An email was sent to faculty warning against switching their course modalities.

Jenna Sundel
News Editor

Montclair State University faculty members received an email on Sept. 26 informing them that they cannot switch their course modality from in-person to online without university approval.

David Winters, an adjunct professor in the School of Communication and Media, has held several classes online due to his concerns over the health and safety of himself and his students.

“What’s most important is that the university makes clear to the entire community that the measures in place only aim to mitigate the spread of the virus,” Winters said. “These policies do not try to eliminate spread and cannot guarantee the protection of our vulnerable loved ones at home.”

Kimberly Killmer Hollister, acting provost and vice president for academic affairs, sent the email to faculty warning against the switch of course modalities. Hollister said the provost’s office has received complaints from students regarding a change in class delivery from in-person to online. Some of these changes were attributed to concerns about coronavirus (COVID-19).

“Please know that the administration monitors [COVID-19] very closely,” Hollister said. “President [Jonathan] Koppell has convened a team of clinicians, staff and faculty members, which includes respected experts in virology and public health. That group meets regularly to review everything related to [COVID-19] on campus, and it advises the administration on best practices.”

According to Hollister’s email, the modality of class delivery cannot be changed at faculty discretion.

“If we need to pivot to remote learning that decision will be made at the university level, and it will be based on solid scientific evidence,” Hollister said.

Hollister added that the instructors need to teach the course in the modality that was originally advertised to students.

“If you have moved your on-campus course to remote instruction, it must change back immediately,” Hollister said. “Shifting modalities in the middle of the semester disrupts our students’ learning, and it breaks the promise we made to them when we published the course catalog.”

Winters believes faculty should have the option to hold virtual classes if deemed necessary by the professor. He alleges some faculty unions have failed to negotiate this decision with the university due to political reasons.

Perhaps most tragically, some faculty unions have been unwilling to push university administrations in New Jersey to give faculty more freedom to choose their teaching modalities, largely because those unions don’t want to catch the ire of their powerful political allies in a Democratic Party that is desperate to keep students in classrooms,” Winters said.

Hollister said the university will not be moving toward online instruction at this time.

“We are confident that the risk to individuals on our campus remains low, and there is no reason at this time to pivot to online instruction,” Hollister said.

Andrew Mees, the university spokesperson, expects faculty to comply with Hollister’s instructions.

“If anyone does not, the dean of the college will address it with that individual,” Mees said.

Conan Ramirez, a senior television and digital media major, said faculty should continue teaching in person.

“I just think [switching to virtual learning] is not right,” Ramirez said. “I feel like in-person classes are way better than online classes, so it’s taking away the opportunity for students to be more focused in class because I took online classes and I wasn’t focused.”

Chloe Swift, a senior television and digital media major, said professors should prioritize safety.

“If online is what they feel is safer, then I prioritize safety over university policy.” Swift said. “I do think they should be talking to the class, getting the opinions of others, but if it’s a question of safety, I would always pick that.”

Winters says universities not leaving the course modality decision to faculty is putting the community in danger.

“Opaque information from university administrations and [the] faculty unions’ inability to push the issue have left many faculty and students in New Jersey up a creek with only their university-provided antibacterial soap to paddle,” Winters said.
Red Hawk Rap Sheet

Thursday, September 23

Machuga Heights: A student advised the University Police Department of a criminal mischief and harassment incident within Machuga Heights. This case is under investigation.

Monday, September 27

Fraud: The University Police Department was notified of several students allegedly having fraudulent documents. This case is under investigation.

Tuesday, September 23

Machuga Heights: The University Police Department was notified of a simple assault incident that occurred within Machuga Heights. This case is under investigation.
Montclair State University agreed to eliminate its two-week advanced permission requirement for on-campus demonstrations and update regulations to form an equitable environment following a lawsuit from protestors on campus.

Montclair State also agreed to pay $42,000 for the protestors’ legal fees and damages. Two years ago, Young Americans for Liberty (YAL), a pro-liberty organization, filed a lawsuit arguing that some of Montclair State’s policies violated their First and 14th Amendment rights because three students of YAL were stopped as they were peacefully protesting on campus.

The president of YAL, Mena Botros, a junior chemistry major, said requiring permission to hold a protest on campus grounds violates their constitutional rights.

“[It] goes against [our] freedom of speech [and is] restricting our First Amendment right,” Botros said. “Needing a permit jeopardizes saying our beliefs freely. It was a big issue.”

Mathew Botros, a junior biology major and event coordinator of YAL, said the purpose of this demonstration was to start a conversation about the First Amendment and to see if anyone would tell us to stop protesting without a permit,” Mathew said. “The fact they forced us to stop [protesting] violates the First Amendment. It violates the freedom of assembly.”

Mathew argues that their 14th Amendment was also violated due to the class rankings of Montclair State. He alleges that higher-ranking organizations have had an unfair advantage of receiving more funds from the Student Government Association than lower-ranked organizations through their “student recognition system.”

“[We] feel really proud of getting more funding [and] less restriction to register as an organization,” Mathew said.

Montclair State University is committed to fostering an environment where different viewpoints can be expressed freely and peacefully, and where all voices have the opportunity to be heard,” Mees said.
Students Prepare for Spring Registration

Paul Thomas
Guest Writer

Students all over Montclair State University are logging onto their Nest accounts, scrolling through page after page on Rate My Professor and preparing to register for their spring classes.

Registration for the spring 2022 semester begins on Oct. 14.

There are lots of different resources to help prepare for next semester. DegreeWorks, which can be found in the home tab of Nest, allows students to see who their academic advisor is, what classes are required of their program, any requirements that still need to be met for graduation and other helpful tools.

Eren Sevintuna, a junior film-making major, uses digital tools to plan his schedule.

“I usually go on websites such as Coursicle and I start laying out my schedule,” Sevintuna said. “I look at what I need to graduate and I just lay out what classes seem to work and what will get me to graduation quicker.”

Each school has many resources available to help its students stay on track. Joy Granados-Roldan, an advisor at the School of Communication and Media, said students should check out four-year plans and program guides for their majors. Professors may also be emailing information helpful to their students.

