The Montclarion, September 8, 2022

Follow this and additional works at: https://digitalcommons.montclair.edu/montclarion

Recommended Citation
https://digitalcommons.montclair.edu/montclarion/1568

This Book is brought to you for free and open access by the Student Newspapers at Montclair State University Digital Commons. It has been accepted for inclusion in The Montclarion by an authorized administrator of Montclair State University Digital Commons. For more information, please contact digitalcommons@montclair.edu.
Hannah Ellfinger is the Production Editor of The Montclarion. She is responsible for most of the inner workings of our paper, including the process of printing and distribution. From putting our newsletter together to writing witty niche entertainment articles, Ellfinger is the jack of all trades for The Montclarion. To add to her mountain of responsibilities, Ellfinger took it upon herself to redesign our logo. To introduce the new look, Ellfinger has provided us with a little background into her process and why we as The Montclarion decided to make this change.

A bout six months ago, I asked our Editor-in-Chief, Emma Caughlan, if redoing the logo was something feasible, to which she responded, “Do whatever, but don’t make it look like the Monster energy logo.” This might have been her worst decision yet, other than letting me write horoscopes again (check them out on page 14), or letting me and Avery do marketing—linking us in an indirect way.

I did, in fact, make about five drafts that did look like they could be on a special edition Monster can, but after a few rounds of iterations, I figured it out.

As soon as I showed Professor George the new design for the logo, she said, “So, you’re trying to do the exact opposite of what the last rebrand hoped to accomplish,” and of course, I said, “yes.” The previous rebranding had served the purpose to emphasize the fact that The Montclarion is not only a newspaper but a multimedia platform; which it did. And like it or not I think the pandemic expedited this process, as the paper was forced to transition to a fully online publication from Spring 2020 to Fall 2021. Now, everyone knows that The Montclarion is multi-platform, everything is nowadays, but what sets us apart is the physicality of our print paper.

Before the paper took up every waking moment of my Wednesdays—and often most other days of the week—I hardly ever picked up the paper. I’d check The Montclarion’s Insta-gram every now and then, read an article one of my friends wrote through the website, or even see one of Avery’s Montclair State logos all around campus. Thus, the return of the logo to something more print influenced—a modified blackletter typeface reminiscent of The New York Times or the Washington Post made sense in the context of the idea I was seeking to communicate.

I won’t bore you all with the details of the history of a typeface, but in modern culture, blackletter typefaces are most often seen in newspapers and within academia. They have this subconscious influence where they radiate the feeling of credibility, of something formal and old that’s been around for longer than you or your parents could remember.

So yes, this front page may look like the previous ones; and our branding, emphasizing that The Montclarion, are not a standard Montclair State-based mascot of Montclair State, but also drastically visually different from the branding the university uses throughout its marketing—linking us in an more indirect way.

It’s true, this front page may not be what you’re used to seeing every Thursday in print, or when you check our socials to see what Instagram reel the Montclarion’s new full logo.

The Montclarion’s new full logo.

The Montclarion's new icon.

Hannah Effinger | The Montclarion
The Montclarion is a publication of Montelican Publishing, Inc. published weekly, except during the 2020 fall and 2021 spring semesters, examinations, summer and winter sessions. The Montclarion is funded by student fees distributed by Montclair State University and incoming advertising revenue. The views expressed in the Opinion section, with the exception of the Main Editorial, do not necessarily reflect the views of The Montclarion.

The Montclarion has a commitment to accuracy and clarity and will print corrections or clarifications if information is found to be incorrect. To report an error of fact or a Letter to the Editor, email the Editor-in-Chief at montclarionchief@gmail.com.

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. Information reported in the Red Hawk Rap Sheet comes directly from 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.

---

Red Hawk Rap Sheet

**Monday, August 29**
Harrassment: A MSU employee reported an incident of harassment, whereby they received harassing phone calls from a known caller. This incident is under investigation.

**Tuesday, August 30**
Student Recreational Center: A student reported an incident of theft from the Student Recreational Center. This case is under investigation.

**Wednesday, August 31**
Harassment: A student reported an incident of cyber harassment from a non-student. This case is under investigation.

**Thursday, September 1**
Student Center: Officers responded to Gordon Hall in regards to a report of a sexual assault. This incident is presently under investigation.

**Thursday, September 1**
Arrested: Officers responded to Yogi Berra Drive in regards to a report of a suspicious male. The suspect was was placed under arrest and charged with one count of Defiant Trespass.

Anyone who has information regarding these incidents is urged to call the police station at T-I-P-S (8477).
Montclair State University’s President Johnathan Koppe1 kick-started the new semester by welcoming the Class of 2026 to the nest on Sept 2.

The day started with the president of the Student Government Association (SGA), Richard Steiner-Otoo, amping up the crowd by calling people up to dance.

As the crowd cheered on, the best dancers were thrown t-shirts.

Prior to the presidential address, Steiner-Otoo promised the crowd a great year as the new SGA president. “I know that we’re [going to] have an amazing year,” Steiner-Otoo said. “This is just the beginning.”

Afterward, Koppell took to the stage and reminded students of the positive impact they have on campus and motivated them to have a productive semester. “The entire campus has a totally different life when you guys show up and you’re ready and eager,” Koppell said. “And I can’t tell you how much it pumps our hearts to be surrounded by all of you.”

He further explained Montclair States’ motto, “Carpe Diem” which means to seize the day and to make the most out of it. “Think about who you want to be,” Koppell said. “So the question is, what can you do now? How do you seize this day, to put yourself on a path towards that?”

Koppell encouraged students to think about what they want the world to like and how they can get to that world. “Think about what that world looks like, I mean it,” Koppell said. “And now say, ‘How do I need to grow? How do I need to evolve to be that difference maker that makes the world that I want to live in, that I want my friends to live in, that I want, yes, someday your children to live in?’ While you’re having a good time, keep your eyes on that possibility. And if you do so, [you will] find this [college to be] a magnificent time.”

Dawn Soufleris, the vice president of Student Life and Development, thanked the orientation leaders, professional staff and the campus for welcoming the Class of 2026. Soufleris then got the ball rolling by introducing Red Hawk Day and the activities it offered.

Kim Lepps Power, a freshman undecided, loved Koppell’s speech and how lively the student body was. “It was a pretty cool welcome,” Lepps Power said. “I liked how [Koppell] made his speech more of a discussion rather than just him talking to us. I love to see how interactive everyone is. I was really nervous at the beginning, like meeting other people. But everyone actually wants to interact with one another and I just love the spirit.”

The school mascot, Rocky the Red Hawk, dances with students at the end of the presidential address.
The Montclair State University community is mourning the death of associate professor of biology, Vladislav Snitsarev, who died unexpectedly in his lab.

Snitsarev was 55 years old and a resident of Montclair. He began to work at the university in 2011.

Elena Petroff, an associate professor of biology and Snitsarev’s wife, described her husband as a motivated person and an exceptional professional.

“[I will remember him] as an original thinker, great scientist and inspiring professor,” Petroff said.

The Chair of the biology department, Dirk Vanderklein, said Snitsarev was a kind and helpful individual.

“I would describe him as a warm and generous person who was always willing to help with anything that needed to be done around the department,” Vanderklein said. “He was very curious and always looking for interesting ways to teach his courses in animal physiology.”

Petroff shared a similar sentiment.

“[I will remember him] as a happy, kind and driven person,” Petroff said.

Lora Billings, the dean of science and mathematics, also shared her deepest condolences in a message sent to the Montclair State community sharing the sad news.

“Professor Snitsarev was a dedicated member of our faculty who was truly committed to [Montclair State], its mission and to helping students reach their potential,” Billings said.

He will be missed by all of his colleagues in the College of Science and Mathematics and the university community will continue to keep his wife and family in their thoughts and prayers.

Montclair State Mourns Biology Professor

Jennifer Portorreal
News Editor

The Montclair State University community is mourning the death of associate professor of biology, Vladislav Snitsarev, who died unexpectedly in his lab.

Snitsarev was 55 years old and a resident of Montclair. He began to work at the university in 2011.

Elena Petroff, an associate professor of biology and Snitsarev’s wife, described her husband as a motivated person and an exceptional professional.

