On Wednesday, a crowd gathered outside Alexander Kasser Theater when anti-LGBTQ+ protesters unaffiliated with Montclair State University had organized on the stage of the nearby amphitheater.

The protestors were protected by both campus police and their own security, and a crowd of Montclair State students and a few faculty members gathered around to watch and counter-protest.

The organizers were not only protesting the LGBTQ+ community, but also voicing their opinions on women’s rights, Islam and sex. They were holding signs with phrases such as, “Whores get S.T.D.s,” “A woman’s place is in the kitchen” and “Gamers are murderers.”

Montclair State students were fighting back by constantly counteracting their discriminatory remarks and interacting with the organizers directly in one-on-one conversation.

Students came together as a community, in support of the LGBTQ+ rights and other communities the organizers were protesting. The crowd worked together to drown out the organizers’ voices with these chants and voices of unity. Same-sex couples took selfies kissing each other and others took group pictures in front of the organizers to mock the presentation.

Freshman filmmaking student Tristan Alexander was one of the more passionate voices in the crowd.

“I think it’s really fun to [mess] with bigots who are wrong and see them constantly be so pathetic,” Alexander said. “I think we should stand up to them. Why not be mean to a homophobe?”

Nicole Wigfall, a staff member for the Center of Cooperative Media, walked by and expressed her concern about students involvement and the organizer’s motivations.

“If these people are not a campus group, then I think it’s wrong for them to be here to rile students up regardless of knowing whether they’ll have an audience and the fact that students are pretty liberal about these issues,” Wigfall said.

During the protest, Rocky the Red Hawk and his team arrived to bring higher spirits to the crowd as he went around to give hugs, high-fives and candy. Some of the crowd moved their attention to the school’s mascot, wanting to take pictures and engage in a more lighthearted event, but refocused their attention toward the organizers once Rocky left.

Steven Grossman, a junior psychology major, commended the spirit of the school.

“I believe in humanity and seeing all these people gathered here to stand together against this bigotry on this campus is really awesome,” Grossman said.
Red Hawk Rap Sheet

Wednesday, Jan. 22

Dinallo Heights: Patrol officers responded in reference to a report of harassment from an ex-boyfriend. According to the complainant, she continues to be contacted by an ex-boyfriend, which she no longer would like to communicate with. Complainant did not wish to pursue a temporary restraining order or criminal complaints.

Thursday, Jan. 23

Recreation Center: A complainant reported to patrol officers that a pair of headphones were stolen from the locker room.

Sunday, Jan. 26

Bohn Hall: Patrol officers responded to Bohn Hall in reference to a complaint of an odor of burnt marijuana. Upon further investigation, student Spencer Melee and non-students Ethan Mann and Kaya Esgun, were arrested and criminally charged with the possession of controlled drug substances and paraphernalia and are scheduled to appear in Clifton Municipal Court.

Sunday, Jan 26

Dinallo Heights: Patrol officers responded in reference to a report of a dispute and harassment. According to the complainant, the accused attempted to talk to her several times even though she declined speaking to him. The suspect then used offensive language, which the victim reported as harassing in nature. No criminal complaints were generated.

Anyone who has information regarding these incidents is urged to call the police station at T-H-P-S (8477). All calls are strictly confidential.
Fish Tank Policy Changed Following Montclarion Opinion Article

Montclair State University has made a change in policy regarding the size of fish tanks in student dorms. While the previous one-gallon tank policy was put in place due to the lack of space in certain dorms, the university is now allowing, at maximum, five-gallon fish tanks.

Given that one-gallon tanks are not suitable for most fish to survive, students have successfully voiced their opinions about the policy issue. A freshman majoring in journalism, Carly Campbell, had written an opinion piece in The Montclarion that sparked the change in fish tank policy.

“I never thought that the school would have read my article,” Campbell said. “It’s incredible that this change has happened and I’m glad that they increased the tank size.”

Nikita Williams is a voting student trustee at Montclair State University and was one of the many people that read Campbell’s opinion piece. Williams personally took part in addressing the issue.

“I saw an article questioning Montclair State’s one-gallon fish tank limit and I reached out to Dr. Kevin Schafer, the associate director for residential support services, to see if any students had brought this to his attention, but no one had,” Williams said.

She went on explain Dr. Schafer’s response.

“However, he saw to it that the policy was revisited to acknowledge student feedback and the limit has since been changed to what I see as a fair compromise.”

The main reason the previous policy allowed for only one-gallon fish tanks was due to the lack of space for larger fish tanks. There is also a risk for breakage, that could be damaging to school infrastructure. A freshman and music education major, Elizabeth Caplan, is for the new policy because it will allow for fish to have more space.

“Keeping a fish in a small tank is not good for the fish because there is no space for the filter,” Caplan said. “I had a fish during the first week of school and it died.”

This new policy will allow fish to live a longer life in a more comfortable place.

“I encourage students, whether or not they write for The Montclarion or not, to share feedback with university leadership,” Williams said. “Many students do not realize how much of an influence they can have on campus or how many administrators want to hear their opinion.”

MontclairSCM Wins Award For #FocusImmigration Collaboration

Grace Wampler Contributing Writer

This past October, The Montclarion editorial board made their way to Washington, D.C. to participate at the National College Media Convention, not knowing that the school’s #FocusImmigration project had been turning heads.

The convention, put on by the Associated Collegiate Press (ACP), brought together students from all across the country for four days of workshops, keynote speakers and discussion groups.

The ACP is a division of the National Scholastic Press Association (NSPA). The NSPA is a nonprofit organization that provides journalism education services to students, teachers and media advisors across the country.

Montclair State University went on to win the second place Multimedia Story of the Year Award for their #FocusImmigration series.

The #FocusImmigration project was a series of articles, radio broadcasts, video projects and a live show focusing on issues surrounding immigration, as well as the stories of student immigrants. The project was a collaboration between the School of Communication and Media with The Montclarion, WMSC, Montclair News Lab, Carpe Diem and student work from journalism and TV production classes.

Tara George, an associate professor of journalism and the faculty advisor of The Montclarion, discussed what the goal of the project was.

“All that work was part of an experimental project,” George said. “The idea we were experimenting with was: Could we collectively work together [and] use that quantity of work to have an impact? What if we tried to publish all of that work the same day to create that impact?”

The goal of #FocusImmigration was to show the immigration stories of the student body and to show how this important topic is so prevalent in New Jersey and on campus in a big way.

#FocusImmigration not only focused on student immigrants, the children of immigrants and the descendants of immigrants, but the cultures brought to the United States and how they’ve kept them alive while being surrounded by so many other cultures and outside influences.

Mackenzie Robertson, a senior television and digital media major and the managing editor of The Montclarion, expressed her excitement for winning this award and being a part of the multimedia project.

“Winning the award was a huge accomplishment for me and everyone on our staff,” Robertson said. “This was the School of Communication’s first time trying out a school-wide focus project and it was a huge success. It was inspiring to read everyone’s personal experiences and history surrounding immigration and to participate in creating a student artist video for it.”

To see work from #FocusImmigration go to focusimmigration.org.
N.J. First Lady Tammy Murphy Joins Panelists in discussion of Racial Disparities in State Health Care

Montclair State University hosted New Jersey’s First Lady, Tammy Murphy, as she joined professors from the departments of nursing, child advocacy and public health in a panel called #123forMoms in University Hall earlier this week.

The Jan. 22 panel also included community partners and mothers who experienced problematic pregnancies. The #123forMoms event was created to bring awareness to Maternal Healthcare across the state.

Jill Wodnick, the panel coordinator and childbirth educator at Montclair State University, explained the purpose of the panel.

“Today’s panel is set up in the spirit of bipartisan legislation that started in 2017 and got implemented in 2018,” Wodnick said.

Wodnick also explained where the state of New Jersey falls in terms of death rates for pregnant women and infants in the United States.

“Out of all 50 states we are 47th in terms of maternal death,” Wodnick said. “That death rate for mothers in New Jersey is five times higher for women of color and the loss of infants is three times higher than caucasian infants. We have real racial disparities in maternal-infant health.”

Last September, Murphy and the New Jersey Department of Health announced a $10.5 million federal grant to support the work of the New Jersey Maternity Care Quality Collaborative (NJMCQC).

As reported by the New Jersey Department of Health, “The collaboration will establish a shared vision and statewide goals for key health services focused on decreasing maternal deaths, injuries and racial and ethnic disparities.”

The funding hopes to provide valuable data for research to lessen the mortality death rate of mothers and infants alike.

