Survey Says More Than a Third of New Jersey Community College Students are Food Insecure

Danielle Miller
Staff Writer

This month, The Hope Center released a report on food and home insecurity for New Jersey community college students as part of their annual #Real-College survey. Of the 9,000 respondents, it was found that 39% experienced food insecurity in the previous 30 days, 44% were housing insecure during the previous year, and 14% were homeless at some point during that year.

This comes as no surprise to Allison Llanos, a freshman fashion major, who sees the pressures put on college students to make ends meet.

“I fully understand the financial burden of college as a student myself,” Llanos said. “Combined with the living expenses in New Jersey, the percentages presented make sense.”

Leslie Gallagher, a freshman communication and media arts major, was surprised by the numbers and was able to receive help with the costs of college.

“Luckily, I do come from a family where my parents are willing to help me and my siblings afford [college],” Gallagher said. “However, it does put a lot of strain on our family and a lot of pressure on me personally to succeed and earn money while I’m in college. I think a lot of other students feel that kind of pressure as well.”

Montclair State University has taken action to combat these struggles within its student population. The Red Hawk Pantry, located in Room 170 of the Student Center, serves as a haven for students grappling with financial insecurity.

Sonja Tillman, coordinator for the Red Hawk Pantry, explained the purpose of the pantry.

“The Red Hawk Pantry works to provide food and toiletries for students that are unable to meet their basic needs,” Tillman said.

Additionally, students unable to afford professional attire can acquire clothing for work interviews through “Rocky’s Closet.” According to Tillman, the pantry aids 30 to 35 Montclair State students per week. However, she believes that many more are struggling but do not seek help.

“I just wish that they did not feel stigmatized or embarrassed by their situation, so they could come to us for help,” Tillman said.

Stacy Albanese, the associate director of Annual Giving and Alumni Engagement at Montclair State, worked to open the pantry while she was earning her master’s degree. She encourages students to do more to support the pantry.

“Donate, whether it’s organizing a food drive or skipping coffee for the day to donate $5, anything helps,” Albanese said. “Also, promote the pantry to other students so that they know it exists. This will help fight the stigma.”

For more information on the Red Hawk Pantry services or how to contribute, visit the Montclair State website.
Red Hawk Rap Sheet

Tuesday, Feb. 18

Feliciano School of Business: Officers were dispatched in regard to an incident of criminal mischief, whereby graffiti was written on the walls of a study room. This incident is under investigation.

Tuesday, Feb. 18

Blanton Hall: Patrol officers responded in regard to a report of cyber harassment. Officers met with a female student who advised that she, along with several other females, have been harassed and threatened from a known male student via social media outlets. The student declined to file a complaint at this time.

Thursday, Feb. 20

Fox Theatre: Patrol officers responded in regard to report of an assault. Officers met on the scene with a male student who reported being pushed by an identified female employee of the theater. The student did not have visible signs of injury and declined to press charges. Nothing further to report.

Saturday, Feb. 22

Basie Hall: Patrol officers responded in regard to a report of a theft. Officers were met on scene by a female student who reported losing her iPhone in an Uber she had just taken to campus. Upon contacting the driver, the man demanded money from the student in exchange for her phone back. This incident is under investigation.

Monday, Feb. 24

Police Headquaters: A male student came in to report a theft and fraud. The student reported losing his wallet at an unknown date and time, and was informed by his credit card company that his debit card had been in use. This incident is under investigation.

Anyone who has information regarding these incidents is urged to call the police station at T-I-P-S (8477). All calls are strictly confidential.
Students listen and take notes on the sustainability seminar.

Adrianna Caraballo | The Montclarion

Jenna Sundel
Staff Writer

Rutgers University professor Dr. Kenneth Miller spoke about the issue of rising sea levels impacting New Jersey and the globe at the Center for Environmental and Life Sciences on Feb. 25.

The event was part of the Sustainability Seminar Series, which invites new speakers to discuss environmental issues every Tuesday.

Miller presented his various findings from his time with the International Ocean Discovery Program, a marine research collaboration that studies Earth’s history using seafloor sediments.

“Sea level rise today, three millimeters per year, is unprecedented over the past 2,000 years,” Miller said.

Miller has also witnessed evidence of sea level rising from his home in Waretown, New Jersey.

“Studying sea level is like politics, it’s all local,” Miller said.

“I did have a shore house and it was underwater four times during four 100-year storms between 1991 and [Hurricane] Sandy.”

Emily Stone, a graduate student pursuing a degree in biology with a concentration in ecology and evolution, stressed the importance of paying attention to climate change in New Jersey.

“If you’re living in New Jersey you should care because things like Hurricane Sandy or other extreme events are going to be happening more frequently,” Stone said.

Nina Dicesare, a sophomore earth and environmental studies major, urged other students to pay attention to climate change and the impact it’s having on the Earth.

“We live on this earth and we should care about it because we wouldn’t have a home without it,” Dicesare said.

Miller offered some initiatives people can take to help solve the climate crisis, such as using electric vehicles and solar energy to reduce the amount of carbon dioxide in the atmosphere.

“We have to mitigate and we have to adapt,” Miller said.

Miller realizes that these changes can often be difficult, but are necessary to help reverse the effect of the climate crisis.

“We’re moving in the right direction, but we do need to do some things that we probably don’t want to do,” Miller said.

Miller praised former Gov. Chris Christie and Gov. Phil Murphy for passing new environmental legislation in the wake of Hurricane Sandy. However, he said that they may need to consider more drastic options, such as nuclear power or long-term carbon storage.

Adrianna Caraballo | The Montclarion

Professor Kenneth Miller from Rutgers University lectures on the rising of sea levels.

Adrianna Caraballo | The Montclarion

Attendees listen to Miller’s lecture on climate change and what can be done about it.

Adrianna Caraballo | The Montclarion
Governor Phil Murphy Proposes New Set of Ethics for N.J. Legislature

New Jersey Gov. Phil Murphy has proposed a new set of ethics to the New Jersey State Legislature to create a more open and transparent process in Trenton. This comes after a 2015 article by the Center for Public Integrity which gave New Jersey a D-rating in transparency and accountability, just three years after New Jersey received the highest score in the nation, a B+, in 2012.

According to NJ.gov, Sen. Richard Codey claims it has been some time since the ethics have been changed.

"These ethics standards have not been updated since 2005," Codey said. "They were considered the best in the country then, and we want to stay to that standard."

According to Politico, Gov. Murphy states that the legislature has an "official duties" carve-out that allows the legislative branch to get around the release of documents to the public.

"I think that's good, people should know what's going on in the government, to know that [the government officials] are not trying to hide anything," Sanchez said.

The Legislative Package of Comprehensive Ethics Reforms for State Government is a five-bill package focusing on restrictions of gifts being accepted by government officials and financial disclosures of those making more than $100,000 annually. The bill will also extend the cooling off period to legislatures looking to become lobbyists from one year to two years. The bill will also require an extension policy where all legislative proposals will not be voted on unless the final document of the bill is made publicly available on the legislation website for 72 hours.

Sophia Greg, a freshman family science and human development major, feels the public should be more involved.

"I think it should be open to the public, those [are] our laws, we are living here, we should have a say," Greg said.

As reported by various news outlets, several lawmakers on both sides of the aisle have agreed to sponsor the proposal.

