Disaster in America
Terrorists Strike World Trade Center, Pentagon

"Make no mistake, the United States will hunt down and punish those responsible for these cowardly acts."
President George W. Bush

The Montclarion will resume our regular production schedule on Thursday, September 20, 2001
**What Happened?:**

**7:45am**
First plane hijacked from Boston airport.

**8:45am**
A large plane, possibly a hijacked airliner, crashes into one of the World Trade Center towers, tearing a gaping hole in the building and setting it afire.

**9:03am**
A second plane, apparently a passenger jet, crashes into the second WTC tower and explodes. Both buildings are burning.

**9:17am**
The FAA shuts down all New York City area airports.

**9:21am**
New York City Port Authority orders all bridges and tunnels in the New York City area closed.

**9:30am**
President Bush, speaking in Florida, says the country has suffered an “apparent terrorist attack.”

**9:39am**
President Bush is to convene a national security meeting immediately upon his return to Washington. The president has spoken with Vice President Dick Cheney and New York Governor George Pataki.

**9:43 am**
An aircraft crashes into the Pentagon. Evacuation begins immediately.

**9:45 am**
The United Nations building evacuates, including 4,700 people from the headquarters building.

**9:40am**
The FAA halts all flight operations at U.S. airports, the first time in U.S. history that air traffic nationwide has been halted.

**9:45 am**
The White House is evacuated.

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**10:05 am**
The south tower of the WTC collapses.

**10:10 am**
A portion of the pentagon collapses, while United Airlines Flight 93 crashes in Somerset County, Pennsylvania.

**10:13 am**
The United Nations building evacuates, including 4,700 people from the headquarters building.

**10:22am**
In Washington, the State and Justice departments are evacuated, along with the World Bank.
**10:24am**  
The FAA reports that all inbound transatlantic aircraft into the United States are being diverted to Canada.

**10:28am**  
The WTC's north tower collapses from the top down as if it were being peeled apart, releasing a tremendous cloud of debris and smoke.

**10:45am**  
All federal office buildings in Washington are evacuated.

**11:18am**  
American Airlines reports it lost two airplanes, Flight 11 and 77.

**1:04pm**  
Bush speaks out for the second time from Barksdale Air Force Base.

**1:27pm**  
A state of emergency is declared by the city of Washington.

**1:44pm**  
The Pentagon says five warships will leave US Naval Station in VA to protect East Coast.

**5:20pm**  
The 47-story Building 7 of the WTC complex collapses.

**6:54pm**  
Bush arrives back at the White House after being at Offutt Air Force Base in Nebraska.

**7:45pm**  
The NY Police Department says at least 78 officers are missing and as many as half of the first 400 firefighters on the scene were killed after the second tower collapsed.

**8:30pm**  
Bush addresses the nation from the White House saying that America will make no distinction between the terrorists and those harboring them.

**10:35pm**  
Two suspected terrorist were caught on Route 3 carrying a truck full of explosives headed towards the George Washington Bridge.

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**DETAILS ON THE PLANES THAT CRASHED**

- **American Airlines Flight 11:**  
  A Boeing 767 en route from Boston to Los Angeles. The plane was carrying 81 passengers, nine flight attendants and two pilots. It crashed into a tower of New York's World Trade Center about 8:45am EDT.

- **United Airlines Flight 175:**  
  A Boeing 767 bound from Boston to Los Angeles. It was carrying 56 passengers, two pilots and seven flight attendants. It crashed into the other tower of the World Trade Center shortly after 9:00am EDT.

- **American Airlines Flight 77:**  
  A Boeing 757 en route from Dulles Airport near Washington to Los Angeles. The plane was carrying 58 passengers, four flight attendants and two pilots. It crashed into the Pentagon about 9:40am EDT.

