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Vol 81, No. 2

Montclarion

the student voice of montclair state university since 1928
September 12, 2001

SPECIAL EDITION

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?:



JENN WINSKI / THE MONTCLARION

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.

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

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

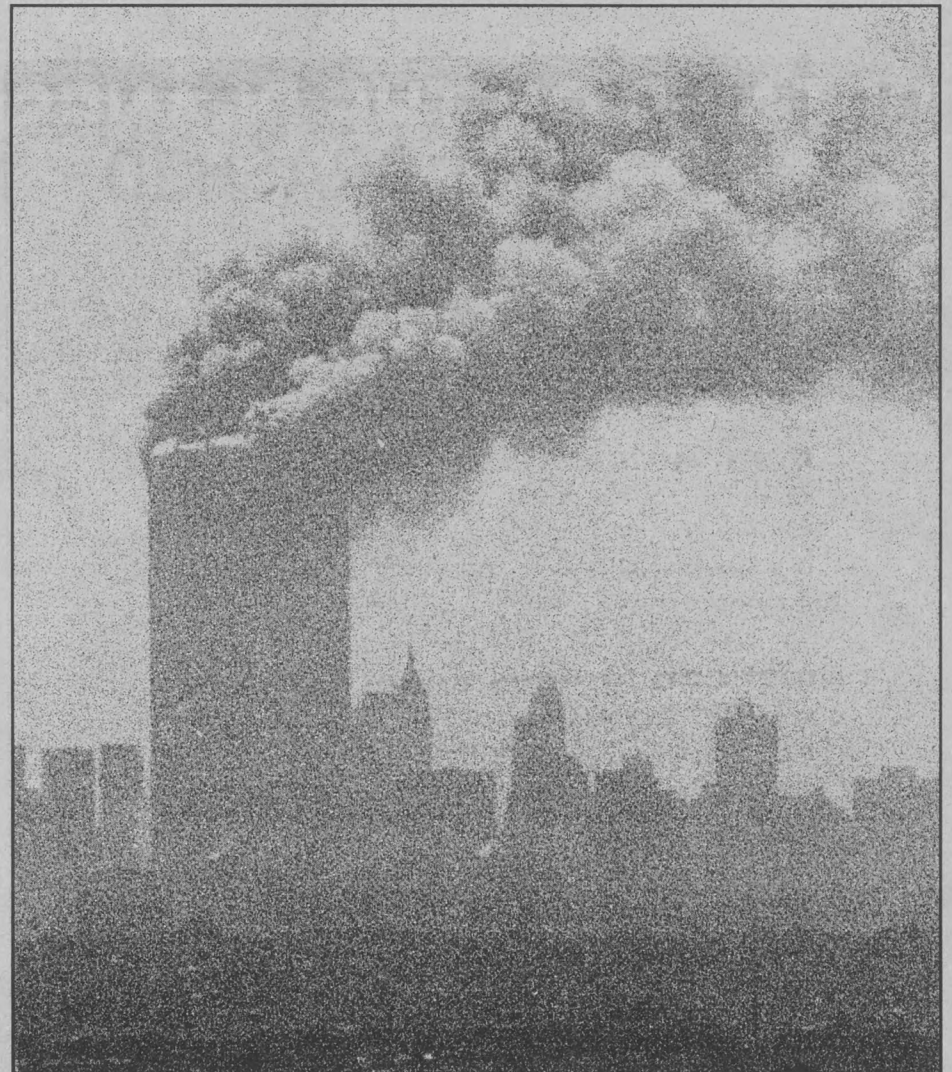
9:45 am
The White House is evacuated.