Students should also check their email for information about advising and registration. This could be anything from updates about changes to courses or programs, important dates and deadlines and scheduling an appointment with your advisor.

Ashley Mullins, a sophomore nutrition and food science major, said she takes a lot of advice from her advisor.

“I really like how they give you a lot of advice on what classes to take, they give you what classes you should be taking that semester,” Mullins said.

Mullins explained what she discusses when she meets with her advisor.

“I ask what I should take for this upcoming year, what I need to take to be on track for graduation and what courses they recommend,” Mullins said.

Deanna Dennigan, a sophomore psychology major, said she was planning on switching her major.

“I have not met with my advisor yet but I have a meeting on Friday,” Dennigan said. “I ask [for] a lot of advice because I always need an extra set of hands to help [with] what classes I need.”

If it feels earlier than normal to start scrambling for next semester when the fall semester only started a month ago, it is because registration is beginning a little earlier this fall.

Granados-Roldan said the fall 2020 semester had started earlier than normal last year due to coronavirus (COVID-19) concerns, so the registration date was also earlier. The same schedule was used for this semester, leaving less time between the first day of school and registration. Registration was actually planned to start on Oct. 4, but it was pushed back to Oct. 14.

“I think the university might be seeing that we need to give ourselves a little more time,” Granados-Roldan said.

According to Granados-Roldan, this change is only temporary and registration should be set later in the semester next year.

Regardless of what is happening next year, the date for registration is right around the corner. There are lots of different resources available to students to help them, so make sure to maximize everything Montclair State has to offer. Schedule an advising appointment, double-check the course requirements and make sure to be ahead of the curve for the spring 2022 semester.
Montclair State University Dining held a street food festival on Sept. 24 to celebrate the opening of Food Hall. The event was called “Joyful” and the atmosphere was buzzing with life.

Many students enjoyed Caribbean food such as Jamaican jerk chicken, curry beef and aloo, shark and bake and more. Meatball and vegetable deep-dish pizza was on the menu alongside sausage and chunky tomato deep-dish pizza. On the halal menu, the festival served flank steak and chicken street tacos. Over on the Flame menu, there were Cuban sandwiches and chicharrones de pollo.

Executive chef James Standridge also showed students how to create a healthier meal out of the ramen most college students have in their dorms.

Staff members enjoyed playing Uno with some of the students and there was a photo booth with a variety of props. A DJ played music for the students.

There was an intense game of Jenga between two students so captivating even Rocky came to watch.

Students were able to spin a prize wheel if they donated canned food to Red Hawk Food Pantry. They had another opportunity to win prizes if they took a video or picture in the photo booth.

To see more photos, check out themontclarion.org
New Exhibition at Montclair State
Transforms Traditional Art

Guest Writer: Sekhena Sembenu

Over the past year, the world has been in flux, socially and politically. At Montclair State University, the new exhibition, "Tech/Know/Future: From Slang to Structure," encompasses works of art that challenge the way society thinks.

Megan C. Austin is the director of University Galleries at Montclair State. Her focus is to create art spaces that will awaken students' curiosity and challenge them to think critically.

"I'm interested in not just catering to the art students, but really immersing the entire university and using art in a way as object-based learning and teaching," Austin said. "Anyone can feel this is a place for them."

"Tech/Know/Future: From Slang to Structure" is an exhibition curated by Tom Leeser, the director of the Art and Technology Program and the Center for Integrated Media at CalArts. When curating this exhibition, Leeser strived to showcase art and essays that were transdisciplinary by incorporating technological systems that take the viewer through the past, present and future.

"This exhibition is positioning itself within a context of in-between moments," Leeser said. "We are experiencing a period of accelerated transition."

Carla Gannis is an artist based in Brooklyn, New York who examines physical and virtual spaces, the environment and uses digital imagery to reference history. In "The Garden of Emoji Delights," Gannis had many ideas. "One intention of my transcription was to mash up popular historic and contemporary sign systems and to diversify and expand the emoji lexicon through this process," Gannis said. "The current speed of technological advancements suggest biological organisms and the environment are irreversibly changing."

Leeser believes Gannis is implementing innovative ideas and setting a great example in regards to gender diversity in the workplace. "As a female-identified artist, she is intervening into a history that has been male-dominated for hundreds and hundreds of years," Leeser said. "She subverts the art historical painting with a contemporary language that's new and by doing that, she brings forth questions regarding the climate crisis, history and male dominance of history, specifically art history and feminist assertion within the context of vulnerability."

On Monday, Sept. 20, Gannis joined Austin via Zoom for an art forum class to converse with students about her exhibited work of art. During this conversation, Austin gravitated not toward the content of the work but more so the creation of the piece and the aspect of risk-taking. "It's about not being afraid to fail," Austin said. "One of the biggest things artists can do is show that they are taking a risk and being fearless. It's a vulnerable place to make work or put together an exhibition and open it up to the public."

Sondra Perry, another artist featured in the exhibition, utilizes avatars of her body. "The work is about the body, her body and it is in one way a self-portrait, but not quite a self-portrait," Leeser said. "She is looking at the physical form of the body, but also what constitutes identity. Over time, it liquefies and deconstructs the body into abstraction."

When Nayelli Rios, a freshman psychology major, first walked into the exhibition, she was surprised to see a significant amount of technology. "It is quite different from any other [exhibition] I have been to," Rios said. "It has more screens than your typical art gallery."

For Rios, Perry's art piece stood out to her the most. "Compared to the other artwork on display, it's very 'out there,'" Rios said. "It's very futuristic."

The exhibition had its opening day on Sept. 23 and is available to the public until Dec. 11, 2021. It is located in the George Segal Gallery and is also spread out throughout campus with QR codes. If one can't make it in person, they can view it digitally on Montclair State's website.
Montclair Restaurant Review: Cuban Pete’s

Located 10 minutes from Montclair State University’s campus in downtown Montclair, Cuban Pete’s is a popular Cuban and Spanish-style restaurant known to have a fun, island-like atmosphere.

Living up to its reputation, you will be greeted with a warm welcome by the waitresses and waiters and hear peaceful banjo music playing on the radio. There is a smell of fresh seafood and meat as soon as you sit down.