- **United Airlines Flight 93:**  
  A Boeing 757 en route from Newark, NJ, to San Francisco. The plane was carrying 38 passengers, two pilots and five flight attendants. It crashed southeast of Pittsburgh around 10:00am EDT.
Students stood around campus in tight knit circles, talking in low voices and crying. Others walk listlessly to their next destination, head down, feet shuffling forward, processing the information. Students gathered around the television in the Student Center cafeteria watching as smoke billowed around the dilapidated building. Cell phones were passed around without any fear of being stolen; students benevolently sharing their own possessions so that other students could get in touch with loved ones. Others were quietly praying in the SC Quad, searching for the answer to the millions of questions spiraling around in their head. Students watched from their residence hall windows in Bohn Hall and the rooftops of Richardson Hall, at 25 minutes away, landmarks being destroyed. Who would have ever thought that in the year 2001, students would be able to witness something so inconceivable that 20 years later they will be telling their children where they were when it happened?

The Twin Towers are gone. Half of the Pentagon is gone. Whether you had just woken up or been in class for hours, you knew when it happened. At 8:45 a.m., a plane hit one tower. Eighteen minutes later, another tower was hit. The Pentagon in Washington, D.C., was next, followed by other strategic hits. Half an hour later, there was only dust and smoke. Both towers had collapsed. The NY skyline was empty, no longer the same, because two imposing skyscrapers that tourists, East Coast residents, American citizens, and people around the world had come to distinguish as the defining points of New York City, had vanished into thin air. Lifeline stumps replaced them; the only pieces remaining of what was once an international meeting ground for world trade.

How does one come to grips with such a staggering event? Emotions welled up inside: anger, sadness, shock, confusion, disbelief.

"I thought we were totally untouchable. I can't even believe the Twin Towers are gone. Words can't even explain how I feel right now," said junior Jessica Colombo. "I can't believe we actually living through this." added senior Jessica Foote. "This is something you read about in the history books."

Other students summed up their disbelief in brief statements.

"This has to be one of the most unbelievable and horrible things to happen to the U.S. since Pearl Harbor. My hopes and prayers go out to the people who lost their loved ones."

Sutton's roommate Corey Lucas was also hit hard by the event. "This is the worst tragedy in the history of the U.S. It's so unreal. My heart is racing in sheer terror."

"I feel like crying. Every passing moment something new was learned. The two planes had been hijacked. No, now four planes had been hijacked. The Pentagon was struck on the left wing. A plane heading for Camp David went down near Pittsburg killing everyone onboard. It was all too overwhelming."

But somehow I was able to process it all. I'm not even sure what to say," said SGA Secretary Geographic.

"It's something I don't understand. It's more weird then anything else. I can't even comprehend."

"Honestly, I am speechless. I think right now amongst all the confusion on my mind I'm trying to think of the families and friends. I'm just trying to make sense of everything while at the same time," said SGA President Jeanette Mammaro.

For those who thought America was too powerful to experience such a barbaric act, this is a major wake-up call.

"I thought we were totally untouchable, I can't even believe the Twin Towers are gone. Words can't even explain how I feel right now," said junior Jessica Colombo. "I can't believe we actually living through this," added senior Jessica Foote. "This is something you read about in the history books."

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situation surreal and totally unanticipated.

"It was like it was from the movies. I was watching the news on television and I walked out of Blanton and I saw all the smoke from a distance and it really hit me that it was real."

Some students were so shocked by the situation that they made jokes out of what may be some of the repercussions stemming from the incident. Others were angered by these jokes as they wiped away their own tears. As she retorted. Everyone had their own way of dealing with the circumstances.

For some students, the situation hit on a much deeper level as they knew of friends and family members who had been working in either of the trade centers or were near the area when the whole thing happened.

Concerned senior Kathy McFadden shared her anger and sorrow.

"My best friend works at the World Trade Center and I'm a nervous wreck. I need to call her, but the cell phones are down. I'm very angry and hope the investigation proves to be successful."

Senior Erica Manen knew what she was going through, because she too was overwhlemed by fear that relatives were hurt in the occurrence. "I was flipping out," she cried. "Now I'm keeping my fingers crossed."

Manen's uncle worked in the World Trade Center and was lost from after the collapse of the first building, but lost touch with the family after the second collapse. Manen's two aunts work in D.C., her other aunt lives outside D.C., and her uncle lives on Manhattan's Upper East Side where he is an English professor at a local college.

