Bill Heslin, senior director of residential dining, hovered over the different stations at Food Hall in Sam’s Place. As he talked to staff, he fixed any stations that seemed out of place. He waltzed over to another, observing the staff’s interactions with students. Heslin took a satisfied step back and watched the students come in and out of the dining location, some in large groups and some alone.

Heslin was caught up in monitoring how students interact and were happy. “We’ve all learned through this pandemic one thing: to do more with less and [to] do our best to try and make sure that we keep options open and that students are happy.”

The staff at Food Hall will be hosting “Joyful,” on Sept. 24, from noon to 4 p.m. “Joyful” aims to create moments of joy through food. Students can expect to see festival food, a live DJ, a photo booth and prizes. Students can even bring a canned food item for the food pantry on campus and win a prize for doing so.

“We at Chartwells believe in knowing the story of your food and eating local,” Standridge explained. “All of the vegetables and sides come from local markets and farms within 150 miles of this campus. Local buying and sustainability is big for Chartwells.”

Along with stressing the importance of local buying, Chartwells also focused on expanding the vegan and vegetarian options at Food Hall. Almost all of the stations offer vegan and vegetarian options for students. Carlos Mohammed, the executive chef, has worked with Sam’s Place for just over three years. Mohammed understands how plant-based options benefit the students on campus.

“We spent a lot of time developing these menus because the vegan population is growing and we have a lot of students who are interested in vegan food,” Mohammed said. “We like to push the narrative that vegan food does not have to be bland. There’s a stigma around vegan food. We try to showcase that it tastes great and is good for you.”

Students can also give their feedback on the vegan food served when exiting Food Hall. The feedback students give goes directly to the marketing manager, Lindsey Anderson, so she can review and make any necessary changes. Deirdre Licciardi, a junior marketing major, already has a favorite station. “There’s a lot of different options and we get really excited when the pasta station is open,” Licciardi said. “We literally don’t eat anything else.”

The staff at Food Hall is also dedicated to ensuring that rush hours are handled efficiently. Since there has been such a large influx of students, the staff wants to help students get their meals as quickly as possible between classes.

“We’ve worked through the pandemic with very, very limited staff so a lot of our staff and management team is up for the task of taking on the new incoming freshman and the large crowds that we have coming in now,” Mohammed said. “A lot of the staff has been here quite a long time, so they’re used to the push. We’ve all learned through this pandemic one thing: to do more with less and [to] do our best to try and make sure that we keep options open and that students are happy.”

To see more photos, check out themontclarion.org

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Everybody’s Talking About Jamie’s the Talk of the Town
Information reported in the Red Hawk Rap Sheet comes directly from the MSU Police Department. We do not print retractions to the rap sheet unless information directly from the police report is incorrect. We can print an update to the events only if the newspaper is given access to relevant documents to corroborate the information. All submissions to the newspaper become property of The Montclarion. We do not print articles from anonymous contributors.

The first issue of The Montclarion, then named The Pelican, was published on Nov. 28, 1928.

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**Impact of COVID-19 on NJ Immigrants**

Erie Lawlor
Guest Writer

Montclair State University’s Center for Cooperative Media held a virtual press briefing on Sept. 17 to discuss how coronavirus (COVID-19) has impacted immigrants living in New Jersey.

Since the start of the pandemic, more than 7 million people in the United States have lost their jobs, many of these people being people of color or immigrants. There are an estimated 425,000 undocumented immigrants in New Jersey and 23% of these people have lived here for more than 10 years.

Nedia Morsey, organizing director of Make the Road New Jersey, explained who qualifies as an undocumented immigrant.

“An undocumented person is anyone who has an expired visa, violated their visa or has no visa at all,” Morsey said.

Make the Road New Jersey is a program set in place to help immigrants and undocumented people with services they would not otherwise be entitled to, including immigration and employment legal services, English lessons, driving school, financial aid support and more.

Muzaffar Chishti, director of the Migration Policy Institute office at New York University School of Law, said the process of immigration was hindered due to offices closing in response to COVID-19.

“11.2 million people still remain ineligible for benefits and government aid,” Chishti said.

Uncollapsed immigrants are not eligible for any state aid. As a result, many of them continued going to work even if they were sick because they could not afford to miss work and they were not eligible to receive any unemployment.

“We can’t leave people behind during an emergency,” Morsey said. “People are going to work today with a cough, a fever, real symptoms of [COVID-19] because they know that if they tell their employer they have [COVID-19] and they cannot come into work, they just forfeited two weeks of pay.”

Make the Road New Jersey launched the #Recovery4All campaign during the pandemic to bring awareness to this issue and help immigrants who do not qualify for state aid.

John Marshyti, a senior business administration major, is very passionate about this topic.

“It is very disappointing to see people who have risked their [lives] for a better life be completely blinded by our government system,” Marshyti said.

Marshyti said his parents are immigrants, so it is sad for him to see this happening to people who just want a second chance. He also added that he is very thankful for programs like Make The Road New Jersey that are helping families by providing them with services they desperately need.

Jake Lodge, a senior economics major, said he is not surprised that immigrants have been negatively affected by the pandemic.

“With the amount of [United States] citizens that were impacted by the pandemic and lost work, the priority was getting money to businesses and getting people back to work,” Lodge said.

Lodge emphasized that people need to pay attention to this issue.

“It is definitely a major human rights issue and they deserve the relief because many of them are hardworking and do pay taxes like everyone else legally in this country,” Lodge said. “But simply because they do not have citizenship, they probably will be overlooked unless serious attention is brought to the issue.”

If you or someone you know needs help from Make The Road New Jersey #Recovery4All, text ReliefNJ to 52886.

