. “He’s always on the radio, so of course, people are going to come out.”

According to Billboard.com, A Boogie’s most noticeable song “Look Back At It,” peaked the #32 spot on the Hot 100 Billboard list back on Feb. 16. The song stayed on the chart for 17 weeks.

SLAM spoke on their behalf, via Instagram, and addressed the concerns of the decisions of their location.

“Why an indoor venue? It’s April, and because we can not guarantee good weather, we opted for an indoor venue,” SLAM said in the post.

SLAM also stated that certain locations have strict regulations, which might have impacted A Boogie’s performance.

“Any outdoor venue (i.e. Lot 60) has strict regulations due to the residential area campus is surrounded by. A Boogie would literally not be able to curse in his songs, and no one wants to hear a clean version of ‘Startender,” SLAM said.

Students such as Aisosa Omoruyi, an undeclared sophomore, was intrigued by the affordable prices in which the tickets were sold.

“It’s a very good price for A Boogie, that’s why everyone tried,” Omoruyi said. “A regular A Boogie ticket is over $100 because he has hits.”

Omoruyi was one of the many unfortunate students who tried to purchase a ticket on the release date.

“I was there at 10:02 a.m., and it was gone,” Omoruyi said. “They put me on the waiting list. I’m thinking they sold not over 200 tickets.”

However, a selected few individuals were able to get their hands on A Boogie tickets.

Kiani Bonner, a senior studying communication and media arts, will be able to attend the spring concert this year.

“I purchased the tickets at 10 a.m., the day it came out. I went to his Powerhouse concert in Newark,” Bonner said.

“That concert was lit, but he only did one song, though.”

SLAM received major criticism and questions from students regarding the number of actual tickets they sold.

“SLAM puts a lot of work and consideration into putting on every event, especially the 2019 Spring Concert, including budget, artist availability and choosing someone students would want to see,” SLAM said. “We work hard to ensure that every event we put on is safe and enjoyable for our fellow students.”
Freeman Hall was built in 1963 and continues to house approximately 260 residents.

Zoe Nolz
Contributing Writer

Despite the rumors of future replacement and renovation floating around Montclair State University, Freeman Hall is not only here to stay but is loved by many members of its community.

Due to the dorm’s old age and facilities, there has been a bit of talk among students regarding the building being renovated or even torn down in upcoming years. However, the Associate Director of Residential Support Services Kevin Schafer clarified that rumors of replacement are completely false.

“We have no plans right now to take down the building,” Schafer said. “The building will be there for as long as we know.”

Schafer also mentioned that upcoming renovations are possible.

“Renovations happen as we can, and as we have the budget to do so we’ll update the building ourselves,” Schafer said.

Freeman Hall was constructed in 1963 and has many art-oriented residents. The dorm has about 260 residents living on seven floors in suite-style layouts where residents typically share two rooms and a bathroom.

Students acknowledged that the building’s facilities are not quite as up to date as some of the other dorms.

Regarding these issues, Freeman Hall resident Senior Raines, a sophomore music major, gave her opinion as well.

“I would give this dorm some AC and some better heating and a newer elevator,” Raines said.

Although Freeman Hall is known to be old, many residents said they were very happy to live there and enjoy its sense of community and close proximity to specific buildings.

Sharon Skeahan, a senior public health major and resident assistant at Freeman, talked about her experience.

“I love being an RA in Freeman,” Skeahan said.

Due to its close location to Chapin Hall, Life Hall and other buildings for the arts, Freeman Hall has many social events and activities for people interested in art, theater, music and dance.

There are also some sections of the dorm and lounges where people can work on creative projects, encouraging like-minded students to socialize.

Skeahan explained why she loves Freeman despite its appearance.

“I think the community of residents in Freeman is really interactive and fun, and there’s always lots of fun events going on here,” Skeahan said.

Freeman Hall also has nice views, according to residents.

“Freeman Hall is pretty cool. I like the view,” Raines said. “I live on the odd number side so I get to see the sunset, so I like that.”

Whether the pros outweigh the cons or not, Freeman Hall is here to stay – and the residents seemed to be happy with this.

“It’s a cool community here,” Raines said.
Montclair State University’s Reaction to the National Admissions Scandal

Students and staff at Montclair State University know the obstacles one must face to even step foot into a university as a member of the community, so when it comes to the most recent college admissions and bribery scandal taking place in the country, university students and administration had something to say about it.

Vice President of Student Development and Campus Life at Montclair State Karren Pennington weighed in on the scandal as it relates to the campus. Pennington feels confident there is no possibility of a scandal like this occurring at Montclair State.

“It wouldn’t happen,” Pennington said. “We have had many parents try to entice staff to let students in, but [Montclair State staff] holds firm to our standards.”

Some faculty at Montclair State believe that universities nationwide should take action to prevent these types of incidents from occurring in the future.

Director of Undergraduate Admissions Jeffrey Grant added a prestigious viewpoint to the scandal and how it affects the Red Hawk community. He shared what he thinks the next course of action should be for those convicted as well as for universities across the country.

“The justice system will decide the next steps for those implicated in the scandal,” Grant said. “For other universities that were not involved, I think it is critical that they stay true to their mission — in our case, that’s providing broad access to quality higher education — and ensure that their admissions practices are rigorous, fair and of the highest integrity.”

There are at least 50 people who were accused of taking part in illegally getting their kids into universities like Yale University and the University of Southern California (USC).

A lot of uproar across the country has ensued, especially on college campuses, such as Montclair State. Besides the bribery for academics, athletics also played a role in the scandal, as celebrities bribed coaches to have their kids on the university teams.

Institutions, such as USC, took bribes from actress Lori Loughlin, better known as Aunt Becky from the television series “Full House.” Loughlin and her husband agreed to pay bribes totaling $500,000 in exchange for having their two daughters listed on the USC rowing team, with no prior experience in rowing.

Montclair State’s interim Athletic Director Robert Chesney gave his opinion on the sports aspect of the scandal. 

“[The sports bribery is] certainly going to have an effect on athletic programs that were involved,” Chesney said. “It’s a shame that some coaches choose to abuse their power at the expense of the university.”