The atmosphere is inspiring. It creates a sense of being on an island due to the noise of the waterfall. The restaurant is decorated with Christmas lights inside and has various island plants outside. The surprisingly comfortable chairs seemed to be made from bamboo, adding to the ambiance.

If you don’t make a reservation, the waiting time is 35 to 40 minutes for dine-in or take-out. When it comes to the weekend, the restaurant will undoubtedly be busy so be sure to reserve a table at least a week ahead of time.

The menu consists of various sandwiches, ensaladas and tapas, which are small, Spanish savory dishes. From these choices, customers get an option of trying these Cuban classics in either nuevo (new) or viejo (old) style entrees. These entrees include seafood such as shrimp and fish, or can also come with chicken and beef.

The Viejo Cubanos entrees include savory black beans, regular rice and a side of yuca, a Spanish root-vegetable similar to a potato. The Nuevo Cubanos entrees are served with coconut rice and mashed boniato, which is a baked Cuban sweet potato.

As I was browsing through the menu, my eyes were mostly focusing on the seafood entrees, since I am a fan of fish. But, it was nice to see that they offer a wide variety of poultry and meat dishes as well.

The Bahama coconut fish seemed to be the most delightful, especially because you have an option of either getting the whole fish or a filet. The fish is toasted with coconut and includes tropical salsa, which is both sweet and sour.

The pollo sandwich is known to be mouth-watering and it consists of grilled chicken breast, avocado, vine-ripe tomatoes and cilantro pesto. This sandwich was delicious and I wish they offered it at fast-food restaurants.

After pondering the menu, I decided to order the Bahama coconut fish and the whole red snapper. It looked like a lot, so I decided to split it with my sister. The coconut rice and black beans made for a perfect combination, especially once I mixed the black bean gravy with the coconut rice.

The prices for the entrees were a bit high, but this is a good place to try something new and split a seafood dish with a friend. All the desserts are $5 and you have an option of getting either pudding or a custard pie.

Cuban Pete’s is open seven days a week, from 11:30 a.m. to 11 p.m. and on Fridays and Saturdays, they are open until midnight.
Help Wanted

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 daughters 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.

PART-TIME BABYSITTER

Seeking a babysitter Monday-Friday 3-6pm who can (i) drive our 3 year old from daycare and wait at the bus stop for my 7 year old, (ii) pack lunches, do the kids' laundry, and tidy up after the kids, and (iii) oversee homework. Must be a non-smoker, be vaccinated, be COVID-cautious, and have a clean driving record.

Please contact Vivian at vivian.hadis@yahoo.com for additional information.

BECOME A SPORTS WRITER

The Montclarion

Room 2035 School of Communication and Media in Upper Montclair, NJ 07043
Phone 973.655.5230
Fax 973.655.7804
E-mail Montclarionsports@gmail.com
Across
3. Unsuccessful handling of the ball that results in loss of possession in football.
6. A serve that directly results in a point.
7. A scoring play achieved by advancing the ball into the end zone.
9. “Bump, set, ____!”
11. When a forward pass is caught by a player of the opposing team.
12. The first contact with the ball which begins a play/rally.

Down
1. The player who directs the team's offensive play in football.
2. When a player on the field/court is replaced with another player.
4. The player tasked with blocking/intercepting opposing shots at the goal.
5. An offensive player who is tasked with catching the football thrown by the quarterback.
8. What separates opposing teams in sports such as tennis and volleyball.
10. Called against a team for a violation of rules.

Word Search

Sudoku

Scrimmage  Athlete  Offense  Sidelines  Assist  Offsides
Halftime  Libero  Soccer  Volleyball  Scoreboard  Opponent
Teammate  Football  Midfielder  Defense  Tackle

*For answers to the puzzles, please check The Montclarion Facebook page every Thursday.*
Mask On, Not Off

The return to in-person operations at Montclair State University has revitalized campus life. Students, professors and employees are striving to meet the safety requirements that enabled this to happen. However, some people seem to be missing a key component of the most basic and widespread safety requirement, and it needs to be addressed immediately.

Masks are meant to be worn over the nose. Not under, not halfway up the bridge, but completely covering the face below the eyes. This seems like a simple standard to meet, yet in every university building, some people have consciously decided to put their noses on full display.

This behavior negates the entire point of the mask. When you exhale, microscopic droplets fly into the air and remain there for a prolonged period. These same droplets have become a major concern during the coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic as a primary source of contamination and infection. Lest we forget, the ever-surging delta variant is causing COVID-19 case numbers to soar in New Jersey, and multiple cases have already been reported on campus.

Exposing the nose implicates the mask flouter as a potential health hazard, but it also broadcasts apathy and devotion to self-interest. It shows a profound disregard for the safety of others as well as a blatant prioritization of one’s own comfort. Not everyone on campus is vaccinated, and since inoculated individuals are still susceptible to infection, there is no reason to feel exempt from the mask guidelines.

“I can’t breathe with this thing on!” seems to be one of the most common excuses given for improper mask wearing. If that’s the case, simply get a different mask. Some cloth or dust masks can certainly be uncomfortable and warm over long periods of time, but they are far from the only choice.

Surgical masks are the lightest and least obtrusive option. If someone working a 12-hour shift on their feet in a hospital can wear one, it’s absolutely doable for everyone else.

There are countless signs on campus reminding people of the right way to wear a mask, yet it seems to be an ineffective measure considering the number of improperly masked people who walk right by them. Some, inexplicably, take their masks off to cough openly into the air, then put them right back on.

Students have even seen maskless workers at foodservice stations such as Panera, where hygiene standards and safety protocols should be paramount.

Wearing masks is a matter of public safety and showing compassion for others, not a matter of personal preference. There are many things one is free to choose, but when a decision directly affects others, it is no longer about you alone. Montclair State’s campus has more than enough outdoor space, where it is safe to remove your mask and get some fresh air between classes. This makes the idea that anyone would choose to expose their nose indoors or even neglect to move your mask and get some fresh air between classes. This makes the idea that anyone would choose to expose their nose indoors or even neglect to move your mask and get some fresh air between classes. This makes the idea that anyone would choose to expose their nose indoors or even neglect to move your mask and get some fresh air between classes.