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

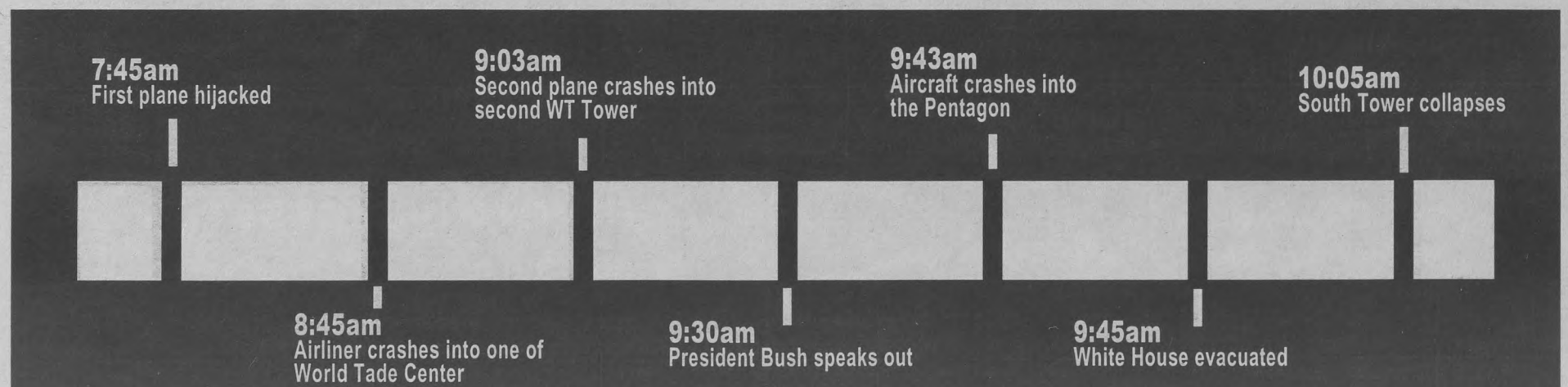
10:10 am
A portion of the pentagon collapses, while United Airlines Flight 93 crashes in Somerset County, Pennsylvania.

10:13am
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.



JENN WINSKI / THE MONTCLARION



A Minute-By-Minute Account Of the Worst Terrorist Act in American History, And Perhaps the World

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

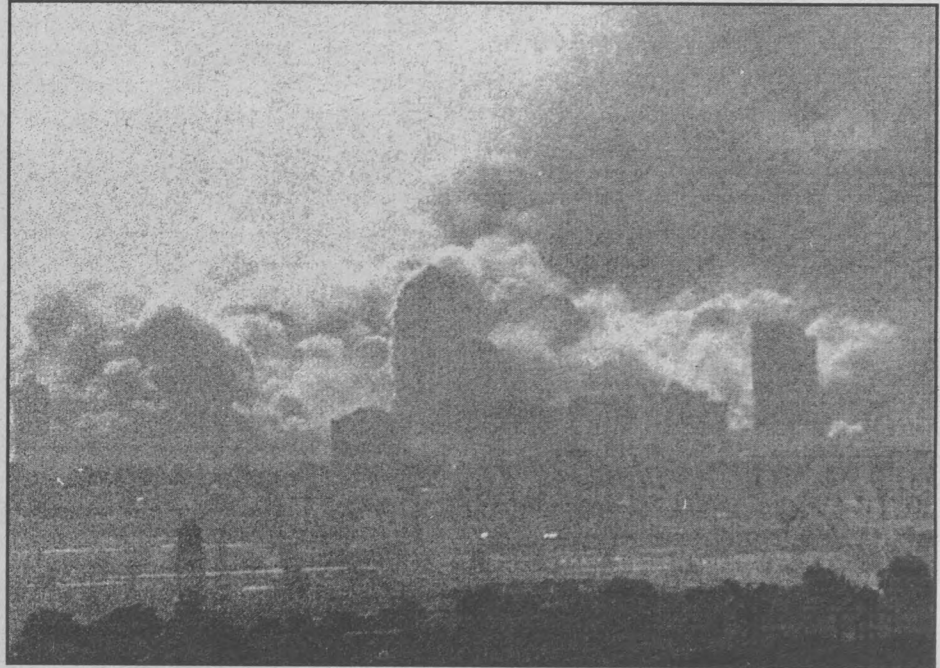
The 47-story Building 7 of the WTC complex collapses.

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.



JENN WINSKI / THE MONTCLARION

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 terrorists were caught on Route 3 carrying a truck full of explosives headed towards the George Washington Bridge.

