



THE MONMOUTH UNIVERSITY'S STUDENT-RUN NEWSPAPER SINCE 1933 OUTLOOK

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Former Provost Announces Retirement

ABIGAIL BROOKS
EDITOR-IN-CHIEF/NEWS EDITOR

After 44 years at Monmouth University, 22 of which were spent as Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs, Thomas Pearson, Ph.D., announced his retirement as a full-time faculty member in the Department of History and Anthropology.

Pearson, who first joined the department in 1978, served as Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs under four different presidents from 1992 to 2014 after serving as the Chair of the History Department and Chair of the Faculty

Council from 1981 to 1987 and again from 1989 to 1992. Notably, Monmouth College became Monmouth University in 1995 under Pearson's provostship.

"The day we became a University, which happened pretty early in my provostship, was a wonderful day," described Pearson. "It was the dawn of a new era."

He described the lengthy application process that began in 1993 under President Rebecca Stafford. In order to qualify for University status, Monmouth had to designate graduate faculty, set up academic schools, and put together the fundamental infrastructure and organization of a University.

"There was a lot of concern that University status would change our connectivity to students," explained Pearson. "What a lot of people loved about Monmouth College was the sense that students could really get to know the faculty members and so forth, and there was some concern that a University title sounded really big and foreboding."

Even after obtaining university status, Pearson said that it took about five years for Monmouth College to start feeling like Monmouth University. Still, he noted that the school

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Blue Hawk Records to Release 20th Compilation Album, "Twenty"

CONNIE CHIANETTA
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

SAMANTHA DECARLO
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

events. Blue Hawk Records has released 15 compilation albums since its inception in 2013.

Rapolla said, "It is always such a pleasure to see how the projects come together. Watching them from the early stages when songs are being auditioned and then watching them develop into professionally produced tracks. Additionally, this class strives to simulate a current day music company. Everything we are doing directly relates to aspects of today's music industry so students get real-world experience they can reference as they pursue their careers post-graduation."

Rapolla conducted live class meetings weekly, where the team devised plans to accomplish all the required tasks. Student managers and producers worked with artists at Lakehouse Recording Studio in Asbury Park to record their songs. The tracks are then mixed and mastered by

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Blue Hawk Records, Monmouth's student-run record label, is releasing their 20th studio album, titled "Twenty," on April 22. Featured artists include Monmouth students Jordan Tyler, Delaney Rivera, Chris Lynch/The Bavaros, Elena Worton, Double G (Gabe Garza), and Madeline Knight, along with an ensemble of accompanying student musicians and producers.

Under the direction of Joe Rapolla, Specialist Professor and Chair of the Music and Theatre Department, students work together in their Record Label Strategies course to release the Blue Hawk Records compilation EP each semester. This requires that students hold auditions, select artists, prepare them to record, develop marketing strategies, decide on artwork, and plan and produce live



PHOTO COURTESY of Anthony DePrimo

Dr. Thomas Pearson served as Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs for 22 of his 44 years at Monmouth University.

MU Students Work With Production Services on Documentary

ABIGAIL BROOKS
EDITOR-IN-CHIEF/NEWS EDITOR

Monmouth University Production Services collaborated with Save Barnegat Bay (SBB), a local environmental nonprofit organization, to produce *Drift*, a feature-length documentary that tells the story of Barnegat Bay and its natural, recreational, and economic roles in the watershed community.

"The objective of Production Services is to work with nonprofits to build community engagement and allow the students to have experiential learning," said Erin Fleming, Director of Production Services. The crew involved in the production of *Drift* consisted of Monmouth University students and faculty working alongside industry professionals.

"This department takes it up a notch and adds to the skills

that are learned in the classroom," she added. "You have to have a certain skill set. Skills can be taught, but what you can't teach is that drive. It's a different kind of person that goes into production."

The film, which Fleming noted was one of the biggest projects ever taken on by Production Services, celebrates SBB's 50th year of preserving the bay by taking viewers through "50 years of complex issues through a series of short vignettes, using a variety of perspectives, viewpoints, and experiences," according to SBB's website.

The 90-minute documentary is divided into five segments, tackling subjects including the deterioration of the Toms River subwatershed, overdevelopment on the bay, early conservation efforts, and much more.

Fleming described the process of sitting down with Save Barnegat Bay to come

up with a concept for the film. "We didn't want to just tell the history of Save Barnegat Bay. That tends to turn some audiences off," she explained. "What we came up with is the idea that Barnegat Bay is a multicultural setting. Everything that happens on the entire watershed is connected to the bay."

Eventually, they agreed to make the premise of the film five different stories relating to the bay. "Each story sort of speaks to a different group so that nobody is pointing fingers, but it's sort of saying 'Look, we all love this national treasure and we should be respecting it,'" said Fleming.

Fleming described Britta Forsberg, Executive Director of Save Barnegat Bay, as "a force" and "a very intelligent woman."

"She understands that you're bringing experts into the room and to let them go their own way," explained Fleming.

"She just tempered that direction as she needed to and allowed us to pitch ideas. She was really helpful in helping us decide what stories were the most relevant."

After deciding what direction to go with the film, the first year was dedicated to pre-production. This involved de-

termining who to interview, how the story was going to develop, gathering archival materials, and conducting research.

The second year was spent putting all of these materials together, editing, and deciding what graphics, statistics, and

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PHOTO COURTESY of Anthony DePrimo

Nicole Amatucci was one of the Monmouth University students involved in the production of *Drift*.

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Economics & Finance Club Visits Wall Street

ISABELLA HANNA
ASSOCIATE NEWS EDITOR

Monmouth's Economics and Finance Club visited Wall Street in New York City on Wednesday, April 6, where they toured the New York Stock Exchange (NYSE) and other historical sites, such as the Bull of Wall Street, Fraunces Tavern & Museum, the 9/11 Memorial, and Federal Reserve building.

Faculty advisor for the club, Professor for the Department of Economics, Finance, and Real Estate, Robert H. Scott, Ph.D., explained that prior to COVID-19 the club would hold this trip once every semester. "The purpose of both the club and trip is to facilitate an environment where students can connect in ways they normally wouldn't in the classroom," said Scott.

Besides the club's semi-annual trip to the NYSE, the club also regularly hosts guest speakers, some of whom are Monmouth alumni. Scott said, "Students can listen to speakers who were once in their

shoes and are now professionals...It's another component to the club that enables students to connect with the University community in a different way."

Scott, along with the club's executive board, were responsible for organizing the trip. Christopher Harrigan, senior marketing major, is both Vice President and Marketing Board Member of the club. "I first got involved with the club because I have a passion for understanding the market and educating myself on wealth management," began Harrigan. Moreover, Harrigan mentioned that as he approached his senior year, he wanted to take on a leadership position. "It was something I had shied away from my first three years at Monmouth, but I have really enjoyed the challenge of the role," he continued.

Madeleine Ogden, senior finance major and one of the students in attendance, detailed how it felt to visit the NYSE. "It was really interesting to walk on the trading floor as transactions and broadcasts were taking place.

We also got to witness the ringing of the closing bell before we left," said Ogden. She likewise noted the unique positioning of Monmouth, and how the University's location allows students to travel around the tri-state area with ease. "Because Monmouth is located between two major cities, New York City and Philadelphia, this gives students a lot of opportunities to witness American culture and history on experiential trips like this one."

In response to the club's initiative, Dean of the Leon Hess Business School, Raj Devasagayam, Ph.D., said, "The Economics and Finance Club's most recent visit to Wall Street is yet another example of the Leon Hess Business School faculty and students striving to make the personalized education we promise come alive. I am grateful to Professor Scott for organizing this important learning opportunity and my compliments to all the students that participated."

Although the club's foundations are in business, it is open to students of all majors. Scott



PHOTO COURTESY of Professor Robert H. Scott

The Econ & Finance Club visits Wall Street once every semester.

noted, "It's about learning the financial markets and what's happening. A lot of students, regardless of their discipline, are into investing and will have to invest at some point in their life." He added, "What we do in the classroom is important, but what happens outside the classroom is equally, if not more, important...Clubs are a nice way of bridging that gap between the classroom and the real world."

Devasagayam agreed, "Raising leaders that have the knowledge and skills to meet the demands of the future of work is paramount to our educational goals. Equally important is the ability of our students to make connections between what they learn in the classroom with the context in which their knowledge and skills are put to test. Experiential education makes such connections a reality."

Dr. Pearson Retires After 44 Years at MU

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was able to "operate at a higher level while maintaining the essence of the student-teacher relationship that was the foundation of Monmouth College."

"By so many measures, this is such a different place. Transformation has been the name of the game, but I was lucky enough during a key period when enrollment came up, academic quality came up, financially we were in good shape, and we had a lot of other colleges and universities talking about the Monmouth story. I was lucky enough to be part of the process in which we brought together a lot of the building blocks of today's University."

Pearson played an integral role in this transformation process, especially during his time as Provost. Notably, he helped to establish the Schlaefer School, the Graduate School, the School of Science, the School of Nursing and Health Studies, the School of Social Work, the Honors School, and the Center for Excellence in Teaching and Learning. Pearson also oversaw the hiring of 415 full-time faculty and 21 deans.

"If you had a kind of infra-red light to shine on our institution - its history, its culture, its progress from Monmouth College to Monmouth University - you'd discover so many instances of his handiwork most of us don't even know about," said Christopher DeRosa, Ph.D., Associate Professor and Chair of the Department of History and Anthropology. "If there's a central thread to his contribution, it might be this: Professor Pearson always believed that Monmouth students were capable of meeting high standards. So for a couple of generations of students and colleagues, that is where he set them."