It is incredibly difficult to not feel exasperated or angry at such widespread negligence. Montclair State has worked too hard as a community and an institution to make the shift back to a semi-normal campus experience for this kind of behavior to continue.

Approaching someone who is flouting mask guidelines can be risky, as it’s impossible to predict how they will react. This task should probably be designated to campus security officers or other personnel. That being said, anyone immature enough to purposefully attempt to provoke people by not wearing a mask correctly is decidedly not mature enough to be on a college campus, but that’s another issue altogether.

The Montclarion implores you to be aware of your indoor mask habits and recognize your responsibility to others. On campus and in life, there are obligations we all have to each other that keep us safe, healthy and comfortable. For your sake and the sake of others, keep your mask situated above your mouth and nose; it’s the easiest thing you’ll do all day, but it’s also one of the most important.

Campus Voices:

“Feel pretty adamant about it, you know? I have a lot of family, especially older family, and if I am vaccinated and I’m wearing my mask I could still get [COVID-19]. It’s all about affecting the grandparents. I see it pretty often when people don’t wear it above their nose and honestly it makes me a little upset, I can’t even lie.”

-Zachary Allie
Justice Studies
Junior

“I don’t like it. I think everyone should just be wearing their mask in class. Luckily, I don’t see it that often.”

-Emma Witkowski
Theatre Studies
Sophomore

“Sometimes I see it often. But as long as they’re at least five feet away from me, I’m fine, and it depends if they’re vaccinated or not. That would really concern me the most.”

-Genesis Jara
Public Health
Freshman

“You know, it kind of depends honestly, but sometimes I think it’s a little annoying that people don’t have their masks on correctly. Regardless of the situation, everybody should have their mask above their nose and their mouth for safety.”

-Tommy Bavaro
Television and Digital Media
Senior
The Montclarion • September 30, 2021 • PAGE 11

**Gabby Petito: Know The Signs of Domestic Violence**

The horrific murder of Gabby Petito became infamous overnight. One cannot fathom the sorrow and heartbeat this young woman’s family and friends are going through. Yet Petito’s case is just one example of a larger problem. Why is it that in so many intimate relationships, outside observers get caught up in the perfection it may seem to be? There are many instances where two people can appear to get along just fine. But behind closed doors, we may never see the various forms of cruelty or methods of control enacted by abusive partners.

In Petito’s case, there were barely any signs of domestic violence or abuse; at least, not on social media. Many Instagram and YouTube viewers saw her as a go-getter, happy with both herself and with her fiancé, Brian Laundrie. But despite the idyllic images of their relationship on social media, there were warning signs before Petito went missing.

Originally from Blue Point, New York, Petito attended Bayport-Blue Point High School on Long Island, where she met Brian Laundrie before the two started dating in 2019. In July of 2020, Petito and Laundrie got engaged. On July 2, 2021, after working as a pharmacy technician to raise funds, Petito uploaded her final Instagram post was made on August 25.

On Aug. 12, 2021, police officers in Moab, Utah, were dispatched in response to a domestic disturbance between Petito and Laundrie after a 911 caller reported seeing Laundrie hit Petito. The couple was pulled over in their van. In the body camera footage taken from the police officer questioning Petito, she admitted she and Laundrie had been fighting that morning.

“Yeah, I don’t know, it’s just some days I have really had OCD [Obsessive Compulsive Disorder], and I was just cleaning and straightening up and I was apologizing to him saying that I’m so mean because sometimes I have OCD and get frustrated,” Petito said.

Petito makes excuses for Laundrie’s aggressive behavior, even relocating the blame onto herself. When asked if Laundrie hurt her, she doesn’t give a definitive answer, as if she is afraid to speak. Laundrie makes no attempt to remove Petito from the situation as an aggressor and seems perfectly content to let her take the blame as he casually shows police where she scratched him.

Petito can be seen crying, obviously in great distress. In contrast, Laundrie appears chillingly calm, smiling self-assuredly and claiming he was only defending himself after Petito attacked him. Officers ultimately failed to arrest Laundrie, and the official police report actually lists Petito as the suspect, despite the 911 call and other witness statements saying otherwise.

On Aug. 19, 2021, Petito uploaded her final video to YouTube, and her final Instagram post was made on August 25.

On Sept. 1, 2021, Laundrie returned to his home in Florida without Petito. He was reported missing 10 days after his return. Laundrie vanished shortly afterward and has still not been located.

Unfortunately, on Sept. 19, 2021, Gabby Petito was found dead in Bridger-Teton National Forest in Wyoming. Her death was ruled a homicide. Laundrie has been named the only person of interest in her disappearance, and a warrant has been issued for his arrest for a fraudulent charge on a stolen debit card following Petito’s death.

Signs of domestic violence aren’t always immediately apparent, and people like Brian Laundrie can be incredibly charismatic when others are present or a camera is rolling. It can be hard to fathom how someone can treat the person they are supposed to love and care for with such disrespect and callousness.

No matter how small, any act of abuse is not only harmful in itself but can be a sign of worse things to come. A park ranger who spoke to Petito privately reportedly urged her to distance herself from her fiancé, calling their relationship “toxic.” If more responding officers were so perceptive, or if we were all more aware of the signs of domestic violence, maybe we would still know Gabby Petito as the outgoing, vibrant woman she was, and not the victim of an unthinkable crime.

**Thumbs Up**

39 trapped Canadian miners rescued after three day ordeal

“Fire Shut Up in My Bones” becomes first work by a Black composer presented by the Metropolitan Opera

**Thumbs Down**

23 species declared extinct in United States

Thousands of Haitian refugees awaiting asylum still stuck at US-Mexico border

United States government on the verge of another shutdown
Commuters Welcomed Back, but Not as Guests

Due to the coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic, Montclair State University has implemented rules to help protect students and faculty. A lot of the rules and regulations in place are there to keep us safe, but some of them seem contradictory.

Resident students are allowed to have two guests at a time, however, these guests can only be other residents. Commuter students are not allowed to enter the dorm buildings at all, even though they also attend Montclair State. This does not make much sense at all, seeing as they’re part of the community and may have friends who live on campus.