One student was scared because her friend was in the armed forces. Freshmen Kathy Doolin, who had been working in either the trade centers or were near the area when the whole thing happened.

Senior Kathy McFadden shared her anger and sorrow.

"My best friend is in the army and right now it's really worried that he is going to send away."

"In the time of such a terrible attack and such a horrendous tragedy, most of the MSU community can be comforted by the fact that MSU students and staff are coming together to help each other, console each other, and find ways to get through the situation."

Junior Yvonne Krebs felt the only way to help was to pray for the families. "At times like these, the only thing you can find comfort in is prayer. It's important that you pray for the families in this horrendous crisis."
Managing Editor

Twin Towers was gone and the other single blur she said that one of the ing in a panicked voice something I thought I'd never hear. In one single burst she said that one of the Twin Towers was gone and the other single blur she said that one of the Twin Towers was gone. In one single burst she said that one of the Twin Towers was gone.

...But unlike other mornings, this morning of every American were thrown into the rest of the world's problems, and new America's responsibility that are more serious issues around the world.

This is abnormal for America, but for countries like Israel, Ireland, and many other countries, this is how they live. And we experienced that for the first time yesterday. We now stood a notch above everyone else - but not right in the midst of the world's problems.

As we both watched the TV I honestly my mom's body shouting, mine going cold, the invincible fortress that America thought was doubleminded. I don't remember the feeling yesterday of how it felt to be that for America. I wondered, that my mom blared out the doom of thousands of lives. All I felt was a question repeating over my head: why? How all I feel is anger and disgust for those people who find it necessary to take lives to make a point...? My kids who are 16 years old today.

Do they hate America for being cranky? Was it a Palestinian terrorist group? At least Sept. 11 is the one-year anniversary of the Camp David meeting where President Bill Clinton tried to negotiate a peace treaty between the Palestinians and the Israelis. Is it just because America was trying to find a peaceful solution rather than letting the bloodshed continue? The terrorists made their point as smoke filled up the New York City skyline, and I kept asking myself why would someone do such a thing. Can we, as a nation, answer back? Probably not. Even if we go to war today, whoever takes responsibility for the disaster, is it enough?

In a way, we knew that eventually the world would drag us down and show that we do have a vulnerable spot. Eventually someone would crack the wall of the fortress. Instead, it was the airports of America that were cracked. To have four airliners hijacked from our very own American airports saddens me more. How is it possible to hijack planes in America? What's all that fancy equipment we go through before boarding an airplane? How can one person, let alone three to five people, get past security with knives? Were the workers there so lazy and negligent to ignore them?

Do they hate America for being cranky? Was it a Palestinian terrorist group? At least as much as we found out this morning, and as I drove up to campus never having been so mad in my life. I wondered exactly what human nature really is. Are we that different from animals? Are we so hardened that there'd rather kill innocent people instead of sitting down and trying to figure out a peaceful solution? I was never, and I'm sure it goes for many, a big fan of war, but it's obvious that the only way to make a point is by taking lives for certain people. And for terrorists, sadly, this is how they prefer it. So now that we have tasted the pain of being part of the world, how can we creep back to being ourselves and not fall apart? How do we recover from the blow reminiscent of Pearl Harbor, a day that has still not been forgotten?

We sat an example with the terrorist caught with a truck load of explosives headed for perhaps the George Washington Bridge not far from here on Route 3. But that depends on our leader, Presi­dent George W. Bush. Can he make right the wrong of Septem­ber 11? Certainly not. Nothing can erase the events of these past hours.

What then do I want from our President? I want him to lead. No holds barred, and make it a public event, that those who have been so deeply wounded by these events are allowed the satisfaction of justice being carried out. Let us watch the process unfold live as we watched the smoke and destruction of America this morning.

Under the rubble of what was just two days ago one of the modern wonders of the world, America's strength must show the same resis­tance it did 60 years ago and pre­vail.