“[I will remember him] as an original thinker, great scientist and inspiring professor,” Petroff said.

The Chair of the biology department, Dirk Vanderklein, said Snitsarev was a kind and helpful individual.

“I would describe him as a warm and generous person who was always willing to help with anything that needed to be done around the department,” Vanderklein said. “He was very curious and always looking for interesting ways to teach his courses in animal physiology.”

Petroff shared a similar sentiment.

“[I will remember him] as a happy, kind and driven person,” Petroff said.

Lora Billings, the dean of science and mathematics, also shared her deepest condolences in a message sent to the Montclair State community sharing the sad news.

“Professor Snitsarev was a dedicated member of our faculty who was truly committed to [Montclair State], its mission and to helping students reach their potential,” Billings said.

He will be missed by all of his colleagues in the College of Science and Mathematics and the university community will continue to keep his wife and family in their thoughts and prayers.

Montclair State Mourns Biology Professor

Jennifer Portorreal
News Editor

The Montclair State University community is mourning the death of associate professor of biology, Vladislav Snitsarev, who died unexpectedly in his lab.

Snitsarev was 55 years old and a resident of Montclair. He began to work at the university in 2011.

Elena Petroff, an associate professor of biology and Snitsarev’s wife, described her husband as a motivated person and an exceptional professional.

“[I will remember him] as an original thinker, great scientist and inspiring professor,” Petroff said.

The Chair of the biology department, Dirk Vanderklein, said Snitsarev was a kind and helpful individual.

“I would describe him as a warm and generous person who was always willing to help with anything that needed to be done around the department,” Vanderklein said. “He was very curious and always looking for interesting ways to teach his courses in animal physiology.”

Petroff shared a similar sentiment.

“[I will remember him] as a happy, kind and driven person,” Petroff said.

Lora Billings, the dean of science and mathematics, also shared her deepest condolences in a message sent to the Montclair State community sharing the sad news.

“Professor Snitsarev was a dedicated member of our faculty who was truly committed to [Montclair State], its mission and to helping students reach their potential,” Billings said.

He will be missed by all of his colleagues in the College of Science and Mathematics and the university community will continue to keep his wife and family in their thoughts and prayers.
PHOTO ESSAY:
Red Hawk Day

Montclair State University students gathered around campus to celebrate the annual Red Hawk Day on Sept. 1.

The day commenced with a student involvement fair, which consisted of different organizations and clubs. Students lined up in front of tables to sign up to get more involved around campus.

People danced to music, had a barbecue and went on rides at Montclair State’s first-ever carnival. Attractions ranged from a Ferris wheel, the Round Up ride, the Roll-a-Ball game, Bean Bag Tosses, the Fun Slide, the Paratrooper ride, a mirror maze and temporary tattoos.

Many students expressed how much fun they had being on campus and how ready they are to take on the semester.

Faith Monesteri, a freshman linguistics major, said she was excited to socialize and meet other people as a new student.

“I’m glad that I have this opportunity to join clubs and organizations and I’m also happy to see that there are different ways that we can socialize with other people who share similar interests,” Monesteri said.

Ashley Barberio, a freshman elementary education major, said having Red Hawk Day is a strong way to start the semester.

“Having a whole carnival a day before classes is so fun and it’s a great way to meet new people,” Barberio said.

Students slide down the Fun Slide. Lynise Olivacce | The Montclarion

Montclair State University held a carnival on Red Hawk Day to kick off the semester. Karsten Englander | The Montclarion

Students play a ball game. Lynise Olivacce | The Montclarion

A student gets excited about her win in a bean bag toss game. Karsten Englander | The Montclarion

Students dance together. Karsten Englander | The Montclarion

Students ride the Paratrooper ride. Lynise Olivacce | The Montclarion

PHOTO ESSAY:
Red Hawk Day

Lynise Olivacce
Photo Editor
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

Parking and Fees
Campus Activities
WANT TO BE PART OF SOMETHING GREATER?

Write for feature! Fashion writer wanted

Contact Montclarionfeature@gmail.com

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
Peter Di Prospero Fosters Film Community

What makes a college student successful? For some, the answer could be having a high GPA or joining a lot of clubs. However, for Peter Di Prospero, success is found through taking initiative and starting something completely new.

Di Prospero is a sophomore filmmaking BFA student who spent the majority of his freshman year getting involved in student filmmaking, over 40 film sets to be exact. The Bridgewater Township, New Jersey native heard advice from a friend, fellow sophomore filmmaking major Andy Cook, who told him to work a little every single day. Di Prospero has clearly followed his advice as he has a plethora of film credits and job experience under his belt.

“Coming to Montclair [State], the one thing I knew that I needed to do was to hop on as many sets as I could,” Di Prospero said. “The first big set that I was on was a night shoot with a crew of 35 people in Hillsborough that was 15 hours long.”

With being involved in the university’s filmmaking program, Di Prospero has gained many connections, experience and even a job opportunity. He works as a video editor for Montclair State’s Feliciano School of Business.

Di Prospero learned many things in just a short time being employed outside of his classes and spending more time with the professionals.

“You shouldn’t just look at your films as artistic expressions of yourself,” Di Prospero said. “They should be marketing materials to get you a job and get you employed.”

One of Di Prospero’s greatest feats yet is his latest, the Montclair State student-run Silver Slate Film Festival. The festival took place on the first day of classes, Friday, Sept. 2.

The festival had a great turnout, a wity host and a plethora of great films handpicked to showcase thanks to the hard work of Di Prospero. Student filmmakers were able to watch and present their films to one another in a safe and fun environment.

Di Prospero is also credited as the founder of the Instagram account @msu.filmmakers and the MSU [Montclair State] Filmmakers Discord server. He utilizes Discord’s tools to create a space for all types of students to be a part of student films and uses the Instagram account to promote and give appreciation to those films.

Di Prospero found a problem in the past system of connecting students to each other and decided to fix it himself.

“Montclair State used to have a really good system of connecting students through Canvas,” Di Prospero said. “There’ll be a Canvas announce-ment board. So when film students had productions [they] wanted to do, they could announce it on the board, and everyone would see it. The problem with that Canvas board was it was just restricted to BFA students.”

One of Di Prospero’s greatest qualities is his commitment to creating an environment where everyone can thrive, not just himself. Not only do people have nice things to say about Di Prospero, but he has many nice things to say about others. His selflessness and passion for creating a community are rare in such a competitive industry.

One of his fellow classmates and close friends, sophomore film and television major Boone Bries, commented on DiProspero’s impact on Montclair State filmmaking students.

“Di Prospero is one of the most talented, dedicated and hard-working people I’ve had the pleasure to meet,” Bries said. “His work ethic and fearless nature to learn and grow as a filmmaker is sincerely inspiring.”

Di Prospero gained more praise from another student, sophomore animation/illustration major Natalya “Artemys” Kozlovski, who has known him since the beginning of their college ventures.

“[Di Prospero] was one of the first friends I made at Montclair [State] during the Summer Bridge Program in 2021,” Kozlovski said. “He’s a genuine, caring person who loves his craft and I’m very happy to have gotten to know him over this past year and a half.”

Many people give thanks to Di Prospero and his innovation and hard work towards giving filmmakers a community at Montclair State as well as an opportunity to showcase their work to one another.
On Friday, Sept. 2, Montclair State University held its first day of classes for the fall semester. Students at Montclair State participated in “First-Day Fits,” a time for students to show off their first-day outfits in front of University Hall.

The first day of college can feel very intimidating. For some students, this is where their style plays a big part in how they adapt to different environments. Many students use their style as a way to express their daily emotions or tap into their alter egos.

This hour allowed students to share what their first-day look meant to them and how their style contributes to their overall confidence. Students shared insight on who and what inspires them to be uniquely themselves.

Mars Adams, a freshman film and television major, shared why her style teaches her to be comfortable with herself. Adams rocked an oversized hoodie with ripped fishnets and paired it with her favorite Steve Madden platform boots. Adam explains that dressing like this wasn't always a part of her everyday style, and how over time she was able to be comfortable in the clothing she truly loves.