Commuters make up more than half of this school, and Montclair State is constantly hosting events to make them feel included. However, rules like these only make them feel like outsiders and make this “community” feel divided.

It would be understandable if just regular outside guests like family and friends were not allowed in the dorms, but commuter students are frequently on campus, just like residents. When students try to voice their opinions on this, they are constantly being shut down by Residence Life and told these policies are in place for a reason. But what exactly is the reason?

Only two guests are allowed per resident inside of a dorm and there is no current limit for inside gatherings in New Jersey. Obviously, there is not going to be a huge gathering inside of a dorm room, but two commuter students aren’t going to infect anyone they could not potentially infect in their classes. If Montclair State is truly concerned about commuters as a source of potential COVID-19 outbreaks, it seems strange to permit them access to all other campus buildings save residence halls.

Commuter and resident students are allowed to be in the same classes, campus events and dining halls, but they’re not allowed to be inside the residence halls together. What’s the difference between hanging out with friends inside a dorm room or being in Blanton Plaza?

Apparently, it is significant, but to students, it doesn’t make any sense. There may be some resident students who only have friends who are commuters, and they deserve to have their friends from school in their dorm to hang out with them. Whether they have two residents or two commuter students in their dorm, there is no difference. Anyone can spread the virus, and commuters should not be excluded the way they are.

Before the start of the fall semester, Montclair State mandated that students and faculty get the COVID-19 vaccine to ensure the safety of everyone on campus. If the majority of people on campus are vaccinated, then there should not be as much concern as there is about commuter students coming into the dorm buildings.

Montclair State students have been following the protocols put in place to keep themselves and others safe. The school should start giving some normalcy back to students and allowing commuters to come in as residence hall guests.

Lucia Looz, a freshman journalism major, is in her first year as a guest writer for The Montclarion.
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
WMSC Makes an In-Person Return for College Radio Day

Join Montclair State University’s very own radio station, WMSC, as they participate in World College Radio Day on Oct. 1.

No theme is better suited for the day than “College Radio is Resilient Radio,” a way to acknowledge the many hardships endured as a result of the coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic.

Not only did WMSC, along with many other college radio stations and staff, cover heartbreaking, hard news related to the pandemic, but the process of conducting the station from home took more resources, flexibility and adaptation as well.

The WMSC team is ready to celebrate their strength in the face of these struggles by contributing to the 11th annual World College Radio Day, an event where students call awareness to hardships endured as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic.

It’s 100% about them and their learning experience,” Poland said. “They also see the sleepless nights on their faces, it makes me want to work harder and take as much pride in what I’m doing as they are in their [work],” Horn said.

WMSC hopes to share their hard work in their WMSC peers by tuning in Thursday, Sept. 30 at 6 p.m. until Saturday, Oct. 2 at 3 a.m. They may give requests and even hop onto the golf cart for karaoke, taking photos and videos along the way to be shared on social media using the hashtag #WMSCCRD.

“We are lucky to have such a hard-working and talented team that understands the responsibility of operating a college radio station and purely love their craft,” Maciak said. “We all share the same eagerness and thrill for college radio and want to show off our talents to the world.”

Students at Montclair State can support the hard work put in by their WMSC peers by tuning in Thursday, Sept. 30 at 6 p.m. until Saturday, Oct. 2 at 3 a.m. They may give requests and even hop onto the golf cart for karaoke, taking photos and videos along the way to be shared on social media using the hashtag #WMSCCRD.

Join Montclair State University’s very own radio station, WMSC, as they participate in World College Radio Day on Oct. 1.

No theme is better suited for the day than “College Radio is Resilient Radio,” a way to acknowledge the many hardships endured as a result of the coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic.

Not only did WMSC, along with many other college radio stations and staff, cover heartbreaking, hard news related to the pandemic, but the process of conducting the station from home took more resources, flexibility and adaptation as well.

The WMSC team is ready to celebrate their strength in the face of these struggles by contributing to the 11th annual World College Radio Day, an event where students call awareness to hardships endured as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic.

It’s 100% about them and their learning experience,” Poland said. “They also see the sleepless nights on their faces, it makes me want to work harder and take as much pride in what I’m doing as they are in their [work],” Horn said.

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All the Great Successes and Downfalls of The Governors Ball 2021

After a secluded year and a half, the grandiosity of music festivals was something that had disappeared from our minds. The Governors Ball, or Gov Ball for short, was an imperative reminder to that collective longing for live music.

This was made abundantly clear by the masked, screaming teenagers on the 7 Train from Manhattan to Queens, eager to get their much-needed fix of live music.

From Sept. 24 to 26 at Citi Field in Queens, New York, Founders Entertainment welcomed over 150,000 attendees for the 10th anniversary of Gov Ball, a celebrated feat after a year-long hiatus due to the ongoing coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic.

Over the course of three days, festival-goers celebrated with a carefully curated lineup that included some of Generation Z’s favorite closing headliners: Billie Eilish, A$AP Rocky and Post Malone. Among others were J Balvin, his notoriously complicated flow that most rappers would dread.

This was made abundantly clear by the 19-year-old superstar, Billie Eilish, closed out the Gov Ball main stage on Friday night to an aggressively enthusiastic crowd, many of whom had been waiting over an hour for the singer to begin. Eilish proved her spot as the most rappers would dread.

As the ideal soundtrack to the sunset in Queens, indie-emo-folk artist Phoebe Bridgers sobered audiences with her moody and melancholic ballads from her albums “Punisher” and “Stranger in the Alps.” Dressed in a blackbird outfit, Bridgers gave an incredibly honest and vulnerable performance, quite possibly the very definition of a “tear-jerker.”

In a stark juxtaposition right next to much hype, rapper Post Malone performed an infectiously rhythmic and fiery performance of his catalog, seamlessly introducing reggaeton to a crowd largely unfamiliar with the work of himself and his Puerto Rican colleague Bad Bunny.

Shortly after on the main stage, A$AP Rocky gave his standard mosh-pit inducing performance after being introduced by New York Gov. Kathy Hochul.

Sunday closed out with a beautifully crafted performance by Atlanta native 24kGoldn, followed by Nigerian afrobeats rapper Burna Boy, showcasing a politically charged set with a live band. British DJ and producer Jamie xx closed out the Grubhub stage with his criminally catchy rhythms.