"If you look at it from a bigger scheme it solves a lot of questions that we have nationally," Sinclair said. "People say [Congress] lobbies too much, corporate organization are allowed to give them too much money, Congress has too much of a pay-to-play kind of mentality, and here we are actually solving the pay-to-play rulebook."
Ellen Berkowitz urges others to speak out against climate change before it’s too late. Worldwide, climate change has implications for increased migration, civil unrest and decreased food and water availability, Berkowitz said. “We need to act now.”

According to Berkowitz, the effects of climate change can also be seen on a statewide level. “We’re the sixth fastest warming state in the country, based on average annual temperatures since 1970,” Berkowitz said. “Sea level rise on the [New Jersey] coast is double the national average.”

Citizens’ Climate Lobby is an international climate group that prioritizes environmental issues. The organization believes that the best solution to the issue is the Energy Innovation and Carbon Dividend Act. This act would put a price on carbon, starting with a small fee that increases over time. Berkowitz admits there are other similar bills, but believes that the Energy Innovation and Carbon Dividend Act is still the best solution.

“There are other carbon pricing bills in the House and Senate,” Berkowitz said. “We support this bill because we feel it is the most effective, transparent and fair. It is the only one with bipartisan support and has the most cosponsors of any bill.”

The bill now has 80 cosponsors. Mikie Sherrill who represents part of Montclair, New Jersey still has not cosponsored the bill.

The group is still trying to gather more support through meetings, phone calls and letters. Berkowitz believes that college students play a crucial role in solving climate change. She shared some ways Montclair State University students can get involved.

“Speaking up is critical and then amplify your voice by joining a group,” Berkowitz said. “With others you’re louder, more effective and supported. You’ll meet like-minded people and will probably have fun. Young people are on the front line. You and your descendants will be affected by what will come.”

She also recommended writing or calling representatives, tweeting, writing a letter to the editor of a local news organization or calling a local radio station.

Jenna Sundel
Staff Writer

The leader of the local chapter of Citizens’ Climate Lobby, Ellen Berkowitz, urges others to speak out against climate change before it’s too late. Worldwide, climate change has implications for increased migration, civil unrest and decreased food and water availability, Berkowitz said. “We need to act now.”

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Lt. Giuliano has served the campus community for 23 years.

LGBTQ+ Lieutenant Giuliano Aims to Encourage Campus Community

Casey Masterson
Feature Editor

Lt. Barbara Giuliano came out as LGBTQ+ in 1997 shortly after joining the Montclair State University Police Department (UPD), feeling so comfortable in the environment she was working in that she was able to take this big step for the first time in her life.

After coming out at work, Giuliano was inspired to come out at home too. Her family was accepting of her sexuality and the lieutenant was fortunate enough to never face adversity for her sexuality.

Guiliano has spent her whole career with UPD as an LGBTQ+ police officer and hopes to inspire whoever she can to reach their goals, regardless of who they are.

“I feel that my interaction with students with that have questioned me or asked me about my sexuality, I think you can have a positive outcome with it,” Giuliano said. “People, other students, who may be considering law enforcement or any kind of future position can see how far I’ve come. Even with my rank and title, they can clearly see that I’m LGBTQ+ and they can clearly see that my sexuality has never stopped me from who I am. My sexuality has never hindered my goals in any way, in any capacity, especially in this department.”

Guiliano has worked on campus for 23 years as a police officer, a career that she was interested in pursuing from a young age.

“I was probably about ten years old [when I knew],” Giuliano said. “My dad was a police officer for 30 years. He worked for Newark PD and I knew that was something I always wanted to do or always had an interest in.”

She started her career here in 1997 when it was recommended to Giuliano to start at a university and she has been at Montclair State ever since.

“I started out as a patrol and then a detective, which is not a rank, it’s just a title. And then after six years, I went onto sergeant and stayed in that position for about six years and went on to lieutenant,” Giuliano said.

Over the 23 years that Giuliano has served the Montclair State community, she has become a valued member of the police force. Captain Kieran Barrett described Giuliano as an asset to the team as he spoke about his experiences with the lieutenant over the years.

“There are so many shared experiences we have had over the years, but I can say clearly there are those experiences where her compassion for others reminds me of who we all strive to be,” Barrett said. “We have to recognize early on in service to a campus that our role is not solely law enforcement and she has the ability to create opportunity for those in need and look to a more complete response for those in need.”

As a lieutenant, Giuliano works in a supervisor’s position over a squad of police officers. Although she no longer goes on patrols, she supports the squad that works under her.

As an LGBTQ+ officer, Giuliano says she shares her unique perspective and her experiences with students in hopes of helping guide them.

This type of outreach was made possible through the welcoming environment that the UPD has provided for Giuliano.

Although the police force has the stereotype of being a male-dominant profession, Giuliano never felt hindered as she climbed through the ranks.

“Sexuality, or even being a female, [makes it a] tough career to advance in, to kind of spread your wings and be allowed to go after your dreams and hopes,” Giuliano said. “I was never stopped. I went through every rank I wanted to go through. I’ve never been met with any kind of discriminatory set back that I would ever stop myself from advancing in this department. I have many tasks afforded to me such as fire arms, I’m the field authority figure. I’ve never been stopped. I contribute that to how welcoming and accepting this department is.”

Barrett claims that it is important to have diversity in the ranks of the police department to better relate to the student body it protects.

“I think any police agency should attempt to mirror the community they serve,” Barrett said. “This is not easily achieved as many have apprehension in a field that has historically been centered on males providing service. It is encouraging for us to know that officers such as Lieutenant Giuliano connect in a more meaningful way for our community members, in the hopes that it will also encourage more to take on the challenges in law enforcement, here and beyond.”

Guiliano works to bridge the gap between the police and the campus community. She has sat on panels, gone to the flag raising and is eager to speak with students to offer advice. Giuliano has short, black hair with a distinguished touch of gray at the temples. She stands tall with pride in her position and radiates an aura that suggests an approachable authority figure.

“This isn’t to be funny, but me myself, I don’t go around saying I’m LGBTQ+ but I am very approachable and you can see from my look that I’m, you know, that you might want to question if I am. Someone may feel comfortable coming up to me and saying ‘Hey Lt., how do you feel about this or how do you feel about that?’ or getting to know me and I would be more than happy to sit there and talk with them,” Giuliano said.

Barrett believes that this willingness to connect with students and the larger community makes Giuliano an excellent role model.

“She may not say that she consid-
Lt. Giuliano stands with a Montclair State University Police Department vehicle.

Kristoffer Fernandes | The Montclarion

Lt. Giuliano stands with a Montclair State University Police Department vehicle.

Kristoffer Fernandes | The Montclarion

Lt. Giuliano takes a more modest approach to the same question, as she feels the inspiration she could offer to someone is more important.

“I do [hope I am a role model] for the same fact that I hope to, at some point, even with this interview, inspire someone to reach their goals,” Giuliano said.

Outside of her role as a lieutenant, Giuliano is a loving mother of a 16-month-old girl named Harper. She has also been married for eight years and enjoys photography. Barrett shared the familial aspect of Giuliano as something that the reader should know about her.

“I know that she is extremely proud of her work in law enforcement and takes pride in her work every day. She is a loving mother and spouse and I am proud of who she has become at Montclair State and beyond,” Barrett said.