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**Red Hawk Rap Sheet**

**Tuesday, Sept. 14**

**Lot 28:** Officers responded to Lot 28 South in regards to a report of theft. Officers were met on the scene by a Montclair State University Grounds worker who advised that a weed wacker he was using had been stolen. This incident is under investigation.

**Thursday, Sept. 16**

**Hit-and-run:** A male student entered Police Headquarters in regards to a report of a vehicle hit-and-run that occurred in the past. The student reported he was the subject of a road rage incident. The student reported no damage to his vehicle and did not wish to press charges at this time.
SCM Redesigns Curriculum

Dr. Todd Kelshaw, the associate director of the school and a key player in redesigning the programs, described how the overhaul was more than just a minor adjustment to the school’s majors.

“We’re constantly adding new courses, we’re altering stuff, but we hit that point where we really knew, reflecting on what we’ve done over the past decade, that it was time to do a major curriculum update, to better integrate our programs to be more cutting edge, to be anticipating trends in industry and technologies and cultural phenomena,” Kelshaw said.

Changes to the school’s programs included fewer core curriculum classes, new majors such as sports communication or advertising and completely redesigned programs.

However, students do have some concerns, John Schell, a sophomore film and television major, said he signed up to be a television and digital media major when he applied because he wanted to solely focus on broadcasting.

“I’m not that interested in the film part of it,” Schell said. “I’m more behind the scenes working the camera crew, so when I heard about it, I thought it was kind of cool if you’re into it, but for me personally I’d just rather have it the old way.”

Another big concern that Schell had was the fact that some classes that he had taken previously for his old major were no longer required for his new one.

“What got students kind of annoyed is that classes that were requirements last semester are now like electives,” Schell said.

Some students will be changing their majors, while some will not. If a student has 21 or more major credits completed, then they will be not changing their major.

Strudler addressed concerns about the redesign by telling students to stay calm.

“They need to relax,” Strudler said. “Trust us, we will make sure that the courses you took will count.”

Kelshaw also addressed concerns by emphasizing that the school will assist students in the transition.

“We’re not going to let anybody slip through the cracks and suddenly not graduate,” Kelshaw said. “We’ve got all sorts of mechanisms to catch that.”

Despite these concerns, some students are excited. Chelsea Pujols, a freshman journalism and digital media major, said she likes how the university is helping students to become versatile storytellers.

“You can tell one story in 3 million different ways, so I think that’s really cool and really interesting, and while I don’t know too much about the new changes and what they’re implementing, I’m excited for them,” Pujols said.

Even students who are a bit uneasy about the change, such as Schell, acknowledge that it will help boost their skills in areas they might have not considered otherwise.

“Even though I’m not that interested in the film aspect of it, I do think it’s kind of a good idea to have and learn about just so you can have the background information on it,” Schell said. “It’s being incorporated into today’s life and it’s going to keep progressing, so it is good to have that background on it.”

If students in the SCM have any questions, Strudler says to contact their major advisor or the school’s advisor, Joy Granados-Roldan.
Montclair State University students are finding garbage outside the entrance of Machuga Heights.

From muddy rainwater to empty Cheeto bags and disposable masks, trash lingers outside Machuga Heights without anyone there to clean it up. Dead wasps have also been found near the entrance. Rainwater collected into piles of muck and mold, and the usual wind on campus has been blowing garbage from the trash can onto the ground. The concrete in the area is also covered in grime and old gum.

The entrances to other residence halls like Dinallo Heights, Blanton Hall and Bohn Hall are relatively clean and tidy, besides the occasional overflowing trash cans.

Machuga Heights residents shared their opinions on the state of the residence hall's entrance. Nicholas Tedesco, a freshman film and television major, is not happy with the mess.

"I think it’s rather frustrating, especially when there [are] so many bins within reach to throw waste into," Tedesco said.

Sam Ansah, a sophomore undecided, shared who he thinks is to blame for the problem.

"It’s pretty disgusting honestly," Ansah said. "I think the students should be blamed [and] the school should have some way of deterring or punishing students from littering, especially since we pay a high price to live here.”

To see more photos, check out themontclarion.org

Everything from hair to cup lids and used masks can be found collecting outside.

A plethora of garbage sits by the entrance of Machuga Heights.

A Cheeto bag on the ground outside of Machuga Heights.
Bug Infestations In On-Campus Apartments

Students have returned to the Montclair State University residence halls, but for some, it appears they received more roommates than they expected to have.

Ants, cockroaches and wasps have showed up in several dormers’ apartments, leaving them on edge and unhappy. Rose Kershner, a senior communications and media arts major, said one of her roommates noticed an ant infestation in their Hawk Crossings apartment within the first week of move-in, where the ants covered her desk and were coming out of the wall.

“It’s gross and it’s just kind of annoying because everyone’s like, ‘Oh, that happens every year,’ but it’s not something that should be happening every year so it’s not taken as seriously as you might want it to be,” Kershner said. “They kind of can’t determine the difference between a ‘couple of ants’ and ‘fully infested’ just because it happens so often.”

Kershner said it took three days until an exterminator came to spray down the apartment, and even though he left ant traps, it was only a couple of days before the tiny bugs made their way back into the apartment.

As if it couldn’t get any worse, Kershner said the entire Hawk Crossings community is now affected.

“We got an email because we are supposed to be getting our mailbox keys, but apparently all mailboxes — there are three big mailboxes for each of the three apartments — and each of them has a [wasp] nest under them,” Kershner said.

Cayla Ingram, a junior television and digital media major and resident assistant (RA) in Hawk Crossings, said infestations are an issue at the start of every school year, and that this year, wasps seem to be a big problem.