"While Dr. Pearson's accomplishments are impressive—hiring many new faculty members, founding schools and institutes,

reforming General Education, developing new undergraduate and graduate programs, advancing global initiatives, just to name a few—what is equally remarkable is how he enabled his colleagues in Academic Affairs and beyond to reach their potential," added Saliba Sarsar, Ph.D., Professor of Political Science. "It is how he gave substance to attributes of Monmouth's organizational life, including access, accountability, civility, collegiality, competence, hope, resilience, and truth. It is how he kept a steady hand at the helm of Academic Affairs amid the higher administrative transitions and the financial challenges."

"Dr. Pearson's legacy as Provost is found in the positive organizational trajectory he established, the standards he set, the professional relationships he formed, and the confident actions of many colleagues," Sarsar continued.

"Dr. Pearson's twenty-two years of service is especially impressive given that a typical provost serves around five years in the position," added Datta Naik, Ph.D., Professor of Chemistry.

Despite serving over two decades as Provost, Pearson's true passion is in the classroom. "I love teaching. Even during the years that I was Provost, I taught one course every semester, which is not typical for a Provost because it's a pretty big job and there's a lot of strategizing and resource-providing and so forth, but it was really important for me."

"Being the Provost was a great privilege and an honor," he continued. "I didn't always think of it that way because it's pretty heavy lifting, but I got to meet so many of my faculty colleagues and I got to get to know Trustees and students. I got to learn how the place ran. The most important thing is that I was part of it."

Pearson emphasized the importance of faculty scholars, which he has embodied over the course of his career through

his continued research about Russian history and culture, even during his time as Provost. "It has been my passion and in many ways my lifeline," he explained, noting that he has structured many of his courses around his experiences from his several trips to Russia with Monmouth students and faculty over the years. Although Pearson is stepping down as a full-time faculty member, he will return to the University next year as an adjunct professor to continue teaching Russian History.

"Under President Stafford, Dr. Pearson led the successful effort to strengthen and promote faculty research by establishing a reduced teaching load for faculty engaged in scholarship," added Naik.

Pearson also encourages students to develop lasting relationships and personal connections with faculty. Furthermore, he noted that the relationships he has developed with students and faculty over the years have been his favorite part of his time at Monmouth University.

"He embodies the caring and community spirit of Monmouth. He has an astonishing memory, knowing the name of every single faculty member, including correct pronunciation," described Frederick McKittrick, Ph.D., Associate Professor of History and Chair of the Department of Art and Design. "And when he wrote letters of support for us - for tenure or promotion - they were never simply pro forma, but always spoke to who we were. This connection has been so important in making Monmouth a cohesive community."

"Tom Pearson is a much admired colleague, and we are going to miss him in more ways than I can say," said DeRosa.

"I am most grateful to Dr. Pearson for his mentorship and guidance during our administrative years and wish him a happy and fulfilling retirement," concluded Naik.

Blue Hawk Records Debuts Newest Album

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local producer and Monmouth University Professor, Connor Hanson. All the while, artwork was being designed by art students from Professor Casey Finn's class to help promote the album. Furthermore, online promotions were being executed by the marketing team to raise excitement about the album.

The Social team has been keeping consumers up to date with the team's plans by producing weekly vlogs. These short films can be found on the groups Instagram page @bluehawkrecordsofficial

Nick Garrecht, a music student who serves as the label operations, said, "The past 10 years of records serve as a testament as to how a small major can make big things happen."

Abby Garcia, music student and General Manager of Blue Hawk Records, said, "Though everyone has different jobs, we are learning about the broader aspects of the album production process. I enjoy this because as I watch not only the



IMAGE COURTESY of Blue Hawk Records

Cover art for "Twenty," which will be released on Friday, April 22.

artists grow, but myself and fellow classmates."

Blue Hawk Records will also be collaborating with Hawk TV, the student-run TV station, for a tiny desk-inspired series this month featuring Monmouth University's own Danny O'Grady.

"Twenty" will be available for streaming on all digital platforms on April 22, the same day as the release party. The evening release party will take place at the Doherty House, the residence of President Patrick Leahy, and is free for anyone to attend.



PHOTO COURTESY of Blue Hawk Records

"Twenty" features several Monmouth students as featured artists, along with other student musicians and producers.

Leon Hess Business School Announces 2022 NJCBAA Honor Society Inductees

ISABELLA HANNA
ASSOCIATE NEWS EDITOR

Monmouth's Leon Hess Business School (LHBS) announces that four of its business undergraduates will be inducted into the New Jersey Collegiate Business Administration Association (NJCBAA) Honor Society on Friday, May 6. Those four students are Casey Blake, Nathan Heisey, Taylor Rupprecht, and Nancy McGrath—all of whom are graduating seniors.

Admission into the NJCBAA Honor Society is open to all students studying at a 2–4-year colleges pursuing a bachelor's or associate's degree in business administration or another traditional business discipline, such as accounting, finance, and marketing. All students who, by their grade point average, are in the top 1% of the total population of business students at their institution and have met most

of their degree requirements will be invited into the honors society.

Dean of the Leon Hess Business School, Raj Devasagayam, Ph.D., commended the students on their accomplishments, saying, "On behalf of the Leon Hess Business School faculty and students, I am delighted to congratulate Casey, Nathan, Taylor, and Nancy for this stellar recognition of their scholastic achievements." He emphasized that this honor is indicative of the LHBS's mission to prepare its students for such opportunities and honors. "Academic excellence is at the heart of our mission, and these students have proven their excellence through achieving distinctions that require consistent hard work and discipline," Devasagayam ended.

The inductees felt similarly about the LHBS. Heisey, an Accounting and Finance major, said, "The Leon Hess Business School has chal-

lenged me in so many ways, allowing me to grow both professionally and personally. I was challenged to not just complete an item on a syllabus, but to truly comprehend all course content." He added, "In my finance and accounting work, I was encouraged by my professors to critically think, retain information, and apply what I learned in the classroom to the real world." Heisey looks forward to beginning his career as an Audit & Assurance Staff at Deloitte this coming fall.

Blake, also an Accounting and Finance major, attributed part of his success to the faculty of the LHBS. "Each professor's background has allowed me to explore the different fields within the accounting and finance industries." He continued, "Faculty members have prepared me for the business profession by assigning real-world assignments, encouraging collaboration between peers, and providing opportunities to hear from guest speakers." Blake will start as a Staff Accountant this fall with WithumSmith + Brown, in Red Bank, NJ.

In addition to being exceptional students in the classroom, some of the inductees are also heavily involved on campus. For example, Rupprecht, an economics and finance major, is the President of Beta Gamma Sigma and Women's Club Soccer, a Leon Hess Student Advisory Council Member, the Marketing Chair for Enac-



PHOTO COURTESY of Anthony DePrimo

The LHBS is proud to announce that four of its students have been invited to be initiated into the NJCBAA Honor Society.

tus, and an Honors School Peer Mentor. Rupprecht said, "When I started my journey at Monmouth University four years ago, I never imagined being in the top 1% of business students in the state, let alone holding the positions I do now. This award shows the countless hours I put into being the best student I can be, and I am just so proud to be inducted in a few weeks." Rupprecht was able to propel one of her internships with Prudential Financial to a full-time position as an Investment Operations Associate in PGIM.

Likewise, McGrath, a Marketing major, is on Monmouth's cross country and track and field teams, as well as Social Media Director for the University's chapter of Beta Gamma Sigma. "I am truly honored to be recog-

nized at such a high level. I worked very hard to get here, and I am proud of myself for achieving such an honor," said McGrath. However, like the other inductees, McGrath credits her success to the University, "I didn't do it alone; Monmouth has given me the tools to succeed."

McGrath continued, "It is important to believe in yourself and trust the path you are on. There will be some bad days, grades that disappoint, and projects that may not go as planned. Nonetheless, don't let those small moments discourage or distract you from the larger picture at play." Rupprecht agreed, "It is essential to get out of your comfort zone and try something new. You never know what the future awaits."

"Academic excellence is at the heart of our mission, and these students have proven their excellence..."

-Raj Devasagayam

Dean of the Leon Hess Business School

MU Production Services Collaborates with Save Barnegat Bay

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animations were going to be added.

"It was rewarding for the students involved and rewarding for the communication department and my department as a whole," said Fleming. "It was an incredible two years. A lot of hard work, but we are so proud of what we've achieved."

Nicole Amatucci, a communication student who graduated in 2021, was involved in pre-production, production, and post-production for *Drift* as an As-

sociate Producer, Editor, and Camera Operator.

"This experience was completely different from a classroom," described Amatucci. "We were creating a product for a real client, so that comes with a lot more responsibility and pressure than getting a good grade. This will always be a project that I'll have been proud to work on because it taught me responsibility, discipline, and technical skills that I have brought with me into the working world. It gave me an excellent base of technical and creative skills

that I've been able to work on since I graduated."

Jared Garcia, another communication alumnus from the class of 2021, was also involved in the production of *Drift* as a Camera Operator and Co-Editor.

"Production Services gives students a lot of hands-on, experiential learning," explained Garcia, who noted that he learned about editing, interviews, and shooting film from his time on the *Drift* set.

A screening of *Drift* is available for the Monmouth University community on Friday, April 22 at 6 p.m. At 7:30 p.m., Fleming will moderate a discussion panel about some of the issues covered in the film. Panelists include Jason Adolf, Ph.D., Endowed Associate Professor of Marine Science, Catherine Duckett, Ph.D., Associate Dean of the School of Science, Tom Herrington, Ph.D., Associate Director of the Urban Coast Institute, Graceanne Taylor, Education and Outreach Coordinator for Save Barnegat Bay, and John Tiedemann, Assistant Dean of the School of Science and Director of the Marine and Environmental Biology and Policy Program. "The most useful actions



PHOTO TAKEN from New Jersey Environment News

The Barnegat Bay watershed is being changed by an increase in land development that has polluted the estuary.