"I wasn't allowed to wear what I wanted in high school," Adams said. "I'm finally able to wear what I want and do my makeup as much as I want. I feel like the confidence that lives in me expresses through my fashion."

Several upperclassmen spoke about why it's important to wear what you want and be true to yourself on Montclair State's campus.

Courtney Theodule, a senior jurisprudence, law and society major, advises incoming freshmen who want to get into fashion on campus to stay true to themselves.

"Since you're on campus, be unique and be the one that stands out," Theodule said. "Try not to be like everyone else or what everyone else wants to buy."

Theodule started off her fall semester with a brown-toned outfit. She paired her pants and brown button-up shirt with a “Protect Black Women” bag from the black-owned brand CISE. She then topped it all off with her wildly patterned Adidas sneakers.

"I like stuff that everyone doesn’t have," Theodule said. "I just feel like that makes me unique on its own."

Since the start of the coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic, there has been a rapid increase in the lack of individuality. Overtime, people have begun to latch onto each other’s styles and favorite clothing pieces. While this can be great, it stops people from searching for what they like and don’t like.

Sheridan Harney, a freshman biology major, paired a black and white crop top with ripped low-rise jeans and black Doc Martens. Harney also sported different accessories such as a double grommet belt, studded bracelets and a white star tote bag.

Harney’s style inspiration comes from the early 2000s. She also advised on how others can incorporate things they are genuinely interested in through their style.

"Look at the media you consume and which parts [of] that you enjoy and just take all of it in," Harney said. "Just don't be afraid to express yourself."

Fashion statements are a way to show off individuality. With the ability to make it their own, these students took pride in what they wore and how they presented themselves on their first day of school.
"Where The Crawdads Sing" expresses author Delia Owens' love for nature, for the coming of age story and mystery. Published in 2018 as Owens' debut novel, it was greeted with highly esteemed praise. It was the Sept. 2018 pick for Reese's Book Club, Reese Witherspoon's official book club that highlights women-driven stories. The book was also adapted into a film that premiered in theaters this past July. It stars actress Daisy Edgar-Jones and features a song written and performed by Taylor Swift titled "Carolina."

So, knowing the movie was in theaters and knowing the hype surrounding it, I read "Where The Crawdads Sing" this summer. Once I started reading I couldn't put it down. I loved the way the story intertwinestowards the end.

Set in North Carolina from the 1950s to the 1970s, the book is a dual timeline story. On one side, it follows the life of Kya Clark, and on the other the detectives investigating the murder of town native Chase Andrews.

Kya grows up in the marshes outside of the town of Barkley Cove. Readers follow her as she experiences growing up, womanhood and the interest of two town natives alone in the marsh. However, to the town, she is known as the mysterious "Marsh Girl" and is excluded and taunted when she ventures into town. The story haunts you with the question of who killed Chase, as the evidence is slowly brought forward throughout the novel.

At its core, "Where The Crawdads Sing" is a character study of Kya. She faces the hardships of living on her own and the new challenges of womanhood. Kya learns independence by providing for herself, taking care of her home and hunting for muskrats on her own. Due to her time alone in the marsh, she has very little interaction with others.

The readers see her grow through her acquaintance with Jumpin', the bait and gas store owner, and his wife Mabel. We also watch her relationship with her childhood friend Tate grow and change throughout the years.

This novel also highlights themes of abuse and neglect seen in Kya's early years as her mother and siblings face abuse from their father. This, in turn, impacts the way Kya grows up and how she views life after her family gradually leaves. The detailed moments into Kya's mind slowly reveal themselves as crucial to the plot.

An example of this in the story is when Kya examines female bugs and animals and how they survive on their own. Wildlife presents itself as a character in this novel. Without many people to talk to, a lot of Kya's life lessons are taken from nature. Kya is an advocate for nature in the book and often fights for the marsh, as most of the characters see it as a wasteland, or look for resources to take from it.

The only critique I have is the court case section toward the end of the book. Owens takes time to cover the case in detail and personally, I thought it took up a lot of page space. If you love court cases and the technicality of a crime scene it's definitely for you, but it's just not my thing. However, I would recommend this book to pretty much anyone. It is a murder mystery, love story, coming of age story and historical fiction, so there's something for everyone.

"Where the Crawdads Sing" also has a movie adaption, which came out in July.
Write for Entertainment!

Reviews ♦ Music ♦ Video Games ♦ Movies and TV ♦ Theatre ♦ Student Artist Profile

E-mail: montclarionentertainment@gmail.com

ROOM 2035, SCHOOL OF COMMUNICATION AND MEDIA IN UPPER MONTCLAIR, NJ, 07043
What did you do over the summer?

By Lynise Olivacce
Photo Editor

“The Summer Bridge program, which I didn’t expect to be that fun but I was able to go with my friend and I had a great time.”

Sebastian Alcalde
Freshman
Undecided

“My family and I fostered some puppies that were in the shelter. We fostered one puppy first that was in a shelter so we rescued her and took her for a couple of weeks and brought her to her forever family.”

Sydney Crain
Senior
Elementary Education
“This summer I went to Honduras which is the country where my father was [born]. It was my first time going and it was really fun. I’d like to go back again. The beaches are beautiful, the people are really friendly – it’s very nice.”

Christian Velasquez
Sophomore
Applied Statistics and Mathematics

“My greatest experience this summer was going to Croatia. I was on a small ship and we were able to get into the harbors and sailed from Montenegro to Venice. I had casino night and the French were winning everything. So this woman comes up to me, and the funny part is she goes ‘If you buy me a drink I’ll give you $5,000 to get rid of the French.’ I did get them out.”

Professor Jon Zawacki
Justice Studies Professor
### Horoscopes

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Zodiac</th>
<th>Dates</th>
<th>Weekly Outlook</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Capricorn</td>
<td>Dec. 22 – Jan. 19</td>
<td>Don’t eat the school sushi. I don’t care if it doesn’t exist on campus anymore. Do NOT RISK IT.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cancer</td>
<td>Jun. 21 – Jul. 22</td>
<td>Watch out for potholes! Especially the one outside of the Village Offices. I’ve heard it’s taken out at least one art student this week, so beware!</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Aquarius</td>
<td>Jan. 20 – Feb. 18</td>
<td>Look, I understand if you don’t really enjoy the movies your friends put on, but do you have to loudly snore to get the points across? I get it if Three Thousand Years of Longing isn’t your vibe, but come on.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pisces</td>
<td>Feb. 19 – Mar. 20</td>
<td>Make sure you take off your non-waterproof mascara this week before you take a shower. I don’t want to be responsible if you end up naked and afraid looking like Robert Pattinson’s Batman with one shaved leg because I didn’t warn you!</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Aries</td>
<td>Mar. 21 – Apr. 19</td>
<td>You have been hexed by the Brick Man. I’m deeply sorry; there is no way to break the Brick Man’s curse. On the upside, you can now make a MEAN Pink Squirrel.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Libra</td>
<td>Sep. 23 – Oct. 22</td>
<td>Take charge of your week and manifest the life you want. Start by creating multiple 6 inch potholes around The Village.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Taurus</td>
<td>Apr. 20 – May 20</td>
<td>You're lucky that you share the same sign as our future newspaper dictator Avery Nixon and she will have sympathy for you all. Except April Taurus, Not you guys.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Scorpio</td>
<td>Oct. 23 – Nov. 21</td>
<td>Are we even doing horoscopes at this point, or are we just vague posting in print? Because I have a lot to say about the Scorpios I interacted with this summer.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gemini</td>
<td>May 21 – Jun. 20</td>
<td>Gemini, you're going to have the best week: maybe you'll find $1000, get a best back, have a good hair day, or get back together with your ex who wrote insults about you in your college newspaper's horoscopes!</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Across
5. She played Elle Woods in “Legally Blonde.”
6. He played Charlie in “The Perks of Being a Wallflower.”
7. This movie stars Lindsay Lohan as a student attending high school for the first time.
8. This movie is about a cross-country team in California and their journey to becoming champions.

Down
1. This prequel tells the story of Mike and Sulley’s college experience.
2. This musical sequel features the song “Back To School Again.”
3. This 2000s movie follows the Toros cheerleading squad.
4. The all-girl acapella group in “Pitch Perfect.”