Giuliano’s main motivation for the involvement she has initiated is to inspire students to go for whatever goals they may have.

“If you have a dream, to go for it. Do not allow anything or anyone to stop you and to keep pushing.”

-Lieutenant Barbara Giuliano, UPD

Giuliano on patrol as a sergeant.

Photo courtesy of Barbara Giuliano

Giuliano on patrol as a sergeant.

Photo courtesy of Barbara Giuliano
Eleni Falcon’s Crochet Commissions Are off the Hook

Montclair State University alumna Eleni Falcon has turned crochet from a hobby to a side hustle. Falcon grew up in Queens Village, New York and always had a passion for arts and crafts.

One day while Falcon was strolling through Michaels, an art supplies store, she stumbled upon some yarn she fell in love with because of the vibrant colors and soft texture. Not knowing this would turn into her side business, picking up those spools of yarn changed Falcon’s life.

Crochet is the process of creating fabric by using crochet hooks to loop yarn or other materials. Unlike knitting, where two needles are used, crochet uses one single hook and motion to interlock the threads to create different patterns of choice.

Falcon started crocheting in February 2019 but did not start selling her work until April 2019.

“I wanted to make sure that the product I was selling was of high quality and not something that would unravel after one wash,” Falcon said. Falcon has made a variety of different products such as warm beanies, stylish shirts and even cozy blankets. The products are full of color, ranging from a mossy-colored beanie to a beautiful ombre-colored blanket.

Falcon taught herself how to crochet by watching hours worth of content through YouTube, Pinterest and Instagram. One of Falcon’s biggest inspirations is an Instagram account called @daisyfarmcrafts, who regularly posts new stitches, patterns and beginner projects.

However, as Falcon watched many YouTube videos, she struggled to adjust to the techniques as a lot of the videos were for right-handed people and she was left-handed.

“Don’t get me wrong, it was really easy to learn,” Falcon said. “But being handed, I had to mirror everything that the videos did which brought an extra challenge to the table.”

As Falcon weaves her hands and her crochet hooks to make extraordinary products, she is slowly mastering the craft and has gotten a lot of attention from her friends and Instagram followers. She has started to sell her products to people she knows and has gotten commissions from several of her friends through social media.

Jacob Hildreth, a senior communication and media arts major, stumbled upon Falcon’s work through her Instagram story. Falcon posted a picture of her products and Hildreth commissioned her to make a beanie for him.

“I saw her work and I instantly fell in love with what she does,” Hildreth said. “I wanted to support her local craft and I asked her how much she charged for it. I thought it was a reasonable price for the amount of work she puts into it and how great quality her products are.”

Depending on the type of yarn or the length of the product, Falcon’s products range anywhere $15 to $50. Falcon only sells her work through social media and is currently looking to open up her own website.

“I don’t want to open up an Etsy shop because Etsy does take some commission away from the crafters or creators,” Falcon said. “But I’ve been trying to post more on my social media and create a Facebook page for more people to commission me in the near future.”

Nur Abouzid, a non-student, has been friends with Falcon for over a year now. Abouzid describes Falcon as the most kind-hearted, bubbly and talented person she knows.

“It is difficult to maintain and continue pursuing a hobby while working and taking care of yourself,” Abouzid said. “She's remained persistent at becoming better at crocheting and stays on top of her commissions. The quality she produces hasn’t failed to impress me.”

As Falcon continues to master the craft of crocheting, she is excited for what the future has in store for her. She is currently seeking a career in the television production industry but she still wants to keep crocheting as a side hobby.

To commission Falcon for different pieces, message her on Instagram @lahnz__.
Stephanie Braunlich Changed Her Life
And So Can You

Danielle Vacca | Contributing Writer

Stephanie Braunlich is a senior at Montclair State University majoring in television and digital media with a minor in political science. She can be recognized by her sun kissed complexion, dark defined eyebrows, crystalized hazel eyes and thick, caramel highlighted waves that fall gracefully onto her shoulders.

When the stress of balancing a demanding class schedule collides with adjusting to her new lifestyle, Braunlich seeks comfort in loved ones.

Kara Marinelli, a senior studying nursing at the University of Delaware, has been a constant form of encouragement for Braunlich. The pair have been inseparable since middle school, supporting each other through the ups-and-downs that are expected from life. Marinelli has noticed major psychological and physical changes in Braunlich since her journey began.

"Her confidence has skyrocketed," Marinelli said. "She has become so much more of her own person. She knows what she wants and knows exactly what her goals are and how to get there and with weight loss that was no different."

Marinelli is not the only person that admires Braunlich for her perseverance and passion. Braunlich’s mother, Susan Braunlich, is her daughters biggest supporter.

“Making better food choices led her to shop for healthier groceries and preparing different recipes with healthier and more flavorful ingredients. I could not be any prouder of her.”

Vadinsky sought inspiration from his girlfriend and credits his recent lifestyle adjustment to her ambition to improve her health.

“Just seeing her exercising and losing weight really changed my attitude about [losing weight] and made me want to get better with her,” Vadinsky said. “I put on weight in the beginning stick with her through this because it is definitely easier to do it with someone.”

Braunlich’s accumulated weight loss so far is an impressive 60 pounds, averaging to 10 pounds per month since she began her journey. Despite her feeling more secure and confident in her own skin than ever before, this is a lifestyle that Braunlich has adopted and has no intentions of reverting back to her old ways.

Braunlich’s advice to other college students ready to change their life is simple: be prepared.

“They say that your 20s is the time that you mold yourself into the lifestyle that you’ll have,” Braunlich said. “The only reason why it was actually successful for me is because I was mentally ready for it.”

These photos show Stephanie Braunlich as she went through weightloss journey. Photos courtesy of Stephanie Braunlich
Montclair State University’s Drag Scene is Open To Everyone

Adrianna Caraballo | News Editor

Montclair State University is home to a diverse group of clubs and organizations. What many students don’t know is that there is a drag scene. Every fall, Montclair State’s LGBTQ+ Center hosts a “Drag Extravaganza” where queens of all types can perform and win the crown.

Gabriel Gomez, a junior theater studies major, acknowledged that the drag scene at Montclair State is small but mighty. Gomez’s drag persona is known as Jaxon Richard Queens, a gender nonbinary queen who is not exclusively masculine or feminine.

“We’re a small bunch but new people are coming into school as queer people,” Gomez said. “We are a queer [oriented] school.”

According to Gomez, there have been successful queens to have come out of Montclair State. One of them is Fred Carlton, whose drag persona is known as Olivia Lux.

Carlton, a Montclair State theater alumnus, now works in Jersey City, New Jersey as a drag performer. He occasionally returns to Montclair State for the Drag Extravaganza as a special guest.

Justin Vallejo, a senior communication and media arts major, is the reigning queen from last fall’s Drag Extravaganza. Vallejo’s drag persona is Diosa Aurora Oso and identifies as a Latinx butch queen, exhibiting both masculine and feminine qualities.

“I came into [Montclair State] already trying to figure myself out as a drag queen,” Vallejo said. “You kind of just had to fight for yourself in terms of who you were as a person.”

Vallejo won the drag competition by performing “Hurt” by Christina Aguilera, which created a very emotional performance. When performing the song, Vallejo thinks of his father who doesn’t know that he does drag.