PHOTO COURTESY of Anthony DePrimo

Erin Fleming is the Director of Production Services at Monmouth University and she also directed *Drift*.

will be collective, but some of them start at home," she continued, noting the importance of taking action to protect Barnegat Bay from some of the dangers showcased in the film. "There are all kinds of things we can do for the watershed, but the biggest things are to advocate for town ordinances, reduce impermeable surfaces, and advocate for storm water utility in your town."

"The main issue with Barnegat Bay is eutrophication," added Adolf. "We need to keep our waste and our excess fertilizer, or anything else with nitrogen in it, out

of the Bay." Adolf suggested that taking care of old septic systems, fixing leaking sewer systems, and prioritizing oyster restoration could all benefit the health of Barnegat Bay.

"We need everybody in the conversation, and I think that part of the film was good in emphasizing preservation and conservation," added Duckett. "We're not going to save the world without everybody participating, we're just not."

"The conversation is going to be fascinating and valuable," Duckett concluded.

Abigail Brooks' Senior Goodbye: So Long For Now

ABIGAIL BROOKS
EDITOR-IN-CHIEF/NEWS EDITOR

When I was going on college tours in high school, I had a very difficult time finding a place that felt like it could be my home for the next four years. Tour after tour, I was left feeling unsatisfied and craving something that simply wasn't there. I couldn't pinpoint what it was, but I knew that I hadn't yet found the right place for me.

I only visited Monmouth University because my mom suggested it and I didn't feel like arguing with her – I had been on so many tours with little to no success, so I decided it was easier to go with the flow and do what she wanted. So, I visited a school that I knew absolutely nothing about. I had spent some time researching the other schools I had visited, but I had no idea what to expect from this one because I was only going in order to avoid a fight with my parents.

During my first tour, I realized that there was something different about Monmouth. I continued to see other schools, but Monmouth University always lingered in the back of my mind. Suddenly, I found myself comparing the other schools I was visiting to Monmouth and thinking about all the ways that Monmouth was better. I couldn't shake this feeling, so I went on another tour. And then another. And then I went to an accepted students event. And then an honors school brunch. Finally, I decided that Monmouth was the place for me and committed as a Communications major with a concentration in public relations and journalism.

I had no reason for declaring this major. I knew nothing about what communications entailed, and I had absolutely no experience with PR or journalism. After basically living in Plangere for the first semester of my freshman year, I learned more about my major and grew to appreciate my seemingly random decision to pursue a field of study I knew

nothing about.

I was introduced to *The Outlook* by Professor Morano, who was the faculty advisor at the time. As a student in the honors school, I had to fulfill certain credit requirements and was having a difficult time doing so. I took a few of Professor Morano's journalism classes and told him about the issues I was having with getting the credits I needed. Together, we worked to create academic contracts that would allow me to obtain honors credit for his classes. The deal was always the same – I could get the honors credit I was asking for if I wrote a certain number of stories for *The Outlook* that semester.

In retrospect, it was a great recruiting tactic on his part, because it did exactly what I suspect he wanted it to. The first couple of pieces I published were simply to satisfy the requirements we had agreed upon. Then, I realized how much I enjoyed what I was doing and slowly started to go beyond what was required by the honors contracts. I found myself taking on more and more stories and growing as a writer in the process.

Eventually, the newsroom on the second floor of Plangere started to feel like my second home. In what felt like the blink of an eye, I became a staff writer, and then the news editor, and then the editor-in-chief. I never anticipated becoming this involved with *The Outlook*, but now I can't imagine what my time at Monmouth would have been like without it.

My college experience has been shorter than most – although I'll be back as a graduate student next year, I've only had three years of undergrad to enjoy everything Monmouth has to offer. I never thought I would regret taking so many AP and dual enrollment classes in high school, but I would



do anything to get that time back and spend it here at Monmouth. Aside from my involvement in the University's journalism program, I'm also a captain for the Club Sailing Team and am a member of the Honors School. I'm not ready for any of it to be over, yet here we are.

The Outlook has heavily shaped my college experience, more so than anything else I've been involved in during my three years at Monmouth, which I am so grateful for. It has afforded me so many opportunities that I would not have had otherwise, and I've met so many amazing students and faculty over the years. I'm a relatively quiet person, but *The Outlook* taught me how to be a leader and how to use my voice in a way that makes a difference.

It's the small things that I complain about now that I'm going to miss the most: trying to coordinate more interviews than I can keep track of, sitting at my computer into the early hours of the morning working on my stories for the week while thinking about all the work for my actual classes

I still had to do, always being the last person to leave Plangere on Tuesday nights after that week's publication was finally complete, eating an absurd amount of pizza as I edited everyone's sections, the desk chairs that are as old as I am, the computers that may or may not work depending on the day.

The Outlook is small. Not a lot of people even know that Monmouth has a student newspaper, much less do they read it or appreciate the work that we do. The newsroom is outdated and in the middle of being torn apart for renovations. It's tucked away behind the bathrooms on the second floor of Plangere – out of sight, out of mind. Still, writing for *The Outlook* and eventually taking over as editor-in-chief for my last semester has been perhaps the most rewarding experience from my time at Monmouth. I wouldn't trade it for the world, and I'm going to miss it in more ways than I can explain.



Melissa Badamo's Graduate Goodbye

MELISSA BADAMO
GRADUATE ASSISTANT

When I was only a sophomore in college, I decided I wanted to pursue graduate school. I met with my advisor and matriculated into the 4+1 dual BA/MA program for English with a concentration in creative writing. As a result, I am able to graduate with an MA in English one year after obtaining my BA.

I knew that being a full-time grad student in an accelerated, 30-credit program would be stressful and demanding, but it was more than worth it. I have accomplished so many things this year that I am extremely proud of. In my creative writing classes, I have written pieces of fiction, nonfiction, and poetry that I never would have created if I wasn't pushed and inspired by my professors and fellow students. For that, I am grateful and proud. I am on track to graduate with a 4.0 GPA, and it feels incredible to have had such a fulfilling academic experience.

Aside from creative fiction and poetry, there is another branch of writing that remains very close to my heart: journalism. Last year, I was the Editor-in-Chief and Features Editor of *The Outlook* and won six awards, which was the peak of my undergraduate career.

Upon graduating with my BA, I knew I wasn't ready to leave this newspaper yet. So, I became a Graduate Assistant, where I copy-edit articles and assist in any area needed—such as writing, editing, and laying out pages in InDesign. At *The Outlook*, I grew from writer, to editor, to teacher. As a Grad-



uate Assistant, I have been told by students that I've inspired them and helped them grow as journalists. That is what makes this a rewarding experience—to take my expertise and teach students and help them grow out of their comfort zone.

I was once—and still always will be—a student of journalism. After all, we never stop learning. I want to thank Professor John Morano, former advisor of *The Outlook*, who turned me into a journalist. Thank you to Dr. Marina Vujnovic, current advisor of *The Outlook*, who has been such a huge help this year, and who shared her online journalism expertise to give our website a modern transformation. Thank you to all *The Outlook* editors, both past and present, for providing me with a community.

The Outlook has always felt like a family to me, and the newsroom has always felt like a home. I still

recall my first time walking into the newsroom the second week of my freshman year, when my print journalism talents were still merely buds that didn't yet know how much they would blossom.

Thank you to my family, for being there for me always, for believing in me when things get tough, for teaching me that nothing is more valuable than an education. Thank you to my friends, for getting me through stressful times, for providing endless laughs and hugs in the student center. Thank you to my English professors, who have inspired me, believed in me, pushed me.

I pursued grad school because I love it. I love academics, I love learning, I love writing. I've been described as "ambitious" by my professors, and that ambition is what drives me. I love finding new ways to combine my creative writ-



ing and journalism interests. For my manuscript thesis, the capstone project of my MA program, I am writing a novel about a journalist who sets out to interview a reclusive celebrity to save her declining newspaper.

I've also decided to pursue my MFA (Master of Fine Arts) in creative writing in the fall here at Monmouth, an additional 18-credit program. This is a natural progres-

sion for me, being that the MA/MFA programs are so closely tied together. It provides an opportunity to further hone my craft and to continue working on the novel under the guidance of my creative writing professors.

That is what's next for me: to continue to write both as a creative writer and a journalist. Not only because it fulfills my heart, but because it inspires others.

Who Makes The Classroom



PHOTO COURTESY of Chris Spiegel

One of the benefits of in-person classes is the connection you make with your professors and your peers.

JOHN PAPAGNI
OPINION/COMIC EDITOR

An essential part of the classroom is the students, but possibly the critical part of the class is the professor teaching it.

All professors have a different style of teaching, which may or may not fit the way you want to be taught. Some teachers like to give out PowerPoint slides for notes, while others write some key concepts on a board and talk for the remainder of class, and perhaps with some courses, you have no notes.

It also depends on the type of person you are and what style of teaching you might prefer. I am a person who is a very visual learner; I need to see how something happens step-by-step for it to make any kind of sense to me.

However, while I am a visual learner, that doesn't mean everyone relates to me and how I wish to be taught. Some people instead figure things out on their own, or maybe one-on-one with a professor rather than in a big group.

Then there is the topic of online learning versus in-person learning. While I prefer in-person learning to online learning, some prefer online. It is more convenient and safer for the circumstances of COVID-19, and as long as you have a stable internet connection, you can be anywhere in the world and learn. You could be soaking up the sun at Florida, in the comfort of your own house, or traveling the world for vacation.

The thing that will be lacking if you go online for classes

is the connection you will have with your classmates. For some students, that may be fine, but to others, maybe having a relationship with their teacher is an essential factor in learning the material.

There is also the topic of synchronous vs. asynchronous. I feel both have their benefits, but asynchronous is the worse of the two. I have had three asynchronous classes in the past, and I enjoyed two out of the three. The two that I wanted were writing heavy courses with very clear instructions about what was expected of us and the work that we had to do. The one class that I did not enjoy was a math class, which is my worst subject.