As for me, today was a day that feels surreal and the images like those from Hollywood movies but it's not. It's a nightmare that came true at the expense of thousands of lives.

By Mike Sanchez

Managing Editor

PULLING TOGETHER AND MOVING ON

By James Davison

Editor-In-Chief

It is the purpose of a newspaper of any media outlet to be not just a bank of facts and figures about events, but also a part of the support structure of the community which is its audience. Towards that end, it is my sad task to offer this special edition of The Montclarion to the campus community that it may help to fill this role and console in some way those affected by the national tragedy we find ourselves in.

There is nothing I can say here about the tragedy itself that has not already been said, if not in this publication itself, then certainly by the many other media organizations covering this disaster and certainly by the many others who find themselves reading this right now. Words like tragic, unbelievable and profound do not convey the same loss of meaning in the face of such a tragedy.

All words seem shallow and

important at this point. What can be said are a few words regarding how MSU as an institution has so far handled its responsibility to the 13,000 students that attend this school and numerous faculty and staff that run it.

Under normal conditions, the newspaper is often and rightfully the source of criticism directed towards the University. This is part of what helps MSU take steps for­ward. But this is pointed out that they may be biased. It is then only right that The Montclair­ton take note of the good of MSU also.

It is with great pride as part of MSU right now that I find few faults with how MSU has conducted itself thus far in reacting to the tragic events that unfolded yesterday.

With grace and compassion support structures were immediately put into place to assist members of the campus community who needed to get in touch with family and loved ones off campus, or who felt too greatly the burden of this situation and simply needed someone to talk to.

With wisdom, President Cole has left the campus open and func­tion­ional, as much as a symbol of our undaunted cour­age in the face of disaster as it is a practical and prudent decision. MSU residents still need a place to sleep and eat, and countless others who are not on campus need a place to stay. In the end, it is the University that is a bulwark against ignorance and unreason. President Cole says in her letter found in this same publication, and it is by fighting against ignorance and unreason that we will eventually find ourselves in a world where we need not worry about planes flying into buildings on purpose.

To close down, to shut the doors of MSU, would be to let the terrorists win, because they will then have achieved their goal. They will have deprived us of our ability to learn and grow better ourselves, and by doing so deprived us of our ability to fight back.

I encourage everyone to push through this, to fight against these recent acts of violence by continu­ing the traditions that America needs to keep up the urge to take this as an excuse to become lazy in your efforts; use it instead as inspiration to propel you towards unthought of heights.

Finally, a word of thanks must be given to those few dedicated mem­bers of The Montclarion who sacri­ficed their day to produce this spe­cial edition. All of their efforts and sympathies are with those affected by this tragedy.

THE END OF THE AMERICAN EMPIRE?

By Mike Sanchez

Managing Editor

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66 OVERNIGHT, THE QUIET NORMAL LIVES OF EVERY AMERICAN WERE THROWN INTO THE...WORLD'S PROBLEM.

66 STRUTURES WERE IMMEDIATELY PUT INTO PLACE TO ASSIST... THE CAMPUS COMMUNITY.

66 BOTTOM LINE: IS AMERICA'S SECURITY SYSTEM TO BLAME?

James Davison

Editor-In-Chief

66 SOUTHERN OVERNIGHT, THE QUIET NORMAL LIVES OF EVERY AMERICAN WERE THROWN INTO THE.People, for example, go to the store, they can come to America and live a normal life to make a point. And I don't remember the feeling yesterday of how it felt to be that foreign to America. I wondered, that my mom blared out the doom of thousands of lives. All I felt was a question repeating over my head: why? How can we creep back to being ourselves and not fall apart? How do we recover from the blow reminiscent of Pearl Harbor, a day that has still not been forgotten?

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Good evening.

Today, our fellow citizens, our families, our friends and neighbors were in airplanes or in cars, on highways and in workplaces -- everywhere, at work or at play. America had stood down enemies before, and we will do so this time.

American cities were targeted for attack because we're the greatest nation in the world... this assault on America has stood down enemies before, and we will do so this time.

None of us will ever forget this day, yet we go forward and God bless America.