Senior student Ajanee McConnell, an African American woman majoring in child advocacy, spoke at the panel to discuss her struggle of losing a child after pregnancy. She was turned away during pre-labor and then rushed to the emergency room during labor. McConnell explained to the crowd how she was treated during her time at the hospital.

“I experienced so much racial bias in facilities. Nurses would come into the room [and] not even speak with me,” McConnell said. “Doctors would tell me things and I felt no compassion through [their] words. I have been trying to advocate for other people. No mother should leave the hospital without her child or without her questions answered.”

McConnell talked more about her loss in a one-on-one interview.

“His name was Sincere,” McConnell said. “He ended up being 3 months early and he was alive for 3 days before he passed.”

The speakers rallied around advocating for natural births, better maternal education for women and creating communities to help expecting mothers. They explained the need for maternal health is on the verge of a crisis.

Marianella Martinez, a nutrition educator from Garfield, New Jersey, explained after attending the panel that she hopes to teach mothers about the nutrition they need to have a healthy pregnancy.

“[The panelists made] us aware of issues that exist in society that we did not know of before, really highlighting structural racism and sexism,” Martinez said. “It is time to wake up and do something about it.”

Montclair State has a program to help expecting mothers known as Lamaze Prenatal Childbirth Classes which is a three-week workshop series open to families at any point in pregnancy starting Jan. 30 at 4:45 p.m.

“You don’t have to be affiliated as a student to do [the program],” Wodnick said. “We have a community clinic at 35 Clove Road in which we offer prenatal childbirth education. It’s open to anybody.”

For more information about the program please contact Jill Wodnick at wodnickj@montclair.edu.
WHAT’S NEW THIS SPRING IN DINING?

New Hours of Operation
Please visit dineoncampus.com/montclair for more details.

Purchase Your
Spring 2020 Meal Plan
Today

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Opening Soon

Shawarma Spot food truck menu will available soon in the Red Hawk Diner!

BEYOND MEAT

Beyond Meat® options available at Dunkin’ Donuts at the Plaza at Blanton Hall and Grill Nation at the Student Center Café!
Students may have returned from their relaxing winter breaks and walked through the buildings of Montclair State University without noticing the blue, human-shaped cutouts. Unfortunately, this is the reality for many victims of human trafficking.

In support of January’s human trafficking awareness month, 30 blue silhouettes have been strategically placed in six different locations around campus, hidden in plain sight for students to walk by and hopefully notice.

The silhouettes are part of a campaign called #OutOfTheShadows, which has been organized by a new group on campus, the Montclair Interest Group Against Human Trafficking (MIGHT). MIGHT is currently working together to connect faculty, staff and students to research ways to prevent human trafficking.

Human trafficking is a complex topic which covers many different bases, whether it be for labor or sex. Trafficking deals with the exploitation and suppression of one’s individual identity in order to make a profit. Each silhouette found across campus represents a real person that has experienced the horrors of trafficking and tells their unique story. Attached to each silhouette is a QR code that anybody can scan with their smartphone, which brings up each of the individuals and their stories.

MIGHT was created last March when Mimii Feliciano asked Montclar State the question that is currently trying to be answered: How can a university stop human trafficking? MIGHT’s goal of #OutOfTheShadows is to bring perspective to people on campus that the manipulation from traffickers can happen to anybody, no matter who you are or what your background is.

Kenneth Sumner, the associate provost for academic affairs and a professor in the department of psychology, helps run MIGHT, along with Faith Taylor, a professor in the Feliciano School of Business. Sumner and Taylor have worked to bring together a group that is not exclusively for faculty, but is also open to students who are interested and passionate about trying to understand the complexities of human trafficking and developing solutions that can potentially solve the problem.

Prior to MIGHT’s development in March, Taylor participated in last January’s human trafficking awareness month by using a Facebook live stream with Feliciano to bring awareness and educate the public about human trafficking.

In less than a year, MIGHT has expanded significantly with their #OutOfTheShadows campaign, which is leading up to the public viewing of a film called “Very Youn Girls,” which will be shown on Wednesday, Jan. 29. The ideas in the film have changed the way that law enforcement deals with trafficking victims; instead of holding the victims accountable, the people who are trafficking others are being held responsible for their crimes and actions against their victims.

By working with the Office for Faculty Advancement, Sumner and Taylor have made it their mission to bring human trafficking awareness into the classroom in ways that will get students engaged. Taylor has even brought her classes to the silhouettes to gauge their reactions and see how the campaign is working.

“Many of us on the MIGHT faculty have included [human trafficking] in our lesson plans. I was talking to my students and said to them, ‘I want you to go the blue silhouettes, look at them and tell me your reaction and we will come back and talk about this in class,’” Taylor said. “I have already gotten some people who are saying, ‘I did not know that this [human trafficking] was going on,’ so it’s really important to bring awareness.”

Other students were not aware of the campaign until it was pointed out to them. Alyssa Pezzola, a junior English major, was not aware of what the campaign was, but thinks learning about human trafficking prevention is important.

“If you save one child, that’s huge.”

-Faith Taylor, professor at the Feliciano School of Business
Blue human-shaped cutouts were placed throughout different spots around campus for students to view.

Blue human-shaped cutouts were placed throughout different spots around campus for students to view. Photo courtesy of Faith Taylor.

Blue human-shaped cutouts were placed throughout different spots around campus for students to view. Photo courtesy of Colin Sumner.

Each silhouette tells the story of a real-life human trafficking victim. Photo courtesy of Faith Taylor.

By bringing awareness, it can educate a lot more people of the issue. Kerry Nutile, junior economics major

“By bringing awareness, it can educate a lot more people of the issue.”

Kerry Nutile, a junior economics major, thinks having a group such as MIGHT on campus is very important.

“By bringing awareness, it can educate a lot more people of the issue,” Nutile said. “It can also be a reminder for college students to be more cautious when meeting up with people they meet online or making sure they are looking out for their friends in potentially dangerous situations.”

MIGHT’s main goal is to prevent human trafficking by talking more about it in classrooms so that every child will know the signs and risks of human trafficking.

“If you save one child, that’s huge,” Taylor said.

To get involved with MIGHT, visit their page on the Montclair State website https://www.montclair.edu/human-trafficking/. To report human trafficking, call the National Human Trafficking Hotline 1-888-373-7888.

ple about human trafficking prevention, MIGHT has an emphasis on networking across the entire university.

“If someone has a need and someone has a solution, then as a university we can pull them together in a way that we know that the need is real, the solution works and hopefully we can help people,” Sumner said. “That’s another thing we are trying to get off the ground.”

As a volunteer group working in the university, MIGHT needs all the help it can get from students and faculty.

“We have certain things that we need to further research, so if someone wants to get school credit we need to research partners, training and education modules and develop targeted training that elementary, high school and college-level teachers can teach,” Taylor said. “Putting together the content and helping us do that is important and we do need help with these today, so if anybody wanted to volunteer to help that would be awesome.”

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Shuttle Services Want Students to Know They’re Listening and Making Changes

The spring 2020 semester is in full swing at Montclair State University and with it, shuttle services has picked up right where it left off last semester. Shuttle services is a particularly important form of transportation at Montclair State, as it is responsible for ushering students, faculty and visitors around campus.

Atop a mountain, with buildings sprawled across campus, Montclair State can be hard to navigate. Shuttles are implemented to lessen the burden of common transportation struggles. While shuttle services help with that burden, some students feel there are visible, common cracks in the service that make it difficult to trek across campus.

Kent Daniel, the director of parking and transportation services, is responsible for directing and monitoring the daily services of the university’s shuttle and parking operations. Daniel described the goals of the shuttles.

“The shuttle department’s goal is to provide safe, efficient and responsive transportation across campus,” Daniel said. “Shuttle services has a ridership of over one million passengers, which includes passengers with disabilities.”

Simran Kaur, a freshman psychology major, uses the shuttle at least once a day and considers it and the NextBus app that the service promotes to be unreliable. The app is designed to make it more convenient for students and riders to know the exact times that the shuttles will arrive to different locations campus. Some people feel that the app makes it more frustrating to catch the nearest shuttle.

“I’ve missed trains because of [the app],” Kaur said.

Along with Kaur, Sarah DiPippa, a sophomore television and digital media major, agreed that the NextBus app is doing more harm than good.

“They need to do a better job of sending accurate bus arrival times on the app,” DiPippa said.

Kaur touched on another view about shuttle services that she feels inconveniences her and others on campus: rejection from the shuttle drivers.