While the professor gave us video-formed notes, I had to teach myself the entire course from start to finish. To say I was unhappy and stressed was an understatement. I did all I could to pass this class, and while I did pass with an acceptable grade, it was a slog.

I did not enjoy teaching myself a subject that I am not good at, and I did not have much help from the course instructor. I couldn't even meet with the professor during their respective offices hours because I had online classes that I needed to attend and pay attention to. I did talk to some of my classmates for assistance, and they seemed to have no trouble with the course, either because they enjoyed math or because they didn't have to attend a class and do it when they wanted to. The benefit of asynchronous courses is that you have a reasonable amount of time to do your work. The classic phrase that it takes two to tango definitely can be applied in the classroom depend-

ing on what kind of teacher you have and the way that best fits a student's learning criteria.

I personally believe that there is a 50/50 split between teacher and student. In one regard the student needs to be able to do the work that is required of them, on time, and that meets the expectations of the teacher. At the same time the professor has to be fair in what their expectations are with the class.

One thing I believe is that teachers often forget that students have multiple classes, and sometimes due dates overlap with one another. Students then have to either try to do multiple important projects all at the same time, and either put a lot of effort into one of the projects or perhaps half ass the work for all them just to scrape by. I have seen my friends disregard some assignments that don't pertain to their personal majors because they are not significant enough for them to worry about and really only focus on their core major classes, while their general education classes suffer in comparison.

If you do poorly in your general education classes it is only going to look bad on you and your GPA. And, if you are a student who doesn't like the teaching style of your professor, drop the class and try to find a new one if you are able too. The alternative is either dropping the class which you will need to take later, or just sticking to it. There has to be a common middle ground among students and professors where both needs are met and are fair.

Returning to Normalcy on Campus: A Semester of Progress



PHOTO COURTESY of Monmouth University

Students enjoying the Monmouth University campus.

JOHN PAPAGNI
OPINION/COMIC EDITOR

As the first somewhat regular semester ends, my perception of Monmouth University has changed since last year. I came to Monmouth University when it was all online with minimal to no hybrid classes. While the online format of Monmouth University for the years 2020 to 2021 was convenient, it was significantly lackluster. There were barely any Monmouth events or sports games, and it felt overall lonely. Since the school has mandated the vaccine and COVID cases have been generally on decline, although we are seeing some uptick in cases in the last couple of weeks here in the Northeast, it feels almost normal again. The most significant change has been lifting face masks around campus beside the classroom. It is somewhat weird to see everyone's faces again after wearing masks.

Perhaps we will not have to wear masks while attending classrooms next year, but for those who do want to be extra cautious and continue to wear masks, there is nothing wrong with that. What I have learned about the whole college experience is that whatever you put into something is what you will get out of it. I had enjoyed the past two semesters a lot more than I had when everything was online. While the occasional 8:30 a.m. class for a 3-hour lecture can sometimes be challenging, I would not trade it over Zoom. I like meeting my professors, going to office hours if I need help, and sitting down to learn the material to help me in my future career. The one thing I am still trying to adjust to is talking amongst my classmates. For the most part, people have made their connections and friendships, so at times, it feels awkward to try and talk to new people. Especially when given class projects where you have to work together, you don't know anything about the people you are working with. That is something that

I will have to adjust for the future. A big piece of advice that I think all students should listen to is to use all the resources Monmouth has to offer and take advantage of them while you can. Students are paying to go here. It only makes sense to use all that Monmouth offers during this period. While setting up appointments for help might be inconvenient, you may feel discouraged from doing so. There is nothing to be ashamed about in asking for help. The only person who overly cares about it is you. No one should shame you for reaching out for extra assistance or clarification, and it is a part of life. If you don't understand something at a job, you aren't going to risk your job security by not asking for help. Take advantage of Monmouth's writing services, tutoring services, and connection services. If you are ever feeling down about something or feeling stressed about schoolwork or anything else that is bothering you, the counseling services at Monmouth University have some great people who are willing to help you. College is challenging at times with all the exams, papers, extracurricular activities, greek life, and maintaining a social life. However, there are people in your life who genuinely want you to succeed and have the best time of your life while attending college. Whether it be parents, friends or the professors at Monmouth University, people want you to prosper in this environment. The journey will be more challenging at times, that's true. I am already halfway through my career at Monmouth, and I honestly feel more mentally drained than anything else. While I enjoy my classes, I am tired of the non-stop work from each class and can't wait for this upcoming break to refresh my mind. As tired as I am, I can't wait to see what my junior year of college will be like in an even more normal school environment.



PHOTO COURTESY of Anthony DePrimo

With online learning, you can meet with your professors anywhere at any time.

Ukrainian Attorney Provides Insight into Russian War Crimes as Russia Launches New Donbas Offensive

RICHARD PITTS
POLITICS EDITOR

As Russian forces begin a new offensive centered around the Ukrainian oblasts of Luhansk and Donetsk, The Outlook has conducted an interview with Katerina Prokopishina, a Ukrainian Attorney investigating Russian war crimes currently residing in Odessa, Ukraine. Professor Polina Amburg of Monmouth University, whose perspective on the Ukrainian war we've shared in the last issue, served as the contact for our interviewee this week. Our questions to Katerina Prokopishina ranged from asking about details pertaining to specific war crimes, potential charges and ways the international and Ukrainian legal community plan on bringing forth these charges, how Ukraine's legal community is protecting itself from Russian agents and disinformation, alongside the general mentality of the communities impacted by Russian war crimes.

International Criminal Court (ICC) headquartered in the Hague, Netherlands, opened up an investigation into crimes committed in Ukraine on March 2, according to Associated Press. Prokopishina said, "The aggressors committed enormous amounts of crimes since the start of the military invasion on Ukrainian territories. These crimes ranged from military offenses, robberies, and theft. In the course of the on-going armed conflict, the international humanitarian laws were violated."

The latest news reports suggest that Russia has been using various types of weapons including cluster bombs, that are designed to cause maximum damage to the human targets including civilians. In 2008 an international treaty known as The Convention on Cluster Munitions (CCM) that bans usage transfer, production, and stockpiling of cluster bombs was signed. However, neither Russia, nor Ukraine, nor United States are signatories to the treaty.

"The Russian Armed Forces used indiscriminate weapons, such as hailstones, clusters, and phosphorus bombs. They also shot civilians and carried out air and missile strikes on civilian buildings, such as schools, apartments, railway stations, and religious institutions."

Hailstone weapons are a form of rocket artillery, while phosphorus bombs are categorized as a chemical weapon. Prokopishina shared several examples of Russian war crimes.

"Terrifying examples of these crimes are the Mariupol Drama-Theater airstrike, and the shelling of the railroad station in Kramatorsk. Attacks on railroad stations in Kyiv



Chief prosecutor of ICC Karim Khan QC, as reported by The Independent, declared Ukraine a 'crime scene' after visiting Bucha and said there are "reasonable grounds" to believe war crimes have been committed after hundreds of bodies were recovered.

and Lviv, alongside attacks on Kharkiv and Mykolaiv. Because of these airstrikes, many cities are erased from the face of the Earth."

Media have heavily reported on the terrible conditions in the besieged city of Mariupol and Popasnoe. These cities have become infamous in the West for the suffering inflicted on the civilian population by the Russian military. "The most atrocious are Mariupol and Popasnoe, where no building is left intact and people are forced to live in bomb shelters and basements without food, electricity, or gas. The wounded cannot get medical attention because there are no medical supplies. People cannot properly bury their loved ones because of ongoing shelling," said Prokopishina.

Outside of the physical destruction of Ukrainian cities, human stories to these crimes are the most distressing. Even after agreements between Ukrainian and Russian sides to cease fire to allow civilians to evacuate, Russian military failed to provide safe zones for evacuation.

Prokopishina explained, "During the evacuation from Starobelsk, Lugansk region, the Russian military opened fire on evacuation buses, killing and wounding civilians. Failure to provide safe evacuation corridors has led to humanitarian crises across several Ukrainian cities."

As in many wars, gender violence has been used against civilian population, particularly women and girls, but sometimes even men find themselves victims of sexual violence.

"Russian soldiers torture prisoners, and sexually assault women and children. As of today (April 18), there is a record of the sexual assault of a man by a Russian soldier during the occupation of the Kyiv region," said Prokopishina.

The grim reality of war crimes is present in many regions of Ukraine and civilians

of all ages are made into targets. Prokopishina said, "They (the Russian military) shoot at civilians and run over people's cars with tanks preventing refugees from escaping the war. In the Kherson region, Ukrainian activists are being tortured. Residents report people are taken out for interrogations, extorted for money, and sexually assaulted. After the (eventual) liberation, the scale of crimes in the Kherson region will be the second Bucha and Irpin."

In our previous coverage of the war in Ukraine, we've mentioned Russian "filtration camps," where these aforementioned interrogations are taking place, and mass deportations of Ukrainians to Russia. Prokopishina elaborated, "Our citizens are deported against their will from occupied territories to Russia. As of today, the reports estimate over 500,000 people have been taken there. Children are being placed in special camps. And this is a shortlist of crimes committed against Ukrainian civilians."

The violence against Ukrainian children has been widespread, and not limited to kidnappings and placement in camps. Prokopishina explains that "202 children died in Ukraine, and more than 500 have been injured." Additionally, activists, aid workers, and members of the media have been killed or injured.

"The deaths of 21 media representatives have been officially confirmed. It is impossible to determine the exact number of dead civilians. Unfortunately, with every day of military aggression, these numbers are growing, because every day new horrific crimes against Ukrainians are being committed...I think the whole world will be shocked more by the atrocities as more Ukrainian cities and villages are being liberated." To top it off, Prokopishina shared an official report, which state that, "there are over 900 victims of

crimes in liberated Ukrainian settlements."

War also exists within the information space, and it is usually fought with tools of propaganda and disinformation. Prokopishina discussed how the information war is fought in Ukraine.