Since the reports of cheating in sports, coaches involved have been suspended from their positions at universities like Stanford University, Georgetown University and USC.

Shil Sen, an instructional specialist in Montclair State’s writing department, added a professorial view. Sen described his initial reactions to the 2019 college admissions and bribery scandal.

“The vast majority of things around [the scandal] I’m not actually surprised about, because I’ve known for a long time how severely messed up U.S. academia is,” Sen said.

Sen’s viewpoint toward the scandal was noted early on, as he mentioned his knowledge on past scandals that were brought on by the hole in the country’s education system.

“The problem is the fact that the rules are already broken,” Sen said. “The rules are already set up in a way which absolutely and completely unfairly disadvantages the [poor].”

Freshman journalism major Alexis Giunta takes this scandal personally as a first-year student at Montclair State. She gave her opinion on students like Loughlin’s daughter getting into universities due to bribery.

“I think, in the long run, it does affect me personally, because if I’m going to be in a professional setting, and there are people around me that got degrees and went to great schools but they don’t have the smarts to do their jobs, then I’m going to be working with that,” Giunta said.

Giunta made a strong point, focusing on the fact of how unfair the application process is from one student to the next, based on the amount of money they possess, or in this case, the amount of money their parents have.
Slay Street Station puts fashion on the map at Montclair State University on Friday, May 3 at 7 p.m. as designers present their latest collections. This annual event showcases trendy, new designs created by Montclair State fashion students as they premiere their looks on the runway.

This year, Alexander Kasser Theater will be transformed into a NYC subway station where fashion is always the next stop. Fashion design students will be debuting their newest and freshest designs to compete for a variety of scholarship awards in their respective categories, such as intro to sewing, flat pattern, draping, advanced construction and independent design. These scholarships are made possible by collaborative efforts with sponsors within the fashion and beauty industry, both local and national.

Their donations allow the show to provide swag bags and door prizes to guests, which typically amounts to over 300 people. The event itself is coordinated by fashion students who are learning the ins and outs of runway show production.

This year’s sponsors include Mood Fabrics, Abercrombie, Avenue and more. Entertainment for the night will include a performance by Wishbone Band.

According to fashion studies professor Scarlett Morris, the event has continued to be successful each year due to overwhelming support from the campus community.

“This dynamic show is now in its 12th year and is the most anticipated fashion event on campus,” Morris said.

Fashion studies, a Bachelor of Arts concentration within the College of the Arts, focuses on the multi billion-dollar industry concerned with the production and sale of fashion products.

Montclair State is one of the few New Jersey schools offering a comprehensive degree in fashion and is the second largest university in the state. With a revamped building to call its own and a reputation as a popular major on campus, fashion studies at Montclair State will be recognized for its contribution to the fashion industry.

Sophia Casella, a fashion studies major who is in the fashion show production class, says the course is interesting but a lot of hard work. “For the most part, it’s everyone’s first time doing a fashion show,” Casella said. “It is a learning experience, but it is fun working with everyone.”

Tickets can be purchased at the door the night of the event, so don’t miss this stop on Slay Street Station.

Next Stop: Slay Street Station

Cassidy Lunney
Staff Writer

Mood Fabrics is one of the sponsors for the fashion show.
Students wait to order food in the Student Center cafeteria.

Olivia Kearns | The Montclarion

Healthy Options for Students on Campus

Purna Saha
Contributing Writer

There are various ways in which students are capable of staying healthy and fit on campus. When students eat a lot of junk food, either at home or at fast food restaurants, it could cause their bodies to function improperly and lead to various diseases.

Junior nutrition major Ciera Crespo encourages students who live on campus to always look for ways to sneak fruits and vegetables into their diet, many of which are rich in fiber and vitamins.

“Fiber is insanely important for the gut. Choose to swap rice for broccoli at Panda Express and swap out soda for water or diluted juices,” Crespo said. “Students need to be cautious about sugar and salt intake to lower their risk of disease later in their life.”

Long-term bad habits of taking in too much sugar could cause diabetes and taking large doses of salt can cause heart problems. Maintaining an unhealthy diet could also cause heart disease, which was the leading cause of death around the world in 2016, according to the World Health Organization.

Exercise is also very important for students. In order to keep the heart healthy, one should do cardio at least 20 to 30 minutes a day. Strength training, such as weight lifting and push-ups, keeps the muscles healthy.

“Go to the gym, start small and don’t be intimidated by the other students there,” Crespo said. “Commit to making your health what it should be, and commit to being your best self no matter what that is.”

Sophomore computer science major Damien Bahoumda likes eating teriyaki chicken and fried rice at Panda Express almost every day. He also likes salads from Sam’s place. He explained that he compensates for his diet through exercise.

“I go to the gym four days a week and do weight lifting and strength training,” Bahoumda said.

However, Dr. Ashkan Afshin, a lead researcher at University of Washington in Seattle, notes that poor nutrition helps drive many health conditions from high blood pressure to Type 2 diabetes. There could be a risk of higher death rates due to foods that are high in sodium.

“Taking out refined carbohydrates from your diet is the best way to lose weight,” Crespo said. “You could also stop eating bread and products with refined flour.”

Crespo also explained how caloric intake varies from person to person.

“Always listen to your tummy. Students who work out more often will eat more than students that aren’t as active, and that’s okay,” Crespo said. “Your body will adjust when you adjust your habits, and you feel hungrier when you work out more and that’s normal.”

Junior computer science major Jillian Vana does not maintain a healthy diet, which occasionally causes her stomach upset.

“I prefer carbohydrates everyday, but I don’t eat fast food often because I get sick,” Vana said.

Portia Calo and Sebastian Solano are served lunch at Sam’s Place.

Even concerning medical needs, there are no medications that are “one size fits all.” Supplements may or may not be effective because they might not actually provide nutrients and vitamins that are bioavailable or easily absorbed.

“It’s hard to imagine yourself making healthy changes, but once someone is inspired to change, it is easy to make these changes,” Crespo said. “Students could also learn more by taking a nutrition course at Montclair State University.”

Porta Calo and Sebastian Solano are served lunch at Sam’s Place.