“I think about my dad sometimes with [the song],” Vallejo said. “My father and I don’t have the best relationship. It’s a hard concept for [my parents] to understand because they never really got my femininity.”

Many of the numbers were high-energy performances which made Vallejo question whether his heartfelt number would pay off or not. “It was extremely validating for me as a performer,” Vallejo said. “I was very nervous that I wasn’t gonna win.”

Gomez, who was also in the Drag Extravaganza came in fourth place. He was near tears from Vallejo’s performance that night. He described it as being a performance that everyone could relate to.

“The thing with drag, the connection that we all have to it, it speaks volumes to many people.”

Gomez has had his own obstacles to overcome in the world of drag. He started doing drag in high school, wearing wigs and makeup to school. One time in particular was for a school project where he pretended to be a stewardess.

“During lunchtime, some kid decided to snatch my wig,” Gomez said. “That moment killed me.”

Though the moment didn’t discourage him long-term, Gomez would continue to do drag. He said that his mother was a big inspiration for him and became introduced to drag whenever they watched movies that included drag queens and female role models. It shaped him into the drag queen he is today.

Both Gomez and Vallejo embraced who they fully are and have come to think of Montclair State as somewhere where they can be themselves. They both wish to do drag in college and are determined to make the time for it.

“If you want to follow your dreams you have to work hard for them,” Gomez said.

Both Gomez and Vallejo agree that drag as an art form is open to everyone regardless of what they identify as.

“Drag has been categorized for years as a man dressing up as a woman, but drag is not just that,” Gomez said. “Drag is for everyone.”
IF YOU LITTER IN THE STREET, 
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Manual 6 speed transmission in electric blue. Average condition. If interested, please contact sheilarees@verizon.net

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$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/ homework, 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 cdiambrsio@hotmail.com

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DO YOU LIKE TO WRITE? DO YOU LIKE TO CREATE? DO YOU LIKE TO GET INVOLVED?
IF SO, JOIN THE MONTCLARION
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Across
3. This woman won “Best Supporting Actress” for her role in “Marriage Story.”
4. This man won “Best Director” for “Parasite.”
6. This artist won “Best Original Song” in the film “Rocketman.”
7. This woman won “Best Actress” for her role in “Judy.”
8. This man won “Best Supporting Actor” for “Once Upon a Time in Hollywood.”

Down
1. This man won “Best Actor” for his role in “Joker.”
2. This Korean film won “Best Picture.”
5. This film won “Best Original Music Score.”

Sudoku

Word Search

*For answers to the puzzles, please check The Montclarion Facebook page every Thursday.*
Participation in contact sports is deeply ingrained in American culture. From the moment they are able to do so, toddlers are signed up by their eager parents to join T-ball teams and recreational soccer leagues. It is not too long before sports like Pop Warner football, lacrosse and street hockey come into the mix and children are exposed to the potentially lethal long term effects of contact sports.

Youth sports are so prolific in American culture because of the vast range and proximity that they carry in the culture as a whole. Similarly to how participating in sports is an institutional part of American culture, violence is an institutional part of sports. Violence in sports draws crowds, boosts television ratings and generates immense monetary profits for athletes, franchises and television networks alike. Violence is an inherent aspect of sports like boxing, American football, hockey and mixed martial arts (MMA), but more and more fans are being turned off by the aggressive and dangerous nature of such tradition, and for good reason.

The ever-growing knowledge of permanent brain damage like chronic traumatic encephalopathy (CTE), a seemingly unavoidable consequence of participating in these kinds of violent sports, has led to a lack of participation at the youth level, a decrease in viewership and constant rule changes to make the sports less dangerous and more player-friendly. Participation in youth sports does have many benefits, however. Youth sports can teach developing children basic social skills, how to be a good teammate and how to deal with competition and failure, but these life skills can just as easily be taught without kids setting themselves up for a lifetime of head trauma.

Despite these known risks, sports like boxing or MMA should not be discontinued because of their violent nature. The athletes who compete in boxing and MMA are strategists. Every move they make is highly calculated. An estimated 20% of boxers suffer from CTE. Although that number is certainly concerning, it is definitely low for a sport where the entirety of the time spent competing, punches are being thrown at you from some of the strongest people on the planet.

However, a sport like football, while a contact sport, does not require direct, malicious acts of violence. In fact, intentional acts of violence are illegal and are met with penalties. Regardless, upwards of 90% of NFL players suffer from CTE after their careers. A number far too high for a sport where an act that causes concussions is not allowed. Violence remains ever-present in sports culture, contributing to long term effects and permanent brain trauma. Although participation in sports at the youth level does have its benefits, those benefits can be found elsewhere, absent from concussions and long term, potentially life-threatening brain trauma.

Campus Voices:

Would you allow your child to play sports that are prone to causing head trauma?

By Kristoffer Fernandes

“I would let my child play the sport. I feel like I would want to support my kid in what they wanted to do, but I would learn everything I could about the sport to try to help with precautions so that wouldn't happen. You get hurt doing anything. You just need to know how to plan for it.”

- Dayna Torre
Dance Freshman

“I’ve played sports my whole life and I’ve experienced injuries and things like that. You’re always at risk for injury in any thing you do. The way that life and technology are developing, and the longer time goes on the safer it’s going to be for my generation to have kids and play sports.”

- Zack Abbey
Musical Theatre Sophomore

“I would allow them to [play sports] because if they were really passionate about that sport then I would allow them to play and practice it. I feel like if they were really determined, I wouldn’t stop them. I would just have to be precautions about it.”

- Addison Diem
Education & Sociology Junior

“I actually would let them participate. I would just probably require them to take as many safety precautions as possible. [Such as] don’t put themselves in unnecessary danger. But if it’s something that they are interested in I don’t see any reason to limit them.”

- Sara Ezibak
Exercise Science Sophomore
Worth More Than a Tour
Student ambassadors’ payment should reflect their importance

CARLY CAMPBELL
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

Freshman year is a stressful time for many, even those thinking that they are ready for the challenge of college. From the perspective of a dual freshman college student and campus tour guide, expecting freshmen to work demanding hours for little pay is unjust and adds more unnecessary stress.

Paying students a wage to not only support their studies, but encourage them to continue to provide a positive image for the school should be of the utmost importance to the Office of Admissions.

Before you sent in your deposit, chances are you went on a campus tour. Smiling student representatives brought you around campus, explaining each building and answering questions about what is available to students.

If you’re lucky, you might get not just one but two tour guides. Only thing is, one of them doesn’t have that cool silver ID tag like the other one. The guide that doesn’t have the ID tag is a trainee. They are expected to do four months of training for the school with a minimum of eight hours logged per week, including office hours answering phone calls for the office of admissions. They only become a member of the team once they complete that training, but it is all unpaid for four months.

In the end, you receive a $250 stipend for four months of training and sacrificing valuable time to help the school.

Of course, this is not to demean these hardworking students. Representing your school is serious business. When you’re a tour guide, you are essentially the first line of defense for a school and its reputation.

People might ignore those PowerPoints and folders of information, but they will remember the tour they had and the insight they were given. Because of this, it is inappropriate to underpay these tour guides.

When I became a Montclair State University Red Hawk, I was offered the opportunity to become a student ambassador. It was exciting because I had practiced walking backward and being over-the-top energetic for hours on end and it would be great to make money off of introducing others to our wonderful campus.