"Today every Ukrainian is fighting with Russian propaganda. They try to deliver a message to the citizens of Russia that their silence is the agreement with the atrocities inflicted by the Russian military. This silence makes them accomplices. Ukrainians woke up on February 24 to the sounds of explosions. Because the invaders came to Ukraine to kill, and erase our history, our language, and our ordinary lives with plans for the future. Russian propaganda cannot affect the people who live in Ukraine in any possible way. People know how easy it is to fight disinformation and to look for facts in the era of digital technology."

One question many may be asking is how will Ukraine and the international community bring the perpetrators of these crimes to justice. And how will they prove who did it? Prokopishina explained the process.

"The legal community of Ukraine works closely with civil and military Ukrainian and European institutions, such as the UN, OSCE, and the International Criminal Court, to bring to light war crimes committed by the aggressors on Ukrainian territories. They collect evidence and documents of these terrible crimes to present in international courts and to share with the world that Ukrainians are not only fighting for their freedom but the independence and sovereignty of other countries. Today it is easier to record military crimes than it was for example in Syria, Chechnya, or Georgia. Today this war practically takes place online. The Ukrainian authorities, international experts, survivors'

testimonies, satellite imagery recording, and surveillance cameras record all of the abovementioned crimes. In addition, volunteers representing civilian organizations assist with interviewing the victims. After that, the collected reports are transferred to law enforcement agencies and international courts. Facial recognition programs and social networks facilitate the identification of war criminals. For example, all perpetrators of the crimes in Bucha and Irpin were identified."

When it comes to physically bringing these perpetrators to trial, Prokopishina expressed that, "There will certainly be difficulties bringing perpetrators to justice. It will be unlikely that the aggressor country will voluntarily extradite war criminals. It will be equal to admitting that the highest officials of Russia have committed war crimes. Considering that the Russian leadership managed to avoid the responsibility for the crimes committed in Syria, Chechnya, Georgia, Moldova, and African countries, the legal community of Ukraine will initiate collaboration with international organizations to create a new system of legal mechanisms for bringing war criminals to justice. The existing international system of peace and security is not effective, as evident by the current crimes in Ukraine witnessed by the world."

But as we have seen with the past war crimes in other countries such as Rwanda or Bosnia and Herzegovina, those can be prosecuted in perpetuity. "War crimes have no statute of limitation. Suffice it to recall how criminals were searched and prosecuted after World War II. Therefore, there is a firm conviction that perpetrators committing crimes on Ukrainian territories will be convicted by the law and Russian government leaders will face a military tribunal," Prokopishina explained.

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Do Final Exams Benefit Students?

EDITORIAL STAFF

As the 2021-2022 academic year comes to an end, The Outlook editors sat down to reflect on their semester and to discuss their perspectives on the ever-daunting season of finals.

"I think finals are an odd concept. While I understand the need for students to showcase proficiency in a topic, expecting them to do so all at once across multiple topics is unrealistic," began the first editor.

Another editor agreed, saying, "Cumulative finals are especially stressful, and I am not sure it reinforces what was learned throughout the semester; rather, I feel it causes students unnecessary levels of stress."

However, as it is common to see among students of various disciplines, finals can take different formats. For example, one editor remarked, "I have 4 exams next week and am extremely stressed. I am not a big fan of tests, so I prefer to do projects or papers. I think students should be allowed the option of choosing how they want their final to look."

A fourth editor felt similarly to the aforementioned one, grateful for the way finals were looking this semester. "Most of my finals are essays or projects, which I'm wildly thankful for. I do not enjoy final exams when they're given in the tradi-

tional test format and I have to sit down and study for hours just to memorize information that I'm going to forget within a few days."

The second editor mentioned has a combination of what the last two editors described, "My finals are a mix between paper, project, and exams, depending on the class. It can be confusing since I struggle to differentiate where my time is most needed."

Upon discussing their schedules and views on finals, the editors asked each other whether they felt a better alternative to finals existed. One editor said, "I think that finals are necessary, but professors who still give traditional final exams should take a step back and consider whether or not that's actually doing anything to benefit students in the long run."

The same editor added, "Personally, I feel as though I learn more when I have to apply content from a course into a bigger project or essay rather than memorizing material to be tested on."

A different editor noted that it's not the concept of finals he/she has a problem with, but the weight in which finals have in a student's overall grades. "I think a final project or test is still a smart way of testing the student's comprehension of the course

material, but I do feel that they have an uneven contribution to the course grade which makes them a source of stress for many students."

Generally, all the editors agreed that there is a space and need for finals on a collegiate level; however, they explored ways in which it can be made less stressful on students and enhance their learning experience as the semester draws to an end.

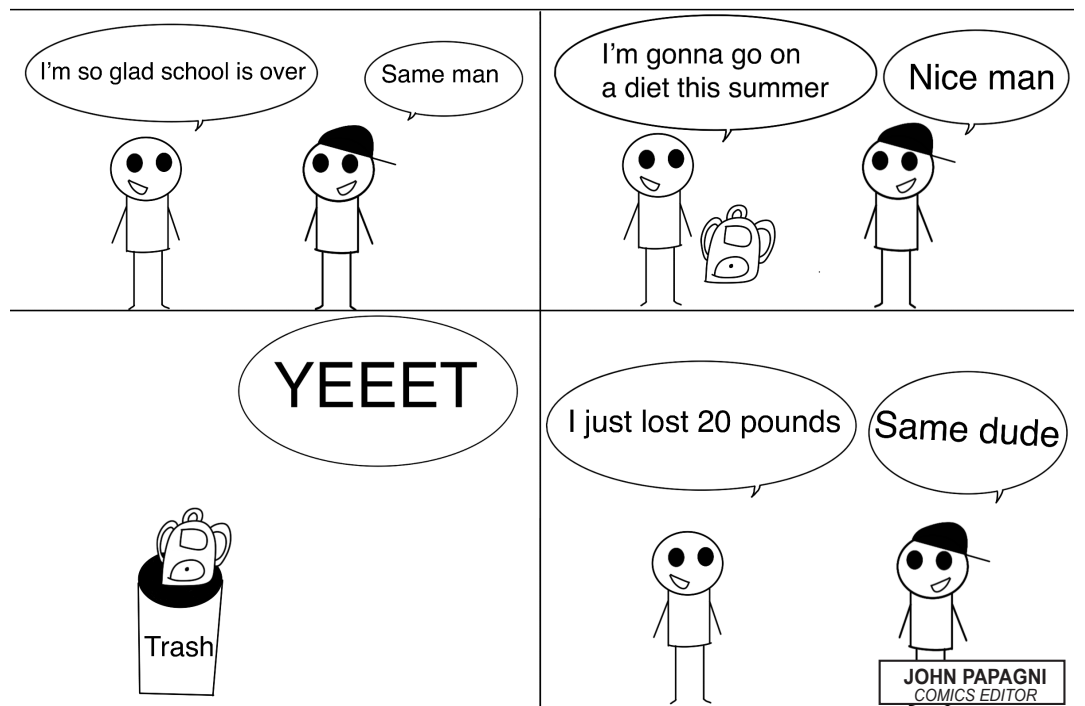
On the topic whether finals should stay or go, one editor stated, "I think that they (faculty) could continue to use finals, but decrease their weight within any given course."

Another editor continued, "I think that finals should remain in place, but that there should be more strict guidelines regarding their formatting so that they truly benefit students." The same editor explained, "Suitable alternative would be projects, essays, and other hands-on assignments that ask students to apply information to show their understanding of the content rather than asking them to memorize it all."

A different editor agreed, saying that "A paper or PowerPoint on a specific topic that relates to the class can better demonstrate the wide variety of skills or topics the class would teach."

According to The Outlook editors, finals are a necessary "evil," and we wish you good luck as you finish up your semester!

Summer Weight Loss



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“Don’t Cry Because It’s Over. Smile Because It Happened.”

DENISSE QUINTANILLA
MANAGING/FEATURES EDITOR

And just like that, college is over. These past four years have definitely been a rollercoaster ride, and it’s coming to an end. Juggling school work, extracurriculars, jobs, internships, and a pandemic has not been easy. However, the support of so many people at Monmouth has guided me to this exact moment.

I walked into Monmouth University back in 2018 as a shy person afraid of speaking her mind. However, that’s not me anymore. College is supposed to be a time of growth and development. I did exactly that. I took advantage of every opportunity I was provided and became a more assertive and confident person.

The Outlook proved itself to be a place for growth, learning, and support. I regret not joining since my freshman year, but I guess I have to thank the pandemic for pushing me to explore a new side of me that I thought I dreaded: Writing.

In September 2020, I challenged myself to do something about it. I reached out to the then Editor-in-Chief and Features Editor, Melissa Badamo, about writing for *The Outlook*. She got me all set up and I requested to write my first story about Hispanic Heritage Month. She agreed, and now came the part where I had to reach out and talk to different members of the Monmouth community.

I’ve always disliked cold



countless times I tried to sit down and write it. Somehow I was able to put something together, and much to my surprise it made the front page of that issue.

From that moment on, I knew that I could do this. I began to write articles every week, trying to perfect my craft with every issue. Fast forward to April 2021, I was offered the Features Editor position and I could not believe it. They were trusting me to take on such an important role, and I could not thank Melissa enough for believing in my ability as a journalist.

During my time at the award-winning Spanish language radio program called *Nuestros Sonidos Latinos*, which airs on WMCX, I learned that my voice is the most powerful tool I have. I was so lucky to have had the

with some of the best tips to help me become a better radio personality. Thank you Professor Cipriani, for believing that this girl can become a reporter one day. My radio family will always be with me wherever I go. Familia por siempre!

Another huge part of my college career is my Educational Opportunity Fund (EOF) family. I literally would not be at Monmouth if it weren’t for them. They provided me with the financial, emotional, and academic support I needed in order to survive college. As a first-generation college student, applying to college was not a given as I didn’t have anyone to guide me through the process.