Photo courtesy of Montclair State University

Students share meals with their friends in the Student Center Cafeteria.

Photo courtesy of Montclair State University
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Before/After School Sitter Needed for two Montclair Preschoolers Our much loved, long-time sitter is graduating and we’re looking for a responsible, creative, energetic go-getter to help care for our almost 3 and almost 5 year old son and daughter in Montclair. Approximately 30 hours/week: Monday – Thurs. 7-9:30 a.m. and 3:30 – 8:00 p.m. Perfect for a college student as we have some flexibility with hours over the summer (avg 20-30 hours a week). Could also discuss providing housing over the summer if you are looking to stay in town for reduced fees. Price experience with children, strong references and own reliable vehicle are required. CPR certified preferred. Must be comfortable with a cat and in a pool. If interested, please email: msp2786@hotmail.com

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$20-$25 per hour / Homework Helper / Livingston Looking for an after school homework helper. Interested in either current student, graduate or teacher to ideally come to our home Mon-Thurs for 1 1/2 – 2 hours (flexible in days/hours). Ideal candidate would be someone with education experience or experience working on study skills/executive functioning at the high school level. Looking for someone organized and who has patience! Payment flexible depending on workload/experience. If interested, please text or call Marcy at 973-499-0645 or email: marcyroner@verizon.net.

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Education, Psych, & Soc. Majors / Summer Camp Jobs / BERGEN COUNTY, NJ Ramapo Country Day Camp is looking for college counselors to make a difference with elementary campers. Camp Dates: July 1 to August 23, M-F 9-4. The working environment is enjoyable, creative, positive, and perfect for the summer. A huge resume booster for teachers. You’ll gain valuable “classroom” experience with a specific age group. We are looking for people who see camp as something they “get to do”, not “have to do”. Email: briarit@ramaposcamp.com. Call 201-444-7144. See a video of us in action at: www.ramaposcamp.com

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$50 / Need help moving boxes, Montclair - Edison I moved to Montclair several months ago with a POD. It is in storage in Edison and I need help moving some things around so I can get the things I need. There is no heavy lifting just sliding some boxes and furniture so I have access to them. I’ll pay someone $50 for the job. It should not take long, I would think travel time to Edison and back is about an hour. If interested please email me at pickelddy83@yahoo.com.

$20-$25 per hour / Homework Helper / Livingston Looking for an after school homework helper. Interested in either current student, graduate or teacher to ideally come to our home Mon-Thurs for 1 1/2 – 2 hours (flexible in days/hours). Ideal candidate would be someone with education experience or experience working on study skills/executive functioning at the high school level. Looking for someone organized and who has patience! Payment flexible depending on workload/experience. If interested, please text or call Marcy at 973-499-0645 or email: marcyroner@verizon.net.

OTHER ARE YOU IN CRISIS OR STRUGGLING? HEALING, HOPE AND HELP CAN HAPPEN! Please CALL the National Suicide Prevention Lifeline at 1-800-273-8255 (TALK) at any time to speak to a counselor and get support. You can also connect to the Crisis Text Line by texting “HELLO” to 741-741 to be connected to a counselor. All services are free, confidential and available 24/7 for anyone in crisis.
The Montclarion Crossword Puzzle and More!

Easter Holiday Edition

Across
3. This is the day of the week Montclair State closes for the Easter holiday
5. This meal is popular for mixing breakfast and lunch items
6. These popular Easter candies are shaped like chicks and are really disgusting
7. This is a traditional Easter adventure for people to find something

Down
1. This Jewish holiday is celebrated from April 19 to April 27
2. This animal is most associated with the Easter holiday
4. This is used to color Easter eggs
5. This gift is traditionally used on Easter to hold candy and other goods

Word Search

Sudoku

*For answers to the puzzles, please check The Montclarion Facebook page every Thursday.*
Campus Media is Worth the ‘Extra, Extra’ Fee

The Montclair State University board of trustees held their annual tuition hearing on Wednesday, April 10. The meeting encourages students to come and speak out about their concerns in regards to the money they pay each semester and where it goes to.

When it was time for the campus community to address the board, one student approached the podium, carrying with them a copy of The Montclarion. They thanked the board for allowing them to speak and went on to say there are stacks of unread papers left on the news stands all across campus.

They then suggested the board cut funding toward the media organization, something that shocked everyone in the room that morning.

This decision would not only negatively impact the editors, staff members and contributors who work hard each week to publish well-reported and written pieces, but the student body, faculty, staff and alumni who are active readers and continue to support free press at Montclair State.

What this individual, as well as many others, do not know is that The Montclarion is independent from the university and receives funding from additional fees students pay along with their annual tuition.

Each full-time student at the university pays an additional $3.50 at $0.23 cents a credit for the weekly paper, which is a small price to pay for access to on-campus news, entertainment, sports and other valuable information.

Campus media is a very important aspect of higher education. It not only serves as a tool for students interested in journalism to expand their writing and reporting skills, but as a hub for the community to find out what’s going on around campus.

Just this year, there have been so many issues the Montclair State community needed to be aware of, such as on-campus arrests, sewage leaks and protests. Without campus media, students might have never known these events happened or when they plan to be resolved.

Not only do we report on hard news, but The Montclarion gives students the opportunity to attend and cover concerts, sporting events and write profiles on interesting people on top of other organizations on campus. It also gives students a chance to voice their own opinions on the issues that matter to them and help give voices to the voiceless.

People may argue that print is very costly, which we agree with, but statistics from The Montclarion have shown that they are being picked up. Many students complain that they see stacks of newspapers left on the stand several days after they are published, but it really depends on the location.

Our statistics show that locations, such as the Student Center and University Hall, have higher pick-up numbers than the residence halls on campus. In some instances, there are none left on the stand after they are published, but it really depends on the location.

“We do not condemn this student for speaking out about what they believe in. This person brought to our attention that there are some things that could be reworked, like modifying the number of copies placed in different locations on campus.”

On the other hand, in a world full of technology at the palm of people’s hands, we hope to keep print journalism and old media alive because that is where our organization stems from.

All of us at The Montclarion want to thank President Susan Cole, the board of trustees and everyone on and off campus who continue to support and encourage the work we do. With your support, The Montclarion has evolved to more than just a weekly newspaper, but an award-winning multimedia organization.