“I’ve actually had people say they had wasps flying around in their room and maybe someone’s allergic [so] that’s an issue,” Ingram said. “We obviously have to get prompt help with that.”

Ingram is hopeful that the bug problem will subside as the year goes on.

“Usually it’s just a problem as people start moving in,” Ingram said. “Our resident hall isn’t active over the summer and somehow bugs find their way in. It ends up being, usually, not an issue throughout the rest of the year. Nothing too big. Obviously, there’s going to be a spider here or there but the bigger issues do tend to go away as the exterminator comes in the beginning.”

The insect issue doesn’t stop at Hawk Crossings as dormers in Count Basie Hall in The Village found a cockroach crawling in their bathroom. Sarah Bailey, a senior family science and human development major, is one of the roommates in that apartment.

“We keep a very clean apartment so there is no reason why cockroaches should be in there,” Bailey said.

While the exterminator did come to the apartment, Bailey hopes the problem stops at one cockroach sighting.

“As of now [there was only one cockroach],” Bailey said. “But rumor has it that when there’s one, there’s more.”

Andrew Mees, Montclair State’s media relations director, responded to the issue.

“We want students living in residence halls to have the best possible experience, and we take all complaints seriously,” Mees said.

Mees advised students who come across an infestation to put in a work order.

“Our exterminator is on campus twice a week, and will remediate the issue as soon as possible,” Mees said.

For emergencies, Mees said students can contact the University Facilities Service Desk via the work order, via phone at 973-655-5444 or via email at servicedesk@montclair.edu.
SGA Best Friends Make Their Mark
At Montclair State

Jonathan Edmond
Guest Writer

There is a saying that if the friends in your circle do not push you to be your very best, they are not your real friends. For these two Montclair State University students, Ashon Lanada, a senior business administration major with a concentration in management, and Guillermo Estrada, a senior public health major with a concentration in health systems administration and policy, this is true.

Once the two met their freshman year at Montclair State, they stuck like peanut butter and jelly and became the best of friends. Lanada and Estrada met through The Brotherhood/La Hermandad, an organization that caters to the academic, social and professional success of, but not limited to, Black and Latino students on campus.

The pair have been inseparable throughout the years.

“We just always clicked,” Lanada said. “We had similar interests, hobbies, sports talks and we had similar mentorship. There were similar leaders that we looked up to and that’s what made us click even more. We were around the same group of successful people, and after that, it’s history.”

Since the two became friends, they have always pushed each other to do more than they could have ever imagined. The two made a pact freshman year that they would make it their biggest achievement to be in the Student Government Association (SGA) together in their senior year, and it happened.

“I like to think of our friendship like Dwayne Wade and LeBron James,” Estrada said. “In our first year, it was trial and error. Ashon was vice president of [The] Brotherhood and I was the treasurer. Next year, he was the president and I was the treasurer. Now this year, we ‘won the championship’ because we are at the top of our game in the SGA. We’ve talked about making this happen since freshman year and it’s here.”

This is not Estrada’s first time being a part of the SGA. He has been a member since his freshman year as a legislator, director of class one his sophomore year and the director of academic affairs his junior year. Now in his senior year, he serves as the executive treasurer.

On the other hand, Lanada is the executive president of the SGA. He used organizations and clubs to perfect his leadership skills for this moment. He became involved with the Latin American Student Organization, Black Student Union, Fashion Club and much more.

Former president of the SGA Ernst Lozin has watched the pair throughout the years and has become very fond of them. “Their friendship is very unique,” Lozin said. “Usually when you come into freshman year, building friendships is an important thing. They became brothers along the way, combining forces to make a great impact and because of that, they were able to obtain their positions within the SGA.”

To say their impact has inspired others like Lozin and has been influential within the Montclair State community would be an understatement. Lanada and Estrada have big things to come: during their time left at the university and they aspire to make the most of it.

When asked about the plans they have for the students at Montclair State, they both paused, gave each other a hard stare with a grin and began to laugh.

“Our goal this year is to revive student life on campus,” Lanada said. “We saw how campus life, organizations and club activity died last year due to the pandemic so we feel like it’s on us as students to help other students and serve the students by bringing life back.”

“ar this year is to revive student life on campus,” Lanada said. “We saw how campus life, organizations and club activity died last year due to the pandemic so we feel like it’s on us as students to help other students and serve the students by bringing life back.”

Lanada and Estrada have great things in store for Montclair State as they look to continually make their mark before it all comes to an end. One thing is for certain: their bond will remain unbreakable.
There's a time for sharing and a time for indulgence. Sometimes, after a long day of class or a stressful day at work, you just want to be alone with some comfort food. I'm here to provide you with the recipe for this dorm and autumn-friendly, microwave apple crisp.

This recipe is a single-serve so don't be afraid to slap your roommate's hand away — unless they're supplying enough ice cream for two.

What you'll need for this recipe you probably already have in your dorm:

- 2 tablespoons unsalted butter, softened (or vegan butter)
- 2 tablespoons brown sugar, packed
- 2 tablespoons old-fashioned rolled oats
- 2 tablespoons of all-purpose flour (or if you have a blender, make oat flour with your oats!)
- 1 teaspoon cinnamon
- pinch of salt, optional and to taste
- 1 medium apple, diced in about 1/4-inch cubes
- 1/2 tablespoon unsalted butter melted (or vegan butter)
- 2 tablespoons brown sugar, packed
- 1 tablespoon granulated sugar
- 1 teaspoon cornstarch
- 1 teaspoon cinnamon

You can also add things like pumpkin pie spice if you'd like!

In a microwave-safe dish, add your chopped apples, 1/2 tablespoon of butter, brown sugar, white sugar, cinnamon and cornstarch. You want to be sure the dish is deep enough to allow the crisp to rise and the juices to release later on. The glass Tupperware your family sent you to school with should work just fine. Mix until the apples are evenly coated.