However, as I soon found out, there were a lot of drawbacks. As a freshman, had I chosen to continue my job, I would only be paid in experience. I would have to devote three hours of my schedule from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. or 2 p.m. to 5 p.m. every day depending on course schedule and weekend plans. All of this time working would not even guarantee me the uniform, an ID tag of my own or resources to make up for the time I spent giving tours.

My solution is to do the right thing and pay student ambassadors. The New Jersey minimum wage is $11 an hour. Treat these students like university employees. It is not always easy to be consistently positive and energetic while meeting potential students at 9 a.m. on a Sunday morning.

As a student who has always loved school, I know that I sometimes find regular classroom instruction boring after a while. Even the most interesting topic or engaging professor can seem like a lot in an hour and 15 minute class multiple times a week. Field trips offer both the professor and students a way to break up the learning process and bring something in from the outside.

This different style of learning allows professors to get creative with their content. If a newly released movie has relevance to a topic in class, students should go see it and return for an in-depth discussion. If a professor knows an exhibit is on display at the Montclair Art Museum that could add to their lectures or seminars, they should allow students to go visit for extra credit.

There is a time and place for everything. So while not all field trips may make total sense for a particular class, it would be helpful and inspiring to see professors make more of an effort to include experiential learning in combination with their regular instruction. It is a great way to engage with the community around you and only broadens your horizons on what is out there to discover.

Brooke Alvine, a junior history major, is in her first year as staff writer for The Montclarion.
Picture Hoarding: Our New Digital Addiction

Time to purge your phone of unused photos and videos

By Madison Tavera

Picture hoarding has recently surfaced as a new term in the Urban Dictionary. When I first heard the term I was taken aback and thought that whoever said it had made it up. After doing some research however, I have found that this term is legitimate and applies to almost everyone I know.

According to Urban Dictionary, a picture hoarder is defined as someone “who enjoys taking pictures of anything and everything. These people don’t always like the pictures they take and won’t always put them out on a social network to be seen by everyone, but they will keep them anyway for long periods of time simply for the memories.”

After having read that, I’m sure most people immediately thought of someone who fits that description. We all know that one person who feels that it is necessary to take a photo of their meal or a photo of every sunset they encounter.

Upon discovering this term, I started to realize that most people who fall under this definition are usually the ones that aren’t living in the moment. They simply take photos just because they have the capability to do so.

Now this isn’t to say that every person who does this won’t look through their photos and relive their adventures, but the likelihood of that happening is slim to none.

One example that came directly to mind was the popularity of Snapchat and the memories feature that it offers. I can personally say that I’m a sucker for Snapchat memories and enjoy waking up to them in the morning. However in my personal experience, I delete memories of people that are no longer in my life like ex-boyfriends and friends who I no longer speak to. Granted it is always nice to reminisce about friends and places you’ve visited with them, but there’s a more simple way to hold onto those memories.

My advice is to go old school and print out these photos. You can make a mini time capsule out of an old shoebox and put all your old photos, ticket stubs, letters and flash drives with a copy of your videos inside. That way you can still hold onto those memories but without the need to have to carry around all those pictures.

Seeing those flashback memories on Snapchat of an ex can also trigger negative emotions that can be difficult to relive. Do yourself a favor and stop hoarding those pictures that contribute to your emotional baggage and start living your life in the present, enjoying each moment through your own eyes rather than through the lens of a camera.

Dive into your Snapchat memories and purge the saved pictures and videos of those people no longer in your life. Start living in the present. Try going one full day without taking a picture and saving it for no reason other than to view it as a Snapchat memory within a year.

Instead, start making mental notes about the small details that bring you moments of joy in your everyday life.

Madison Tavera, a freshman communication and media arts major, is in her first year as a contributing writer for The Montclarion.
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Stephanie Mautone is a senior communication and media arts major. This past summer, she landed a spot on Season 17 of NBC’s “The Voice” with her twin brother, Dane. They joined John Legend’s team as the first duo he has ever coached for the battle rounds. Stephanie and Dane sat down with The Montclarion Video Editor Annabel Reyes to talk about their experience, YouTube success and personal journeys.

Q: When did the both of you become interested in music?

Stephanie: It happened naturally. Dane and I were involved in sports but also liked musical theater and dance. Around middle school, around 10 years ago, we started singing in our basement together. Dane taught himself to play the piano and guitar. Then we started singing and harmonizing together. We realized we had something special without putting much thought to it. It came naturally and started out as a hobby.

Q: What made you want to perform as a duo?

Dane: We never thought about it. It was another natural thing and we’ve always been close. It’s something that went without thinking about.

Stephanie: We could tell that it felt more special singing together by hearing the way we harmonized and sounded. It was a magical feeling.

Q: Does anyone in your family have a musical background?

Stephanie: Neither of our parents were into music that much, but we always were.

Dane: We have two other siblings, an older sister and a younger sister. The four of us are all into the arts. We used to make short films together and things like that so we were always into it. We watched a lot of Disney movies growing up and we went to a lot of Broadway shows so we were always into the arts and music.

Q: Why did you decide to audition for “The Voice”?

Stephanie: We had been auditioning for shows like “America’s Got Talent” for the past couple years. We had been posting videos on YouTube and figured it’s right in New York, our mom would drive us to the audition. Sometimes the auditions would go well and we would get further than others. Sometimes it didn’t go well.

“The Voice” reached out to us because they saw our YouTube channel and asked if we would be interested in coming in for a callback audition so we were excited, but didn’t know what to expect.

Q: How would you describe your experience being on the show?

Stephanie: Me and Dane are so appreciative of the experience we had. It was a great learning experience and we grew so much as artists and as people. We never thought about how far we’d make it on the show, it was more about the surreal journey we were on and we’re thankful for it.

Dane: We didn’t know what to expect from it. I never realized it would be a big growing experience. From performing on a stage like that to working with vocal coaches, the experience gave me a lot of confidence. I’m always going to carry [that] with me and it’s always going to be a big moment that I’m going to look back on in the future.

Q: What were your feelings on stage during the blind audition?

Stephanie: Once we got on stage and started singing the rest of the song, John [Legend] turned around first and I didn’t even look at him, I just saw a light on the floor and saw that someone had turned but I wasn’t focusing on it because I was blacked out and trying to stay in the song.

Dane: We were going through the motions. I can’t remember actually singing it. I know I was singing but I don’t know what I was thinking. When the chair turned, I looked up but once I saw the jacket and could tell it might be John Legend, I freaked out and looked away because I was too nervous.

Q: What did you describe your experience being on the show?

Stephanie: I got to share on the show that I’m transgender. It affected us and how we sing together. At that point, I was only around seven months on hormones. It takes time for my voice to drop and it had dropped a decent amount, but it was still changing.

Even now, I’m still adjusting to it. I can’t sing the higher notes I was used to hitting. Through the process of being on the show, we both had to adjust to my range and what we could sing together.

Stephanie: Dane sharing being transgender on national television was such a big step. Looking at what he shared with so many people, it’s inspiring because I’m sure he helped so many people identify with themselves. Seeing someone else who’s trans singing on national television is such a big step. We might not have realized it at the time because it feels so normal for us, it’s our everyday life.