We hope to carry on the legacy that began in 1928 and strive to always be #MSUstudentvoice.

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**CAMPUS VOICES:**

**Why do you think on-campus media organizations are important?**

*By Rebecca Serviss & Jen Losos*

- **Dylan Shane**
  Athletic Training
  Freshman

- **Elyssa Lage**
  Psychology
  Freshman

- **Celine Fitzpatrick**
  Communication & Media Arts
  Sophomore

- **Miriam Granja**
  Economics
  Freshman

“Campus media is important to spread knowledge about events happening all around campus and keeping the community together, as a whole. There is just so much going on around campus, so connecting with as many students as you can keeps the community together.”

“I think that campus media is important because it brings people together and it keeps our campus unified. I feel that without [campus] media, we would be without any communication.”

“I think campus media is important because it gives a voice to the students on campus and have a way for them to communicate how they feel about the campus and important events that are going on. I think having things like the radio [station and] The Montclarion show how involved our students are on campus [and] how much they want their opinions to be heard.”

“[Campus media] helps people be more involved on campus and even people who are [involved]. They are more informed and leaned to actually go to the events.”
In honor of having a day set for us to be appreciative of our home, here are five easy hacks that will make major changes for the planet we call home.

The first thing people can do is recycle. Reminders to recycle always get advocated, but what usually happens to it? More times than not, we know where it ends up. It is either in recycled plates, silversware, cups or plastic bins. However, what we don’t realize is that it can end up being used in places, such as printing paper or on turfs, and even used to hold our sodas and soups.

What I am trying to say is, remember to recycle. Without realizing, it does reduce the amount of trash we make and gets reused in the process. And, fun fact, pizza boxes can’t be recycled due to the fact that oil stains can’t be removed from the box during the pulping process.

Another way to take care of the Earth is by donations. Throwing away old clothes is wrong for two main reasons. One reason is throwing away old clothes adds to landfills, which we already know don’t need to be added on to. Another fun fact, according to planet-taid.org, clothes can take up to 40 years to decompose.

When you throw away any old clothes, there is an opportunity that someone else can enjoy the same article of clothing that gave you the same joy, too. Rather than wasting years for an old sweater to decompose, donate and give it to someone who can take those same amount of years and enjoy it.

People can also look for alternatives. Instead of printing up papers for movie tickets, coupons or whatever it may be, always ask yourself, “Can I do this online?” I know, in 2019, most of what we do is done on technology, but it’s always a good reminder.

The same goes for water bottles. I know that I’m not the only one with thousands of water bottles lying around my bedroom. However, a better and environmentally helpful habit that we should all develop is investing in reusable stainless steel water bottles and straws. Buy one that best fits your everyday lifestyle. I can’t tell you how helpful and beneficial this is would be for our home if we all collectively make one small change in our daily lives.

Be a vegetarian for a day. According to vegnews.com, collectively the country eats vegetarian for a day, about 100 billion gallons of water, 70 million gallons of gas and 4.5 million pounds of animal waste would be saved in just one day. To put that into perspective, if the country were to go vegetarian for a day then we would save enough supplies to make this country run on our own for months.

Not to mention, the decrease in animal waste will eliminate about seven tons of ammonia emissions, which is one of the worst air pollutants. Don’t just take into consideration the effect it will have for the Earth but on your health as well.

It is important to not ignore the pressing matters we face to save our planet. We see it everywhere, either on social media or the news regarding the effects of global changes. Even though changes happen in order for the world to progress, there were decisions made by us humans that we can still fix.

For Earth Day this year, try and change one bad habit into a better alternative. You never know the impact it will have on our home.

Rebecca Serviss | The Montclarion

Please be Finders, Not Keepers

REBECCA SERVISS
OPINION EDITOR

While everyone else at the School of Communication and Media (SCM) was focused on immigration last week, my focus was unfortunately skewed toward a more urgent issue that needed to be resolved.

I was looking forward to collaborat- ing with my fellow students and show- ing off all of the hard work we have done throughout the semester, but last Monday, my world was turned upside down.

As a member of The Montclarion, I am well aware of the many crimes on campus featured in our weekly Red Hawk Rap Sheet, and one of the most common offenses I see is theft. Little did I know that I would be in one of those situations that day.

I am usually very cautious of my surroundings, making sure I triple check my bag to see that everything is in its little designated place. One of the first items I check for is my wallet, which I usually keep in my bag unless I need easy access to it, but that morning, I made the stupid mistake of leaving it somewhat in the SCM and someone happened to pick it up.

After noticing that it was gone, I im- mediately retraced my steps, and as usual, triple checked every spot I could have left it, but it was nowhere to be found.

My heart dropped when I received a text message from my mom later that afternoon saying there was a $2,000 charge on our family’s credit card. That was when I knew it was stolen. I couldn’t help but feel responsible.

It was the start of one of the most stressful and depressing weeks of my life – and, it had nothing to do with my studies. Instead, it was a stupid deci- sion I made that left me sitting in a stall of the women’s restroom for 45 min- utes during class as I wiped the tears off my face and called my credit card companies, hoping to prevent future purchases. I was lucky enough to catch them in time.

What really broke my heart was that it happened specifically in the SCM, a place where almost anyone I talk to is very friendly and always ready to help someone in need. I never thought that someone here could be so heartless as to take someone’s belongings and go online to designer shopping sprees.

I still filed a police report because what this person did was a felony. I believe that everyone should be held accountable for their actions. I also un- derstand that I am just as accountable for the decision that I made, and I have no excuse but to take responsibility for half of this problem.

If there is a lesson to be learned from this situation, it is that no one is im- mune to theft, no matter how obsessive and compulsive they are.

I cannot change the fact that this hap- pened to me. All I can do now is learn from it and help others not to make the same mistake. In the end, this is a valu- able lesson that no one should have to learn firsthand and what it cost me was a week from hell and about $100 in cash.

Rebecca Serviss | The Montclarion

AMANDA BROWN
STAFF WRITER

With Earth Day around the corner, it is time for us students to take action – now. It is no surprise that after we leave col- lege we will walk into the real world, and add to the is- sues that cause our planet to rot.