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:**

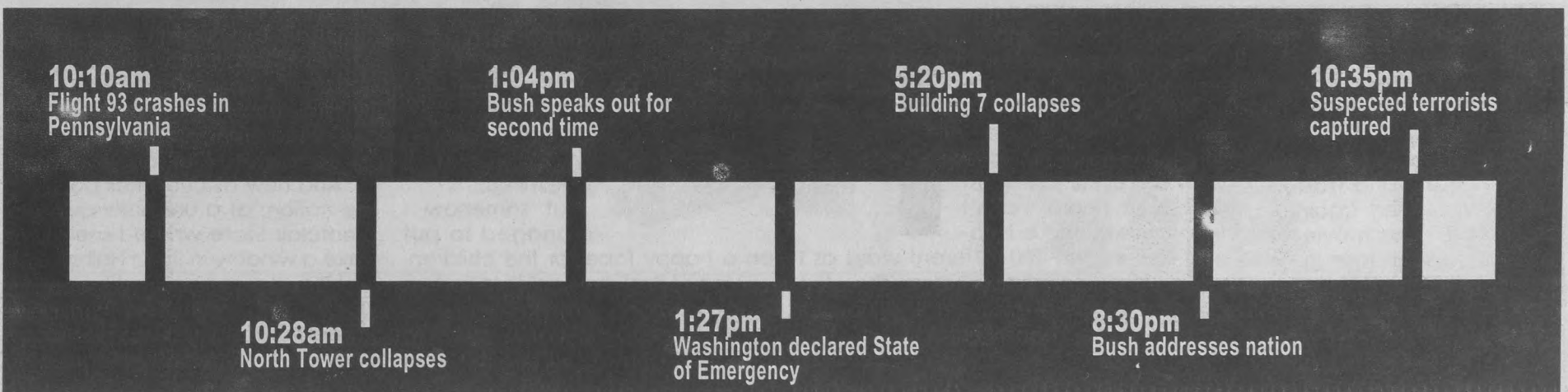
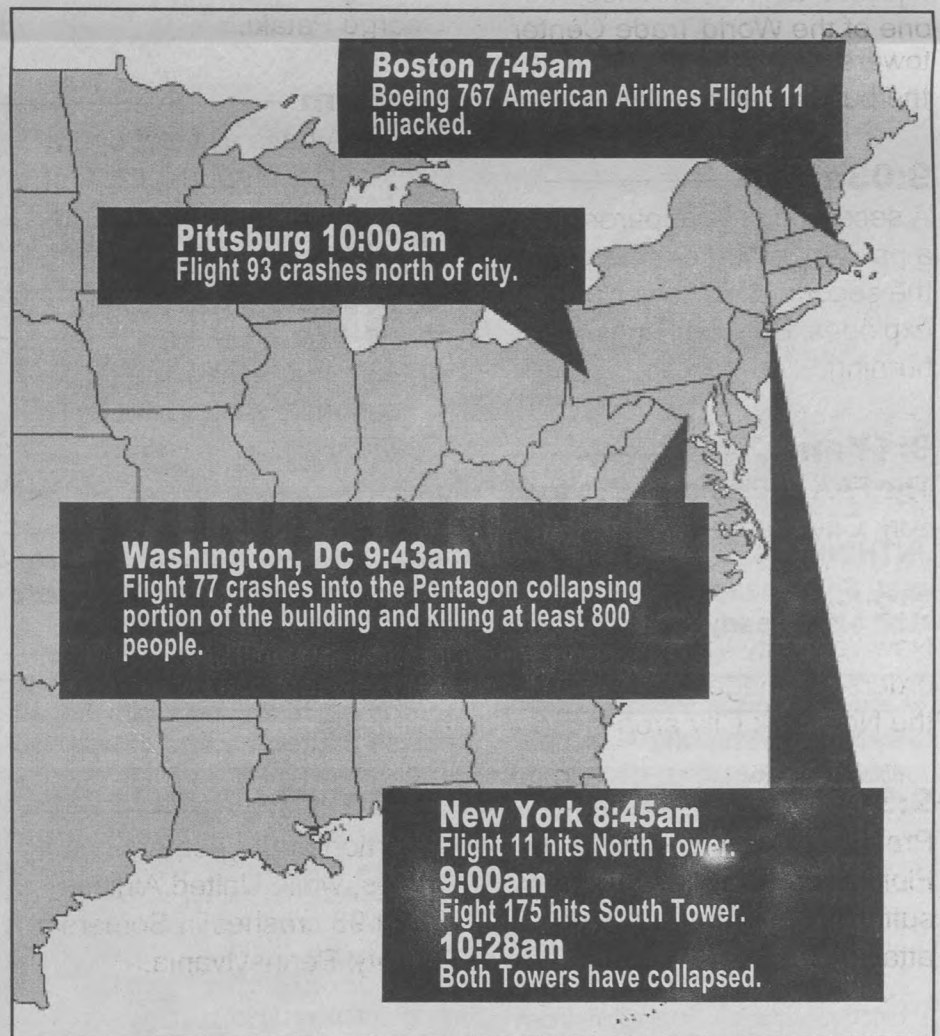
A Boeing 767 bound from Boston to Los Angeles. It was carrying 56 passengers, two pilots and seven flight attendants. It crashed into the other tower of the World Trade Center shortly after 9:00am EDT.