“Yes, I experienced [rejection] a lot. I come back [to campus] at night, so I was standing outside at the train station alone. It was about eleven at night and [the driver] said they couldn’t take me to campus,” Kaur said. “So I was standing there alone, and anything could happen here [on campus].”

Adam Plaza, a freshman child advocacy and policy major, had nearly the same experience with a shuttle driver.

“It happens a lot at transit at night. It’s genuinely frustrating because it’s freezing cold out and you get excited when you finally see someone coming,” Plaza said.

In this instance, drivers have dropped off their load of people and then kept on going, without allowing others on. Daniel addressed this as he mentioned messages that the shuttle services have received.

“As with any large transportation operation, we receive both positive and negative feedback. The main complaint we received this year is the issues of shuttles skipping stops, especially in Hawks Crossing during the peak period of 11 a.m. to 12 p.m.,” Daniel said. “The other complaints include long wait times and buses riding closely together, which is mainly due to delays caused by traffic.” Daniel made sure to give solutions to these issues, speaking on the problem of stops being skipped.

“To address this issue, the department will soon install a camera to monitor the stop and a special shuttle was introduced to bypass the village to reduce the wait time at this stop,” Daniel said. In spite of the flaws that students perceived, many agree the shuttle services are extremely important to all across campus.

“It makes life easier, especially when it gets cold, so you don’t get sick walking to class,” Plaza said.

Kaur agreed that using the shuttles can help mitigate the dangers of walking to class on an icy day.

“The shuttles are important because we can’t [always] walk to class, especially in the cold weather, we could slip on ice or anything could happen,” Kaur said.

If you have an issue, complaint or comment to give shuttle services, simply call the number posted on all bus stops across campus, or on their website.
STUDY ABROAD FAIR

Wednesday
February 5, 2020
11 a.m. – 3 p.m.
Student Center Ballrooms

Find out more about how and where you can study abroad!
Stop by to learn about study abroad and scholarship opportunities from 60+ programs.

Check it out: Study Away in the USA! through National Student Exchange (NSE)
montclair.edu/study-abroad

Don’t have a passport yet? Apply for one at the fair!
Senior communication and media arts major, Tre Cameron, always walks to class with a cup holder clipped onto his backpack like a keychain. This cup holder, formally named the “Cup Holster,” clips onto any desk or table, avoiding spills and maximizing workspace. Cameron carries his Cup Holster like a necessity, attaching it onto every desk or table he uses on campus.

Cameron started his cup holder business six months ago with his friend Michael Campbell, a senior computer science major at Washington State University. Together, they came up with the idea after Campbell accidentally spilled a drink all over his laptop keyboard. Campbell’s keyboard after the incident could not be repaired, resulting him having to go through the inconvenient and costly process of buying a new one. Cameron explained that in that moment they realized that if Campbell had had a cup holder, the spill would have never happened.

“We just wanted to eliminate that problem from ever occurring again,” Cameron said.

After they came up with the idea, they created a prototype for the Cup Holster and reached out to manufacturers. Once they manufactured their first cup holder, they promoted their invention using Kickstarter. Thanks to their supportive family members and friends, they are now manufacturing their cup holders and will sell them across the country.

The Cup Holster is composed of a compartment that holds the drink container and a knob that adjusts to the size of any desk. It also comes with a hole at the bottom intended to fit a phone charger, allowing for cellphones to be placed in the holder while maintaining their charge.

Cameron explained that he has always been interested in selling his own inventions. He recounted a memory of himself going door to door selling paper snowflakes in his hometown of Palm Desert, California. Since there was no snow in California, he wanted to sell a product that he felt could be useful for the holidays.

“I was interested in being able to make something and offer it to other people,” Cameron said.

Even though they started only six months ago, the business hasn’t stopped growing ever since. Cameron explained that the sales are averaging to 20 cup holders being sold each day. He hopes to increase his sales on campus because he thinks it will be useful to all students at Montclair State University, especially those using expensive technology in their classes.

“There is a lot of technology that is used in our building and having drinks, even water, can be detrimental. Having these in every classroom and every desk will help prevent spills and I think it will be a useful tool for everyone to have,” Cameron said.

Cameron plans to create more products with Campbell in the future and sell them nationwide. Although he wants to continue to add different features to the cup holder, including colors such as red and gray, he has other business ventures in mind too. He hopes that his experience selling the cup holder will give him the skills to continue being successful selling his future inventions.

“We are hoping the cup holder is a catalyst for our future ventures. Through this, we are hoping to learn a lot about building a product,” Cameron said.

The cup holder is currently being sold on Amazon and more information can be found on Instagram, @thecupholster.

“You can have an idea but if you don’t have a strategy to make it happen, it’s just going to stay in your head,” Cameron said.
SPORTS WRITERS WANTED!

E-Mail: montclarionsports@gmail.com

Room 2035, School of Communication and Media in Upper Montclair, NJ, 07043
The delicious pasta dish as it cooks in the pot.

*Samantha Bailey | The Montclarion*

**Just a Bite: With @Gourmetbailey**

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**Recipe Review: Pasta is Always a Favorite**

Samantha Bailey
Staff Writer

Growing up, my Italian family designated Sunday as our pasta day in which we were guaranteed to have pasta and eat a long family meal. So naturally, pasta is my favorite food. Not only because it reminds me of my family, but it also happens to be one of the most versatile and delicious foods.

This recipe was taught to me by my aunt, Tania, who is one of the greatest cooks I know. She taught me that you shouldn’t limit pasta to penne vodka because there are infinite things you can do with it.

This recipe is for spinach tomato pasta and it’s absolutely fantastic. It’s an easy recipe that’s packed with delicious flavors and veggies. This is a simple family favorite that’s easy to whip up in 20 minutes if you’re in a time crunch.

You’ll need:
- 2 one-pound packs of Campari tomatoes
- 1 16 ounce container of spinach
- 2 tablespoons of olive oil
- 10 large cloves of garlic, minced
- Generous amounts of salt and pepper
- 1 pound of the pasta of your choice (rigatoni or penne might work best)
- 1 teaspoon of red pepper flakes (optional)

This recipe calls for Campari tomatoes, which are both sweet and soft. They cook extremely well and are perfect for pasta and pizzas. I find that these tomatoes make the recipe delicious, even though I usually only like tomatoes in sauce form.

First, wash your tomatoes and cut them into fourths. Once you’ve done that to all of your tomatoes set them aside. Now, it’s time to start up your pasta pot with generously salted water. Let your pot come to a boil while you’re making the sauce.

Next, mince your garlic cloves. In my house, garlic is a must. I may put more cloves in, depending on how big each clove is. Once you’ve minced the garlic, you can start up a frying pan with sides and put your olive oil in it.

Wait about two minutes and add your garlic, salt and pepper. You should start to smell the garlic getting cooked almost immediately. After the garlic is browned, add your tomatoes.

It’s a tricky balance finding the right cook time for tomatoes. As soon as your tomatoes start to get soft in the oil and garlic, or after about three minutes, add your spinach.

In between the movements of adding your spinach and covering your pan to let it cook, add your pasta to your now boiling water. Let it cook, stirring every two minutes. Once you’ve finished adding your spinach, let it cook until it is tender on a light simmer to prevent the tomatoes from overcooking.

Be sure to check your pasta while it is cooking. You want your pasta to be slightly undercooked. Whatever the box says is the time of cooking, subtract two minutes from it.

After you’ve checked your pasta, remove the lid from your pan and begin to add your pasta. Add it in somewhat small batches, so it doesn’t overwhelm your pan. Once all your pasta has been added, use tongs to mix up the pasta in the tomato-spinach mixture.

After it’s evenly combined, I like to add red pepper flakes as a garnish, but it’s optional if you don’t like spicy food. You should serve this dinner immediately. It’s so much better warm than it is at room temperature.

This recipe is incredibly easy and makes a delicious meal for the whole family. I also think this recipe works great with a lean protein on top, such as grilled chicken or shrimp.

This particular time I added shrimp to my pasta. However, if you choose not to add a protein, spinach and garlic are great for your health and they have a ton of vitamins and antioxidants. This is great for a springtime meal because it incorporates many fresh vegetables.

Enjoy this pasta with someone you love.

Until the next bite.
One could anticipate American spy and whistleblower Edward Snowden to have certain qualities: intelligence, bravery and craftiness. But nothing about Snowden’s persona would indicate that he’d be a great storyteller, until now.