To much hype, rapper Post Malone closed Gov Ball with a performance of his biggest hits. Malone opened his set leaning on a walkway suspended above the stage, chains hanging around him.

However, not every artist had the pointy performances, but rather the lack of variety and in the culture of the festival itself. It took, for example, 10 years of Gov Ball for there to be a Latin American headliner — this being J Balvin.

This is just one example, as the line-up itself lacked in Asian artists, as well as Black female artists. Unfortunately, this is merely a reflection of Gov Ball’s audience, which consists primarily of white, wealthy high schoolers and college students who seem to be exclusively pop fans.

Post Malone was lit up by his choreographed pyrotechnics while closing Sunday night.

Photo courtesy of Julian Rigg

In a stark juxtaposition right next door on the Honda stage, Colombian rapper J Balvin performed an infectiously rhythmic and fiery performance of his catalog, seamlessly introducing reggaeton to a crowd largely unfamiliar with the work of himself and his Puerto Rican colleague Bad Bunny.

Unfortunately, UMI was not that. Where Gov Ball fell flat, however, was not in a small number of disappointing performances, but rather the lack of variety and in the culture of the festival itself. It took, for example, 10 years of Gov Ball for there to be a Latin American headliner — this being J Balvin.

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However, whether you are complaining about Gov Ball’s lack of variety and diversity, late set times, $14 Bud Lite or exasperatingly “staid” culture, one can agree that Gov Ball made up for where it fell short. With a combination of incredible performances and a crowd that was just happy to be there, one can look over the festival’s flaws. It was a much-needed breath of hope that where we’re heading is someplace good.
Top Picks to Stream

International Podcast Day Edition

‘Anything Goes’ on Spotify

Podcasts are a great way to take a break from music on your commute to school or walk through campus. Emma Chamberlain’s “Anything Goes” podcast is a validating breath of fresh air. Chamberlain’s unmatched ability to describe and articulate how so many of us feel during this transitional time in our lives is addictive. In fact, you may not even realize you feel the same way as her until you listen to this podcast. It is easy to listen to episodes back to back while never getting bored because she is always ready with a new topic.

Her wit and raw emotion make time pass so quickly as you listen to her stories and make you laugh while doing so. Chamberlain's charming way. Her goals are to give advice and even her struggles with mental health. Her wit and raw emotion make time pass so quickly as you listen to her stories and make you laugh while doing so. Chamberlain’s “Anything Goes” podcast is a validating breath of fresh air.

Emma Chamberlain’s “Anything Goes” podcast and no topic is off-limits. Chamberlain’s podcasts are clever and mind-blowing. I binged watched the show within a day of its release and am already in despair. I also noticed that the show was extremely well put together in terms of videography. Every scene was either lively with colors and lights or eerie and mysterious. A lot of the characters benefited from this, as it helped distinguish their personalities from one another at the beginning of the show.

The only downside of the series is when the VIPs, the group of wealthy men who fund the Squid Games, come to watch the final two games. The dramatic switch from everyone speaking Korean to everyone speaking English takes away from the environment and atmosphere building. Most of their lines weren’t important to the plot and in some instances felt gimmicky and overdramatic.

Overall, “Squid Game” is eerie and brilliant, often leaving me to place my hands over my mouth or eyes out of shock with how many plot twists were thrown in. The suspense and buildup of every episode is followed by gore and, on some occasions, utter despair.

The only words I can describe the series with are clever and mind-blowing. I binged watched the show within a day of its release and am already gearing up for an announcement of a second season.

Start off spooky season by streaming a thrilling choice, “Crime Junkie.” Hosted by Ashley Flowers and Brit Prawat, this weekly podcast provides in-depth coverage and commentary on horrifying true crime stories. Listeners feel as though they’re sitting in the room with the hosts, joining in as they analyze murders, kidnappings and more. The episodes never seem to fall short of giving crime junkies a hair-raising experience, while simultaneously making them feel as if they’re a part of a casual conversation.

The 456 contestants in “Squid Game” must pass six tests to win the ultimate prize.

‘Squid Game’ is Korean Brilliance

Tiffannie Coy
Staff Writer

There is no show quite like “Squid Game,” the Korean drama released Sept. 17 on Netflix.

With the amount of gore and plot twists in the nine-episode series, the only thing that could come close is the infamous and just as brilliant “Saw” franchise. Though there aren’t any elaborate traps awaiting the contestants in “Squid Game,” the games involve luck, and if players lose it, they just may make it to see the end.

Directed by Hwang Dong-hyuk, “Squid Game” follows the story of Seong Gi-hun, played by Lee Jung-jae, as he struggles to pay thousands of dollars back in debt, as well as make time for his daughter and be a good son. Having difficulty coming to terms with his financial status, Gi-hun makes bad decisions; that’s how he ends up in the Squid Games to begin with.

The 456 contestants in “Squid Game” must pass six tests to win the ultimate prize, which is money to pay off their various debts. The only catch is they can’t leave the facility, and unless the majority decides to go home and forfeit the money, all players must participate in every game.

Gi-hun, although greedy with his money, is a bright and lovable person who always tries to bring positivity to any situation. His optimistic personality is the main reason why so many don’t lose hope while participating in the Squid Games.

While not giving too much of the plot away, or the characters’ backgrounds, it is evident that “Squid Game” is extremely thought out and designed to have you on the edge of your seat for the nine-hour ride. After discovering the plot of the show was worked on over the course of 13 years, it’s no wonder each episode fits like pieces in a puzzle. Viewers can tell the entire series was put together with so much attention to detail that there were little to no plot holes in the story.

The main visual point executed by Netflix extremely well is their amazing set designs. These sets, while simple at first glance, are highly detailed and tell the story of each game. Some were vibrant in color while others were simply terrifying. “Squid Game” takes place in a maze of brightly colored hallways and zigzagging staircases, resembling a work of art when observed from the top down.

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Broadway Hit ‘Dear Evan Hansen’ Takes the Big Screen

Stephen Chbosky, director of the new “Dear Evan Hansen” movie, brought the Broadway smash hit to the big screen.