Assembling your topping should be easy. In another bowl, add your rolled oats, flour, softened butter, brown sugar, cinnamon and salt. Use your hands to pinch the butter into all your dry ingredients or if you are feeling lazy, use a fork. Your topping should come together in clumps if you press it together, but also break apart as you sprinkle it on top.

Take the apples you set aside before and throw them into the microwave for one minute on high power to get them soft and ready to be covered. While those cook, take out the toppings or drizzles you would like to use. You'll know the apples are done when they look slightly caramelized and smell fragrantly of cinnamon and sugar, the official fall flavor.

Take out your apples from the microwave now that they have been slightly cooked and add your crumble topping throughout the top. Make sure to cover the apples evenly.

Cook your crisp in the microwave one more time for two minutes on high power. Start to watch your crisp after about 90 seconds just to make sure it doesn’t burn.

Now time to top your crisp. You can enjoy this dessert with a scoop of vanilla or peanut butter ice cream (just trust me), whipped cream, vanilla yogurt or pecans and maple syrup.

I recommend you indulge in this dessert snuggled up while watching my favorite Halloween movie, “Hocus Pocus,” and officially welcome the fall in the only correct way. Until the next bite.
PART-TIME BABYSITTER

Montclair family seeking part-time babysitter in the afternoons for 2-3 hours a few times a week (flexible days) for a sweet, smart, and active 18-month old girl, starting immediately/October. We are looking for someone who is nurturing, enthusiastic, passionate about child care, and has studied or has experience in early childhood education. Ideally, the right candidate would be able to incorporate language and other early learning activities based on daughter’s development and milestones - we would love this candidate to be experienced enough to identify her next growth point and jump in to lead engaging activities based on that, while of course keeping it fresh and fun for her! If the candidate has art and music training that is excellent. Possible other duties may include light meal prep and clean-up (snacks). Mom will be at home just working in another room. Dad works locally and may be in and out as well. The household has two medium-sized dogs that are friendly (but we do keep them separate from the baby with gates). Also for transparency, we’ve always had cameras throughout the house! Other requirements: must be certified in CPR and any other first aid is a plus; must provide proof of full vaccination and be COVID conscious; must pass a background check; must have active driver's license; must provide strong references. Fair salary based on experience and market rate. We very much look forward to meeting you!

If interested, contact amandabowen7@gmail.com or 973-896-3127.
The Montclarion Crossword Puzzle and More!

Dining Services Edition

Across
2. Which Wich was replaced by this sandwich shop in Blanton Hall
6. This was one of the latest food installments in Cole Hall
7. This food franchise exists in the Student Center
8. This place is located across from Jersey Mike’s in Blanton Hall

Down
1. This is where you can get your coffee in Blanton Hall
3. This dining place is attached to Machuga Heights
4. The name of the new installment at Sam’s Place
5. This is where you get late-night comfort food

Sudoku

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Word Search

*For answers to the puzzles, please check The Montclarion Facebook page every Thursday.*
MOST STUDENTS AT MONTCLAIR STATE UNIVERSITY SEEM TO AGREE ON-CAMPUS DINING HAS IMPROVED OVERALL SINCE LAST YEAR. WITH EVERYONE BACK ON CAMPUS, THE 4 P.M. CLOSINGS AND SPARSE SELECTIONS SEEM TO HAVE RESCINDED IN FAVOR OF MORE SATISFACTORY HOURS AND DINING OPTIONS. BUT ONE THING THAT HAS YET TO CHANGE ABOUT DINING ON CAMPUS IS THE LONG WAIT TIMES FOR FOOD.

WHETHER IT'S FOR A FULL LUNCH OR SIMPLY A QUICK COFFEE BEFORE CLASS, JUST THINKING ABOUT GETTING IN LINE FOR FOOD ALONE CAN BE STRESSFUL AND ILL-DESERVED. THE STRUGGLE OVER YET ANOTHER LONG WAIT TO RETURN TO CAMPUS, EVEN A GOOD HALF-HOUR, IS SIMPLY A FACT OF LIFE HERE ON CAMPUS. WHETHER IT'S FOR A FULL LUNCH OR JUST A QUICK SNIFF, PREPARING TO SCOURGE UP SOME SNACKS IN YOUR BAG OR CAR CAN BE THE SAFEST BET, AND KEEPING FOOD AT MONTCLAIR STATE UNIVERSITY SEEM TO DESERVE TO BE ABLE TO ENJOY THE FREEDOM OF THEIR CHOICE AND THEIR PREFERENCE OR DIETARY NEEDS.

TIME TO EAT, OR TIME TO WAIT?

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Teenagers now have the ability to morph their faces due to the hundreds of filters provided to them on social media apps such as TikTok, Instagram and Snapchat.

These filters spark self-esteem issues among users through an emphasis on impossible beauty standards. Filters give people the ability to see what they “could look like” through a false lens of unrealistic standards.

Celebrities and social media influencers present their audience with a manufactured idea of beauty which can only be achieved by those who can afford it. With money, influencers can get extensive cosmetic surgery, expensive personal trainers and top-tier skincare. Those who are from a lower socioeconomic class do not have access to those same privileges.

Filters tend to recreate the expensive, cultivated appearances of the wealthy and powerful, neglecting to acknowledge that a large amount of their follower demographic consists of young women who are more than likely unable to afford the same luxuries. With the introduction of filters, young women can mimic these “influencer looks” by enlarging their lips or smoothing their skin.