• **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.



MSU Reacts:

By **Simona Kogan**
Feature Editor

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 spinning around in their head. Students watched from their residence hall windows in Bohn Hall and the rooftops of Richardson Hall, as 20 minutes away, landmarks were 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 8:45a.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. Lifeless 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, and disbelief. The MSU community--all students, faculty, and staff shared these feelings. All were visibly upset, shaking their heads, and just trying to make

“ I THOUGHT WE WERE TOTALLY UNTOUCHABLE. I CAN’T BELIEVE THE TWIN TOWERS ARE GONE. ”

—Jessica Columbo
Junior

sense of it all.

"I'm not even sure what to say," said SGA Secretary George Mesias. "It's something I don't understand. It's more weird than 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 untouched. I can't even believe the Twin Towers are gone. Words can't even explain how I feel right now," said junior Jessica Columbo. "I can't believe we're 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 condolences go out to everyone. This is the time we should come together."

Jessica Oms found the whole



JOHN SPARACIO / THE MONTCLARION

UNTHINKABLE: The Campus Community reeled in disbelief following the news of the disaster just 12 miles west. Some heard the news as they rolled out of bed, while others were confronted with the day's events only upon exiting early morning classes. It was too incredible to be real.

By **Michele Phipany**
Chief Copy Editor

It was like a scene in a movie I wish I'd never seen.

Instead of fast-forwarding through realistic computer graphics of the World Trade Center crashing down, I stood there and watched it happen from a window in Chapin Hall overlooking what used to be the New York City skyline. There was a sudden rude awakening in that classroom.

Jaws dropped and tears streamed as we all realized almost unanimously that there was no rewind button that would be able to put the World Trade Center back together again. There wasn't even a movie. All that could be seen rose up in mushroom clouds from the Manhattan grounds where the North and South towers used to stand, covering the city in a gray smog that

screamed terrorism to all who witnessed the reality of what was happening.

My mind went into sudden panic mode. People were running all around me to see the view from high places at MSU, others rushed into classrooms with televisions that broadcasted live footage of the two hijacked planes that crashed into the towers, sending a shock across the Hudson and throughout the campus that many people like myself call home.

By now everyone was talking about it. I must have heard "I can't believe this is happening" in 100 different ways as I walked solemnly towards the MSU Child Care Center where I work. Everyone had their own way of dealing with it; some better than

others. Mine was one of solitude – wearing a long face and glassy eyes, I felt my heart, racing in sheer terror, go out to those in the city, especially to those I knew personally.

I felt like crying. Every passing moment something new was learned. The two planes had been hijacked. No, now four

“ IT WAS LIKE A SCENE IN A MOVIE I WISH I'D NEVER SEEN. ”

—Michele Phipany
Chief Copy Editor

planes had been hijacked. The Pentagon was struck on the left wing. A plane heading for Camp David went down near Pittsburgh killing everyone onboard. It was all too overwhelming.

But somehow I managed to put on a happy face for the children, wishing at that moment that I was a young naïve child who didn't understand the sometimes horrid ways in which the world worked. At naptime,

tears once more consumed my eyes and I had to leave early to cope with the crisis at hand. I met with some friends who comforted me in my time of need, and was filled with relief after hearing from people I hoped had never made it into the city.

While we continue to search for the truth about what happened and why it happened, I find myself in question of the reality I have grown to know. I have never experienced something so life-altering and so close to home. This is something I used to only find in history books or war pictures – not in real life. It's frightening just to know how real this really is. And now as one small part of the nation, at a university called Montclair State where I used to have a window in Bohn Hall overlooking the once-beautiful New York City skyline, I wait in angst for politics to give me my happy ending.