Chbosky has also directed other films such as “Perks of Being a Wallflower,” “Beauty and the Beast,” “Rent” and many other fan favorites. Similar to those movies, Chbosky did not miss the mark with “Dear Evan Hansen.”

Evan Hansen, played by Ben Platt, is a high school boy with immense anxiety. When he writes a note to himself as a therapy assignment, the school bully, Connor Murphy, played by Colton Ryan, finds it and keeps it.

Later, Connor is found dead with the note in his pocket, which makes it seem like he wrote his suicide note to Evan. This starts a lot of trouble in school and with the Murphy family.

Throughout the film, Platt does an incredible job of portraying an anxiety-ridden high school student. He portrays certain signs that we see grow and disappear as time goes on depending on what situation Evan is in. The character development from beginning to end is what makes the movie feel so real.

Kaitlyn Dever, who plays Zoe Murphy, Evan's love interest and Connor’s sister, has been in many well-known films before such as “Booksmart,” so it was known her acting would not fall short. Achieving expectations, she brought Zoe so much spunk and angst. Viewers even saw a hint of her soft side, which was perfect for the character.

Together, Platt and Dever were an incredible cast, despite the comedic efforts to make Platt, who is 28 years old, look like a 17-year-old boy. Not only did the actors bring life to the scenes, but so did the new aspects of the movie.

In another scene, when Connor’s parents and sister are singing “Requiem,” viewers are able to see the characters’ intentions and why they are singing the part they are. This is just one example of how the editing played a huge role in showing how the characters respond to each other, helping to make the Broadway show more clear.

One track the movie lacked was “Good for You.” Supposed to be sung by Evan’s mother, this song plays a vital role in the show. It brings the climax together; we see everyone’s anger, disappointment and frustration. Without it, the climax did not hit as hard as it should have.

For fans of the Broadway musical, some other songs, such as “Anybody Have a Map,” “Disappear” and “To Break in a Glove,” were removed, but these did not hinder the film in any way.

All together, Chbosky did a great job turning the Broadway original into a movie. This tear jerker is an excellent portrayal of mental health issues and how everyone deals with different situations. Teens and young adults deal with anxiety, depression and suicide every day, and this movie helps put those watching in their shoes as they experience similar everyday struggles.

If you are struggling with mental health, reach out to Montclair State University’s Counseling and Psychological Services (CAPS). You are not alone.
Chlöe Blossoms in Debut Single ‘Have Mercy’

Mya Whyte
Staff Writer

As the iconic R&B musical duo Chlöe and Halle Bailey settle down after completing the era of their 2020 sophomore album, “Ungodly Hour,” the two musicians have begun their own individual journeys.

With Halle Bailey pursuing an acting career as Ariel in the upcoming live-action adaptation of “The Little Mermaid,” Chlöe Bailey, now only referred to as Chlöe, debuted as a solo artist and is currently gaining attention for her recent single, “Have Mercy.”

Prior to “Have Mercy,” her first performance twisted Nina Simone’s classic, “Feeling Good,” into her own soulful and sultry yet chilling and modern cover, embodying not only her sound and image but embracing a new version of herself in the public eye. She blossomed into an empowered Black woman embracing her skin, encouraging other women to love their sexual side and bodies.

Chlöe continues to exhibit this positive message in “Have Mercy.”

What first began as merely an announcement, soon turned into a teaser going viral on TikTok. The wait finally ended on Sept. 10 when the song dropped.

“Have Mercy” is an uptempo R&B track with a modern sound that would make anyone want to dance. It caters to a new shift in the genre, but also dips into old sounds by sampling TT the Artist and UNIIQU3’s 2018 track, “Off The Chain.” Chlöe uses their iconic line “Booty so big (Work), Lord, have mercy” to define a raw, yet fun sexual energy.

The lyrics are simple but set forth an anthem where people of any body type can feel confident in themselves without a care in the world. Chlöe sing-raps at a fast-paced speed that perfectly suits the rhythmic upbeat tempo of the song, especially toward the pre-chorus.

“He say he like that Lafy Taffy / He so goofy, call me daddy / He go daffy / Introduce me to his papi / He can never live without me / I’m so real, I’m never cappin’,” she sings.

Though she keeps the same sing-rapping voice throughout the song, there are some hidden harmonies and high notes that showcase her vocals nicely.

If the song is not enough to entice people to listen, then the vivid, eye-catching music video will, as it incorporates a Medusa-sorority theme. Chlöe and her backup dancers portray themselves as modern-day sirens who roam through a beautiful, brightly colored sorority house where they dance in order to seduce men to their deaths by turning them to stone.

Besides its plot, the music video packs so much more as it shows star-studded cameo appearances from Tina Knowles-Lawson, British pop artist Bree Runway and actor Rome Flynn. Also, there are the amazing visuals of Chlöe channeling her confidence, swag and effortless dance by choreographed dance, along with constant outfit changes that display the boldness and artistic side of the artist.

Chlöe continued to ring in this new era of her single with a live performance on the MTV Video Music Awards on Sept. 12, where she established herself as a rising star. At the beginning of her performance, she embodied a scary and possessed persona to showcase her theatrical side, then broke into a fierce scream. The scream represents the fury she unleashes, showing the world she has had enough of being criticized for showing skin and isn’t afraid of judgment anymore.

She continues to do this overtly provocative performance, incorporating elements from her video by seducing her male backup dancers as her Medusa character and toward the end, licking the microphone.

Not only does this performance and her journey with her first single, “Have Mercy,” show how Chlöe has grown artistically, but also that she is a blossoming young woman who won’t let anyone stop her from going further into her path of self-acceptance.
### This Week In Red Hawk Sports

**THU 9/30**
- No games

**FRI 10/1**
- Field Hockey at Rowan University
  - 4:00 p.m.

**SAT 10/2**
- Women’s Cross Country at NJIT Highlander Challenge
  - 11:00 a.m.
- Women’s Volleyball vs. St. Joseph College
  - 1:00 p.m.
- Football vs. Salisbury University
  - 1:00 p.m.
- Women’s Soccer vs. The College Of New Jersey
  - 1:00 p.m.
- Women’s Volleyball vs. Neumann University
  - 3:00 p.m.
- Men’s Soccer at The College Of New Jersey
  - 6:00 p.m.