We all know about the hole in our ozone layer and the oils spilling into our ocean, but sitting around retweet- ing content on Twitter or having dis- cussions in classrooms does not make a difference for our planet.

In 2019, with the knowledge of where our trash goes and the effects of the chemicals we put in the air, we as humans should be more mindful of the products we use and the repercussions of our actions. We don’t want turtles to get straw stuck in their noses, nor do we want to see orangutans stripped from their homes and left to find new ones.

Problems like these are preventable. The same goes for us and the search for our new homes, which may be Mars, but guess what? We can do something about it.

W
The Montclarion Comics

Thumbs Up

The Montclarion staff attended NJPF Press Awards Luncheon on Saturday.

#FocusImmigration thunderclap trended on Twitter last week.

The late Aretha Franklin wins a Pulitzer Prize for her contributions to American music.

Thumbs Down

Notre Dame Cathedral in Paris catches on fire and will not reopen for five years.

Chips Ahoy! products recalled for an unspecified ‘solidified ingredient’.

‘Mary Tyler Moore Show’ actress Georgia Engel passes away at age 70.
Rebecca Mena is a junior studying communication and media arts at Montclair State University. Mena’s love of makeup led her to create a YouTube channel where she demonstrates her nontraditional makeup techniques, setting her apart from other makeup artists. She spoke with Montclairion Assistant Video Editor Annabel Reyes about her passion and professional goals.

Q: Why do you love doing makeup?
A: I like makeup because it expresses your inner beauty and your talent. It’s not only makeup, but if it’s also the art behind it. I feel like you can really tell your story by being creative or doing a simple look because it really defines who you are and your mood from day to day. It’s fun. It’s not meant to be serious, so I feel like it’s really good to learn new things and try new things every day.

Q: What sparked your interest in wanting to be a makeup artist?
A: What sparked my interest in being a makeup artist is when I was in middle school and high school, I started watching YouTube, and really getting into the beauty community and watching how they did makeup. I was always fascinated because back then, I didn’t wear makeup at all, but I saw a lot of girls wearing it so I was like, “All right, let me try it.” So, my dad took me to Sephora, and I purchased my first eyeliner and mascara. From there, I felt like I wanted to learn more and try new things and try eyeshadow, try foundation and that’s what really got me started.

Q: What made you decide to pursue a career in communication and media arts at Montclair State?
A: A lot of people ask me that. I decided to major in communication and media arts because I wanted to do public relations for L’Oreal or for a big makeup company. Now that I’m really getting a feel for what I love, the more I go through school and the more I advance in my makeup skills, I really feel like it’s a good medium between doing makeup and the business side of it.

Q: Why do you love doing makeup?
A: I like makeup because it expresses your inner beauty and your talent. It’s not only makeup, but it’s also the art behind it. I feel like you can really tell your story by being creative or doing a simple look because it really defines who you are and your mood from day to day. It’s fun. It’s not meant to be serious, so I feel like it’s really good to learn new things and try new things every day.

Q: What was one of your favorite makeup styles that you put out on your Instagram?
A: One of my favorite styles that I put out on my Instagram would definitely be the “Bratz challenge” look that I did. That was going viral all over Instagram, and I really wanted to recreate something. I feel like that was really the start of how I pushed myself on getting creative. I feel like that was really fun recreating a look that transformed me into something different, and it was really fun to do.

Q: Do other makeup artists on YouTube inspire you?
A: I follow so many makeup artists from day to day. Whether they have a smaller following or a higher following, I feel like natural makeup or more intricate, detailed makeup really inspires me to push myself to do better. Whether it’s doing more rainbow looks or whether it’s doing more neutral tone looks, I’m always thinking of something new to do or something different because I really like standing out and being different from other people.

Q: What advice would you give to those who are interested in starting their own YouTube channel?
A: The advice I would give out to people wanting to start out in the makeup industry would definitely be to not focus on what other people are going to think, and not to be shy, and to just do it because the longer you wait, the more you’re going to regret that you should’ve started earlier.

Q: What advice would you give to those who are interested in starting their own YouTube channel?
A: For sure. I follow so many makeup artists from day to day, whether they have a smaller following or a higher following. I feel like natural makeup or more intricate, detailed makeup really inspires me to push myself to do better. Whether it’s doing more rainbow looks or whether it’s doing more neutral tone looks, I’m always thinking of something new to do or something different because I really like standing out and being different from other people.
The School of Communication and Media (SCM) held a colloquium that involved a pilot episode screening of HBO’s most popular crime drama series, “The Sopranos,” on the evening of Monday, April 1.

The series, which marks its 20th anniversary this year, was created and written by David Chase. The show revolves around the protagonist Tony Soprano, played by James Gandolfini, an Italian-American man who works as a mobster for a crime organization in New Jersey.

Throughout the series, Tony attempts to balance his work life with his family life and often goes to therapy sessions with his psychiatrist Dr. Jennifer Melfi, played by Lorraine Bracco, to help deal with his depression.

She also helps Tony deal with the issues he faces with his mother Livia Soprano, played by Nancy Marchand, as well as his wife Carmela, played by Edie Falco and his children Meadow and Anthony Jr., played by Jamie-Lynn Sigler and Robert Iler.

After the screening of the pilot episode, titled “The Sopranos,” a formal discussion of the series was held by the SCM’s clinical specialist, Susan Skoog.

Skoog has worked as a screenwriter in the entertainment industry, as well as a producer and director, for over 20 years. She initiated the interview with media professor Dr. Hugh Curnutt, executive film producer Mark Kamine – who has worked alongside actors Chadwick Boseman and Stephan James for the production of the upcoming 2019 action film “21 Bridges” – and writer Alan Sepinwall – who worked as a columnnist with the Star Ledger for 14 years.

The panel discussion focused mostly on the creation of “The Sopranos” series as well as the casting of the characters and the idea behind the story, which was based on Chase’s own life experiences growing up in New Jersey.

Curnutt, Sepinwall and Kamine each provided their own feedback to the episode and praised the show for its ability to expose the conflicts between the characters and provide good character development for Tony Soprano.