Q: Dane, you have your own personal YouTube page that focuses on your transition. Can you elaborate on why you created it?

Dane: I started my own YouTube channel so I could document my transition. Before I even started hormones, I had the idea from seeing other trans people do it. I knew having something to look back on in the future would make me see how much I grew and how far I came. Since I focus on my transition and being trans-gender, I think it’s good to put that out there because it could reach someone that could be educated by it and other trans people who need someone to relate to.
I found support from watching other people’s YouTube videos before I even came out. The idea of being so open about my transition was something that was scary but also something I wanted and needed to do. I get why people would want to stay quiet about it and it’s scary being open about it. You never know how anyone feels but it gives people an example of what one trans person can be like and how we’re not so different from everyone else. Everyone has their own experience and this is mine.

Q: What are your goals for the future?

Stephanie: I started my own YouTube page. I love being able to post whatever I want. Together, we’re in the process of writing music and taking our time with it. It’s something we want to be proud of. Aside from the both of us together, I love acting and that’s one of the things I’ve always wanted to pursue. I’m going to see where life takes me once I graduate from Montclair State. It’s my last semester, so I’m looking forward to chasing my dreams in whatever way and staying creative.

Dane: We both have things we want to pursue together but also separately. It’s going to be nice to watch how we grow and how we do in the future.

Q: If you could give advice to someone interested in pursuing a music career, what would it be?

Dane: Stay passionate about it. You have to keep confidence in yourself because it’s easy to get down a lot. Whether it’s an audition that didn’t go well or in general. The idea of being successful in the music industry could be stressful, but putting your music out there, posting it on YouTube or even auditioning for some reality show like we did could help you gain exposure and experience.

Stephanie: We’re still on our journey, but I would say put your content out there. Keep posting, keep trying. You never know what’s going to come of it.

Dane: Your mindset is very important. If you lose that confidence or start doubting yourself, it’s hard to get anywhere. You really have to believe it to see it all happen.

To watch the interview online, visit www.themontclarion.org.
The M.I.L.F. Father:  
A Triumph in Improv Comedy

Dillon Hoffman  
Staff Writer

The latest round of M.I.L.F. drew a huge crowd, providing laughs aplenty. University Hall is typically the last place students want to find themselves at night on a weekend. However, countless students were more than happy to make their way into a lecture hall this past Friday and Saturday, not to learn, but to have a laugh.

The Montclair State University Players hosted another round of their popular improv show “Montclair Improv League and Friends (M.I.L.F.).” This round, directed by junior film major Zach Abruscato and senior anthropology major Bailie Stypa, featured 13 “Milfs,” or performers, ranging in majors and years, all of whom share a knack for comedy.

Both nights started with a collection of eulogies presented by the Milfs for one character who had sadly “passed.” Both nights ended with a fast-paced and constantly changing collection of scenes in a game called “Revolver,” which left audiences laughing from start to finish.

There were eight other games played between “It’s Your Funeral” and “Revolver,” all inducing reactions from the packed room. Some games relied on audience suggestions to determine each respective “scenespiration.” From there, the Milfs were able to showcase their talent for improvisational comedy, coming up with hilarious characters, impressions and scenes off the tops of their heads.

Based on the crowd’s reaction, the performers came nowhere close to disappointing. They accomplished something many performers can only aspire to do and brought a new meaning to the phrase “Wow bro, you got the whole squad laughing.”

For Mike Sano, a senior film major and frequent attendee of M.I.L.F. performances, this past weekend offered a new take on the group’s typical shows.

“Saturday night’s M.I.L.F. was a great show and a good way to spend the night with friends,” Sano said. “The show was much more concise than previous shows and flew by, leaving you wanting more.”

Past shows typically ran about two hours long, but this past weekend’s set of performances ran noticeably under that due to efforts put forth by all to improve the pacing of the night. The changes were well-received, as evident by the packed house and non-stop laughter that could be heard coming out of the lecture hall.

Anthony Chidichimo, a senior film student and veteran M.I.L.F. performer, was one of many who were happy about this past round of M.I.L.F.

“This past weekend was probably the biggest crowd we’ve ever had,” Chidichimo said. “I was truly humbled by the amount of people who came to see us and I hope they all enjoyed it. They didn’t all personally tell me, but I could tell from the laughter.”

Kristen Milburn, a senior English major, supports Chidichimo’s hypothesis.

“The performers were all different and made the crowd laugh in different ways,” Milburn said. “Vick, JC and Charlee did a great job in ‘Kick It,’ coming up with impressive lyrics on the spot and hyping each other up.”

One of the many strengths of the M.I.L.F. performances is their ability to appeal to a wide variety of people. There is always a performer who is able to make somebody laugh. This was evident in the number of attendees who came out to support.

“They needed to bring in extra chairs because so many people wanted to watch,” Milburn noted on the amount of people in attendance. “Even with the extra chairs, people still needed to stand if they wanted to watch.”

The Montclair State Players’ latest set of performances proved to be a success, drawing in a huge crowd of both students and non-students alike with “The M.I.L.F. Father.” The most recent round of M.I.L.F. proved that the improv show is surely something not to be missed in the future.
“The Chilling Adventures of Sabrina” season three has arrived and if you think the last two seasons were hard to pull away from, just wait until the end of this one.

In the season two finale, the witches of the Church of Night betray Satan, previously revealed as Sabrina Spellman’s biological father, by trapping him in the body of Sabrina’s boyfriend Nick, the only one deemed strong enough to hold the powerful being in order to stop the apocalypse.

Lilith, Lucifer’s ex-lover, is seen taking Nick’s frail and newly inhabited body back to hell, where she can presumably reign as the new Queen. In the last scene of the season, Sabrina promises to get her boyfriend back, no matter what the stakes are or how dangerous it may be.

With that being said, the Archie Comics series left no downtime in the start of season three with action starting during the first episode.

For those familiar with the show, it has a track record of arriving and if you think the last two seasons were hard to pull away from, just wait until the end of this one.

In the meantime, I highly recommend watching season three as well as the previous two seasons.

Lilith and Nick’s back story is also handled well, attempting to defeat the Pagans and restoring magic to the Church of Night despite losing the help of the Dark Lord, Sabrina proves herself to be more courageous than ever.

Season three also includes a substantial time jump, which is one of my favorite storyline lines to see in television. It brings a different humanistic aspect into the plot, as well as forcing viewers to ask themselves, “What if I disappeared for decades and came back to a post-apocalyptic world?”

The time warp added a very compelling and interesting aspect to the show that can easily be mistaken for a fall back plan when writers don’t know where to take the story, similarly to events all being a dream. However, that’s not the case in “The Chilling Adventures of Sabrina.”

The creators are able to tie everything together in a way that could cause serious controversy and a multitude of different possible directions for the next season all the while staying true to developing a complex and eye-catching storyline.

In the Netflix series which proves to be vastly different from its 1990s predecessor, “Sabrina The Teenage Witch,” the new show is able to bring a more mature and complex storyline while staying true to developing a complex and eye-catching storyline.

“Sabrina The Teenage Witch,” audiences see a version made for people that gravitate towards the dark aspect of magic in which the previous sitcom did not touch upon.

As someone who watches a plethora of different mystical shows, “The Chilling Adventures of Sabrina” is definitely towards the top of the list. It’s one of those shows that is unpredictable and whenever audiences think they might lose interest, a plot twist of some sort happens.