EOF has provided me with

help make a difference in this world.

Thank you to my friends (you know who you are) for making Monmouth feel like a home away from home. Whenever I needed them the most, they would always be there. Just know that my college experience would not have been the same if I didn’t have each and every one of you by my side.

I could not end this goodbye without saying thank you to the woman who inspires me to continue to work hard every single day: my mom. She was sad she would not be seeing me every single day when I went off to college, but she knew that I had to go in order to get an undergraduate education—something she never got to do. It is my goal



that sense of family and support I needed to help me be one step closer to my goal. Throughout these four years, they have become a vital piece to my growth and development. Thank you to every single EOF staff and student I had the opportunity to interact with. I would not be weeks away from receiving my college degree without your help, so just know that you helped make that dream come true.

Thank you to the department of World Languages and Cultures for always being there to support me and finding different ways to help me succeed. Thank you to Professor Gac-Artigas for always seeing my worth and believing that my work can

to make my mom proud and honor all the sacrifices she made so I can have a shot at living the American dream. Gracias, Mami, for supporting me throughout these four years and for being the role model I need in this life.

There are so many other people I have encountered in these past four years, but can’t fit them all here or else you’d be reading this for a while. Just know that if it weren’t for them, I would not be about to throw my graduation cap in the air.

I’m proud of all the things I have accomplished. Although the pandemic took almost a year of my time, it didn’t stop me from making the most of my college experience. I leave Monmouth with more

than three internships under my belt, more than 20 articles written for *The Outlook*, two awards for my Spanish language radio show, presenting a Hawk Talk during Scholarship week, and so much more.

However, what I am most proud of is the person I have become. Throughout these past four years, I learned that my voice matters, and to not be afraid to speak up. We all deserve to be heard, and it’s up to us to use our voices to make a difference not only at Monmouth, but the world.

Saying goodbye is hard, but it’s time to spread my wings and fly! Pa’lante siempre!



emailing people because I thought I was bothering them, so when I had to do that for *The Outlook*, I was definitely nervous. However, the deadline that I was facing—plus my desire to share a little bit more about the Hispanic culture—led me to reach out to my sources. Every student and faculty member I spoke to was kind and willing to provide their perspective for the piece.

The actual writing part was no easy feat either, as I experienced writer’s block the

opportunity to go live on the air every single week, and share with the Monmouth community about the Latino culture and what it has to offer.

I want to thank Professor Frank Cipriani for pushing me to speak at the first show I attended back in 2018. Since that day, he has become my fearless supporter who is always wishing the best for me. He always seems to find something funny and out of the blue to help make each show fun, and provided me



John Henning, Dean of the School of Education, Plans to Retire by the End of This Year

SHANNON SMITH
STAFF WRITER

John Henning, Ph.D., Dean of the School of Education, plans to retire at the end this year.

Henning has been a part of the Monmouth community since 2015. Prior to his time at Monmouth, Henning was a professor at Ohio University and an Assistant Dean of Education at the University of Northern Iowa. He also has 20 years of experience teaching at the high school level, which allowed him to grow as an educator by learning about classroom management and how to form meaningful connections with students.

Regarding the transition of teaching high school to college students, Henning said that he felt he had enough knowledge to make a contribution to higher education.

“One thing I learned that I thought was key was how important relationships with students are. They are what set the stage for encouraging thinking, challenging students, and communicating the content,” Henning said.

Henning eventually took an offer from Monmouth as Dean. He recalled feeling tremendously excited about the opportunity, as he had more experience and interest in leadership. During his time at Monmouth he accomplished many things that transformed the education department.

For example, Henning designed, piloted and implemented yearlong clinical experiences in

teacher preparation the University. Additionally, he worked on a teacher residency program that consisted of a pilot program that extends the current number of required clinical hours by paying teacher candidates for their work in schools. This program is based on the prekindergarten through grade 12 calendar rather than the university academic calendar.

One of the major themes regarding his transition from teaching to a role in leadership was building relationships with students, as well as becoming a model to the professors in his program to do the same.

Henning said, “At any level, those relationships are key and the basis of all that we do. As a leader, I really believe productiv-

ity of your department and school depends a lot on relationships and the climate you build as a leader. That sense of teamwork and collaboration gives people a sense of security and confidence as they move forward.”

Amanda Balestrieri, a senior studying mathematics and elementary education had the pleasure of working with Henning. She said, “I credit Dean Henning for my positive experiences at Monmouth that have shaped me to be the educator that I am today.”

Henning also learned a lot about social justice during his time at Monmouth, crediting faculty such as Tina Paone, Ph.D., Nicole Pulliam, Ph.D., Jason Fitzgerald, Ph.D., among others who helped drive social justice initiatives to work towards more inclusion.

“I have learned a lot from them and their initiatives in sharing their values and ideas through the school of education and have been helpful in my personal growth.”

Fitzgerald said, “Dean Henning’s commitment to teaching all students, both those here at Monmouth and those in our partnering districts, has made us a stronger School of Education and a stronger community.”

Paone added, “He allows faculty to take the lead in their respective specialties and provides them the freedom to determine the best way to delineate their content areas. He is always quick to recognize faculty accomplishments and ensure they are celebrated.”

Since entering his role at Monmouth, Henning has had a

strong focus on practice and clinical experience. In 2017, he led the charge in achieving the Exemplary Partnership Award from the National Association of Professional Development Schools. He now seeks to conduct more research into experiential learning and hopes to write more about the topic upon retirement. Aside from writing, he hopes to travel with his wife and spend time with his granddaughters during retirement.

Henning offered advice for students looking to pursue a path in education. “I think, especially for Monmouth students coming into the teacher preparation program, try to get into a school, as much as you can, that allows you to get experience,” he said. “We have put students out in schools longer than our program requirements. The longer you’re out in a school, the better you’re going to be, the more prepared you’re going to be, the easier the first year is going to be, and there’s also a better chance you’ll get hired.”

Henning gave a special thanks to the faculty in the Speech and Pathology Department in the education program, noting how it has grown and thrived since his start at the University.

Henning concluded, “My experience at Monmouth has been a special one. I have enjoyed every minute of it. I’ve especially enjoyed the people that I have worked with and I’ve tremendously enjoyed working with people through challenges to successful conclusions. I’m grateful for those connections.”



PHOTO COURTESY of John Henning
John Henning has been a part of the Monmouth community since 2015, making significant contributions to the School of Education.

The Office of Graduate Studies Hosts “Grad Students Give Back” Event

SARAH VAN CLEF
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

Graduate students were invited to volunteer at Monmouth’s Virginia A. Cory Community Garden, located just off campus on Beechwood Avenue, on April 9. The “Grad Students Give Back” event was hosted by the Office of Graduate Studies and the Graduate Advisory Board, with the help of the School of Social Work.

Marie Weimer, Intern of the Virginia A. Cory Community Garden, and Samantha Jaslow, Graduate Assistant for the Of-

fice of Graduate Studies, coordinated the event by providing volunteers with a morning garden preparatory workshop and giving them guidance as to how the garden was to be prepped for the new spring growth.

During the lunch break, graduate students of English read excerpts and poems affiliated with nature. Melissa Badamo, an MA in English/Creative Writing student, read an original poem titled, “All There’s Left is Violet,” which illustrates how love and nature can coincide with one another.

“It was such a great op-



PHOTO COURTESY of @mugradlife
Students attended a garden preparatory workshop and read excerpts and poems affiliated with nature during their lunch break.



PHOTO COURTESY of @mugradlife
Graduate students volunteered at Virginia A. Cory Community Garden on April 9.

portunity to read an original poem about nature to celebrate not only the new spring season, but also what the garden represents—community and giving back,” Badamo said. During the reading, volunteers were able to ask the readers some questions while they enjoyed a windy but sunny day surrounded by blooming flowers.

The Community Garden has provided food to over 50 families in Monmouth and Ocean counties. According to Monmouth’s website, the garden began as, “a cooperative volunteer effort run by the School of Social Work with

the assistance of a steering committee of gardeners and Monmouth University faculty.” The garden strives to grow a community by providing a safe place for students and faculty to come together for a good cause. The event aligned with the garden’s mission statement, which is to provide educational opportunities for all ages to learn about gardening, sustainability and wellness.

Weimer emphasized that the community garden seeks to, “provide a sense of community that bridges the gap between faculty and students, as well as community mem-

bers to better improve the less fortunate.” The Community Garden also gives students and faculty the opportunity to connect with one another across multiple schools of study by connecting with nature. It’s a place of new growth and togetherness.

On Saturday, April 23 from 12-3 p.m., The Community Garden will be hosting an Earth Day celebration with live music from local artists, a poetry reading, and local businesses with an angle on eco-sustainability. Students who are interested in volunteering can email Marie Weimer at s0874232@monmouth.edu

Breaking Up is Hard to Do: Why Heartbreak Feels So Heartbreaking

JAYME MARTINI
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

I recently went through something that a lot of people my age have experienced: a breakup with someone I never even officially dated. It is a cycle: you meet, you spend hours together every week, you form a connection, you meet their friends, you two are acting like you are in a relationship, and then boom—they hit you with the “I’m afraid of commitment” song and dance.

Lately, everything makes me think of him. I notice every car on the road that looks like his, I am reminded of him immediately whenever I hear a Bob Dylan song. And when I hear someone talk about him, my heart pounds and all the memories come rushing back. All the laughs, all the anticipation and excitement of starting to fall for someone—everything.

It feels like the end of the world, going from all to nothing. That person cutting something off that could have been great, before it even started. I wanted to find out more, though, about why going through a heartbreak feels like the world crashing down through a psychological perspective. So, I decided to talk to Gary Lewandowski Jr., Ph.D., Professor in the Department of Psychology, who specializes in the psychology of intimate relationships. I also wanted to find out if there was something more productive I could be doing, other than wallowing in self-

pity and listening to Taylor Swift’s “All Too Well” on repeat.