It was only recently that large lips were made trendy. Before 2017, people of color were looked down upon and insulted for having large lips. It is now considered an aesthetic preference because of white influencers like Kylie Jenner and reality shows such as “Love Island.” The enlarged lip filter is problematic and promotes this appropriation as acceptable and even encouraged on social media.

Many of the filters we see suggest a look that aligns with the Western standard of beauty, which is rooted in Eurocentric ideals and excludes non-white people and people with different body shapes. It is detrimental to confidence and a reflection of society’s expectations.

As technology advances, these filters have progressed and become more sophisticated, intensifying already dramatic face-altering effects. One can’t help but feel the pressure to achieve these unattainable ideals. We feel compelled to keep the filter on for a “picture-perfect” photo.

Social media has provided a platform for creators to showcase their work, bring families closer together and has proven helpful during a global pandemic, but it has also given us a false sense of reality.

As we see people looking more like filters every day, it is impossible to ignore how platforms enable changing to fit society’s aesthetic standards. Filters encourage young people to alter themselves and teach them to value physical appearance over self-love.

Chloe Lawrence is a junior English major and a first-year guest writer for The Montclarion.
THE MONTCLARION

SPORTS WRITERS WANTED!

E-Mail: montclarionsports@gmail.com

Room 2035, School of Communication and Media in Upper Montclair, NJ, 07043
Have a thought about on campus or off campus matters?
Write for Opinion!
Email: montclarionopinion@gmail.com

Room 2035, School of Communication and Media in Upper Montclair, NJ, 07043
‘Malignant’ Is a Bizarre Watch That Falls Short of Expectations

Tiffannie Coy
Staff Writer

Director James Wan, who is known for award-winning films such as ‘Annabelle, ‘Insidious’ and the ‘Saw’ franchise, is back again with HBO Max’s “Malignant.” The film falls short of what was expected, especially for a director as experienced in horror as Wan.

“Malignant” follows Annabelle Wallis’ character, Madison, a woman adopted at a young age from a research hospital where she underwent surgery to remove a tumor that seemed to have a mind of its own. While Madison struggles to forgive her abusive husband, she begins to see visions of murders when she sleeps.

Throughout the film, Madison has to aid in stopping the murders while also battling the horrors of her past in which she forgot as a child. She is joined by her adoptive sister, Sydney, played by Maddie Hasson, who would stop at nothing to protect Madison.

Madison is always on edge. For the majority of the film, she doesn't have a backbone of her own and often steers away from the subject when questioned about her early childhood. The only time Madison takes control of the situation is in the last 10 minutes of the film and even then it's extremely lackluster and predictable.

Sydney is the opposite of her sister. She is strong and looks fear in the face. She is an instrumental character toward the middle of the film when investigators need help fact-checking Madison's gruesome dreams. Sydney is the only character to keep the movie interesting and real, whereas many other parts of the film get boring and overdramatic.

“Malignant” is undoubtedly trying to achieve extreme gore. After the introduction, it seems as though not even 15 minutes go by before seeing excess blood or broken bones.

Sadly, this works against them in many, if not all, of the scenes. Unlike popular movies from the ’80s like “Friday the 13th,” this type of horror tactic often feels very gimmicky and tacky in 2021.

Another poorly executed effect in the film is the computer-generated imagery (CGI). Without giving too much away, one of the characters in the film relies heavily on effects and as you can imagine, poor CGI means a poor character. You can often see this character clipping in and out between people and even the environment.

The plot also lacks detail and precision; it has major holes that end up never being answered. By the end of this two-hour film, I was left with more questions than answers. Since the movie is not based on a book or existing material, it feels as though director Wan didn’t look at the big picture when reviewing the plot.

The ending of the film is a disaster on its own. Viewers are left with no explanation as to what happens to Madison when the screen fades to black. If anything, people watching are confused because no one knows if the killer is still on the loose or if Madison is safe.

The only thing that played out well is the atmosphere. In the film, there are various scenes where Madison is alone in her home. These scenes made me feel anxious because of how quiet and ominous her environment is. Even the atmosphere in her dreams is eerie; you can tell how scared Madison is when her shaky breathing is the only audio.

Overall, the film lacks major refinement. I think many of the scenes were unnecessary as they did not help the bigger picture of the plot, while other scenes should have been explained more to help the film end with a stronger impact.

While “Malignant” isn’t 2021’s top horror film, it’s still a bizarre movie to watch for fans of the genre. You can check out “Malignant” now on HBO Max all September long.
The Story of ‘Monsters, Inc.’ Continues with ‘Monsters at Work’

Alison Jackson
Guest Writer

How did the monsters from “Monsters, Inc.” switch from collecting screams to collecting laughs? Viewers get the answer in the exclusive Disney+ series, “Monsters at Work.”

“Monsters at Work” takes place not too long after Sulley and Mike return Boo to the human world and become the new heads of Monsters, Inc. But they no longer need scarers; they now have to find a couple thousand jokesters to get the energy the monster world needs.

This series focuses on the misadventures of Tylor Tuskmon, a college graduate eager to start his career as a scarer. On his first day of work, he discovers scaring is out and joking is in. Although this is upsetting news, Tylor decides to make an attempt at becoming a jokester.

In the meantime, he's assigned to work with the Monsters, Inc. Facilities Team, or MIFT for short. Here, Tylor meets a bunch of eccentric but well-meaning monsters.

Knowing that Monsters, Inc. is now a company with a laugh floor, it can be guessed that this is a comedic series. Like most Disney animated projects, it's targeted toward a younger audience with most jokes for children, but there are a few jokes only older audiences will understand.

Every character in the show made me crack a smile sooner or later. Those like me will get a kick out of particular new characters that are quite relatable, though characters from the original films made me laugh the most. All of the attempts Mike and Sulley made to keep Monsters, Inc. from shutting down got some genuine laughs out of me.