**SUN 10/3**
- No games

**MON 10/4**
- No games

**TUE 10/5**
- Women’s Volleyball vs. Ramapo College
  - 7:00 p.m.

**WED 10/6**
- Field Hockey vs. William Paterson University
  - 7:00 p.m.
- Women’s Volleyball vs. FDU-Florham
  - 7:00 p.m.

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### Red Hawk Recap

**TUES 9/28**

**Red Hawk Recap**

**SAT 9/25**
- Rutgers-Newark: 0
- Montclair State University foot ball team couldn’t have asked for a better day to fight for their first season win against visiting school Worcester Polytechnic Institute (WPI). The Engineers’ offense to just 264 total yards: 67 on the ground and 197 through the air. The Red Hawks came into this contest starving for a victory, losing their first three games. The offense stumbled coming out of the gate, scoring their first touchdown week three in the game against WPI. The Red Hawks got out of the gate fast. Senior quarterback Ja’Quill Burch connected with wide receiver Reilly Nelson for a 41-yard passing touchdown on just the second play from scrimmage. In one-on-one coverage, Nelson got up and grabbed the 50/50 ball to secure the first points on the board, a touchdown that set the tone for the rest of the game.

Despite some questionable play-calling ending in two subsequent punts with a three and out, the offense found their rhythm putting up 386 yards, averaging 6.5 yards per play. Playing with complete control, Burch had a lot of time to operate behind a stout offensive line. Extending plays and making good decisions, Burch protected the football, completing the game without an interception. Burch also became the fifth Montclair State quarterback to surpass 5,000 career-passing yards.

The senior quarterback filled the role the Red Hawks needed him from: a game manager who made several big throws in key moments. There was never a worry when Burch had the ball. The Montclair State football team were what could be considered a red "color rush" uniform. This decision was made on Instagram earlier in the week, where they let students and fans vote on what uniform combination they should wear in the game against WPI. The red pants worn on game day beat out their white and grey counterparts.

The Red Hawks can’t spend any time celebrating their first win. Next week starts the first of a six-week stretch of New Jersey Athletic Conference (NJAC) opponents as they play their first conference game when Salisbury University comes to Sprague Field.

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**TUES 9/28**

**Red Hawks Field Hockey:**
- 0
  - #7 Williams College: 1

**Red Hawks Men’s Volleyball:**
- 3
  - Rutgers-Newark: 0

**Red Hawks Women’s Volleyball:**
- 3
  - New Jersey City University: 0

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**SPORTS**

**FOOTBALL AVOIDS 0-4 START WITH BIG VICTORY**

Red Hawks register nearly 400 yards of offense in first victory

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**Trent Freeman**

Staff Writer

With blue skies and a slight breeze from north to south, the Montclair State University football team couldn’t have asked for a better day to fight for their first season win against visiting school Worcester Polytechnic Institute (WPI). The Engineers won the coin toss and nothing else, as the Red Hawks flew to a 31-10 victory.

Senior defensive back Mike Ramos played fast and was felt all over the field. He spoke about the importance of this first win.

“It’s huge. starting 0-3. We needed to get one win coming into conferences,” Ramos said. “Now we have conference play for the rest of the season so this was a huge win to get this under our belt, get us some confidence to get going for the rest of the season. Ramos accounted for nine tackles and a fumble recovery for 17 yards. He led a suffocating defensive unit that held the Engineers’ offense to just 264 total yards: 67 on the ground and 197 through the air. The Red Hawks came into this contest starving for a victory, losing their first three games. The offense stumbled coming out of the gate, scoring their first touchdown week three in the game against WPI. The Red Hawks got out of the gate fast. Senior quarterback Ja’Quill Burch connected with wide receiver Reilly Nelson for a 41-yard passing touchdown on just the second play from scrimmage. In one-on-one coverage, Nelson got up and grabbed the 50/50 ball to secure the first points on the board, a touchdown that set the tone for the rest of the game.

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**Junior offensive lineman Joe Tati (#75) celebrates after the Red Hawks pick up their first victory.**

**Kevin Murrugarra | The Montclarion**
Freshman On The Men’s Soccer Team Are Shining Early On

This year’s class of freshman has propelled Montclair State to championship contention

Matt Orth
Assistant Sports Editor

Montclair State University has been around for over a century; 113 years to be exact. The incoming freshman class is the biggest the school has ever seen, with 3,619 starting their college journey as a Red Hawk, a 16% increase from last year’s class.

Of those freshmen, a few of them are playing their hearts out for the Montclair State men's soccer team. Justin Goldberg, junior midfielder and second-year all-conference last season, knows the squad is set for years to come thanks to this stellar freshman class.

“Y ou see this in our recruiting classes and all of these kids that come to our camps,” Goldberg said. “In just our first game, we had four or five freshmen who have trouble picking who has helped the most so far.

Chesney is proud of what his team has been able to do as well.

“There are a lot of different influential people on our team,” Lukovic said. “The coaches and the captains really push me to perform my best every game. The pregame talks and everybody getting hyped up really helps boost my ability to play.”

Head coach Todd Tumelty, in his 11th season with the Red Hawks, recognizes the premier talent needed to be successful in the NJAC for men's soccer. And he knows that Lukovic and Chesney have what it takes to continue their hot streak.

“It’s hard to start as a freshman here at Montclair State. The level of talent is that good,” Tumelty said. “And you are an 18 [or] 19-year-old kid going up against 22-year-old men. I commend [Lukovic and Chesney] for putting in the work in the offseason. When you see freshmen out on the field, that means your program is moving in the right direction.”

Lukovic and Chesney are just some of the freshmen helping to propel the men's soccer squad to early glory so far this season. Midfielder Owen Murphy has been a regular starter for this team since the beginning of the season and has already contributed one goal and an assist. Forward Reed Karsen has been one of the leading scorers on this team with four goals.

And with conference play soon approaching on the schedule, this unit's skills will be put to the test. But with the support group they have alongside them, it will take a lot to bring down the next generation of Red Hawks on this team.

Freshman Owen Murphy moves the ball upfield.

Photo courtesy of David Venezia