“The Chilling Adventures of Sabrina” season three is eight episodes of cliffhangers and horror. Luckily, there will be a season four for all those unanswered questions. Unfortunately, we’ll probably have to wait another year for it.

In the meantime, I highly recommend watching season three as well as the previous two seasons.
The series follows Bojack Horseman, a washed-up celebrity struggling with depression and alcoholism. Photo courtesy of Netflix

Thomas Neira
Entertainment Editor

After six seasons of deeply exploring the emotions, relationships and development of its character, "Bojack Horseman," Netflix's first original animated series hangs up its hooves in a final season that audiences did not expect, but one that they deserve.

"Bojack Horseman" first aired on Netflix in 2014 as the brainchild of series creator Raphael Bob-Waksberg. The series follows an anthropomorphic horse of the same name who was a former star of a hit 1990s sitcom. Now, as a washed-up, has-been celebrity, Bojack must navigate the changed landscape of Hollywood as he struggles with alcoholism, depression and his inability to develop and maintain personal relationships.

The series stars Will Arnett voicing the titular role, Aaron Paul, Alison Brie, Amy Sedaris and Paul F. Tomkins round out the supporting cast.

The sixth and final season is comprised of 16 episodes and was released in two halves: the first eight episodes were released on Oct. 25, 2019, and the last eight episodes released on Jan. 31, 2020.

The concluding season centers on Bojack finally working on self-improvement and overcoming his struggles. However, two newspaper reporters begin to dig into Bojack's past, threatening his current pursuit of happiness and all the progress he has made thus far.

Like previous seasons, the new season develops and expands its world by devoting as much time to its supporting characters as it does to its protagonist.

"Bojack Horseman" invests its audience by presenting the characters' personal lives and their struggles as well. Viewers build attachments to these supporting characters in addition to Bojack himself, making for more emotional and personal television.

Bojack's best friend Todd Chavez, known for his laziness but good-natured personality, has finally found a stable job as a nanny and enters his first serious relationship. Bojack's friend and former agent, Princess Carolyn, attempts to adjust to her hectic life and career after adopting her infant daughter, Diane. Mr. Peanutbutter deals with issues in his engagement to his much younger fiancée, while Diane enters a new relationship and struggles to write her memoir.

Being that it is the series conclusion, the season focuses heavily on the conclusion of Bojack's journey during the show's run. Without giving too much away, the last season of "Bojack Horseman" opts to stray away from the conventional satisfying ending. Instead, it aims for ambiguity and realism. The uncertainty of the conclusion makes it all the more meaningful and emotional.

Not only must Bojack come to terms with his past coming back to haunt him, but now he must come to terms with his friends growing up and no longer needing him anymore. Instead of seeing where everyone's journey takes them, we are given optimistic looks into what their futures could be.

Most shows with antihero protagonists ultimately result in the end of the hero's journey, a conclusion to satisfy longtime fans of viewers of the show. Despite this, "Bojack Horseman" presents endings how they truly are: uncertain.

Life is open-ended and the future is what we make of it. Through Bojack's mistakes, viewers are taught that every day can be a fresh beginning. Making mistakes is part of the human experience. No matter how lost we may feel or how afraid of the future we might be, we can start over.

Bojack is imperfect and that is what makes him so relatable. Any viewer can find a part of themselves in Bojack. If not, then they can find themselves in any of the supporting characters.

That's the beauty of the world of "Bojack Horseman." The situations are outlandish, but the feelings behind them are real. Most of the characters may be animals, but the humanity they exhibit is more real than any human character in any live-action television series.

I saw parts of myself in Bojack from the very first season. Bojack helped me in a time when I didn't even realize I needed help and that's why many viewers feel about the show. Audiences go through the same therapeutic journey of self-actualization that Bojack undergoes.

The writers' goal here is to help anyone watching the series improve themselves and learn from Bojack's mistakes, and it's effective to the very end. I am a better person thanks to this show.

Thank you for everything, Bojack. Thank you for all the alliterative tongue twisters, for Todd's odd but successful business ventures and for all the powerful and emotional monologues. Thank you for taking us on this journey with you. We watched you grow from just the "horse from 'Horsin' Around'" to so much more than that.

The world had never seen a show like "Bojack Horseman" before. It's unsure if it will ever see one like it again. What is certain is the impact "Bojack Horseman" has had on its fan base and the landscape of television. Comic tones with outrageous but real characters make for an emotionally nuanced viewing experience, resulting in one of the best television series of the last decade.

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This Week In Red Hawk Sports

THU 2/27
No games

FRI 2/28
Women’s Indoor Track at Fastrack Last Chance Invitational TBA
Men’s Indoor Track at Fastrack Last Chance Invitational TBA
Baseball at Ferrum College 1 p.m.
Baseball at Ferrum College 3:30 p.m.
Women’s Basketball at Rowan University NJAC Finals 7 p.m.

SAT 2/29
Men’s Lacrosse vs. University of Scranton 12 p.m.
Baseball at Ferrum College 1 p.m.

SUN 3/1
Baseball at Ferrum College 12 p.m.

MON 3/2
No games

TUE 3/3
No games

WED 2/26
Women’s Lacrosse at FDU-Florham 3:30 p.m.
Men’s Lacrosse vs. Ursinus College 4 p.m.

Giil Addeo looks to take the team to new heights as season approaches

Montclair State Alumnus Hired as Jackals General Manager

Gil Addeo is the new general manager of the New Jersey Jackals.

Matt Orth
Staff Writer

Montclair State University is home to the New Jersey Jackals who play at the school’s very own Yogi Berra Stadium. The independent minor league team was just one of the many outlets that Gil Addeo found to get involved on campus while pursuing a degree in business, some years ago.

“I enjoyed every moment,” Addeo said. “It was a great fit for what I wanted to do. [Montclair State has] a beautiful campus and it had everything I was looking for.”

Addeo was a member of the Student Government Association and was the president of the Pi Alpha Kappa fraternity during his time as a Red Hawk. This is where he put in the work necessary to make an impact at Montclair State.

Now Addeo has a new job to do — run a professional baseball team and keep them pushing in the right direction. Starting out, he initially viewed working for the team as a unique opportunity to begin his career.

“I started interning for the Jackals a while ago because they really stood out to me,” Addeo said. “It was a great opportunity for me to start work with the organization and they gave me more opportunities, like a full time position, so they believed I [could] fill a larger role.”

It was not long before Addeo realized he could do something special with the organization.

“I didn’t view it as a job where I gain credit for it for my classes,” Addeo said. “I was really into it and wanted to take on more because I always wanted to work in baseball. I learned a lot from every department in the organization.”

For this upcoming season, the Jackals were added into the Frontier League, which includes teams from the East Coast and Canada. Addeo is ready to take this team to a new level and stay on the path to potentially return to the playoffs.

While the game itself is a key part of this team, Addeo has a passion for bringing the community together and putting on a show for all of the fans who walk through the gates of Yogi Berra Stadium, every home game.

“There’s such a great history to Yogi Berra Stadium back when Yogi was here and building up the stadium,” Addeo said. “Home games provide the public with live entertainment events that make a truly spectacular show. A lot of work has been done so that fans return to the stadium and continue to be a part of the Jackals’ experience.