Sudoku

Word Search

Backpack  Classes  Notebook
Schedule  Pencil  Study
Folder    Syllabus  Essay
Calculator Professor  Laptop

themontclarion.org  The Montclarion • September 8, 2022 • PAGE 15
Keeping Students Safe Should Be Montclair State’s Top Priority

Finally, Montclair State University students step onto campus this fall maskless and ready to get back to life similar to pre-coronavirus (COVID-19). While students are thankful to experience college life more freely than in the last two years, that does not mean all is perfect on our Spanish Mission-style architecture campus.

There are a few things that need to be improved this year, same as the many years before. However, as students, we know that change is not instant and over time the institution will continue to improve.

Will Montclair State ever improve to the point where I don’t wait for thirty minutes for a large iced mocha latte from the Blanton Hall Dunkin’? That I am not sure of, but a girl can dream.

Probably the number one rule for any student coming from Costa Rica. I hope there is stuff to do where everyone can come together and interact as an incoming freshman.

“I hope there’s stuff to be involved in because I was not able to go to orientation coming from Costa Rica. I hope there is stuff to do where everyone can come together and interact as an incoming freshman.”

- Alina Angulo
Business Management
Freshman

“I just really hope they do better with communicating to us when there’s an issue on campus. Montclair [State] needs to do a better job of like handling situations, especially in greek life. Especially with that Phi Sig thing. The campus literally did nothing about it. I feel like Montclair [State] should’ve said something and they just like kept it silent. I feel like Montclair [State] is more interested in its own reputation than [bettering] the lives of its students.”

- Jonah Glass
Education
Junior

“I think Montclair State can do a better job with the management of their money. I think it’s great that they are having these different events on campus. I’m all for student involvement, but it shows that they do have the budget to fix the current state of the campus. Like the roots of the trees seems like it [is] actually coming out of the bricks near the quad and that is a serious safety concern, which I learned from personal experience.”

- Jess Vaccaro
B.A. Theatre Studies
Senior

Campus Voices:

What’s something you hope Montclair State does in the upcoming semester?

By Lynise Olivacce
Online Rumors Have Real World Consequences

Most Montclair State University students know of the Instagram account @montclairstateconfessions. The account, with over 6,000 followers, is widely known for posting students’ anonymous confessions about what goes on in all kinds of situations. From the raw chicken at Sam’s Place to rants against professors. Additionally, the account has been an active voice in speaking out against the sexual assault claims that come from students and is a strong advocate for victims.

But recently the account has been a subject of conversation for an archive of confessions on its website. In these confessions, the owner of the account does not censor any one named in them, leaving those people subject to any judgment that may come from those confessions.

The problem is that these rumors are being put out there just that, rumors. There is no proof to back them up whatsoever, and yet the owner of the account seems to have no concern about the impact that this may have on many students’ lives.

After facing backlash from the owner of the account said that the confessions were not to be taken as fact, but that does nothing in people’s minds. Once a rumor spreads, it doesn’t stop until proven wrong, placing the burden on the accused to fend for themselves. All because some person on Instagram wanted to make a few bucks.

The fact that the account is doing this for money raises some ethical questions as well.

Telling people they can see rumors about their peers for cheap if they use a promo code says a lot about how much the person behind the account cares for the consequences. Almost as if they care more about making money than keeping innocent people’s reputations safe.

Some may question why I am speaking out against this. “Mind your business,” they might say. “This doesn’t concern you if you have nothing to hide.”

While I don’t have anything to hide, the reason why I’m so passionate about this is that I know what it’s like to have a false confession made against me.

Now, I wasn’t named in a confession, and this was months before the person now in charge of @montclairstateconfessions took over. But let me tell you, it does not feel good to have false accusations thrown at you online, and to know that someone you thought was your friend broke your trust.

It was right before winter break began, and I remember scrolling through Instagram in my bed. I came across the post, stopped and read it again. It took a second before the realization set in: the post was about me, and someone I care for very much.

Because I wasn’t named in the post, luckily I didn’t have to deal with any social consequences. However, the person who had made the post had taken a private conversation that I had with someone else and completely twisted it to make me be seen in a negative light. What’s more, they admitted they were thinking of plotting against me to ruin my relationship. And here they were, spilling it out to all of Instagram. All because, as they admitted later, they were jealous of my happiness.

I’m not going to name the person who wrote the confession about me. They deserve their privacy as much as I deserve mine, and I would be a hypocrite to expose them here.

I do know that some of what was your friend broke your trust.

get minorities killed daily. We are not taken seriously until tragedies happen. That’s why I believe we absolutely must wake up and start thinking of why men like Tate are so influential.

His followers are brain-washed into thinking happiness comes from money and being narciassistic that only look out for themselves. When that type of mentality is enabled, it takes just the right kind of blindly loyal devotee to do vicious acts in the name of their leader.

Trying to see the best in everyone is a very kind sentiment, but it’s something that’s going to make you ignore the gravity of the situation. These people don’t deserve a little giggle from our obvious discomfort and, as a result, being let off so easily. They should be ashamed of having the audacity of making such remarks against women and anyone different from them because, sadly, they’re the very same men that are taking our rights away in Congress. They hold positions of power in all segments of our daily life because our patriarchal, capitalist society has exploited those most vulnerable, pushing ruthless people to the forefront. After all, you can’t expect a man like Tate to call your existence worthless if it means they’ll be making more money.

I just don’t make a dangerous man with life-threatening views like Andrew Tate seem like an innocent little lamb because he’s much worse than anyone has ever seen. He’s a monster, a wolf in sheep’s clothing, and a tool of the capitalist society has exploited those most vulnerable, pushing ruthless people to the forefront. After all, you can’t expect a man like Tate to call your existence worthless if it means they’ll be making more money.

I wonder if he teaches them how to become a wanted criminal in five simple steps? You heard that right, the infamous podcast host whose racist we have been force-fed this past year is a human trafficker, allegedly.

Lack of social anxiety makes mainstream social media platforms, including Facebook, Instagram, YouTube, TikTok and Twitch according to Variety.

However, he managed to be

Nicky Vidal | The Montclarion

Andrew Tate’s Not Closeted, He’s Just Bigoted

By now, the whole wide world has heard of the bigoted feats of Andrew Tate.

The former kickboxer and creator of the future incels in society has widely been regarded as a very kind sentiment, but it’s something that’s going to make you ignore the gravity of the situation. These people don’t deserve a little giggle from our obvious discomfort and, as a result, being let off so easily. They should be ashamed of having the audacity of making such remarks against women and anyone different from them because, sadly, they’re the very same men that are taking our rights away in Congress. They hold positions of power in all segments of our daily life because our patriarchal, capitalist society has exploited those most vulnerable, pushing ruthless people to the forefront. After all, you can’t expect a man like Tate to call your existence worthless if it means they’ll be making more money.

I just don’t make a dangerous man with life-threatening views like Andrew Tate seem like an innocent little lamb because he’s much worse than anyone has ever seen. He’s a monster, a wolf in sheep’s clothing, and a tool of the capitalist society has exploited those most vulnerable, pushing ruthless people to the forefront. After all, you can’t expect a man like Tate to call your existence worthless if it means they’ll be making more money.

I wonder if he teaches them how to become a wanted criminal in five simple steps? You heard that right, the infamous podcast host whose racist we have been force-fed this past year is a human trafficker, allegedly.

Lack of social anxiety makes mainstream social media platforms, including Facebook, Instagram, YouTube, TikTok and Twitch according to Variety.

However, he managed to be
**Why I Converted to Islam**

Nicky Vidal | The Montclarion

I did not have a religious upbringing, therefore I was exposed to a wide variety of other cultures and religions as I was growing up. Every religion adheres to its unique canons of norms concerning behavior, dress and other aspects of life.

There are monotheistic faiths such as Christianity, Islam and Judaism. Other religions such as Buddhism don’t have one god but have a variety of different views about life and the hereafter.

The practice of religion is one of the world’s most time-honored customs that is still carried out today.

My decision to become a Muslim came about as a result of a chain of unfortunate circumstances in my life. I was choosing either between the Christian religion or the Islamic religion. Christianity and Islam are both quite similar religions, and both include important individualistic and communal practices.