Not to give too much away, but you might even see references and the return of some more beloved monsters from the first film, making it a great addition to the “Monsters, Inc.” franchise. Viewers might also recognize a few nods to the prequel, “Monsters University.” Those who grew up watching these movies won’t be disappointed with what “Monsters at Work” has to offer; I would even say it's better than the prequel.

Though a great introduction to the new characters, the first two episodes drag a little. After that, however, the story becomes much more interesting, constantly making you wonder if a certain plotline is going to add up to another misadventure in a later episode. They also make you want to hang out with both old and new monsters for much longer than the episode run times of less than 30 minutes.

The voice cast is a joy with the return of John Goodman as Sulley and Billy Crystal as Mike. There's also the return of Jennifer Tilly as Celia and Billy Crystal as Mike. There's also the return of Jennifer Tilly as Celia and Bob Peterson as Roz, Roz's twin. But of course, the voices of the new monsters shouldn't be sold short. New voices from Ben Feldman as Tylor, Mindy Kaling as Val and Henry Winkler as Fritz are also fun additions. If you're a fan of “Monsters, Inc.” or feel the need for nostalgia, I highly recommend checking out “Monsters At Work,” which is probably the closest fans will get to a sequel.

The show has recently been green-lighted for a second season according to an interview with one of the series' voice actors so those interested in the world of “Evermore.”

“I definitely not listening to songs about Joe Jonas breaking up with her over the phone anymore. “Evermore” brought us to the enchanting world of Swift's mind, where we listen to tales of love, infidelity, a girl escaping from a small town to chase her dreams, two con artists scamming the rich and a murder mystery, all in three minutes and 35 seconds.

I suggest this fall you grab your cardigan, drive through the backroads of New Jersey, windows down, red and orange leaves descending from above and immerse yourself in the world of “Evermore.”

-Avery Nixon
Guest Writer

Top Picks to Stream

Autumn Edition

‘Evermore’ on Spotify

Photo courtesy of Republic Records

Coming back “stronger than a ’90s trend,” Taylor Swift surprised us with two surprise albums in 2020. Now that almost a year has passed, we get to listen to “Evermore” all autumn long. Swift’s “Evermore” is just one of many examples of her growth, innovation and maturity as an artist. We’re definitely not listening to songs about Joe Jonas breaking up with her over the phone anymore.

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‘Gilmore Girls’ on Netflix

Photo courtesy of Warner Bros.

One of my personal favorites, “Gilmore Girls” is a drama-comedy series set in the intimate town of Stars Hollow, Connecticut. Viewers meet Rory Gilmore, played by Alexis Bledel, and her mother, Lorelai, played by Lauren Graham. The two share a close relationship as they take on life’s challenges together, from relatives with high expectations, boyfriend problems and starting new businesses, to getting through fights with friends and even disputes with one another.

This series passes through each season, but it’s often associated with the comforting autumn feel that comes with living in a small town. Viewers have a variety of full-themed episodes they can enjoy, noticing the notorious colorful trees of Stars Hollow while also joining characters in celebrating events like Halloween and Thanksgiving.

All seven seasons of “Gilmore Girls,” as well as its prequel series, can be watched on Netflix now.

Megan Lim
Entertainment Editor

‘The Story of ‘Monsters, Inc.’ Continues with ‘Monsters at Work’’

Photo courtesy of Disney+

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Megan Lim
Entertainment Editor
‘Everybody’s Talking About Jamie’ Is the Talk of the Town

Adam Kaufner
Guest Writer

Following a successful West End run in 2017, the musical “Everybody’s Talking About Jamie,” bought from Disney’s 20th Century Studios, has made the jump from stage to screen in the newest hit film on Amazon Prime Video.

This is the second movie musical to land on Prime Video in a year filled with such adaptations. Following Kay Cannon’s “Cinderella,” which attempts to place a modernized spin on a classic fairy tale, “Everybody’s Talking About Jamie” differs by telling the biographical story of an English teenager who wishes to be a drag queen and stands up against the odds to achieve his goal.

The film sets everything up for the audience pretty quickly, as outsider Jamie New, portrayed by Max Harwood, sings to himself about his desire to become a drag queen. Harwood’s solid performance makes Jamie an interesting, likable lead the audience wants to follow. Jamie is a diligent character, making him a worthy protagonist. Jamie faces plenty of obstacles in trying to achieve his goal. Despite this, he doesn’t let his unaccepting classmates get him down.

There is a real human element to the characters and relationships established, which helps the audience connect to the cast even more. This is shown in the interactions Jamie has with his similarly outcast best friend, a relentless bully and his parents, who each have very different feelings regarding him and his sexuality.

The real scene-stealer of the movie is Hugo Battersby, a retired drag queen portrayed by Richard E. Grant. Hugo, whose stage name is Loco Chanelle, becomes a mentor to Jamie, guiding him on his journey. One particular highlight comes from “This Was Me.” As sung by Hugo, this musical number showcases his past life as a drag queen through flashbacks that are shot to resemble home movies. The opening number, “And You Don’t Even Know It,” is also quite jaunty, as is the titular song.

The soundtrack will without a doubt remain stuck in the viewer’s head for quite some time after watching the movie. Director Jonathan Butterell and choreographer Kate Prince provide the dance numbers with the right energy, and they add quite a lot to the proceedings. They show what Jamie really wants in his future.

Another unique element of the film is its setting. “Everybody’s Talking About Jamie” takes place in Sheffield, a city in the South Yorkshire borough of England. The film openly embraces it, giving the audience a peek at English culture. The way in which Jamie’s school is portrayed is obviously quite different from how an American high school is commonly portrayed in media. For instance, what domestic students call their junior year, the students in this film refer to as “year 11.” It is a refreshing change of pace to see how high schools function in other countries.