“With our stadium being located on campus, we push for the students to come out to be a part of the Jackals’ community,” Addeo said. “It’s also great being a part of Little Falls because we have Town Night, where we have the mayor or throw out the first pitch, all of the schools and organizations and government officials come out. Little Falls does a great job every year.”

The addition of Addeo to the Jackals was, as the owners put it, “the right person at the right time” to fill this important position.

Addeo is experienced with the structure of the team and what they need to do to be successful. He has a blueprint set out on how to get fans to go to games and stay engaged with the content, and has built a strong chemistry with his fellow colleagues and players.

Montclair State Alumnus Hired as Jackals General Manager

Gil Addeo is the new general manager of the New Jersey Jackals.

Photo courtesy of Dave Solomon

Addeo celebrates with the Can-Am League championship trophy following the team’s victory over the Sussex County Miners on Sept. 14, 2019.

Photo courtesy of Dave Solomon
Robert Martinez is Honored to Lead a Team He Calls Home

From player to coach, Martinez will always be a part of Red Hawks ice hockey

Robert Martinez believes the team came together just at the right time, right when no one expected. He explained that many teams have seen success all season, and that gave them an advantage as the Red Hawks were at their highest point come playoffs.

“I really believe and firmly believe that we belong,” Robert Martinez said. “The team believes it too.”

Robert Martinez’s life has always involved ice hockey, but he did not actually start playing until about 13 years old. His inspiration to play came from family members who were already involved in the sport.

“I got into this sport really because of my brother,” Robert Martinez said. “He played at a very young age, and my uncle, my godfather actually, was a hockey player as well. So I played baseball most of my life growing up, but hockey was always in the family. It just took me a little bit longer to take to it.”

Speaking of family, Robert Martinez shares a special bond with his nephew Ryan Martinez, a current defenseman on the Red Hawks ice hockey team. From coaching him in youth hockey to now being his coach in college has been nothing but positive for both of them.

“To have [Ryan Martinez] on the team is definitely fun to watch,” Robert Martinez said. “To see him in the uniform, there’s no better feeling.”

Ryan Martinez talked about the impact his uncle has left on him.

“He is definitely a role model for me,” Ryan Martinez said. “His work ethic and passion for the game has driven me to be where I am today. He will always be family, but our relationship has definitely evolved over time, especially knowing when I am his niece and when he’s my coach. I will forever be thankful for everything he has done for me so far, and I am excited to see what the future holds during my time here [Montclair State] and on the hockey team.”

Robert Martinez has been on the coaching staff since 2009, and head coach since 2011. He has coached alongside fellow Montclair State ice hockey hall of fame member Frank Barone for that entire time. The two are committed to making the Red Hawks the best they can be. The game time decision the two took to coach the team was definitely the right one in their eyes.

“Right away I kind of knew this is where I wanted to be,” Robert Martinez said. “It’s somewhere I always dreamed of being as a player. It is a great honor to be the head coach of somewhere you played at, especially for a school or university that means so much to you. I’m here for as long as they’ll have me.”

Robert Martinez is an important figure when it comes to Montclair State ice hockey. Before even becoming a part of the coaching staff, he was inducted into the ice hockey hall of fame at Montclair State for his efforts as a goaltender.

“To be included in the hall of fame I would say is one of the greatest honors I could possibly get,” Robert Martinez said. “To be up there with the names that are up there is a pretty big deal to me, and I can’t speak enough about what it feels like to be on it.”

Although the team lost to Sacred Heart University in the first round of playoffs Friday, this season is considered a win to Robert Martinez and the team. An important stepping stone has been made, and Robert Martinez will continue working to bring the team back to where they once were.
Women’s Lacrosse Overwhelmingly Defeats Farmingdale State

Photo essay by Corey Annan

The Montclair State University women’s lacrosse team kicked off their 30th season with a home win against Farmingdale State College, 16-4. The Red Hawks got off to a 10-0 start in the first half and never looked back, as they dominated on both sides of the field throughout the game.

Junior attack Rhiannon Brown led the way with three goals and four assists, and senior attack Kyle Graver was the leading goal scorer with four goals. The Red Hawks will be on the road for their next three games until their next home game on March 14 against Muhlenberg College.
Sophomore attack Karli Nevard looks to get past a Farmingdale State defender.

Senior goalkeeper Amanda Maguire awaits the start of the game. Senior attack Megan Mahlstadt secures a ground ball.

Sophomore attack Kaitlyn Arcede is closely defended by a Farmingdale State defender.
With just two minutes left in the game, Red Hawks senior forward Alex McKinnon sank a free throw that etched her name into Montclair State University women's basketball history. The basket made her the 21st player in the school's history to notch 1,000 points in a career.

McKinnon spoke about how much that moment meant to her.

"It was super awesome for me, with the crowd and my teammates making it even more special for me," McKinnon said. "It was never something that I was super focused on, but it was something that was special since everyone was celebrating with me."

This could not have been a better moment for McKinnon and her team, which was made sweeter as the Red Hawks moved on in tournament with just two minutes left in the game, Red Hawks senior guard Nickie Carter scores her 1,000th point as Red Hawks move on in tournament.

McKinnon spoke about how McKinnon was an honorable selection in the conference this year and believes that Carter's mentality on the offensive end gives the team a significant advantage, even when others are struggling.

"She has a 'never say die' attitude on the offensive end," McKinnon said. "Even when shots aren't falling, she's still going to shoot and look for other people."

The Red Hawks and Gothic Knights continued to play stingy defense throughout most of the second quarter. The Red Hawks would finally begin to put together a series of solid offensive possessions late in the quarter. The Red Hawks 7-0 run was capped off by a huge jumper to extend the Red Hawk faithful and lots of hugs remaining in the third quarter. NJCU would narrow the lead to six, and it was a 43-37 game going into the last quarter.

The Red Hawks were stellar on the offensive end, despite the crazy environment in the Panzer Athletic Center, which saw both teams showcase their loud and passionate fans. The Red Hawks were stellar and captain Cerys MacLeland would shoot and look for the ball in the basket, attacking the rim at will throughout the third quarter. NJCU would narrow the lead down to six, and it was a 43-37 game going into the last quarter.

The Red Hawks were stellar all game defensively, but they needed their offense to step up to close this game out. Despite Carter not scoring at all in the fourth quarter, the Red Hawks looked to their senior captain for offensive support. McKinnon then knocked down a huge jumper to extend the Red Hawks lead 50-41 with 3:50 remaining in the game.

With the game slowly becoming out of reach, NJCU stepped up their physicality more throughout the quarter, to a point where they would earn a technical foul that gave McKinnon a chance to earn her 1,000th point. McKinnon sank all four free throws, leading to a near standing ovation from the Red Hawk faithful and lots of hugs from her teammates.

The Red Hawks cruised the rest of the way to victory, despite the crazy environment in the Panzer Athletic Center, which saw both teams showcase their loud and passionate fans.

The Red Hawks will face Rowan University this Friday at 7 p.m. in Glassboro, New Jersey for the NJAC Championship. While both teams split their regular season games this season at 1-1, Harvey knows that her team must raise their game to a higher level if they want to bring home the trophy.

We have to be able to rise to the occasion," Harvey said. "It’s the NJAC championship and some of these kids have never seen this before, so we have to be able to step up and play our game."