Since I was raised in an environment with many Christians and took part in many Christian holidays like Easter and Christmas, I was culturally modernized with Christianity rather than other world religions. I didn’t know much about the different branches of Christianity, skin as whether there is something called orthodox or traditional Christianity or whether some Christians are more devoted to the religion than others.

However, the reason I chose Islam was the people who practiced that religion tended to be more devoted to being Muslim in my experience. I decided to become a Muslim not just so that I could find a solution to my problems, but also so that I could become part of a community.

Since the purpose of religion is to bring people of like faiths and values together, it stands to reason that I would be drawn to a community where people are devoted to the religion than others.

**Men Don’t Care Enough About Roe v. Wade’s Overturn**

Sofía Acevedo Valencia | Assistant Opinion Editor

I read about the landmark decision for reproductive rights, which stated that a person’s right to an abortion is protected by the 14th Amendment of the United States Constitution, came into effect almost 50 years ago. It has since been overturned by the conservative-packed Supreme Court, courtesy of the overturn of Roe v. Wade, a landmark decision for reproductive rights. The state of the Supreme Court has carried out this decision, which made it possible for people across the United States to become pregnant and took part in reproduction.

Since I was raised in an environment with many Christians and took part in many Christian holidays like Easter and Christmas, I was culturally modernized with Christianity rather than other world religions. I didn’t know much about the different branches of Christianity, skin as whether there is something called orthodox or traditional Christianity or whether some Christians are more devoted to the religion than others.

I do not have a religious upbringing, therefore I was exposed to a wide variety of other cultures and religions as I was growing up. Every religion adheres to its unique canons of norms concerning behavior, dress and other aspects of life.

There are monotheistic faiths such as Christianity, Islam and Judaism. Other religions such as Buddhism don’t have one god but have a variety of different views about life and the hereafter.

The practice of religion is one of the world’s most time-honored customs that is still carried out today.

My decision to become a Muslim came about as a result of a chain of unfortunate circumstances in my life. I was choosing either between the Christian religion or the Islamic religion. Christianity and Islam are both quite similar religions, and both include important individualistic and communal practices.

Since I was raised in an environment with many Christians and took part in many Christian holidays like Easter and Christmas, I was culturally modernized with Christianity rather than other world religions. I didn’t know much about the different branches of Christianity, skin as whether there is something called orthodox or traditional Christianity or whether some Christians are more devoted to the religion than others.

However, the reason I chose Islam was the people who practiced that religion tended to be more devoted to being Muslim in my experience. I decided to become a Muslim not just so that I could find a solution to my problems, but also so that I could become part of a community.

Since the purpose of religion is to bring people of like faiths and values together, it stands to reason that I would be drawn to a community where people are devoted to the religion than others.

However, the reason I chose Islam was the people who practiced that religion tended to be more devoted to being Muslim in my experience. I decided to become a Muslim not just so that I could find a solution to my problems, but also so that I could become part of a community.

Since the purpose of religion is to bring people of like faiths and values together, it stands to reason that I would be drawn to a community where people are devoted to the religion than others.

**Why Should We Have to Educate and Urge You to Care About What’s Going On?**

Men Don’t Care Enough About Roe v. Wade’s Overturn

Sofía Acevedo Valencia, a sophomore political science major, is the assistant opinion editor for The Montclarion.

I am tired of asking for your help to no avail. Why should we have to educate and urge you to care about what’s going on? Why do I find myself thinking about how to appeal to you so you will think we are worthy of your attention? Why do you have to be told things like “What if that was your mother or sister going through it?” for you to understand? Does a person have to prove something to you or serve a purpose in your life in any way for you to give a damn?

I amy be tired of asking for your help to no avail. Why should we have to educate and urge you to care about what’s going on? Why do I find myself thinking about how to appeal to you so you will think we are worthy of your attention? Why do you have to be told things like “What if that was your mother or sister going through it?” for you to understand? Does a person have to prove something to you or serve a purpose in your life in any way for you to give a damn?

I am tired of asking for your help to no avail. Why should we have to educate and urge you to care about what’s going on? Why do I find myself thinking about how to appeal to you so you will think we are worthy of your attention? Why do you have to be told things like “What if that was your mother or sister going through it?” for you to understand? Does a person have to prove something to you or serve a purpose in your life in any way for you to give a damn?

I am tired of asking for your help to no avail. Why should we have to educate and urge you to care about what’s going on? Why do I find myself thinking about how to appeal to you so you will think we are worthy of your attention? Why do you have to be told things like “What if that was your mother or sister going through it?” for you to understand? Does a person have to prove something to you or serve a purpose in your life in any way for you to give a damn?
“Did He Just See A Face?”

By Alex Pavljuk

There was a tapping on the window pane that could be heard from across the room. The man, who sat alone on his broken and dilapidated couch, couldn't be bothered by what he presumed was the constant pitter-patter of the rain storm which hadn't let up since he put on his movie over two hours ago.

His coffee, which was brewed after the revelation of the killer's identity in the late second act, now sat cold on his chipped and stained table designed for such a beverage. As the film faded to black, the man looked on silently at the names of those who worked on the film. His uncontested eye contact with the ongoing text against the dimmed lamp light reflecting on the black screen remained unshaken.

Yet the tapping persisted and unannounced to the man. His slipper, which sat just barely on the edge of his foot, bounced amongst the rhythm of the rain. That was until the rhythm fell off its rails with two loud thumps which shook the cold coffee into a ripple. Startled by the dissonance about he shot to his feet and shuffled with caution to the hallway just off of the TV room.

At the end of the hallway sat the window in question. The light of the moon's cascading light bled into the now cavernous corridor of existentially irrational horror. The rain still came down and leaves blew across the air from a dying oak tree just next to his garden down below.

The wood below his feet creaked and upon reaching the windowsill he looked out but all was but a blur from the wash of the storm. He turned away, but the feeling in his heart still stood cold. He fought the urge to just leave it be but for some reason, he still turned to look and see.

He pressed his hands firmly against the glass and squinted through the darkness of this stormy autumn eve. He hoped he'd notice nothing so he looked quickly and missed the tall individual standing under the orange hue of the single street lamp. The man's attention was instead drawn to the menacing figure of newscast. His thumb hovered above the arrow on the remote but he didn't press it yet.

“This just in, local police are issuing a stay-at-home order as they try to capture escaped killer Howard Lutz. Lutz was originally captured and imprisoned four years back after his string of lethal home break-ins. We will warn you now noticed was sporting a splintered laceration that was not there the last time he checked.

Then, with a pit in his stomach, he looked out again to see the face of someone looking back at him. There was a coldness in their brow and frustration in their eyes as they pulled a bloodied knife out from behind their back.

The man fell to the floor and scurried to his cold coffee.

His breath was heavy, and the rain was steady. However, from the other side of the door once more came two... loud...thumps.

“I hear footsteps, where are they? What is going on here? Where are they? Please God, please kill me.”

By Avery Nixon

I look back on my life and think about what I did to deserve any of this. I am literally begging God himself to end my suffering. I can no longer bear to endure the trauma he has burdened me with.

For the first time since freshman year of high school, I contemplate ending my life as a solution to the mental anguish I am in.

Every second I stay here, I can feel a piece of happiness in my heart be ripped out and eaten by savage demons while they make me watch. I look at the door and wonder if I ran away I could make it unscathed by this monster. I'm too emotionally drained to even put up a fight. In fact, I've almost completely dissociated from reality just to keep myself sane. The things he is saying are almost inaudible in my head and I can barely tell if he's speaking English to me.

If I don't make it out of here alive, I want my mom and dad to know how much I love them and how grateful I am for them.

I can only ignore his torture for so long. His words are getting clearer.

“Okay, so basically the real point of the film is that each character's story entangles itself with the rest and it's like all their bad judgment and fate that brings them all together. Personally, I think Tarantino is a genius and he should be thought of as the next Mozart. I saw you started to get a little confused or a little baffled by the end. Don't worry, I was a little confused my first time watching it too. Anyways, this next movie you are going to love. So, Leonardo DiCaprio plays this dude who has his own brokerage firm, that's like stocks and stuff, and then he's like, embezzling from investors and the FBI.”