All in all, with its excellent songs, likable set of characters, sense of humanity and relevant messages, “Everybody’s Talking About Jamie” is a fun, lively musical and coming-of-age drama.

It is a story that is sure to resonate with members of the LGBTQ+ community, as well as anybody who has ever felt like an outsider in any situation. The stage musical, which is an adaptation of a 2011 BBC Three documentary, clearly translates to the medium of film quite well. It is certain to become a movie that everybody will be talking about years from now.
THE MONTCLARION

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E-mail: montclarionentertainment@gmail.com

ROOM 2035, SCHOOL OF COMMUNICATION AND MEDIA IN UPPER MONTCLAIR, NJ, 07043
Women’s Soccer Defeats Rutgers-Camden in NJAC Title Rematch

**Zoë Steck notches fourth goal of the season in OT victory**

**The Montclair State women’s soccer team celebrates a game-winning goal by Zoë Steck in overtime.**

**Trevor Giesberg | The Montclarion**

**Assistant Sports Editor**

Just five months after Montclair State University women’s soccer took home the New Jersey Athletic Conference (NJAC) championship trophy after defeating the Rutgers-Camden Scarlet Raptors, the two met again on Sept. 18. This matchup lived up to the expectations, as it took all of regulation and just one minute of overtime to find a winner. Senior forward Zoë Steck netted a goal to give the Red Hawks a 1-0 victory at MSU Soccer Park.

Leading the way on that end was senior defender Laura Noseworthy, who was the only Red Hawk to play the entirety of the game on Sept. 15. While Noseworthy did what she could on defense, she wasn’t going to be the one to score in this game. However, she had faith in her teammates to get the win. “Especially when I am getting tired, it is important for me and [Lexington Wolf] and whoever else to be communicating and keeping the energy up,” Noseworthy said. “When it’s 0-0 like that, you need to make sure everyone is on the same page. Everyone was doing so great during the game [and] it’s important to keep good vibes throughout.”

For her solid performance this weekend, Noseworthy was named NJAC Defensive Player Of The Week. She lead a defense that included herself, junior Kerri Driscoll, senior Lexington Wolf, senior Catharine Carnesale, senior Emily DeGeyter and junior Mackenzie Cangro, who stepped up in a big effort.

At the end of regulation, the Red Hawks’ offense showed its dominance as they finished with 18 shots – 17 more than the Scarlet Raptors. Early in the first half, Steck had an opportunity as well as sophomore Lauren Ernst in the second half. The team knew it would be any moment before they would make the first strike.

That came just 58 seconds into overtime. The golden goal was set up by a perfect pass from junior Paige Vocam. Receiving the pass and getting the game-winner would be Steck. This was Steck’s fourth straight game with a goal.

Head coach Patrick Naughton and the rest of the coaching staff were pleased with the team’s game plan in overtime. “Tara [Lambert] won possession for us there, kicks it to Aileen [Cahill], she got on it and [passes the ball] to Paige,” Naughton said, recounting the moments leading up to the goal. “She looks up and Zoë cuts through. The pass was perfect and [Zoë] just got her touch on it.”

This win would halt any more losses from the Red Hawks after coming off a tough 2-1 loss to DeSales University on Sept. 15. This win, however, moves them to 1-0 in the conference as six of their next seven games will be NJAC contests.

Naughton was aware of his team’s health coming in as the Red Hawks have been dealing with some injuries throughout the season, but they still managed to come out with great intensity.

“Effort was great, energy was great,” Naughton said. “We had kids playing all over the place. I’m just so happy for these kids.”

Montclair State is now 23-0-4 all-time series against the Scarlet Raptors and in their entire history, the Red Hawks have never once trailed.

After a matchup with Farmingdale State College, the Red Hawks will host New Jersey City University (NJCU) on Sept. 25. Montclair State is looking hot as ever after a couple of lineup adjustments and they are primed for an upcoming winning streak.

**Jess Liptzin**

**Red Hawk Recap**

**SAT 9/18**

Red Hawks Field Hockey: 5
Gwynedd-Mercy University: 0

Red Hawks Men’s Soccer: 2
Rutgers-Camden: 0

Red Hawks Women’s Volleyball: 2
Rowan University: 3

Red Hawks Women’s Soccer: 3
Farmingdale State: 1

**TUES 9/21**

Red Hawks Women’s Volleyball: 3
New Paltz: 0

Red Hawks Women’s Volleyball vs. Kean University 7:00 p.m.

Red Hawks Men’s Soccer vs. John Jay College 1:00 p.m.

Women’s Soccer vs. New Jersey City University 1:00 p.m.

Field Hockey vs. Williams College 4:00 p.m.

Men’s Soccer vs. Alvernia College 7:00 p.m.

Women’s Volleyball at Wilkes-Barres 3:00 p.m.

Field Hockey vs. Williams College 4:00 p.m.

Men’s Soccer vs. Alvernia College 7:00 p.m.

Women’s Volleyball at Wilkes-Barres 3:00 p.m.

Field Hockey vs. DeSales University 7:00 p.m.

Men’s Soccer vs. Kean University 7:00 p.m.

Women’s Soccer at Kean University 7:00 p.m.
PHOTO ESSAY: Women’s Volleyball Defeats SUNY New Paltz

Women’s Volleyball picks up their fourth win of the season

Senior libero/defensive specialist Katelyn Monaghan saves the ball from hitting the ground.

Trevor Giesberg, Staff Writer

The Montclair State University women’s volleyball team bounced back with a convincing victory over State University of New York at New Paltz (SUNY New Paltz) in their second match of the day on Sept. 18.