“When you get into a relationship, you devote part of yourself to your partner and also take on many of their traits. We call this inclusion of other in the self,” Lewandowski said.

When you go through a breakup, it’s like you are losing a part of yourself. You two create your own inside jokes and your own sort of traditions, things that only the two of you will understand. Consequently, if the two of you break up, you sort of have to rediscover part of yourself, because you lost a part of your identity that was associated with them.

I keep finding myself feeling as though it’s wrong to move on from him. That letting go of missing him would somehow mean I don’t care for him anymore. That by holding on to all of those emotions tied to him, good and bad, there could still be a presence of him in my life. We’re also in the same class, so it’s just a little bit of torture on my part.

“Like above, it’s a bit related to the fact that so much of yourself is wrapped up. We’re social creatures so we also have a general fear of being alone,” Lewandowski explained.

It’s like, when I see him in class, I feel like I’m seeing someone who really got to know me, someone who I was truly convinced was going to be a part of my future. And that’s not what you are usually looking forward to in a communication class.

The part of the aforementioned “All Too Well” that has been hit-

ting me the hardest lately is the beginning of the bridge: “Well maybe we got lost in translation/ Maybe I asked for too much/ But maybe this thing was a masterpiece, till you tore it all up/ Running scared, I was there, I remember it, all too well.” If one of the people involved in this relationship is afraid of commitment with you, anything you ask for from them will be “too much.”

This can also mean that you two have different attachment styles. Lewandowski said, “People who are secure (comfortable being close and not worried about their partner leaving them) have the best relationships. They are most compatible with others who share their secure attachment style.”

Very soon into this “situationship”—as many Gen-Zer’s like to call a relationship that never had an official title—it never felt super secure, because he said that he was “weird” with relationships. I was comfortable opening up to him. We really clicked and understood each other, and it seemed as though he felt the same way. We could talk for hours with no awkward pauses. We shared our pasts, talked about our families and what it was like for us growing up. It felt like we were forming a deep, meaningful connection to each other.

But that one issue kept popping up: he was cautious of committing to anything more serious with me in the future. “There are lots of possibilities of why someone is afraid to commit to you,” Lewandowski said. They can be trying to work on themselves, they may

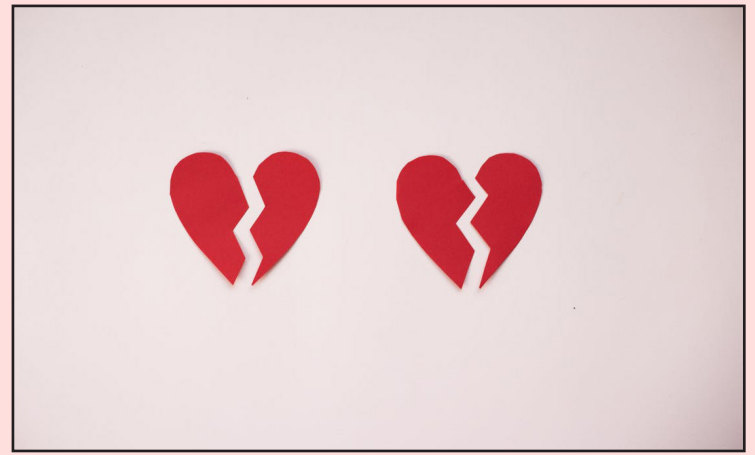


PHOTO TAKEN from Pexels.com

Heartbreak can be a painful experience because you have become attached to that one person, and losing them means having to rediscover that part of yourself.

have trauma from past relationships, or they may be holding out just in case ‘something better’ comes along.” So, it’s not you, and just because it never had a title on it doesn’t mean it was any less special.

Getting over that person that was special to you is the largest hurdle. It may take weeks, months, to get to a place in which you remember the good times and appreciate what you two had, but are not sad about losing them anymore. Lewandowski gave his advice for getting over a breakup: “Write about it, especially the positives. Avoid trying to go back or even looking back. A complete break is most often best. Staying friends is difficult, especially if there are any lingering feelings.”

It may be a nice sentiment, wanting to “be friends” but the

truth is, you two were much more than friends, and it is difficult to be friends with someone that you know you want much more with.

It is hard to lose someone that you hit it off with so quickly and that you thought was going to be a prominent part of your future. You lose part of yourself and who you were with them. But, by taking it day by day, focusing on the positives of that relationship and not what made it fall apart, you can start to appreciate it and stop mourning it.

Because I’ve listened to “All Too Well” at least a hundred times since the “situationship” fell apart, the best lyric that ties together why breaking up hurts so much is: “You told me about your past, thinking your future was me.”

University Staff Spotlight: Rich Carragher and Patrick Pagano

JOHN SPINELLI
STAFF WRITER

Have you ever attended a football or basketball game on campus? Or have you seen the other great 20 sports teams compete at home?

Well if you have, Rich Carragher, Associate Athletic Director For Event Management, and Patrick Pagano, Associate Athletic Director for Facilities and Operations, are the two individuals who share an important role in making the regular season/championship games a reality.

Some of their many responsibilities include managing all the games, reaching out to visiting coaches and referees, and preparing the stadium, lockers rooms, lineups and fields.

“My experience has been great. It is always a thrill to be on the sidelines and be close to the action,” Carragher said, reflecting on his experience as a manager. He graduated with a business degree from St. Joseph’s University in Philadelphia and has been with Monmouth University since 2001.

During his time at the Jesuit college, Carragher was the manager of the St. Joe’s Hawks elite men’s basketball team. Since he grew up in Spring Lake, he has always been aware of Monmouth’s influence in the local community. Sports have also always been a critical part of Carragher’s life as well; he played baseball and ran cross country in high school. Carragher is a fan of the Hawks, but also enjoys watching the Philadelphia Eagles, New

York Yankees, college basketball, and horse racing.

Pagano, who recently joined the University in October 2021, is native to Hamilton Township and attended Towson University obtaining his bachelor’s degree in sports management, and his masters in sports business administration at Temple University. During his time at Towson University, he gained experience working as a supervisor for the sporting events.

With so much preparation needed in order for a game to run smoothly, Pagano and Carragher receive help from a team of students and community members to make the magic happen.

Orlando Ferreira, a junior homeland security student, talked about his experience as an event staffer working directly with Carragher and Pagano.

Pagano and Carragher both agreed that their respective positions allowed them to get to know other people within the National Collegiate Athletic Association (NCAA).

Carragher said, “It is a great way to meet and network with others in the large world of college athletics. It is always fun to watch a major event on TV like the Final Four and see referees on a major stage that worked a basketball game at Monmouth earlier in the year.”

Pagano added, “Most people hold big name coaches and officials in a higher regard, but in reality, they’re just regular people with a passion for sports.”

Every job comes with its challenges, and these are not the exception. Pagano explained,



PHOTOS COURTESY OF Pagano and Carragher



Rich Carragher and Patrick Pagano share an important role in making the regular season/championship game a reality. Both agree that their role has allowed them to network with other people within the NCAA community, while gaining exposure to other sports they might have not been familiar with.

“Sometimes you come across individuals who aren’t the easiest or best to work with, but by and large, most are good people. You make personal relationships and connections with many of them.”

Nevertheless, what they have learned throughout their roles outweigh any obstacles they may face. Carragher mentioned that this role has helped him learn more about sports he wasn’t so familiar with, like lacrosse or field hockey. At the end of the day, Carragher was able to understand how fast paced and exciting the world of sports can be.

Pagano noted that overseeing 24 sports has helped give him a different perspective about the athletic environment. He explained, “My exposure and inter-

est to sports such as rowing/crew and track and field was limited to major events like the Olympics. Now, I deal with those programs daily and am much more intertwined into the game and the inner workings of it.”

Lu-Ann Russell, Senior Director of Conference Services and Special Events, works collaboratively with the Athletics Department for the utilization of space for internal and external clients

Russell said “Rich and Pat not only assist in the formal execution of the event but also serve on committees to ensure a voice from the Department is heard in the creation of the event.”

Russell also emphasized the vital role that the events team of students and staff play when

it comes to retaining clients year after year. “Whether they are converting the space, scanning tickets for entry, or picking up trash left behind, they do it with a smile. We cannot say thank you, enough.”

Becoming an event staffer gives students who are passionate about sports the ability to be a part of this world on a regular basis while picking up career skills for the future.

Ferreira said, “I definitely made friends and I did get to appreciate other sports on campus during this job, especially because most of the events were my first experience working at them or even seeing them, such as football.”

Carragher noted, “The Event Staff job is a great way to build customer service skills by the frequent interaction with spectators.”

Pagano added, “The event staff provides a fun and engaging atmosphere for you to meet your fellow classmates and grow your network. We employ a wide range of students with different majors as well as athletes, so it definitely gives you the chance to become friends with individuals you never thought that you would.”

He also highlighted that not everything is about work, because they also have fun. Pagano mentioned that this is a great opportunity for students to get their foot in the door if they are interested in event management or hospitality.

Carragher concluded, “Working in Event Management is a rewarding career, and the Monmouth community is a great place to be a part of. I’ve certainly enjoyed being a part of it for 21 years.”

“Jersey Shore: Family Vacation” Successful Reboot

JAYME MARTINI
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

“Jersey Shore: Family Vacation” and why few reality show reboots work as well as this one.

“Get crazy! Get loud! Let’s party! Get loud! If you wanna have fun then do something crazy!” It’s the iconic opening credits of beloved MTV reality show “Jersey Shore.” If you are anything like me, you can recite along to every cast member’s one liner introduction from binge watching this show over and over.

Eight twenty-something Northeasterners were all put together in a shore house in Seaside Beach, New Jersey, where they were filmed all living together in the house, working in the same apparel shop in order to stay in the house, and partying at clubs every night from 2009-2012, with six seasons airing on MTV in the span of those three years.