Please God, please kill me.
Thank you to sophomore filmmaking student Peter Di Prospero, film majors and other students got to come together in Montclair State University’s School of Communication and Media (SCM) to celebrate the work they have created.

Taking place on the first day of classes for the 2022 fall semester, many students and film enthusiasts gathered in the SCM’s Presentation Hall to watch hours’ worth of Montclair State student films.

This was the festival’s first year and it was a success. Hosted by Di Prospero and junior communication and media studies major Nick Najarian, the hilarious pair gave quite the show.

The festival started out giving thanks to those who have helped the festival take its feet off the ground: faculty and staff members Frank Martinez, Stuart MacLelland and Krystal Acosta; the BMO Cage; Montclair State’s Video Production Club; The Montclarion and sophomore filmmaking majors Sean Thrunk and Aidan Ping.

One of the highlights of the first block of films was sophomore filmmaking major Izzy Love’s “The Horse,” a mockumentary starring the host, Najarian, and his character’s journey to discover what a horse truly is.

It is a genuinely hilarious project that was executed by Love as a freshman, which is quite impressive.

The entire crowd was laughing and enjoying themselves, it was a great start to the event.

After a few films, the students enjoyed a quick 10-minute break where they gave insight into their opinions of the festival so far. There was a break between each block of films, with snacks and water outside or a question-and-answer session with the filmmakers being showcased.

Samantha Bussinger, a freshman film and television major, and Salvatore Sciastia, a freshman filmmaking major, were lucky enough to experience this newly-found festival on their first day of classes.

“I think this film festival is very well organized,” Bussinger said. “There are lots of different films, and it’s really cool. I think it’s really creative as well.”

Sciastia commented on how the festival impacted him.

“I think it’s a really cool way to get a feel of some of the films you may be helping to make here,” Sciastia said. “It’s a really good way to meet some new people as well.”

The second block of films had hilarious shorts such as “Let’s Ride” by senior filmmaking major Hunter Dunn and “There will be nugs” by senior filmmaking major Alex Glover. Both received lots of laughs from the audience.

“Spin Cycles” by junior filmmaking major Colin Hankenson was missing some of the humor that the other films had, however, it stole the spotlight as it was hard to believe it was a film by only student filmmakers. It focused on a laundromat employee getting caught in the middle of a murder who uses the business to save himself and get out of trouble with the felons.

Raina Cagiao, who graduated in May of 2022, had one of the best films shown at the film festival called “Oh Children, My Children.” It is about a Catholic teenager who finds herself pregnant and has to navigate life while no one is there to help her.

“My Children” was shot beautifully and a perfect closer to its block of films.

In all, the Silver Slate Film Festival had a great first year, and it is expected to be an annual event for Montclair State students to show their hard work and dedication to their craft.

One of the best films shown was by Raina Cagiao, who graduated in May of 2022. Her film, “Oh Children, My Children,” is about a Catholic teenager who finds herself pregnant and has to navigate life while no one is there to help her.

It was moving, shot beautifully and a perfect closer to its block of films.

In all, the Silver Slate Film Festival had a great first year, and it is expected to be an annual event for Montclair State students to show their hard work and dedication to their craft.
We’ve gotten a few attempts at horror specifically tailored to Gen-Z but none quite like this film. “Bodies Bodies Bodies” opens with Bee (Maria Bakalova) and Sophie (Amandla Stenberg), a new couple venturing into the hills of an undisclosed location to meet Sophie’s friends at one of their parents’ homes; enter Alice (Rachel Sennott), Emma (Chase Sui Wonders), David (Pete Davidson), Jordan (Myha’la Herrold) and Greg (Lee Pace).

The group is not expecting Sophie – let alone for her to bring a girlfriend in tow, and clear animosity ripples between members of the group as they begin to discuss Sophie’s arrival. Eventually, they decide to play Bodies Bodies Bodies: a game in which one person is assigned to be a murderer and has to silently kill the other players. They get through a singular round of the game until it takes an unexpected turn to its literal meaning, as one of the players is found actually dead and the power goes out. The group is left in the dark as they take it upon themselves to find the murderer as they try to protect themselves from becoming the next victim.

This has been my most anticipated movie of the year since I saw the teaser trailer in March, and wow was it worth the wait. I thoroughly enjoyed every second of this movie’s one-hour and 35-minute runtime, and since my first draft of this review, I have seen it three more times. It was funny, realistic and suspenseful in a way many horror films have been missing the mark in recent years.

Coming off of A24’s other horror films of the year, “Men” and “X,” I didn’t mind the lack of actual jump-scare, gory horror I had originally expected from this film. The way the suspense builds throughout the movie is more than enough to keep you on the edge of your seat, but it does this in a way that breaks the predictable jump scare setup – opting for most of the murders to happen off-screen, leaving the finding of each body and the characters’ fears to drive the film forward.

The entire cast is absolutely phenomenal. From Bakalova’s quiet intensity and questionable motives to Davidson and Pace’s scarcely believable rivalry, every member of the cast really shows up for this film. That being said, Sennott’s Alice and Stenberg’s Sophie are certainly the stand-out performances of the film.

Sennott’s comedic timing deserves an Oscar. Truly, this movie would not be as funny if it were without Alice. Sennott has a way of grabbing the audience by the throat and forcing them into the room with her, effortlessly capturing your attention every time she’s on screen. Despite the fact she is not exactly the main character, she is the backbone of this movie.

Stenberg drives the more serious, emotional part of the film. Sophie regularly gets her dirty laundry aired out in front of her new girlfriend in an effort to smoke out the killer, and seeing Stenberg get to play this kind of unhibited character is truly impressive. Overall, the plot of this movie isn’t completely anything new. The concept of seven kids partying in a massive house until someone dies mysteriously is an overused trope, but something about it just feels so fresh, and it gives a surprisingly accurate (albeit obvisouly satirical) portrayal of how kids in their early 20s act.

I’m normally pretty good at predicting who the killer is and who’s going to die in these types of movies. However, I was really thrown off by the film’s finale.

While I was in the theater, I wasn’t the biggest fan of the ending. I felt like I needed more from something that had such a long build-up (and I also was slightly upset my predictions were wrong). But reflecting on it now, I did end up loving it – it was unique, and it made complete sense within the context of the film. “Bodies Bodies Bodies” is an instant cult classic. I wouldn’t be surprised if it fell into the campy horror canon next to other favorites like “Jennifer’s Body” (2009) and “Heathers” (1989) in the near future, so definitely see it in theaters while you still can.
‘Thor: Love and Thunder’ Is a Classic Superhero Adventure

Maya Niemsyk
Guest Writer

With the loss of Robert Downey Jr.’s Iron Man and the “retirement” of Chris Evans’s Captain America, who else remains but Chris Hemsworth’s titular god of thunder as one of the few remaining “original players” in the Marvel Cinematic Universe (MCU)?

The past decade has seen Thor experience growth (both as an individual and a hero), heartbreak, grief and loss, and in this film, his struggle with finding his place in a post “Avengers: Endgame” world. With so many varying experiences and character arcs that Hemsworth’s god of thunder has gone through, one might think, “What else is there to do with this character?”

However, even with the character’s longevity in the MCU, “Thor: Love and Thunder” somehow finds a refreshing, new way for audiences to experience both Thor’s character and the larger world which encapsulates him. And with director/actor Taika Waititi back at the helm for the fourth installment, the movie is nothing short of a fast-paced, humorous and, at times, heart-wrenching journey of rediscovering one’s self.

As previously mentioned, following the events of “Avengers: Endgame,” Thor finds himself in an awkward spot. He’s not quite ready to lead his people, mentally and physically, but he also knows his days of being a hero are behind him.

So what does one do in such a dilemma? Go into space on quirky new adventures with the Guardians of The Galaxy, of course, which is where we find Thor at the beginning of the film.