“Permanent Record,” Snowden’s autobiography and debut book, tells his life story in a way that is as compelling as it is relatable. I went into reading this viewing him as a hero, but to my surprise Snowden doesn’t write like a hero. He writes as a person, as flawed as anyone else, trying his best to let his values guide him.

From the first few sentences of the book’s preface, Snowden shows himself to be witty and down-to-earth in his writing style.

“My name is Edward Joseph Snowden,” Snowden said. “I used to work for the government, but now I work for the public. It took me nearly three decades to realize that there was a distinction and when I did, it got me into a bit of trouble at the office.”

The book is divided into three sections that make up distinct parts of Snowden’s journey. The first section is about his youth, setting the foundation for the type of person he would become and the values that would guide him.

The second section focuses on his career as a spy while working for the CIA and NSA. During this time he lived in Geneva and Tokyo, as he explored the disillusionment and ethical dilemmas that would lead him to uproot his life for the greater good.

The third and final section is about Snowden the whistleblower. He explains here how he was able to provide classified government documents to journalists without getting caught and escape arrest against all odds.

My favorite section of the book was the first. Snowden’s childhood was unique, as he grew up in a town where every fourth person worked at the local government base and came from a family with a history of military service dating back to the American Revolution. Snowden had an early interest in technology at a time when computers were just starting to be available to average citizens.

Despite the many aspects that set Snowden’s youth apart from most people’s, he is still a person. It’s what shines through as he writes about not having many friends, falling behind in school and being emotionally thrown off by his parents’ divorce. I imagine anyone who has experienced their adolescent years in full would have no trouble understanding Snowden as he writes about his confusion, anguish and need to find who he is in all the chaos.

In the following two sections, Snowden tells the stories that make up most of his life. One is the story readers likely came for: his transformation from a spy serving the U.S. government to a whistleblower who would go onto be vilified and exiled for choosing to serve the good of humanity. It is as thrilling as any fictional spy novel.

Intertwined with the spy story is a love story. The romance between Edward Snowden and his significant other, Lindsay Mills, is so intense and persevering at times that I had to remind myself that these are real people who I was reading about.

What’s so impressive about “Permanent Record” is that as I read the novel, I felt like I was walking right alongside the person I held in such high regard. His modesty and authenticity puts him on the same level as I or any other reader. Despite this being a nonfiction text, the book offers something for everyone in the mixing of romance, action, humor and emotion.

While there’s no shortage of great lines throughout the piece, there was one in fact that truly stuck with me and summed up my feelings on this story.

“Reality, I learned, is nearly always messier and less flattering than we might want it to be, but in some strange way often richer than the myths.”
One Small Policy Change for Fish, One Giant Leap for Student Journalism

Last semester, The Montclarion published an article highlighting the regulations of fish tank sizes in campus dorm rooms. Carley Campbell noticed the restrictions on tanks were more stringent than other New Jersey colleges. She used the platform of The Montclarion to express her dissatisfaction and last week, Montclair State administrators released a policy update.

Res life will now allow five gallon maximum fish tanks, a four gallon increase from the previous policy.

On behalf of The Montclarion, we feel immensely proud and accomplished that our purpose as a student newspaper continues to be fulfilled.

Having a rule changed regarding the permitted size of a fish bowl may be looked upon as insignificant or even juvenile, but no matter the issue or its magnitude, any time the press is utilized to help correct a flaw of society, democracy is at work.

In a time where scrutiny towards the press continues to increase, it is important that the function the press serves in our society is not forgotten. Those in positions of authority must be held accountable for their actions, and if not the press to do so, then who?

Every year, citizens flood to voting booths to elect their council-people, mayors, senators, governors, etc. The decisions made inside those voting booths are largely dependent on the role the press plays in informing those voters.

While it is imperative that the governors be held accountable, it is equally important that the press be as well.

The term “fake news” is commonly thrown around to denounce the press and its integrity. A distrust between citizens and the press is detrimental to the function and progression of society. Those that do not trust the press will be ill-informed, and any member of the press that does work for their fellow citizens with honesty and integrity fails as a journalist.

The news circuit on television and digital media has become driven by ratings and monetization. It’s CNN versus FOX versus MSNBC, with no clear unbiased source.

Once reliable news outlets dedicated to the informing of the American public have abandoned the fundamental purpose of the press. It is understood that these networks and newspapers operate as businesses in competition with one another, but the American public’s knowledge of their government and communities should come second to none, especially monetary profits.

Former Supreme Court Justice, Hugo Black, said during the trial regarding the release of the Pentagon Papers, “in the First Amendment the Founding Fathers gave the free press the protection it must have to fulfill its essential role in our democracy. The press was to serve the governed, not the governors.”

The relationship between citizens and the press must be one of transparency and togetherness. As soon as the two no longer work as a single entity with a common purpose, society becomes stagnant, left blind of any injustices being done by its government.

Therefore, The Montclarion will continue to operate on behalf of the student body of Montclair State. It will work to shine light on wrongdoings and do everything in its power to right them, even for the betterment of our tiny aquatic friends.

Campus Voices:

How much do you rely on the press to be an informed citizen?

By Kristoffer Fernandez

“I think we should know what’s going on in our backyard, and what’s going on outside in the world. A lot of things come from the media and the media is important, especially nowadays that everyone has a cellphone. On social media platforms like Twitter, Facebook, Instagram and Snapchat, you’re always going to see media.”

- Kevin Lizama

“I think the press plays a big role in being an informed citizen. I think you need to be wary of what you’re reading and what you’re taking in. You shouldn’t be following one website, one author and follow all of their opinions. You need to put your own spin on the information you’re taking in.”

- Jack Barteck

“I definitely agree that the press is important. Everybody deserves to be informed whether people believe the information or deem it as fake news. It’s still information out there. Everybody deserves to be informed one way or another. Nobody deserves to be living under a rock because no press outlets are giving information.”

- Jakhai Wilcox

“I think the press is really important to be an informed citizen. There are just so many sources where you can either get accurate or inaccurate information. I think every source is biased in some way, but in terms of accuracy, I think the press most of the time is a more accurate source for getting news and information.”

- Sarah Real

- The Montclarion
The anti-vaccination movement is dangerous in message and source alike.

**Anti-Vaccination: The Plague of Our Generation**

The anti-vaccination movement has opened a new vulnerability to our society. The woman I met argued that if other children were vaccinated then there was no way her own children could infect them. To avoid any conflict, I steered the conversation in another direction. The reality is however, even if other children are vaccinated they can still catch the disease, they will just have a higher chance of surviving it.

In other words, children who are not vaccinated risk the infection and exposure of potent diseases for others, even those wise enough to be vaccinated.

Health and medical trends have never been consistent throughout the population. The debate of whether milk is good for the body has flip-flopped dozens of times, and while lactose quantities and their effects may differ for each body, the importance of vaccinations does not.

I had the pleasure of speaking to a mother of ten who complained to me that her children were not admitted to school because they were not vaccinated. Yet when telling me about her views on anti-vaccination, I was shocked to learn that the woman’s reasoning came from content on YouTube, as well as other mothers who had no educational background to support their decisions.

Vaccinations are an integral medical development to the human body. When properly injected, the vaccines allow small portions of the disease to enter our body so that our immune system has enough power to battle potentially life threatening germs. It then develops a code for immunization against these viruses and infections, thus allowing the human body to recognize the diseases and defeat them should a person become infected.

That being said, the anti-vaccination movement has flip-flopped the population. The movement has encountered formation people are encountering on-line. The movement is that it doesn’t only stem from people unaware of vaccines’ purposes, but from the widespread mis-information people are encountering on-line. The movement has encountered a lot of support, but simply because many of the followers assume that vaccines are a government mandated hoax. This type of belief could not be further from the truth.

Vaccinations have done an incredible service to humanity. They have prevented mass epidemics and large mortality rates. According to the CDC website, vaccines have reduced the infection and spread of fourteen major diseases. These include Polio, Tetanus, Influenza, Hepatitis A and B, Rubella, Haemophilus Influenza (Hib), Measles, Whooping Cough, Pneumococcal Disease, Rotavirus, Mumps, Chickenpox and Diphtheria (CDC.gov).

All of these ailments caused the death and infection of millions before the introduction of vaccines. Since the invention, universities, schools and workplaces have required shots preventing most of the diseases listed above. The numbers of those infected compared to the growth of our population serve more than justification of their success.

For those still doubting the integral role of vaccines, feel free to browse the internet to learn more about vaccinations. While you’re at it, be sure that your resources are valid and do not come from uninformative YouTube conspiracy videos or other uneducated sources.