Charles Weisman, a sophomore filmmaking major, said he is a huge fan of the show and was really engaged in the episode.

“I thought it was [a] pretty good [episode], and it’s my favorite [show],” Weisman said.

He also felt the colloquium was a bit long, but it didn’t matter as he had the pleasure of watching his favorite show.

While Weisman felt watching the episode was fulfilling enough, other students wanted more interaction with the panel.

Brooke Chiera, a sophomore filmmaking major, said that “The Sopranos” is her favorite show. She wished the discussion panel provided more time for more Q&A.

“I wish there was more time for questions in the end,” Chiera said.

While Chiera had a small issue with the amount of time given to ask questions, others that attended felt the program was great from start to finish.

Anna Fallon, a junior communication studies major, said “The Sopranos” is her favorite show and enjoyed the feedback provided by Sepinwall and Curnutt.

“It was so interesting to hear why they picked certain locations and how Chase was super meticulous with his script,” Fallon said. “I loved the pilot episode and the series as a whole. I also thought it was an interesting touch to hear how Dr. Hugh felt about the show.”

Kristen Milburn, a junior English major and Montclarion staff writer, was in charge of handing out the flyers for the colloquium. She felt like the event was successful.

“I thought it was a really great event and that people had the opportunity to learn a lot about a popular show they either already love or wanted to know more about,” Milburn said. “It was exactly what all Film Institute events strive to be, which is fun and educational.”

The event allowed its audience members to engage and interact with one another, while critically analyzing the message behind one of the greatest series in television history.
Broadway Stars to Perform at Montclair State for Autism New Jersey

The Autism awareness benefit is being hosted by the Public Relations Student Society of America (PRSSA).

Professor Larry Weiner of the School of Communication and Media (SCM) introduced the annual benefit to Montclair State.

“I started the benefit eight years ago for a number of reasons – first, obviously, to raise money for the organization, but also to teach students how to become better citizens by helping those with special needs,” Weiner said.

He went on to say that producing a concert of this magnitude gives his students real event planning skills, and that the event is really something that reflects positively on the SCM.

Weiner himself has been involved in the autism community for nearly 30 years, when his son Jonathan was diagnosed with autism at the young age of 3.

“I realized then it would become a lifelong pursuit,” Weiner said. “Back then, parents had to be the strongest for their kids because educators, legislators, EMT workers really had no idea what autism was all about, and these kids were often abused because of that.”

Autism New Jersey is a nonprofit organization whose mission is to improve the lives of people and families affected by autism. Their mission statement on the Autism New Jersey website states, “Autism New Jersey leads the way to lifelong individualized services provided with skill and compassion. We recognize the autism community’s many contributions to society and work to enhance their resilience, abilities and quality of life.”

Weiner is a strong supporter of the organization.

“Their mission of education and advocacy has helped many thousands of parents, educators, legislators, etc.,” Weiner said. “For parents, the organization helped – and continues to help – parents understand existing laws and helped them navigate through the really byzantine system that only confused and disheartened parents.”

Nia Dubourg, a sophomore majoring in musical theater, is excited about the event and the cause it is supporting.

“Theater can help vocalize certain social issues and advocate for those around us,” Dubourg said.

She also went on to explain her own personal connection to the cause.

“My mother, being a social worker for children who have autism spectrum disorder (ASD), has passed down the drive to advocate for those who deserve support, patience and kindness,” Dubourg said. “I am excited to attend this event and support my fellow theater enthusiasts, as well as support an important cause.”

Among the performers, Weiner’s son will be playing the piano on Monday night.

“He’s a case book example of how someone with ASD can fulfill their potential as contributing members of society,” Weiner said. “And, it’s also a lesson to parents that early detection is absolutely critical for helping these kids blossom as adults.”

Tickets for the event can be purchased online at Eventbrite.com for $15. Current Montclair State students and alumni can purchase tickets in advance through the communication office in Morehead Hall or at the door on the day of the event for $10 with their student ID.
Ever since Nintendo introduced everyone’s favorite dinosaur in “Super Mario World,” Yoshi has become one of the most adorable and charming characters.

During his last adventure in “Yoshi’s Woolly World,” Yoshi traveled through a yarn world exploring and unraveling many mysteries. I never thought his adventure could get any cuter, but “Yoshi’s Crafted World” proved me wrong.

In Yoshi’s latest adventure, for the Nintendo Switch, Yoshi travels through a handcrafted world in the search of Dream Gems. Paper plates, cups and soda caps are some of the items that bring this game to life.

Many platformer games tend to be extremely difficult with tricky stages and tough bosses, but “Yoshi’s Crafted World” is nothing like this. Overall, this was one of the easiest games I have ever played with only a handful of challenging stages.

At the beginning of the game, it gave me the option to choose the difficulty level. Since I have played other Yoshi games, I decided not to go with “mellow mode,” which makes the game feel like a breeze and more relaxed. Instead, I went with “classic mode,” which is recommended for more experienced players. Even in that mode, the game felt too easy.

Yoshi has unique abilities to help the player through the adventure. Yoshi can hover in the air and swallow enemies to turn them into eggs which he can use to throw at other enemies and things hidden in the world.

The player’s job is to collect all the smiley flowers, 20 red coins hidden throughout the level and try to finish the stage with a full amount of 20 hearts. This was the hardest part of the game because the collectibles were hidden well and I had to pay close attention to the world to see where the developers hid them.

At first, I only got all the collectibles in a smattering of stages, which really immersed me into the game. One of my favorite stages was “Exploring the Animal Kingdom.” In this stage, the handmade cardboard dioramas and enemies were ingenious.

There were koalas made out of tin cans and wrapped around construction paper, rhinos made out of cereal boxes with the barcode, giraffes made out of toilet paper rolls. Every time I finished a level, I got excited to explore the next one and see what other fun ideas the developers used to make each world feel so unique.

“Yoshi’s Crafted World” is not like every other 2D platformer game. This game has 3D elements that encourage the players to keep an eye on the background and foreground for hidden paths and secrets. One original mechanic the developers introduced that I have not seen in any other games was “flip the stage” to play the whole stage backwards.