The Campus Community Reacts to This Numbing Tragedy as it Continues to Unfold In Montclair's Backyard

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 heard one student shouting, "We're all going to die!" in a sarcastic, joking manner, senior Lauren Scott grew enraged, "I'm appalled by some of the students on the campus," 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 tried 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 overwhelmed 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 heard 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



JENN WINSKI / THE MONTCLARION

WATCHING IN AWE: Students in the dorms gathered in rooms early yesterday to listen to the live reports streaming in over the major networks. Some wandered the hallways, looking out windows at the destruction. Many took to the phone lines to check on loved ones, only to find cellular and land lines jammed.

66 THIS HAS TO BE ONE OF THE MOST HORRIBLE THINGS... MY HOPES AND PRAYERS GO OUT TO THE PEOPLE WHO LOST THEIR LOVED ONES. 99

-SGA President
Jeannette Mammaro

armed forces. Freshmen Kathy Dolinski stated, "My best friend is in the army and I'm really worried that he is going to be sent 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."

Vice President Chris Fitzpatrick ran around MSU, checking on friends and students, trying to see how he could help, although he was as stunned as everyone else.

"I am doing crisis control. The reaction is complete and utter shock. First thing we're gonna do is make sure people in the community are okay and then see what the impact is on a nationwide level."

Fitzpatrick, as well as other SGA board members are spending as much time as possible in their office and will be available for counseling in the coming week. On the day of the attack, they left the SGA office open all day and provided free sandwiches for any students interested in coming to talk about their reactions.

Associate Dean James Harris shared his feelings. "This is incredible. It's totally unexpected, but it's also a time when we need to share what we have in common and support

to each other because these are stressful times for a lot of people but MSU has called out professional resources we have on campus." Harris, as well as other staff members, administrators, and organizations will be providing counseling on campus.

Overall, students and staff should be impressed by how quickly and easily MSU is coming together to overcome such a horrible, barbaric tragedy. Esmilda Abreu, director of the Women's Center, may have summed it up best.

"I'm really impressed by everybody's willingness to pitch in. People are putting up signs and students are sharing phones. Right now, people are processing everything internally and hopefully later on they will be willing to come out and talk about it. We're ready to help."

Additional reporting by Lillian M. Aleman, News Editor, and Andy Seyka, Assistant Sports Editor



JENN WINSKI / THE MONTCLARION

SEE IT FOR YOURSELF: Students gathered cliffside next to Bohn Hall this morning for an unobstructed bird's eye view of the destruction as it unfolded. Many just stared in disbelief. Others engaged in the countless conversations over the incident, trying to come to terms with the chain of events and find the answer to the question on everyone's mind: Why?

Editorial: A Commentary on the Events of a Day We Will Never Forget

THE END OF THE AMERICAN EMPIRE?

By Mike Sanchez
Managing Editor

I woke up to my mom's voice. But unlike other mornings, this morning she barged into my room shouting in a panicked voice something I thought I'd never hear. In one single blur she said that one of the Twin Towers was gone and the other one was in smoke, the Pentagon was bombed and there were more hijacked planes missing.

Overnight, the quiet normal lives of every American were thrown into the rest of the world's problems, and now America realizes that there 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 - not a notch above everyone else - but right in the midst of the world's pain.

As we both watched the TV helplessly, my mom's body shaking, mine going cold, the invincible fortress that America thought it was, crumbled.

I don't remember the feeling yesterday of how it felt to be that fortress. It vanished as my mom blurred out the doom of thousands of lives. All I felt was a question repeating over my head: why? Now

all I feel is anger and disgust for those people who find it necessary to take lives to make a point.

All I want to know is what is it about America that people hate? Is it because we live our lives in peace? Are they jealous? Do they know that they can come to America and live the same life?

Do they hate America for backing Israel? Was it a Palestinian terrorist group? After all September 11 is the one-year anniversary of the Camp David meeting where former 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 someone would do such a thing. Can we, as a nation, answer back? Probably not. Even if we go to war against 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 walls 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?

Bottom line: Is America's security system to blame?

Then, to hear that Palestinians are dancing in the streets and giving out candy to celebrate the deaths of what may be over 20,000 innocent lives,

is even more disturbing. How can someone rejoice over the loss of a life?

As I stood there in front of my TV this morning in disbelief, and as I drove up to campus never having been so mad in my life, I wondered exactly what human nature really is today. Are we that much different from animals?

Are people so hardheaded that they'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 a blow reminiscent of Pearl Harbor, a day that has still not been forgotten?

We set 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? Justice to its fullest! 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 watching justice be carried out. Let us watch the process unfold like 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 resiliency it did 60 years ago and prevail.