Ekatetina Zelmin, a pre-major freshman, is in her first year as a contributing writer for The Montclarion.

**The Cost of Free Speech**

Why freedom of speech is not as free as you think.

If you Google “the first amendment,” something very American occurs; the page shows several advertisements. The search engine algorithm calculates several things including the relevance to your topic, the number of clicks and how much an organization will pay to be seen when you search for something.

The Citizens United case has given new power to any group formed by citizens. It is in this instance where equality of speech has been jeopardized. I’d love to live in a world where my speech is just as valuable as the words of Jeff Bezos, but I know when I’m beat. Fame takes part in this, but money makes it.

Speech is inherently weighted differently, and the billion dollar super-powered organizations that exist will overwhelm any person’s coveted thoughts and beliefs.

It has been written in The Montclarion that “speech that incites violence should not be given a platform to do so.” This applies fine to hate speech, but when you become an employee. Your employer can deny some freedoms, as the NFL did to Colin Kaepernick. There are uniform regulations in schools and workplaces. If someone pushes the limits of their constitutional rights of expression they may not be arrested, but they can be fired, or not hired at all. And if they have no funds, constitutional protections will mean little.

James Madison introduced the Bill of Rights to the Constitution begrudgingly because he thought that those rights were inherent. He also believed that a Bill of Rights could limit the freedoms that we have access to. We are in a great era for individual free speech, yet it has become waves of empty noise. People only justify their own viewpoints. Conversations are about proving oneself right, not about understanding the truth of an issue. Like the preference to challenge an institution’s free speech policies rather than acquiring a permit to protest.

Thanks to their lawsuit, the Young Americans for Liberty have received more publicity than they may have ever gotten otherwise. So perhaps they should feel indebted to the school for giving them a platform where they can challenge their political opponents. All of this calamity still feels like noise. What does this lawsuit do but delay an already clogged justice system?

The idea of mature political discussion is slipping away. Expression is wonderful, but there is a greater need for concise speech. Indecision stifles our government. Our own speech has already been overpowered by corporations, so what are we going to do about it?

John O’Brien, an English major, is in his first year as a contributing writer for The Montclarion.
Texting Tips To Change Your Social Life

Texting has increased in popularity in the past couple decades as our main form of communication. There are many benefits to instant messaging which have resulted in new relationships between people and have even allowed them to rekindle past ones. Texting alleviates the anxiety associated with starting conversations in person. However, there are new anxieties that have developed as a result of being able to hide behind your screen. For example, people have adopted certain rules that coincide with how long you must wait to reply to a message.

According to Viber, 95% of texts will be read within three minutes of being sent. With that being said, it is safe to say that although people are ruled by their phones, they still want to seem like they are not becoming slaves to technology. People do not want to seem desperate and react instantly to all the push notifications they receive every hour.

Iphones have the capability to track your social media and texting habits and generate reports based on your personal usage. On average, adults spend 23 hours per week texting.

My biggest texting pet peeve is when people leave a large amount of unopened texts in their inboxes but continue to respond to others. The people who fall in that category tend to appear valuable to others and enjoy giving out advice. People who leave others “on read” or take forever to reply risk coming across as disrespectful, as we live in a society of instantaneous communication.

Technology is slowly taking away face-to-face interactions, and although we are globally connected, people are starting to feel more disconnected and alone. I may be an old-school person, but I prefer to speak with my friends in person.

Texting can be a hard skill to master and recipients at the other end can interpret your texts differently than you intend them to. My golden rule to avoid situations like that is to include emojis when it seems appropriate.

Another pet peeve of mine is when people do not use capital letters in their texts. Without the capitalization of words at the beginning of texts, it appears you lack basic grammar skills, and in some cases, may even make you appear less educated.

Simply being aware of these texting issues can enhance your communication style and make you appear smarter. It is especially beneficial to abide by these rules when texting certain people such as your boss, a professor or an older adult.

As a writer, if you take these texting issues into consideration you can sound more educated and proper. These tips will not only help you text people of authority, but it will also help you practice everyday grammar techniques.

MADISON TAVERA
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

Madison Tavera, a communication and media arts major, is in her first year as a contributing writer for The Montclarion.
Want to be a part of our special #FocusClimateChange edition of The Montclarion?

Pitch an idea on how climate change affects our university, local community or the world!

Submit your ideas to editor-in-chief Heather Berzak at montclarionchief@gmail.com

Your article can be featured in the special edition of The Montclarion in spring of 2020!
## JOBS AND CLASSIFIEDS

### Voice Over / Narrator for online course
A specialized occupational safety company is looking for a student with broadcasting, communication, theater/acting major to do the voice over/narration of an online safety course that we have developed. We can provide the laptop with the authoring tool and headphones for recording. If you are interested to gain experience in this field and a fee for your work please contact Harry at email: harryx@atlassafety-health.com

$9.50 per hour / Bartlett’s Greenhouse and Florist
Looking for weekend help making grave covers 9am-5pm. Bulk of the work is done by December 15th so we can work around exam and project schedules. The address is walking distance from Montclair state (814 Grove Street, Clifton NJ). Contact us at 973-471-6480 if interested.

$16/hour / Babysitter / Upper Montclair
Sitter needed for 8th grade twin boys. After school hours (flexible). Just someone who can keep them on track w/home-work, drive them to a few after school activities and light meals. 5 days a week until the end of December. Ultimately, looking for a sitter in the educational field, and would love to have someone who can keep them focused and on track. If interested, please email cdiambrosio@hotmail.com

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Tutors 101, LLC is looking for responsible, dedicated, and friendly tutors. You choose your preferred type of tutoring (age, level, subject) and location. Tutor must have a car. Scheduling is flexible. Does not need to be an education major. Work 1-8 hours per week. This position pays $30 – $35 per hour. Undergraduates make $30/hr and college graduates make $35/hr. If interested in tutoring, apply here: https://tutors101.com/tutor-application/. Any questions, email us here: hello@tutors101.com

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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.
Across
5. This singer announced he had Parkinson’s disease last week.
6. This film producer is currently going through a sexual harassment trial.
7. This US city had a warehouse explosion last week that killed 2 people.
8. This New York Giants quarterback announced his retirement.
9. This country is currently experiencing widespread wildfires.

Down
1. This baseball team was accused of cheating during their World Series run.
2. This NFL player turned himself into the police last week.
3. The trials our president is going through currently.
4. This virus entered the US through Wuhan, China last week.

Word Search
ks j an c o v l i p u f s el c i t r a
wi jj p pk j r ga x j n o j s o mo
d b e e x xa e p q l b i a v o z a a t
q c a g u d y f z p a w rs m e l d v
v y w d e f r o d c a p ou po o gt y
q c o c u u n h v l l z am z m g t p f
x h d t c g s a p l z n d r g x f e g t
x s t j q z j j l o r n c n m e p a a z
m c p z y q n z p i e a p n j s h d
v a n z m k i n y h s q s h m i h e n b
i p t v o z t m w j e m t v n l i r e a
r t t r a n s c r i p t i o n d q f w p
l i r q p e i b o v t h z d a u q s s
e o i c o p y a r x z u p m e o z d t
d b z h t a r t o d p l u a h t g y
e d u a f g j g u a e k g j r e o f l
h y t t e b p e x r k v o h d x g s e
n m i f x h h n x t u v s h h n m t o q
y l o s f g n i d a e h b u s k r f u l
f e n s t r o p e r g o o p k o g z k n

Sudoku
1 8 7
9 3 4 2
5
7 9 2 3
8
2 5 3 4 9
7 1 5
8 2 6 7
4 9 6 3

*For answers to the puzzles, please check The Montclarion Facebook page every Thursday.*
The sketch comedy group, “The Undergrads,” watch the video they recorded on Sunday.

Anton Specht
Assistant Opinion Editor

In the narrow hallways of Russ Hall, three Montclair State University sophomores set up and prepare to shoot a video. Utilizing just a camera, a microphone and their three vastly creative and ambitious minds, the trio plans to shoot something that will make people laugh.

Combining what they find funny and throwing their own personalities into the mix, the crew has planned this shoot out accordingly to match exactly how they thought about it in their heads, no changes. “Three college guys run into their ex-girlfriends, who are seemingly their female counterparts... let the banter begin.” The common goal for the group? Produce comedy that is real and true to young adults.

Playing exaggerated versions of themselves, James Lynch, Patrick Farley and Sean Fitzmaurice are best friends. Additionally, they are undergraduates, which has also been operating as their official comedy group insignia.