After a quick workout montage (which yes, is reminiscent of those classic 80’s movie montages) and a strange yet hilarious misadventure with the Guardians, Thor finally returns to his home of New Asgard after receiving word of a madman who seeks to rid the world of all gods. Along with his ex-love Jane Foster (Natalie Portman), who now mysteriously possesses Thor’s old hammer, Mjölnir, as well as Tessa Thompson’s King Valkyrie and Waititi’s Korg, Thor sets out on a quest to defeat the madman, Gorr the God Butcher (Christian Bale) while rediscovering his purpose in the world.

While this movie has everything one comes to expect from a Waititi film (a.k.a. a plethora of humor), it takes what made Waititi’s last Marvel film, “Thor: Ragnarok,” lovable and cranks it up to a 10, sacrificing storytelling for laughs at certain points and thus, coming off as a satire of the superhero genre overall. Along with sporadic instances of serious and grievous scenes sprinkled throughout that feel like a gut punch, “Thor: Love and Thunder” comes off as unsure as to what it wants to be.

I felt that, while marketed as a romance and journey of self-discovery, both of which are paramount aspects that help to make it feel refreshing, the film was, at its heart, a comedy more than anything else. Even so, one notable aspect that broke up this constant humor was Bale’s terrifying portrayal as Gorr the God Butcher. While his character arc was not fully fleshed out, what was shown of him was absolutely spine-chilling and made for a strong addition to the MCU’s villain oeuvre.

In a similar vein, Portman’s Jane, while an extremely cool character, was also unable to have her arc fully fleshed out, thus diminishing the character’s importance and impact in the film overall.

So, is Hemsworth’s fourth outing as the titular god of thunder worth it? In essence, yes. While fast-paced with its plot and sometimes trading its storytelling for a humorous quip, “Thor: Love and Thunder” falls nothing short of the kind of classic, superhero adventure one would expect from Waititi and Hemsworth’s Thor while simultaneously ushering the god of thunder into the next phase of his journey in the wider Marvel world.
COME HELP US OUT

SP OR TS

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
A lot of different emotions were felt at the Tom Benson Hall of Fame Stadium in Canton, Ohio. Excitement. Sadness. But most importantly, there was a huge weight lifted off the shoulders of the family of legendary linebacker and former Montclair State University football player Sam Mills. Who finally got the ultimate moment in the world of football.

Mills was enshrined into the Class of 2022 of the Pro Football Hall of Fame alongside former Jacksonville Jaguars tackle Tony Boselli, Oakland Raiders wide receiver Cliff Branch, Green Bay Packers safety LeRoy Butler, of- ficial Art McNally, New England Patriots defensive end Richard Seymour, Philadelphia Eagles coach Dick Vermeil and San Francisco 49ers defensive tackle Bryant Young.

Sam Mills’ wife Melanie Mills was introduced on stage to a quick embrace from his former coach on the Philadelphia Stars and the New Orleans Saints, Jim Mora, who acknowledged Sam Mills as one of the best play- ers he ever coached. And he’s coached Peyton Manning.

Mora hounded down on the perception that Sam Mills was too short to be a linebacker in football and gave an anecdote on how he beat that judgment.

“There’s a saying in football that the low man wins,” Mora said. “That means if I’m block- ing you, whoever has leverage on the other end is probably going to win that one-on-one battle. Sam had that lever- age naturally because he was shorter than most of the line- backers. He was strong and he was a dedicated player.”

Melanie Mills was present- ed by Mora with Sam Mill’s head bust, which was crafted beautifully, and she then gave a short but sweet speech about her late husband.

“If you were working hard at anything, Sam [Mills] would let you know you would appreciate your hard work,” Melanie Mills said. “He would make you feel. It’s no wonder Sam inspired so many people, and the [Caro- lina] Panthers adopted his motto ‘Keep Foulding’. He was more than just a good football player, he was a great father, friend and husband.”

Melanie Mills ended her speech with an appreciation for the vast amount of football fans and media in the crowd, including the Red Hawk Sports Network. And gave everyone the aforementioned motto Sam Mills is so widely known for in Carolina and amongst our very own Red Hawks.

“Thank you for believing in Sam [Mills] and keeping his story alive,” Melanie Mills said. “Keep pounding every- one. That is what Sam would want you to do.”

It was a long time coming, but now Mills gets the respect he deserves.

Matt Orth
Sports Editor

Melanie Mills and Jim Mora Sr. stand next to Sam Mills’ head bust.

NBC Sports NFL writer Pete King, one of the members who picks the legendary class of players and coaches for the Pro Football Hall of Fame, knew that a certain part of Sam Mills’ career would help his case compared to the rest of the potential candi- dates.

“One of the things I have al- ways said about Sam Mills is that it’s called the Pro Football Hall of Fame for a reason,” King said. “His three years in the [United State Football League (USFL)]. While certainly not the only rea- son you get into the hall of fame, [Sam] Mills was the best all- around defensive player in the USFL, right along with [Carolina Panthers defensive end] Reggie White, in the league’s three-year history. He was a real big impact player.”

Sam Mills also left an impact during his time playing for Mont- clair State from 1977 to 1980. He was a three-time NJ Collegiate Football Writers Defensive Player of the Year, and was also named to the New Jersey Athletic Con- ference All-Star Team for all four years with the university. He also set two records; the most tackles by a freshman and the most tackles in a career and a game.

Giancola said this strong char- acter never left Sam Mills during his time at Montclair State.

““He was always doing what he was asked to do,” Giancola said. “But more than that, he was al- ways willing to help people. And he played with the gusto and the challenge of a young man who loved football, and that’s the way he played. If you saw him off the field, you would say, ‘Boy, he’s a football player.’”

He was a football player. But on Saturday, Aug. 6, 2022, one can officially say that Sam Mills, former Montclair State lineback- er, is one of the greatest football players to ever grace the field. And even at five foot nine, the Field Mouse can now look over the historic land of Canton, Ohio as a legend. But most important- ly, a great man. 
Erin Blanchfield Hard at Work to Fight in UFC 281 at Madison Square Garden

The former Montclair State student looks to win big in front of a primetime crowd

Rising UFC flyweight contender and Montclair State University student Erin Blanchfield will look to get past the streaking Molly McCann in front of a hometown crowd.

Blanchfield and McCann will meet in the octagon at UFC 281 on Nov. 12 at Madison Square Garden in New York City.

Growing up, Blanchfield always had a dream of fighting at Madison Square Garden.

“I used to train a lot at [Renzo Gracie Academy], it’s literally across the street so whenever I’d go there, I would take the train and have to walk past Madison Square Garden every day,” Blanchfield said. “I’ve always wanted to fight there. All my family is from New York, and it’s also the mecca of combat sports so that’s the biggest thing for me; I didn’t even care who I fought, I just wanted to get on that card.”

Blanchfield, who is the UFC’s 12th ranked flyweight, is currently riding on a six-fight win streak, half of them coming from matches within the UFC, and is coming off of an impressive second-round win over JJ Aldrich thanks to a standing guillotine choke.

Blanchfield made her UFC debut last September where she dominated Sarah Alpar in the match to a unanimous decision win and followed up with a record-setting performance against Miranda Maverick as she set the flyweight takedown record with eight.

On a three-fight win streak of her own, McCann, or “Meatball,” has had an exciting year, to say the least. Her year began with a bang at UFC London in March as McCann registered a devastating spinning back elbow finish in the third round over Luanna Carolina.

Just four months later, in London again, McCann defeated Hannah Goldy with another spinning back elbow leading to a first-round TKO. After back-to-back incredible finishes, McCann entered the official UFC flyweight rankings at 15th and has caught the attention of the public eye.

With Blanchfield and McCann clashing together with full heads of steam, Augie Matias, Blanchfield’s jiu-jitsu coach, believes this fight is an enormous opportunity for Blanchfield. UFC 281 is shaping up to be one of the best cards of the year and it is headlined by Israel Adesanya and Alex Pereira for the middleweight title.

“Every fight is important, but this fight will have a lot of attention,” Matias said. “Big pay-per-view card with Adesanya as the main event will have a lot of eyes on [Blanchfield’s] fight. Having a fight at Madison Square Garden in front of her family and friends is big for [Blanchfield] personally. A win at UFC 281 will elevate [Blanchfield’s] popularity I believe. [McCann] brings a lot of hype which also brings a lot of attention to this fight.”