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

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

-Mike Sanchez
Managing Editor

“OVERNIGHT, THE QUIET
NORMAL LIVES OF EVERY
AMERICAN WERE THROWN
INTO THE...WORLD'S PROBLEMS.”

-Mike Sanchez
Managing Editor

PULLING TOGETHER AND MOVING ON

By James Davison
Editor-In-Chief

It is the purpose of a newspaper or 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 fulfill this role and console in some small 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 everyone who finds themselves reading this right now. Words like tragic, unbelievable and horrendous do not come close to conveying the situation.

All words seem shallow and

impotent 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; flaws are pointed out that they may be fixed. It is then only right that The Montclarion take note of the goof 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 functional, as much a symbol of our undaunted courage in the face of disaster as it is a practical and prudent decision; 1,500 residents still need a place to sleep and eat, and countless others will undoubtedly need the support structure of this institution in place of family that is not ready to hand.

"The University is a bulwark against ignorance and unreason," President Cole says in her letter found in this same publication, and it is

“STRUCTURES WERE
IMMEDIATELY PUT INTO
PLACE TO ASSIST...
THE CAMPUS
COMMUNITY.”

-James Davison
Editor-In-Chief

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 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 their daily struggle to learn. Resist the urge to take this as an excuse to become lax 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 our thoughts and sympathies are with those affected by this tragedy.

Commentary: President Bush & the World Respond's To Unprovoked Terror

PRESIDENT GEORGE W. BUSH

Both Speeches were transcribed

Good evening.

Today, our fellow citizens, our way of life, our very freedom came under attack in a series of deliberate and deadly terrorist acts.

The victims were in airplanes or in their offices -- secretaries, businessmen and women, military and federal workers. Moms and dads. Friends and neighbors. Thousands

of lives were suddenly ended by evil, despicable acts of terror.

The pictures of airplanes flying into buildings, fires burning, huge structures collapsing, have filled us with disbelief, terrible sadness and a quiet, unyielding anger.

These acts of mass murder were intended to frighten our nation into chaos and retreat. But they have failed. Our country is strong. A great people has been moved to defend a great nation.

Terrorist attacks can shake the foundations of our biggest buildings, but they cannot touch the foundation of America. These acts shatter steel, but they cannot dent the steel of American resolve.

America was targeted for attack because we're the brightest beacon for freedom and opportunity in the world. And no one will keep that light from shining.

Today, our nation saw evil, the very worst of human nature, and we responded with the best of America, with the daring of our rescue workers, with the caring for strangers and neighbors who came to give blood and help in any way they could.

Immediately following the first attack, I implemented our government's emergency response plans. Our military is powerful, and it's prepared. Our emergency teams are working in

New York City and Washington, D.C., to help with local rescue efforts.

Our first priority is to get help to those who have been injured and to take every precaution to protect our citizens at home and around the world from further attacks.

The functions of our government continue without interruption. Federal agencies in Washington which had to be evacuated today are reopening for essential personnel tonight and will be open for business tomorrow. Our financial institutions remain strong, and the American economy will be open for business as well.

The search is underway for those who are behind these evil acts. I've directed the full resources for our intelligence and law enforcement communities to find those responsible and bring them to justice. We will make no distinction between the terrorists who committed these acts and those who harbor them.

I appreciate so very much the members of Congress who have joined me in

66 TODAY... OUR WAY OF LIFE, OUR VERY FREEDOM CAME UNDER ATTACK. 99

-President George W. Bush

66 AMERICA WAS TARGETED... BECAUSE WE'RE THE BRIGHTEST BEACON FOR FREEDOM... IN THE WORLD. 99

-President George W. Bush

Freedom itself was attacked this morning by faceless cowards. And freedom will be defended.

I want to reassure the American people that the full resources of the federal government are working to assist local authorities to save lives and to help the victims of these attacks.

Make no mistake, the United States will hunt down and punish those responsible for these cowardly acts.

I've been in regular contact with the vice president, secretary of defense, the national security team and my cabinet. We have taken all appropriate security precautions to protect the American people. Our military at home and around the world is on high alert status and we've taken the necessary security precautions to continue the functions of your government.