Since the start of the fall 2019 semester, they’ve been steamrolling over the entire Montclair State campus, garnering over 1,000 followers on Instagram by mid-November, a feat they all are astonished by. “It’s honestly a dream the way this has unfolded,” said Farley. “We have random people come up to us all the time and tell us how much they loved the most recent video. In a matter of days, it built up to this whole thing.”

One could argue this team was even an overnight success. Initially, they began by putting a handful of videos on their YouTube channel only last year. Due to the endless laughs coming from their audience, videos started to be released more regularly, eventually shifting to Instagram as their main outlet.

Lynch and Fitzmaurice first met back in their sophomore year at Sparta High School together. The pair were nominated for best “bromance,” as well as both being nominated for class clown individually.

Lynch and Farley met at freshmen orientation. “We connected immediately, although I did think he was a bit funny looking at first,” said Lynch of Farley. Farley was also sort of a class clown in his early days. His senior project consisted of a 15-minute highlight reel of him poking fun at his teachers. Once these three friends entered the fall 2019 semester as sophomores, they thought to themselves, “Hey, why don’t we pick up a camera and get working on some content?” Resulting in exactly that.

While Lynch and Farley come up with the majority of the ideas and put together the videos, Fitzmaurice has a permanent role in acting, as he comes up with various characters for himself and his partners.

“I refer to their humor as ‘bro humor’ when talking about it because it’s very relatable to college students,”
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said Dillon Hoffman, President of the Video Production Club. “It’s just guys hanging out doing funny things, and that’s what everybody does with their friends.”

Much of their comedy works because they’re bold enough to go the extra mile. From stepping into a shower fully clothed, to using another’s finger as one’s own toothbrush and spitting in each other’s face, the three are more than comfortable with one another.

“I think a lot of their success comes from seeing what works and what doesn’t work, and then adjusting to that very quickly,” said Hoffman. “Instagram was just a side thing for them at first, but they realized their stuff works better in short form because of the accessibility.”

They have had some help from their friends over at the Montclair Improv League of Friends (MILF), a larger improv group which the trio are all members of. There, they can express themselves in front of live audiences while also gaining support from a myriad of comedic minds around them. The Undergrads are analogous to Andy Samberg’s The Lonely Island Crew, and Montclair Improv would be the famous Second City Comedy Club of Chicago, where many young comedians like Tina Fey, Key and Peele and John Candy all jump-started their careers in comedy.

“It’s a crazy thought for me because of the amount of people who follow a comedy page that I’m a part of,” said Fitzmaurice. “They don’t have to follow us, but they do because they actually want to. I see names from high school who follow the page, but they aren’t even following me.”

They have multiple goals for the page. Fitzmaurice hopes to one day be verified on Instagram, while Lynch wants to get bigger and expand their creative capabilities.

“It has helped me in life. I don’t care what anyone thinks of me because of this and my characters. I’ll do anything for the role, and you need that in life,” said Lynch.

“It’s not work if you love what you do,” said Farley. “It’s not ‘Oh man I have to do this.’ It’s ‘Wow I really get to do this,’ and I’m grateful I’ve found that at such a young age.”

The Undergrads have been all over the place. Right now, it’s just Montclair, but in time, it will be greater than that. And to answer the obvious question that everyone is secretly asking: yes, they will still call themselves “The Undergrads” after college.
Netflix’s ‘Dracula’ Brings New Blood to the Esteemed Source Material

Casey Masterson
Feature Editor

Dracula has been adapted from Bram Stoker’s 1897 book many times to varying success. Very few of these adaptations stay true to the original novel, as they tend to add love stories carrying over centuries and exaggerate Dracula’s weaknesses. However, Netflix’s 2020 series “Dracula” creates an interesting balance of loyalty and innovation that makes for an interesting show.

I have always been a book person. This often means that I am offended by how filmmakers choose to adapt my favorite books into the films and television series they become. “Dracula” takes a groundbreaking step in working with the book by taking reader expectations and promptly stomping on them.

There are scenes from Stoker’s novel “Dracula” that are paralleled in the show. Johnathan Harker is still imprisoned at Castle Dracula, and Count Dracula still makes his voyage to England on the Demeter. This is where the writers, Steven Moffat and Mark Gatiss, begin to play.

I should stress that this isn’t done in a way that would anger book readers. Although it is often tongue-in-cheek, it is done to make the show more interesting or to make more sense. As amazing as Stoker’s novel was, there were certainly some plot points that needed correcting and tweaking. The series “Dracula” is eager to give its novel format a hand in that regard.

Reading the book before the movie often gives the unwanted advantage of knowing what is going to happen in the movie or show. This is a challenge that is recognized by Moffat and Gatiss. Once the audience is presented something familiar from the book, it is not uncommon for the show to turn it on its head.

I remember feeling intimidated by the length, but the episodes do not feel nearly as long as their runtimes. They are so enthralling that they are over before you can say “blood is lives.”

The three episodes of “Dracula” have plenty of information from the books. It all feels evenly spaced out, so nothing feels thrown at you in bulk. The show feels evenly paced, even though it only has three episodes to flesh itself out. These three episodes are also made captivating through the beautiful cinematography. I know little about film, but I could recognize the beautiful shots throughout the show.

One of my favorites is from episode one, which displays the sunlight over Castle Dracula. The Count is left to stand in the shadow, while Harker is able to lay in the sunlight. The dichotomy of light and dark and warm and cold in the scene is wonderfully executed.

The gore in this series is well done. Poorly executed gore can really detract from the moment. “Dracula” owns its gory nature and delivers plenty of scares throughout. In the novel and series, Dracula can transform into a wolf. Dracula escapes from his wolfen form by tearing out from within the animal’s body. It’s hard to watch since it looks so real. However, it is incredibly hard to look away from a sight like that one. I don’t have a problem with the show per say, but I will admit episode three was not as engaging to me as the former two episodes.

Episode three is the only episode that takes place in modern times. The episode itself was not bad, but I found the rustic appeal of the episodes in 1987 fit with the show better.

I would be remiss to talk about this show without mentioning my favorite aspect of it: Count Dracula. Dracula is an amazing character. They keep him true to the book, eliminating the “love through the ages” motif that has become popular. He is an evil character, hands down, but he is also hilarious and complicated.

Dracula’s banter with Agatha Van Helsing is the funniest part of the show. He is sardonic and jaded, which makes for humorous commentary. Apart from the humor, the show delves into the idea of why certain things, like the crucifix and not being welcomed in, have an effect on Dracula. This investigation allows the audience to see some depth in the vampire’s character, which allows him to be more than just evil.

If you are a fan of dark humor, horror or vampires, I would encourage you to take a bite out of Netflix’s “Dracula.”
‘You’ Season Two Lives up to its Captivating, Yet Sadistic Reputation

Warning: The following review contains spoilers.

Joe Goldberg, or dare I say Will Bettelheim, returns to Netflix with a new persona and an equally thrilling storyline which had me yet again, rooting for the deranged serial killer.

On Dec. 26, Netflix dropped the second season of its hit show “You,” giving viewers ten episodes of insanity-filled plot twists and cliffhangers.

The last time audiences saw Joe Goldberg, played by Penn Badgley, he had just carried out several murders including that of his girlfriend, Guinevere Beck. In the first season, Joe spent a majority of the time stalking Guinevere, and killed off anyone who attempted to get in his way.

After successfully planting the evidence in Guinevere’s therapist’s yard and shifting all blame away from himself, Joe thought he was able to move on until his previous girlfriend Candace, who he thought he murdered years ago, returns to his book shop in New York City. This prompts Joe to start a new life in Los Angeles under the name Will Bettelheim, where Candace hopefully won’t find him.

Now here’s where it starts to get interesting.

Viewers find Joe talking himself out of starting the cycle over again when he crosses paths with Love Quinn, played by “The Haunting of Hill House” actress Victoria Pedretti. Viewers discover at the end of the first episode that ever since Joe laid eyes on Love, he had been stalking her, convinced they were meant to be.

Of course Joe is a smart guy and is able to flawlessly execute his plan of living happily ever after with Love, only until Candace returns, dating Love’s brother, Forty.

I personally thought this season was so much more exciting than the first, as it gave a lot more insight into Joe’s childhood and what made him into the obsessive, clingy killer he is now.

As it turns out, Joe’s mother’s neglectful parenting was what brought about his mad obsession with trying to make women in his life stay. His mother always prioritized her romantic affairs over her own son, which played an important role in what makes Joe so possessive now.