Both fighters offer unique styles and skills. Blanchfield is comfortable wherever the fight goes but has ultra-rare and elite grappling/wrestling for her age, whereas McCann almost always prefers to strike with her opponents.

Matias has supreme confidence in Blanchfield.

“This matchup is very good for [Blanchfield] and not good for [McCann],” Matias said. “[McCann] does not do well with grapplers and [Blanchfield] I believe is the best grappler in the flyweight division. So I’m not expecting a good night for [McCann].”

The winner of the matchup would likely end up cracking the top 10 of the flyweight division, which is an enormous step closer to a title shot.

Although McCann has had recent success, Blanchfield believes that the more well-rounded fighter will win.

“She’s a very aggressive fighter and she’s been fighting for a while, she has a good amount of experience, she definitely has more fights than I do,” Blanchfield said. “I think I am just a better overall fighter. I think I’m a little more well-rounded than her and it’s definitely going to show in the fight.”

All MMA fans and Red Hawks should stay on the lookout for this huge fight featuring one of our own.
New Jersey Jackals Moving Out of Yogi Berra Stadium After 25 Years

The professional baseball team is leaving Montclair State and their local supporters

The enthusiastic fans. The booms of the fireworks that go off after weekend games, and can be heard through the dorms of Montclair State University. And the exciting baseball that the New Jersey Jackals have brought to the Frontier League and Yogi Berra Stadium for two and a half decades. This all ended after Thursday, Aug. 25, 2022.

The team announced on their social media on Aug. 17 that they would be continuing their 2022 season at the stadium, and the team would remain under the current ownership and continue to play in the Frontier League.

The statement ends with the fact that we end up, for Jackal fans old and new.”

Keller also agrees with this sentiment that community. His retired Jackal fan is Billy Pinckney, a junior sports communication major, who has been around the organization since he was 10. No, that is not a typo. Pinckney was the bat boy for the team at that age, and now a decade later, he conducts on-camera interviews with players and postgame reports as well.

When Pinckney first joined the family of Floyd Hall in 2013, whose company helped to build Yogi Berra Stadium and the Ice Arena in 1998, they engraved a seat in his honor. This is also done for season ticket holders of the Jackals.

With the organization having such a special place in his heart, seeing the news was not easy for Pinckney to absorb, as the team has meant a lot to his journey as a college student and a Red Hawk.

“The Jackals and Yogi Berra Stadium is where I got my start and greatly contributed to my decision to attend [Montclair State],” Pinckney said. “Being a member of this organization for 10 years has been an honor and I attribute much of my success to the opportunity that the organization gave me.”

Pinckney also emphasized how important Montclair State is to the Jackals.

“The reason why [Montclair State] has Yogi Berra Stadium on campus is due to Floyd Hall and the Jackals organization,” Pinckney said. “[Berra’s] name and involvement with the fan experience during the beginning years created the identity of the Jackals. His retired Jackals #8 is one of the few impacts his legacy has had on Jackals tradition.”

Keller also agrees with this sentiment of the team’s history connecting with Yogi Berra Stadium and that it is something the organization will pay attention to down the road.

“I’ve worked for the Jackals for a few years, but I grew up at [Yogi Berra Stadium] going to Jackals games, so it’s meant a lot to me,” Keller said. “As far as it coexisting with the identity of the team, I would say that it has been a big part of the Jackals and we will look back on that fondly over the last six home games we have this year while looking ahead to what’s next.”

Yogi Berra Stadium has helped form the identity of the Jackals, and has given countless fans in the Montclair area and Montclair State students, alumni and friends something to look forward to during the summer.

The exact plans for where the Jackals will move to will be revealed at some point this month, according to their social media.
Montclair State Remembers Mike Scala, Longstanding Sports Information Director

Mike Scala will be remembered for his work ethic and care for the student-athletes

For the 23 years in his position, and throughout his life, Mike Scala, former sports information director for Montclair State University athletics, always had one purpose in mind: to be there for the student-athletes and everyone else around him no matter what. Scala passed away on Aug. 25 after a long battle with cancer.

Patrick Duffy, the current sports information director for Montclair State athletics, reflected on his friendship with Scala.

"[Scala] always had an answer, whether it was a work or life-related question," Duffy said. "Any time there was a hard decision I needed to make, [Scala] was one of those people that I trusted the opinion of. He was more than a colleague, he was a friend and a mentor to me."

Anyone who knew Scala will tell you how much he meant to them beyond working with him. He was an integral part of the operations of every sport here on campus and he will have a lasting legacy here at Montclair State.

Scala began his journey as a Red Hawk as a student studying computer science, he later switched to broadcasting. According to Jonathan Edmond in his article from last December about Scala and Duffy, Scala tried to make it to every game he could.

"We're all able to pull up stats in [RHSN] and The Montclarion. The energy at these games.

The Red Hawk Sports Network [RHSN] and The Montclarion. We're all able to pull up stats in a heartbeat because of the way Scala made it so simple and direct."

Another student who has developed a connection with Scala on the media side is production intern and producer of the RHSN show "Inside the Nest", Jason Naccarella. Naccarella remembers a recent trip the network had and how helpful Scala was in that process.

"Although [Scala] didn't travel with us, we met with him to discuss plans and logistics for the trip," Naccarella said. "He was so supportive and loved the idea of us going, which further motivated him to help us in any way that he could."

Naccarella shared how he hopes people remember Scala.

"[Scala] made sure things got done in a way that benefited everyone and made everyone happy," Naccarella said. "People should remember the way he impacted so many lives and helped people on and off the field. He provided so many great opportunities for students and athletes that allowed for them to go on and do great things in their lives and careers."

Not only did Scala help motivate the students in the sports communications program, and vice versa, but he was also a major part in motivating home crowds at the Panzer Athletic Center as a PA during men's and women's basketball games.

"We have developed a connection with Scala on the media side being the voice of Montclair State basketball games.

"He cared so much about everyone at the university and we all cared so much for him. [Scala] should be remembered for all the work he has done for us and how many lives he has impacted solely with his personality. No one can replicate the work he has done and we miss him tremendously."

Martin is the new PA for the Montclair State soccer teams and Scala is one of his biggest inspirations going into his new position.

"Now with the new job I got with the Montclair State soccer teams for being a PA announcer, I want to one day be able to get comfortable enough to the point where I can have the same energy as [Scala] no matter what happens, and try to even exemplify some of Scala's enthusiasm," Martin said.

Scala has also amassed a wealth of accolades alongside being the voice of Montclair State basketball games.
Former sports information director Mike Scala passed away on Aug. 25 after a long battle with cancer.

Montclair State Remembers Mike Scala

Continued from page 27

In 2019, he was named to the Montclair State Athletics Hall of Fame for all of the hard work he put into the Montclair State Athletic Department.

Duffy remembers that day fondly.

“My favorite memory was being at [Scala’s] Hall of Fame Induction Ceremony in 2019,” Duffy said. “It was such a well-deserved honor and it was great to see family, friends and colleagues show support for this honor. That’ll resonate with me for a while, it was really a great night.”

A year later, Scala had another great day when CoSIDA, the College Sports Information Directors of America, awarded him with the 25-year award, recognizing him for his hard work over a 25-year span with Montclair State. In talking to Jess Liptzin about the award in 2020, Scala mentioned that the best part of the job is working with student-athletes.

Athletic director Rob Chesney goes in-depth on the care and respect that Scala had for all student-athletes at Montclair State.

“He made the student-athletes here feel important,” Chesney said. “That’s a unique trait that he had, and he cared about them and each of the teams. Nobody cared about them more than he did.”

The overall impact Scala has left on Montclair State and the athletics program and everyone within it will never be replicated. He was a special human being who always worked hard on the task in front of him, made sure the people and students around him were feeling their best and, above all else, cared for his wife and three kids along his journey to becoming a Montclair State legend.

Duffy said he will miss Scala and is sending condolences to his family.

“I’m going to miss [Scala],” said Duffy. “His daily references to ‘Friends’, ‘Seinfeld’ and ‘The Sopranos’...”

“Talk about a major void here at Montclair State, and our hearts are broken. My thoughts are with his wife Jamie and his kids Jenna, Michael and Joelle.”