This mechanic allows players to see things that could not be seen through a normal play through, such as the back of structures which can be seen to be made out of cereal boxes with the barcode, grass made out of newspaper with printed letters and other clever hidden details.

While playing the flip side of the stage, it feels like a brand new stage which really gives this game good replay value. Every stage in the game can be played backwards, and during this play through, the player must find the three Poochy Cups hidden throughout the level.

The only feature that I found frustrating in “Yoshi’s Crafted World” was the two-player co-op. When playing in co-op, the user can interact with another player by riding on their back, stealing their eggs, swallowing them and throwing them back up. As someone who loves playing multiplayer, this mode made me feel like throwing my controller at the television.

While playing in multiplayer, I felt like I had no control because of the interactive features. For example, if the user gets too close to the second Yoshi, it automatically rides on their back without the intention of doing so. In this game, the two-player co-op is total chaos. I wish the developers would have spent a bit more time to improve this feature or release an updated version in the future.

Besides that, “Yoshi’s Crafted World” is an astounding addition to the series. The original mechanics and creative ideas really made this game stand out. Sit down, relax with a cup of warm hot chocolate and give “Yoshi’s Crafted World” a try. I definitely recommend it.

This game receives an 8.5/10 from me. Some features in the game could have been more polished and more challenging, but overall “Yoshi’s Crafted World” is too adorable to not pick up a copy. With the number of collectibles, inventive level design and replay value, this is a game I could see myself playing more even after I’ve finished it.

To view a video about this article, go to themontclarion.org.
It’s been a year and a half since “Game of Thrones” left off on arguably the biggest cliffhanger of any season. Due to the fact that the wait has been longer than other season premiere release date, the anticipation only grew higher for millions of viewers. With only six episodes and a lot of anticipation, it would be an understatement to say that the writers and directors of the show have a lot of shoes to fill in. With the season premiere that aired on Sunday night, it most certainly seems like this season will not disappoint. The setting of this new season takes place almost immediately where season six ended off. This series is known for having an incredible amount of characters, and story arcs, so there is a lot that has to be resolved before the series comes to an end. The main focus of this episode is on Jon Snow and Daenerys Targaryen, which makes sense due to the twist that we find out in the last season’s finale. Though those Daenerys Targaryen, which makes sense due to the twist that we find out in the last season’s finale. Though those

As fans of the series are aware, there are only going to be six episodes in the season, which is significantly shorter than a typical season. With that being said, most of the episodes will be longer than usual. The last few episodes are scheduled to be an hour and 22 minutes long.

The season premiere is the shortest episode of the entire season, clocking in at 54 minutes. Though it is the shortest, it did not feel unsatisfying. Everything that needed to be set up and dealt with, during the first episode, was well-handled. While nothing particularly huge happened, there were setups that felt necessary. With only five episodes left, there is no denying that surprising and crazy events are yet to come.

It was surprising to hear there were a good amount of fans disappointed with the premiere. While the show is popular for many reasons, including its graphic voice and battle sequences, this episode was not going to have that. There are reasons why this show is critically acclaimed by critics and audiences alike. It is for its rich storytelling, great direction and the wonderful balancing of the plethora of story arcs. While there was minimal violence and action in this episode, it still contained many of the great factors “Game of Thrones” is known for having. As a premiere I thought it was very good, and I’m eager to see how the upcoming episodes will follow through.
Red Hawks Baseball Loses to Rutgers-Newark

Justin Bates’ RBI double is the only offense Montclair State can muster

Freshman Jonathan Anderson pitches midway through the game.

The Montclair State University baseball team’s losing streak continued as they lost to Rutgers University-Newark, making their record 10-16 last Thursday. Montclair State freshman left-handed pitcher Jonathan Anderson allowed two runs in the second inning, and the Scarlet Raiders of Rutgers-Newark wasted no time advancing on their opponents. Scarlet Raiders junior outfielder John Klimovich hit a two-out solo home run in the third inning, making the game 3-0. The Red Hawks, however, struggled to get batters on base. Scarlet Raiders sophomore left-handed pitcher Michael Matusz was able to keep the Red Hawks off the scoreboard until the seventh inning. Prior to those plays, Matusz sent Montclair State junior infielder Hayden Reyes to first base as he was hit by a pitch. Junior catcher Justin Bates then hit a double toward left field, allowing Reyes to score. This was the only run the Red Hawks were able to score the entire game.

In the eighth inning, the Scarlet Raiders were able to double their score as junior first baseman Connor Clare hit a three-run double to end the game. The final score of the game was 6-1 Rutgers-Newark, making this the Red Hawks’ eighth consecutive loss.

Freshman outfielder and pitcher Christopher Walker believes that their loss was due to the team’s mentality and lack of leadership. “We need some more leadership in the team, the energy in the dugout,” Walker said. “I don’t think it is anything physical at this point, I think it is more mental.”

Bates agreed with Walker in the type of game they played. “Today’s game was not what we wanted,” Bates said. “I think there is a lack of caring sometimes throughout the game.”

Bates also believes that the Red Hawks must work on physical aspects of the game in order to win. “I think we need to step it up, we need to get clutch hits and we need to get guys on base and getting them in,” Bates said. “We are not doing a good job hitting or pitching.”

Although this was another tough loss for the Red Hawks, high hopes remain as they continue with the season. The Red Hawks competed against Rutgers-Newark again Friday afternoon, where they also lost 7-3. “I think we just have to prepare mentally for the game,” Bates said. “If we come mentally prepared and we are excited to play and everyone is backing each other, we will come out with a win.”

Priscila De La Rosa
Contributing Writer

First baseman Donald Gonnelli stretches to make an out.

Ben Caplan | The Montclarion
Student Athlete Profile: Jesse James West

Men’s lacrosse freshman attacker balances school, social life and popular YouTube channel

Corey Annan
Assistant Sports Editor

Many student athletes struggle between balancing school and their respective sport, but Jesse James West is able to manage both and run a popular YouTube channel.

West has become a well-known figure around campus for his YouTube channel, where he posts game day lacrosse videos and fitness videos. He has reached nearly 800,000 views in the two years he has been making videos.