Although it was interesting to dissect Joe’s mind and see why he is the way he is, the biggest plot twist of all came when his current girlfriend, Love, ended up being just as psychotic and twisted as he is, Love murders anyone who gets in between her and Joe, as well as anyone who dares to harm her brother.

Ironically enough, Joe views Love’s behavior as crazy, when in reality all he had to do was look into a mirror and discover that he is just the same.

I found myself wondering where the storyline was going to go with Love since she genuinely cared about Joe. Having known how most of his girlfriends usually wind up, I was even more curious to find out where things would go wrong. It never once crossed my mind that she might be just as murderous and cold as him.

I also liked how Joe was shown battling good and evil in his head. Last season, he showed practically no remorse when it came to killing people. He was able to just pick up and move on like nothing happened. In this season, Joe seems to carry more of a guilty conscience.

Throughout the duration of watching the long anticipated second season of “You,” I was unable to look away from the screen. In fact, I finished the entire season in one day.

If you are someone who enjoys watching shows from the point of view of a sociopathic creeper, then this is definitely for you.

For returning fans of “You,” the plot most definitely will not disappoint. It is entirely different from the first season, with new storylines and plot twists that viewers would never see coming.

With that being said, I’ll leave readers with two pieces of advice when delving into this dark drama: don’t grow too attached to any characters as nothing is ever as it seems.
Top Picks to Stream

Football Movies

‘The Game Plan’ on Disney+

Photo courtesy of Walt Disney Pictures

Dwayne “The Rock” Johnson brings his A-game with no simple sugars in Disney’s “The Game Plan.” Living life as a wealthy, all-star quarterback, Joe Kingman (Johnson) has not a care in the world. One day a small 8-year-old girl (Madison Pettis), knocks on his door, saying she is his daugh- ter and leaves Kingman’s world all shook up. He reluctantly takes her in and, over the course of the next 100 minutes, audiences bear witness to Joe’s humbling transforma-
tion from an ego-centric playboy to a truly caring human being, induced by his daugh-
ter who goes by the name of Peyton.

Often regarded as the greatest football movie produced by Disney in 2007, “The Game Plan” offers something for both fans of the game and football deniers alike. “The Game Plan” is sure to satisfy any viewer looking for a classic romp and riot of a film.

- Dillon Hoffman
Contributing Writer

‘The Waterboy’ on Netflix

Photo courtesy of Touchstone Pictures

“The Waterboy” is one of many in the il-
lustrious list of Adam Sandler hit comedies. The film follows Bobby Boucher Jr., played by Sandler, a 30-year-old social outcast. He works as the water boy for the University of Louisiana football team, and lives with his overprotective and hyper-religious moth-
er, Helen, played by Kathy Bates. Boucher is fired from the University of Louisiana, and instead becomes the water boy for lovable losers South Central Louisiana State. There, his true potential as a football player is revealed.

The cult classic follows Boucher’s jour-
ney both as a player and as a person, as he becomes an unstoppable defensive force on the field and harbors a relationship with Vic- ki, played by Fairuza Balk. Both actions are kept secret from his mother, who forbids her son to take part in such blasphe- mous activities. Everything comes to a head, and hilarity ensues driven by the classic comedic acting of Sandler that made him such a hit. Enjoy the comedy flick, just don’t mess with his wa-
ter, and definitely don’t talk about his Mama.

- Christopher Giacomini
Social Media Manager

The Second Season of ‘Sex Education’ is More Inclusive and Accepting than the First

By Mateo Gutierrez
Contributing Writer

Warning: The following review contains spoilers.

Last year in the entertainment-dead month of Janu-
ary, a new Netflix original silently made its way onto the streaming platform. What came from this new Netflix original series was a hilarious, honest and modern look at the lives of teenagers who are clueless when it comes to sex and many other day-to-day activities.

This one included noteworthy names like Gillian An-
derson, better known as Scully from “The X-Files” and Asia Butterfield, formerly remembered as Bruno from “The Boy in the Striped Pajamas.”

While the first season merely flirted with messages concerning sexuality, race, consent and inclusivity, it still felt like a typical coming-of-age show. However, the sec-
cond season focuses on making “Sex Education” a show for people of all sizes, races and sexualities; the inclu-
sive storylines go against the lapping waves of coming-
of-age stereotypes.

In being ultimately forced out of school and left to for- feit her feelings for Otis (Asia Butterfield), viewers easily sympathize with Maeve (Emma Mckay). Despite the blooming relationship between Otis and the new girl Ola, played by Patricia Allison, it seemed the show was beginning to abandon the relationship between the two and side with Maeve instead.

This is a trend very atypical in most teen shows: a white protagonist developing feelings for both a black and white character and ending up with the black char-
acter instead. But, not before dumphing her/him and get-
ting together with the white character once more.

Thankfully “Sex Education” is not a typical teen show. Instead, what we get is a storyline where Otis wins up with no one, due to his incompetence as an ignorant male. Ola also breaks off the relationship due to the dis-
covery of her pansexuality.

“The Waterboy” is one of many in the il-
lustrious list of Adam Sandler hit comedies. The film follows Bobby Boucher Jr., played by Sandler, a 30-year-old social outcast. He works as the water boy for the University of Louisiana football team, and lives with his overprotective and hyper-religious moth-
her, Helen, played by Kathy Bates. Boucher is fired from the University of Louisiana, and instead becomes the water boy for lov-
able losers South Central Louisiana State. There, his true potential as a football player is revealed.

The cult classic follows Boucher’s jour-
ney both as a player and as a person, as he becomes an unstoppable defensive force on the field and harbors a relationship with Vic-ki, played by Fairuza Balk. Both actions are kept secret from his mother, who forbids her son to take part in such blasphemous activi-
ties. Everything comes to a head, and hilarity ensues driven by the classic comedic acting of Sandler that made him such a hit. Enjoy the comedy flick, just don’t mess with his wa-
ter, and definitely don’t talk about his Mama.

The one included noteworthy names like Gillian An-
derson, better known as Scully from “The X-Files” and Asia Butterfield, formerly remembered as Bruno from “The Boy in the Striped Pajamas.”

While the first season merely flirted with messages concerning sexuality, race, consent and inclusivity, it still felt like a typical coming-of-age show. However, the sec-
cond season focuses on making “Sex Education” a show for people of all sizes, races and sexualities; the inclu-
sive storylines go against the lapping waves of coming-
of-age stereotypes.

In being ultimately forced out of school and left to for-
feit her feelings for Otis (Asia Butterfield), viewers easily sympathize with Maeve (Emma Mckay). Despite the blooming relationship between Otis and the new girl Ola, played by Patricia Allison, it seemed the show was beginning to abandon the relationship between the two and side with Maeve instead.

This is a trend very atypical in most teen shows: a white protagonist developing feelings for both a black and white character and ending up with the black char-
acter instead. But, not before dumphing her/him and get-
ting together with the white character once more.

Thankfully “Sex Education” is not a typical teen show. Instead, what we get is a storyline where Otis wins up with no one, due to his incompetence as an ignorant male. Ola also breaks off the relationship due to the dis-
covery of her pansexuality.

This comes as a welcome surprise since not only does Ola Nyman develop the same respect as the show’s protagonist, but she goes through a season-long arc of growth and becomes an non-diaposable character who many young viewers can look up to. Ola is one of few pansexual characters to exist in mainstream media and stand out as someone who is portrayed in a positive light in terms of her sexuality. Ola is never demonized over it or made to feel as an outsider because of it.

By allowing so many characters, old and new, to choose their place on the sexuality spectrum, the show is making strides away from the atypical heteronorma-
tive story it had set up in the previous season. Florence (Mirren Mack) for example, is one of very few respectful representations of asexuality in television, let alone a teen show.

Florence’s coming to terms with her asexuality is one of the most memorable moments of the season with it being a relatively quiet and sincere conversation with Gillian Anderson’s character, Jean Millburn. In a visit to Ms. Millburn, Florence goes on about how she feels broken, with a dejected tone in her voice. Jean informs her that there was never anything wrong with her and explains what asexuality is in a simple manner, never judging or scolding her.

The second season of “Sex Education” sets the stan-
dard for what shows such as “Riverdale” fail to do. It grounds the characters and lets the real world mechan-
ics operate, ensuring that the growth of the characters is earned and that it’s real. Adam Groff for example goes through a gradual transformation from heteronormative bully to kind-hearted, bisexual giant, while new charac-
ter Viv Odensanya finds herself changing who she is for a boy before realizing her integrity and intellect are far more important than any boy could ever be.