This game was the last of a tri-match between SUNY New Paltz, Montclair State and Farmingdale State College. Just a few hours before this game, the Red Hawks defeated Farmingdale State 3-0.

Both teams started off very strong in the first set with some nice rallies, leaving the score tied multiple times. Senior Delaney St. Pierre and senior Leah Higgins had some nice blocks that led Montclair State to win the first set 25-23.

After that, the Red Hawks never looked back, sweeping the floor and winning the final two sets 25-19 and 25-14. Senior outside hitter Carly Waterman was dominant in this match-up, finishing with 11 kills, four aces and one block.

The Red Hawks celebrate a point earned.

Senior right side hitter Victoria Tennon (#5) and her teammate attempt to block the ball.

Freshman outside hitter Kiara Polanco serves the ball.

Freshman right side hitter Nadya Ackerman spikes the ball past the defensive wall.

Senior libero/defensive specialist Katelyn Monaghan saves the ball from hitting the ground.

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Sisters Carly and Kelly Waterman Star on the Women’s Volleyball Team Together

Waterman sisters are on a mission to bring home a championship to Montclair State

Trent Freeman
Staff Writer

Senior outside hitter Carly Waterman has a big role to fill as the leader of a young Montclair State University women’s volleyball team. Among nine underclassmen including seven freshmen, Waterman pushes one young teammate above the rest.

Kelly Waterman is a sophomore setter on the women’s volleyball team and is all too familiar playing with a little extra push from her older sister. She spoke about how Carly Waterman pushes her harder than any of the other underclassmen on the team.

“Push? Yeah. And scream. 100%,” Kelly Waterman said with a laugh. “I’m used to it. It was the same in high school. I’ll get that look [and] know what she’s thinking, and on the court she’ll just look at me and [I’ll say], ‘OK, I’m gonna play better.’”

Though countless siblings have the experience of being teammates on a high school sports team, it’s only a small fraction of which both members move on and play at the collegiate level. Even smaller is the percentage of siblings that go to the same school and again play on the same team in college.

Carly Waterman, who has been an all-conference selection in the past three seasons as well as an All-American in 2019, has taken her younger sister Kelly Waterman under her wing.

“Having each other on the court is cool,” Carly Waterman said. “Especially, like, in practices and being able to help each other out with classes and everything.”

The pair of sisters played volleyball at Verona High School. Carly Waterman graduated from Verona in 2018 and Kelly Waterman followed her two years later as a part of the class of 2020.

Unfortunately, Kelly Waterman’s freshman year of college was limited to a computer screen. However, with classes moving back in person for the fall 2021 semester, Carly Waterman has been helping her younger sister adjust to campus life.

“One morning I had to drop her off at the building because she didn’t know where it was,” Carly Waterman said. “It’s nice to kind of be a leader because I know when I was a freshman I was nervous. So now being able to make her feel not as lost [is] definitely nice.”

The sisters said since joining the team, the girls see them as two separate people.

The pair of sisters will be the first to tell you that when you get to know them, they have very different personalities. Carly Waterman claims to be louder and more energetic, while Kelly Waterman claims to be the funnier of the two.

Just as their personalities differ, so too did their paths to Montclair State.

“This is actually a funny story,” Carly Waterman said. “Montclair [State] was my last choice. I wanted to go far because we only live, what, seven minutes away? So I was like, ‘I’m getting out of here, out of state.’”

Carly Waterman was considering schools in Pennsylvania, Florida and Hawaii. Eckerd College in Florida was a front-runner early in the decision-making process. The biggest factor, similar to her sister, ultimately became family.

After hearing her parents wouldn’t fly everywhere to watch her play and with enough encouragement from her mom, she decided to look into a local option. It wasn’t until the night before that she decided on Montclair State.

“Luckily I fell in love with the school and the team and I stayed,” Carly Waterman said.

Although both of them commented, the Waterman sisters don’t find themselves at home very often. When they are not in class or at practice, the two can be found at work.

Kelly Waterman currently works at The Towne Scoop, an ice cream shop in their hometown of Verona.

Carly Waterman works at Sideout Sports in Fairfield, New Jersey as a coach for the same volleyball club she used to play for.

Kelly Waterman didn’t have the same experience her sister did at Sideout. In fact, the presence of her sister proved difficult to overcome, considering the legacy that Carly Waterman has built for herself at Montclair State.

“I think a big part of it was [hearing], ‘Oh [you’re] Carly’s sister,’” Carly Waterman said. “I think developing her own personality somewhere else was a big part of it.”

The shadow Carly Waterman cast at the university became something to consider when choosing what college Kelly Waterman would attend as a senior in high school.

“That made me not want to come here a good amount,” Kelly Waterman said. “But I figured it would change once we were in college. So I decided it wasn’t going to be fully factor [into the decision].”

Eventually, Kelly Waterman committed to Montclair State to play alongside her sister. With both siblings choosing to stay close to home, their parents have attended every game that’s permitted.

“[I’m] like, ‘OK, I’m gonna play court she’ll just look at me and what she’s thinking, and on the I’ll get that look [and] know with a laugh. “I’m used to it. It was 100%,” Kelly Waterman said

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“They didn’t let visitors [attend away games], but for every home game they were there,” Carly Waterman said. “It was definitely weird not seeing them there.”

The women’s volleyball team is coming off a shortened season due to the coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic where they lost to Stockton University in the New Jersey Athletic Conference (NJAC) championship game. Despite coming short of the ultimate goal, the women’s team still tallied an impressive record of 5-2, while going perfect at home (3-0).

As the Waterman sisters take on what could be their last season as teammates, they set out with a mission to bring home a championship to Montclair State.