Speech Originally Aired

September 12, 2001
Open Letter to Members of the Montclair State University Community:

Tuesday was a dreadful and terrifying day. Here, at the University, the sun was shining and students were going to classes, when suddenly, a few short miles away, the morning was shattered with explosions and massive death and injury. Cut off by the river, we all watched and listened, helpless to do anything, as one explosion after another brought the World Trade Centers down.

Some people in our community were directly and very painfully affected by this tragedy, and all of us grieve for them and for all the victims of these events. In the aftermath, the question uppermost in our minds is what is it that we should do, as individuals and as a University community, to respond. I would suggest three ways that we can help.

First, we must do all we can to help and support those who we may know who have been directly touched by this tragedy.

Second, we can do some practical things to help. For example, we can give blood, we can cooperate in regard to the use of communications and transportation systems, or we can provide housing, food, and transportation to community members who have temporarily been cut off from access to their homes. Vice President Pennington and the Student Development and Campus Life staff will be the central information point for those kinds of practical opportunities.

The third thing we can do is far more difficult. We can go about our task of educating ourselves and purifying ourselves to shape a world in which such things do not happen. The tragic acts our country experienced on Tuesday were the product of profound hate and ignorance. When people do not know each other or understand each other, a fertile ground exists for the breeding of hatred. The only effective antidote to hate is knowledge, understanding, and a commitment to kinship and community.

To see the flames and destruction, the blood and torn flesh is horrific beyond comprehension. But to see children dancing joyfully in the streets in the face of their countrymen’s suffering is somehow worse. The children’s joy in the death of those they perceive as their enemies is the very seed that will grow into the next tragedy of destruction. So our obligation, even in the midst of our grief and our anger, is not to follow the path of revenge. Our obligation is to educate ourselves to realize the defects and the implications and meaning of the events of Tuesday, September 11. Our obligation, as citizens, is to be determined and influence as best we can the actions that our government might take in response to these events.

Finally, on a less important plane regarding the day, many people have asked why I did not close the University. The more complicated reason relates to what I have said above. The University was closed against ignorance and unreason, and my feelings suggested that, in the face of such actions, it was not a day on which our doors should close. The simpler reason for the decision was that there was no danger on the campus, and I could not see how closing the University would help the situation in any positive way. On the contrary, it seemed to me that by keeping the University open and running to the fullest extent possible, we would have the ability to attend best to the thousands of students who live here, to the thousands of other commuter students who were already here on campus. In addition, it enabled us to organize to meet some of the urgent needs that arose as a result of the event, for example, the care of children on campus who could not be reached by their parents in New York City, or the needs of students and employees unable to get home, or the psychological needs of students or employees having difficulty coping with the events. Some of our police officers were dispatched to assist New York City at their staging areas, and our ambulance was dispatched to assist at the George Washington Bridge.

Clearly, the events of Tuesday, September 11 will be with us for a long time to come. I would encourage all members of the University to think of ways in which, as an educational community, we can best respond.

Sincerely,
Susan A. Cole, President

Reach Out: For Help

Counseling and Psychological Services staff will be available to speak with students, faculty and staff regarding this tragedy. They will be available in their offices in the Gilbreth House, x 5211 located behind Freeman Hall.

Dean of Students staff will be available to meet with students who have class and/or family concerns.

Drop-In Center opens at 9 am today or call x 5271.

If you care to donate blood, the Montclair Red Cross Center, located on 63 Park Street, will be accepting donations from 2:30 to 7:30 pm on Thursday.

Upper front page photo by Jenn Winski. Lower front page photo courtesy of Police Officers Christopher Vidro and Paul Giardino (University Police). Layout by Jenn Winski. Information compiled by Mike Sanchez, Inbal Kahanov, Jenn Winski, Lillian M. Abram, Simona Kogan, and Andy Seyka from CNN.com unless otherwise noted. Non-staff photos (excluding front page) courtesy of krtcampus.com and politicanamericana.com. All information contained within this publication is up-to-date through 10:00pm EDT on September 11, 2001.