The show is setting the standard, not just for teenage coming-of-age shows, but for all shows in the current media landscape. Its acceptance of diversity in race, sexuality and body positivity is something for the next generation of teens to look up to and to truly see them-
selves represented in a way a previous generation never could before.
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Women’s Basketball Breaks Kean Curse by Ending Three-Game Losing Streak Against the Cougars

Evelyn Lavitola
Staff Writer

The Montclair State University women’s basketball team remains unstoppable as they extended their game winning streak to nine on Saturday against Kean University, beating them 70-59. The team’s record is 14-4 overall and 9-2 in the New Jersey Athletic Conference (NJAC).

Kean came into this game with high expectations after two straight wins against The College of New Jersey, New Jersey City University and also beating Montclair State earlier this season, 71-62. The Red Hawks were also on a three-game losing streak against the Cougars prior to the matchup.

The Red Hawks were quick to answer Darrique Smith, but the Red Hawks were quick to answer junior guard Taylor Brown scored the next eight points, helping the team finish the first half with a 10-point lead. Brown had an impressive game, showing her value on the court as she finished the game with 18 points and nine rebounds.

Montclair State extended their lead in the third quarter to 50-33. The Cougars managed to lessen the score margin by scoring eight points in a row before fouling Carter, who ultimately scored two free throws. This gave the Red Hawks a 54-41 lead going into the final quarter.

With a 10-point score difference into the last quarter, the Cougars definitely felt the pressure. The confidence they had felt an hour earlier was now gone.

Senior guard Cerys Mallard also had an excellent game for Montclair State, racking up 14 points, nine rebounds and five assists.

Head Coach Karin Harvey knows many things have changed since the first time Montclair State faced Kean. The Red Hawks are a completely different team.

“We played Kean nine or 10 games ago and we were running a different offense,” Harvey said. “We hadn’t gotten to the flow of what we were trying to do, we weren’t outrebounding teams.”

Harvey thinks the team is doing much better in different aspects of the game as opposed to the last time the Red Hawks faced Kean.

“We’re doing a lot of things better, we’re scoring in transitions, our defense is better, our rebounding is better, half-court offense is better, everything is better,” Coach Harvey said. “We don’t even look like the same team that played them the first time.”

As for the nine-win game streak, Harvey could not be happier for her team.

“It feels amazing, we’re having a lot of fun with it,” Harvey said. “I think we’re having fun with it without putting pressure on ourselves. It’s just like a challenge, you know? How many can we get? They scream ‘streak’ all the time, it’s a fun thing.”

Although the odds were stacked against them before the game, Montclair State did what they do best on the court and won the game. The Cougars’ motto may be that they climb higher, but the Red Hawks definitely flew higher.
Freshman Sensation Nickie Carter Continues to Shine Bright For The Red Hawks

Assistant Sports Editor

Corey Annan

Going into Montclair State University’s women’s basketball team’s annual holiday tournament, head coach Karin Harvey knew that her team needed a spark. Despite a 6-4 record at the time, she knew that her squad, particularly one player, could raise her game to a higher level.

Freshman guard Nickie Carter did just that. She talked about how Coach Harvey set high expectations for her.

“It was the practice before the tournament in which [Coach Harvey] told me that I could be doing more. She said she expected more out of me as a player,” Carter said.

Carter certainly wasn’t playing terrible before the tournament began; she averaged an impressive clip of 12.8 points per game at the time. If the team had any hopes of winning the NJAC title, the freshman would have to play a big role for her squad than a normal guard would have to play a bigger role for her squad than a normal guard would have to play a big -

This began during the tournament, where Carter would post back 20-point performances en route to a holiday tournament title and the tournament MVP. Since then, her scoring average has increased to 16.8 and her turnovers have been cut down significantly. The Red Hawks are now 14-4 on the season, with Carter leading the charge throughout the eight-game winning streak.

Carter’s biggest improvement statistically throughout the season was her field goal percentage, which has dramatically increased from about 30% to roughly 40%, despite the increase in productivity in recent weeks. She is also shooting around 31% from the three-point line, making Carter a deadly scorer from just about anywhere on the court.

Coach Harvey commented on her impressive play.

“She knows that her job is to score, and she’s embraced that,” Coach Harvey said. “She’s a natural scorer and very gifted, which takes a lot of the pressure off her teammates to score.”

Speaking of teammates, one Red Hawk who has definitely felt a little less pressure to score this season is senior forward Alex McKinnon, who was the team’s leading scorer last year. McKinnon, who is averaging 12 points and six rebounds on the season has been very happy with how Carter has been adjusting to the team.

“She has such great confidence about herself and her abilities [as a player],” McKinnon said. “I think she really came into the season ready to take on a big role for us this year.”

Before taking on the role as a leading scorer for the Red Hawks, Carter was at Hunterdon Central Regional High School, where she was a part of multiple sectional playoff appearances, including a Central Jersey Group IV championship in 2017. As for individual awards, Carter was a first-team Skyland Conference selection as a senior.

Carter credited her teammates at Hunterdon Central as the main reason for why the team was so successful throughout her entire high school career.

“Our teammates at [Hunterdon Central] had great chemistry since we grew up together playing basketball,” Carter said. “We complement each other’s abilities.”

Her success at Hunterdon Central would lead Montclair State to heavily recruit the 5-foot-7 guard out of Flemington, New Jersey. There was a lot of optimism from the coaching staff; Carter could help the team right away offensively, but Coach Harvey has been extremely impressed with Carter’s knowledge of the game.

“She has a very natural basketball mind,” Coach Harvey said. “She understands what we are trying to do on the offensive end with cuts and getting herself open.”

She has also gotten it done on the defensive end, an area that she struggled with coming into the collegiate level. Coach Harvey spoke on her difficulty with this.

“That was the area where she needed the most work, and we’ve seen a ton of growth from her,” Coach Harvey said. “Against Stockton, she guarded their best three-point shooter, and the kid only had one three-pointer for the game.”

Off the court, Carter has created very close bonds with her teammates, including McKinnon. This has been instrumental to her success not only as a player but for the team in general. Carter talked about her close relationship with the girls.

“From the moment I visited Montclair State and hung out with the team, I instantly clicked with all of them,” Carter said. “I think this has made adjusting to the team easier because I’m really close with the team and I love every single one of them.”
Kobe Bryant was known for his motivation and poise by not just the sports community, but the entire world.

The death of basketball legend Kobe Bryant shook not only the sports community but the entire world. Kobe Bryant and his 13-year-old daughter Gianna Bryant tragically died in a helicopter crash in Calabasas, CA on Sunday, along with seven others while traveling to a basketball camp run by him.

Kobe Bryant was a role model and inspiration, not only for his play on the basketball court but his wisdom and motivation. There was always positive comments to be said about Kobe Bryant, he left a mark on the entire world.

Kobe Bryant's death left an impact on not just professional sports, but collegiate sports as well. Many players on the Montclair State men's and women's basketball teams looked up to Kobe Bryant growing up playing basketball.

Junior guard Taylor Brown from the Red Hawks women's basketball team shared her thoughts on the impact Kobe Bryant instilled in her.

"I was really shocked and stunned when I found out the news of the tragic accident," Brown said. "He was a great role model for all athletes, especially basketball players, and inspired me to believe in the ability to achieve anything as long as you have confidence and work your hardest each day. Kobe also taught me the importance of family as he was an incredible father to his wife and four daughters. My thoughts and prayers go out to him, his daughter, those also affected by this incident and his family and friends."

The impact of Kobe Bryant's death was met with sadness within the locker room of the Red Hawk men's basketball team as well. Many of the players grew up watching Kobe Bryant and his most iconic moments, including his 2009 and 2010 championship runs.

"He was truly an inspiration to many basketball players in the world as well as a respected father, husband and coach," Obertan said. "This teaches us to never take a day for granted and to make the most out of every day because you never know what could happen."

Kobe Bryant's work ethic and passion for the game is something that few athletes in the history of sports can match, and many of the players used that as a source of motivation.

"He was someone that was the bar to determine if you were great or not," senior guard/forward Justin Porter said. "[He taught us] how to do everything with love and nurture it with everything walking moment."

This work ethic was dubbed "Mamba Mentality," something that freshman guard Keyon Price carries with him today.

"He was an inspiration for me to study the game and work like no one else, and to live by one mentality to take with me everywhere I go," Price said. "The Mamba Mentality."

It is clear that the legacy of Kobe Bryant will live on forever for everyone who knew him. However, for the members of the men's and women's basketball team, Bryant will forever hold a place in their hearts for cultivating their love for basketball.