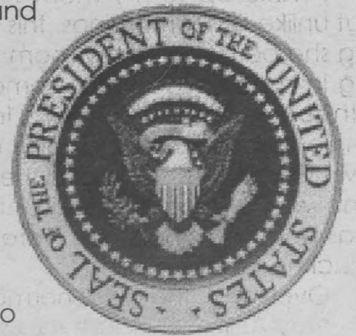
We have been in touch with the leaders of Congress and with world leaders to assure them that we will do whatever is necessary to protect America and Americans.

I ask the American people to join me in saying a thanks for all the folks who have been fighting hard to rescue our fellow citizens and to join me in saying a prayer for the victims and their families.

The resolve of our great nation is being tested. Make no mistake. We will show the world that we will pass this test.

God bless.

Speech Originally Aired yesterday at 1:04pm EDT



strongly condemning these attacks. And on behalf of the American people, I thank the many world leaders who have called to offer their condolences and assistance.

America and our friends and allies join with all those who want peace and security in the world and we stand

together to win the war against terrorism.

Tonight I ask for your prayers for all those who grieve, for the children whose worlds have been shattered, for all whose sense of safety and security has been threatened. And I pray they will be comforted by a power greater than any of us spoken through the ages

in Psalm 23: "Even though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I fear no evil, for You are with me."

This is a day when all Americans from every walk of life unite in our resolve for justice and peace. 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 to defend freedom and all that is good and just in our world.

Thank you. Good night and God bless America.

Speech Originally Aired Yesterday at 8:30pm EDT



• The aftermath at the Pentagon.



international response

PALESTINIAN

Palestinian leader Yasser Arafat

"I send my condolences to the president, the government and the people for this terror incident. We are completely shocked. It's unbelievable"

ISRAEL

Israel Foreign Minister Shimon Peres

"The entire Jewish people shares the sorrow of the United States... it is a human tragedy... This requires a much more serious and in-depth organization against terror in every country and in every way without compromise....we know

about countries that are terror centers." *

LEBANON

Lebanon Prime Minister Rafik Al-Hariri

"The tragic actions contradict all human and religious values."

HAMAS

(Islamic Militant Group) Leader of Hamas Sheikh Yassin

"No doubt this is a result of injustice the U.S practices against the weak in the world."

ISLAMIC JIHAD

(Militant Palestinian Group) Islamic Jihad official

Nafez Azzam

"We call on the U.S. administration to review their attitudes and policies towards the Palestinian question because this policy arouses the hatred and anger of Arab and Islamic peoples and urges them to harm U.S. interests in our region."

PAKISTAN

Pakistan President, General Pervez Musharraf

"The people and government of Pakistan deeply mourn the enormous and unprecedented loss of innocent lives. We share the grief of the American people in this grave national tragedy."

JAPAN

Japan Prime Minister, Junichiro Koizumi

"The incident in the United States is extremely cowardly and is beyond what any words can describe."

PHILIPPINES

Spokesman for Phillipine President Gloria Macapagal Arroyo

"She condemns what is obviously the worst terrorist attack on a leader of civilized society."

ENGLAND

British Prime Minister Tony Blair

"This mass terrorism is the new evil in our world today. It is

perpetrated by fanatics who are utterly indifferent to the sanctity of life."

MOSCOW

Moscow President Vladimir Putin in a telegram to U.S. President George W. Bush "Dear George, such an inhuman act must not go unpunished."

GERMANY

German Chancellor Gerhard Schroeder "This is not only an attack on the United States but an attack on the civilized world."

* COMPILED FROM WWW.HAARITZ.CO.IL

PRESIDENT Cole: Speaks Out

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 it is that we should do, as individuals and as a University community, to respond. I would suggest that there are at least 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 these kinds of practical opportunities to assist.

The third thing we can do is far more difficult. We can go about our task of educating ourselves and preparing 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 a common humanity.

To see the flames and destruction, the blood and torn flesh is horrible beyond comprehension. But to see children dancing joyfully in the streets in the face of such tragedy, is, in some ways, 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 pathways of hate. Our obligation is to challenge ourselves to really understand the implications and meaning of the events we witnessed on Tuesday. Our obligation, as citizens, is to understand and influence as best we can the actions that our government will take in response to these events.

Finally, on a less important matter 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 is a bulwark against ignorance and unreason, and my feelings suggested that, in the face of such events, it was not a day on which our doors should close. The simpler reason for the decision was that there was no danger on our 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 up and running to the fullest extent possible, we would have the ability to attend best to the thousands of students who live on the campus and 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.