He often has his teammate, Dave Figueiredo, film lacrosse videos, which feature behind-the-scenes footage from games and fitness videos.

West’s career on YouTube started at a very young age. He started out collaborating with a friend in the seventh grade to make lacrosse videos.

“We made strictly lacrosse videos, and we continued to grow until about my senior year of high school,” West said. “However, due to Division I regulations on discussing lacrosse, we decided to part ways.”

West would first make his own independent channel in May 2016 but started making more videos consistently in 2017 after he shut down his first channel.

He has grown rapidly in recent months, hitting 10,000 subscribers in March. He currently has more than 12,000 subscribers.

Before becoming a popular figure at Montclair State University, West was a dominating force for the Sparta High School lacrosse team. In his senior year, West registered 51 goals and 31 assists, being named a first team All-Group 2 selection by NJ.com in his senior year.

Junior midfielder Skyler Francisco, a teammate of West in high school as well as here at Montclair State, believes that West continuously improves his game each year.

“I watched him progress in high school,” Francisco said. “His transition into the program was almost seamless as everyone instantly got along with him,” West said. “It was really hard to do that at Lehi since it was just school and lacrosse all the time.”

West has a stellar time adjusting to Montclair State. A communication and media arts major, he maintains decent grades and has quickly built great friendships with his new teammates on the lacrosse team.

“His secret for his success moving forward is very hardworking, whether it be scoring goals or making memories,” West said. “I also want to help the team out as much as possible, whether it be scoring goals or picking up ground balls.”

The team is currently at a 6-6 record midway through the season, and our intensity has really picked up.

“We want to beat every New Jersey team that we face this season,” West said. “My priorities will always be school first though.”

“Many student athletes struggle between balancing school and their respective sport, but Jesse James West is able to manage both and run a popular YouTube channel.”

West has an independent YouTube channel which he created in 2017.
Student Athlete Profile: Taylor Brown

Red Hawk takes on challenge of her own: Playing both basketball and softball

There are only a small percentage of Montclair State University students who play a sport, let alone two. For most student athletes, it is hard for them to balance their team practices and games with their personal lives and academic studies.

Montclair State sophomore Taylor Brown would tell you differently.

Brown, a business marketing major, currently plays both women’s basketball and softball for the Red Hawks. Even though it can be considered a lot for any student to play two sports while getting a college education, Brown still finds time to fit everything into her schedule.

When asked whether managing her time was problematic, Brown said she sees it more as an opportunity.

“I would definitely say yes, it is a tiny bit sometimes, but I really like being in season with both sports because it gives me a schedule,” Brown said. “I enjoy going to practice every day, and it allows me to look at my calendar and schedule to create time for schoolwork.”

Before she arrived at Montclair State, Brown grew up in Trumbull, Connecticut, located a little more than an hour off of Route 15 in New Jersey. Brown shared some insight on growing up in her small suburban area.

“It’s a relatively small town with about 36,000 residents,” Brown said. “In Trumbull, there are a lot of places to eat, great malls, great movie theaters and lots of beautiful parks.”

Although she loves both sports, Brown would consider basketball as her favorite because she has played it longer.

“I definitely spend more time playing basketball just because I had such a gap from my senior year [of high school] to now where I haven’t been playing softball,” Brown said.

Brown was first encouraged by her older brother, Billy, to participate in sports. As a child, Brown spent time observing her big brother playing baseball and basketball. According to Brown, this helped her develop as an athlete and form a relationship with her oldest sibling.

“I kind of just follow in his footsteps,” Brown said. “He’s made me a better athlete, ever since I touched a ball. We kind of have fun playing a variety of sports, growing up in a very competitive environment.”

Brown considers herself to be someone who works hard and, like her schoolwork, she takes her pregame preparation seriously. This process includes listening to music, staying focused, eating healthy, getting ready to compete and talking to her teammates about ways to approach the basketball and softball games.

When it comes to her style of music to listen to before a game, Brown’s choice is rap and upbeat music.

“I definitely like Travis Scott and some other kinds of upbeat songs to get me excited,” Brown said. “Some of my favorite songs from him are ‘STARGAZIN’C,’ ‘goose bumps’ and ‘BUTTERFLY EFFECT.’”

While being known for her competitive edge as a student athlete, Brown’s teammates and friends see the real her during practices and hangouts. To most who are close to Brown, she is known for her kind and warm personality.

Elena Radesich, a junior on her softball team, spoke on how great a friend Brown is.

“Taylor is such a sweet-heart and one of the sweetest people I know. She sees the upside in everyone and everything,” Radesich said. “I would say that we are pretty close friends. There is no negative to Taylor, she is the sweetest person I know.”

Red Hawks freshman basketball guard Julia Sutton also gave her assessment of Brown.

“She cares about everyone and always wants to see you smile,” Sutton said. “Taylor will do anything for anyone and does it with care. If you ever met Taylor, you know exactly what type of person she is, and if you get a chance to be her friend, she’s one of a kind.”

Brown’s father, Bill Brown, believes his daughter is not only known for the characteristics Radesich described, but also as a competitor. He believes her being a competitor is one of the reasons why she loves sports.

The Browns are a big sports family, and it is a big aspect of what keeps them together.

“She’s a competitor,” said Brown’s mother, Nancy Brown. “It’s all we know, really.”

As for hobbies, some of the things Brown enjoys are music and food. Two of Brown’s favorite places to eat are Panera Bread and Chipotle.

Other things Brown enjoys include watching Netflix, shooting hoops, sharing music with friends and going to concerts at The Wellmont Theater. Of the shows Brown has seen at the Wellmont, artists like Gucci Mane stick out to her.

After college, Brown wants to work in a big city while allowing herself to travel, market countless products and meet interesting people. In terms of the products Brown would be intrigued to sell, they would be sports-related.

“I remember one of my friends saying how much she likes sports marketing,” Brown said. “Along those lines, I think marketing some type of sports products, such as sneakers or any athletic brand, would be cool.”

Whether it’s on the court or in the infield, Brown puts everything she has into her game. Brown markets herself as one of a-kind athlete on the campus of Montclair State.

Contributors to this article include Sports Editor Anthony Gabbianelli