The cast consists of Nicole “Snooki” Polizzi, Jenni “J-Woww” Farley, Pauly Delvecchio (otherwise known as DJ Pauly D), Vinny Guadagnino, Mike “The Situation” Sorrentino, Ronnie Magro-Ortiz, Sammi “Sweetheart” Giancola, Deena Cortese, who joined in season three, and Angelina Pivarnik for a small fraction of the first and second season.

This show that took America by storm at the end of the 2000s was revived in 2018 due to a large fan demand and is currently on its fifth season.

The revived version of this show finds the cast all in their thirties and forties now, with spouses and children, and all grown-up but still as hilarious as ever. The only cast member to not come back to the show is Giancola, but Pivarnik, who was hardly in the original run of the series, is not a prominent part of the show and drama that comes along with it.

The magic of this show, and why it has remained successful now in two different decades, is that the cast members have truly remained themselves. They do not shy away from the mistakes they made in the original run of the show, but rather own them and grow from them. The problems that the members have, have remained relatable.

Whereas those on “The

Hills” revival or any of the various “Real Housewives” franchises may have drama over dinner parties or if someone didn’t wear their clothing line, “Jersey Shore” has remained relatable to its audience.

Farley, Magro-Ortiz and Pivarnik have all shared the problems that they have had in their relationships, Polizzi and Cortese talk about the joy but also the stresses of being a parent. They have remained palatable and relatable to a wide audience while still being funny.

“Family Vacation” also is in tune with what their audience wants to see. People tune in for the drama but stay for the sweet and funny moments that this cast has been known for.

“Jersey Shore” has become known for their iconic one liners like “Gym Tan Laundry” or “T-Shirt Time”, and for the roast sessions that they regularly hold (think the whole “she’s too young for you bro!!” moment from season four).

They are constantly making callbacks to the original run of the show on “Family Vacation.” Sorrentino, from time to time brings up when he ran directly into a concrete wall while being in an altercation with Magro-Ortiz while in Italy, and reflects on how far he has come. Or Pivarnik brings up that she cannot believe she is so close with the people who once called her a “dirty little hamster”, and fought with her constantly, in the second season of the original show.

The production and cast knew how to make a show new and fresh without forgetting where it came from and what made it so loved in the first place.

It also seems that both runs of the show came at times when audiences needed a breath of fresh air and a change in what was on television. When “Jersey Shore” aired for the first time in 2009, there was an ongoing financial crisis and recession.

With so many people struggling financially, and with the repercussions of the market crash in the years following, people were not interested in seeing the ridiculous luxury that was often on display in reality shows from the 2000s, like Paris Hilton’s way of life in “The Simple Life” or the huge mansions on MTV’s “Cribs.”

It was refreshing to see



PHOTO TAKEN from Indiewire.com

The cast of Jersey Shore has returned to the big screen after rebooting on MTV.

normal people, like you and me, just having fun for a change, and to not have wealth shown off. “Family Vacation” started in the middle of a presidency that was a stressor for many Americans, so again, entertainment became an escape. Also, the

pandemic hit two years into its run, so again, it became an escape for people.

Jersey Shore seems to be the gold standard for reality TV: its quotability, its relatability, and its iconic moments. As long as Guadagnino and Delvec-

chio are best friends, Polizzi and Cortese, who address themselves as the two “meatballs” because of their short stature, get into antics, and Sorrentino comes out with his motivational and funny one-liners, people will keep tuning in.



PHOTO TAKEN from IMDb

Jersey Shore: Family Vacation was revived in 2018 by popular demand.

April 18, 2022

Dear Students:

On **Sunday, April 24** the Student Government Association is excited to once again host Springfest on the **Shadow Lawn** from **12:00 pm** to **4:00 pm**. In the event of inclement weather, Springfest will be moved into Ocean First Bank Center. The Springfest committee has spent a great deal of time this year planning the events and activities that make up this end of year celebration. The day will include live music, a BBQ, inflatables, food trucks, festival games, and giveaways. Springfest 2022 will have everything you need and it should be a great way for us all to celebrate the end of a year that has been unlike any other in Monmouth University's history.

While your attendance at Springfest is a key part of what make this event so popular, it is also important that you practice **common sense** and **good decision making** before, during, and after the festival. Your respect for the rules and regulations of the University and your willingness to look out for each other are all essential to making this day successful. Therefore, I ask that you spend a few moments reviewing the following guidelines noted below that will be in effect for Springfest 2022.

1. If you plan to attend Springfest 2022, please know that pets/animals, open-containers, alcohol, squeeze bottles, bags, backpacks, and/or similar items **ARE NOT PERMITTED** in the festival area.
2. Parking in the **Great Lawn** and **Garden Apartment** Lots will be **strictly enforced** on April 24, 2022. If you plan to drive to campus for the festival and do not have a valid parking sticker for the Garden or Great Lawn parking lots, you **MUST** park in the Commuter parking lot by the Student Center.

For those students who live off campus, I would also remind you that our surrounding communities have a **zero tolerance** for any quality of life disruptions. Should you decide to host a social gathering before, during or after Springfest, please ensure that it stays within the limits of common sense, good decision making, respect for one's neighbors, and all applicable laws and ordinances.

I hope that you will take an active role in assisting the Student Government Association and Monmouth University in our effort to present Springfest 2022 in a **safe** and **positive** manner. Your commitment to making this event a celebration of the year's achievements is critical. I know I can count on you to do so!

I look forward to your anticipated cooperation and I hope to see you at Springfest. Best wishes on your final exams!

Sincerely,

Mary Anne Nagy

Vice President for Student Life and Leadership Engagement

WOMEN'S EMPOWERMENT MONTH

Events celebrating and inspiring women to be creative!

MAY 1 - 31, 2022



Elysia Forsyth: "At War With Myself: Mind vs Heart"



Saturday, May 7 - Friday, July 17

The Jersey Shore Arts Center welcomes Elysia Forsyth's most recent art exhibition, "At War with Myself: Mind vs. Heart," in the Main Lobby from May 7th to July 17th. **Opening night is Friday, May 13th, from 5:30 pm to 7:30 pm.** Opening night and Elysia Forsyth's exhibition is free and open to the public as part of the nonprofit mission to provide Jersey Shore communities with accessible cultural engagement in the arts.

For more information, visit JerseyShoreArtsCenter.org.



JERSEY SHORE ARTS CENTER

66 South Main Street, Ocean Grove, NJ

Times & dates subject to change. Please check our website and social media for event and program updates.



For Info: Call the Main Office (732) 502-0050

This program is made possible in part by funds from Monmouth Arts, a partner of the New Jersey State Council on the Arts, and the Monmouth County Board of County Commissioners.

A Bittersweet Farewell

SCHARINA BENCOSME
ENTERTAINMENT EDITOR

I admit it is difficult to put into words the mixed emotions that come with graduating. However, it is with excitement and yet an indescribable amount of sadness that I write my senior goodbye.

My undergraduate years at Monmouth University are finally over, and despite the tumultuous journey, I shall always remember it with utter fondness. My undergraduate years came with priceless lessons, faculty I will be always grateful for, and friends I will cherish.

Firstly, writing for *The Outlook* from my freshman year to my senior year was an honor. I got to share with Monmouth University faculty, staff and students the things that most matter to me. Social media representation of minority groups, diversity in literature and TV, social and educational culture on campus, among many other articles that highlight my values as a writer.

Here, I've expanded my skills as a writer, found my voice, and became comfortable with sharing my thoughts with strangers across campus.

I'd like to thank my sisters of Lambda Theta Alpha Latin Sorority, Incorporated for supporting me and teaching me that there is very little I can't achieve. The encourage-



and supportive space Dr. Z and Jihad created not only for me, but for my peers whom I've grown to love.

EOF was also home away from home. Even before I started my undergraduate path, we spent weeks over the summer acclimating to the college environment. This was one of many things EOF had done for me. They taught me self advocacy, and that it is okay to ask for help. They provided guidance when I felt lost and lonely, until I finally found my place here and soared through my undergrad.

The EOF friends I have made on the way, as we all shared the difficult experiences of attending a PWI, changed the course of my life. Their support, reliability, and friendship have made my undergraduate experience un-

Overall, my experience with the faculty and staff at Monmouth University— specially the English Department— has been nothing but wonderful. Every professor I've had the pleasure of working with has taught me a valuable lesson I carry in my personal life or in my future career.

Writing Services was a huge part of my undergraduate career; there, I applied all the feedback and lessons I was learning as an English Major, and helped my peers become better writers themselves. My time at Writing Services taught me how to help in a way that was productive long-term, which is a lesson that transcends my undergradu-

this is all a goodbye to my undergraduate years, a goodbye to a facet of my life and a celebration of something more to come. I am excited to experience Monmouth as a graduate student, and to continue building the relationships I have built.

Overall, my time here has been filled with ups and downs. There were times when I doubted myself, and moments where— as many of you can understand— I experienced a mental health low that hurt beyond belief. But it is the people that make this place extremely special to me, that made those lows tolerable. These are also the people which encourage me and make me glad I will



ate years. Therefore, I could not write a senior goodbye without thanking Dr. Fury for being such an incredible, understanding Professor and Director. I also want to thank Sharon Botwinick for creating a welcoming, encouraging environment.

After receiving an email from Dr. Blair, I applied to my internship at Wunderkind PR and was accepted. There, I applied all I had learned as an English Major, Writing Assistant, Entertainment Editor, and more. Working as a publicity intern taught me more about the field than I ever imagined.

But above all, working with an understanding, hard working team of women was life-changing. I have found a passion for publicity, and expanded my adoration for literature. I've also gotten to work with titles that I truly connect with, such as books on mental health and BIPOC characters. Therefore, I'd like to thank Wunderkind PR's co-founder Tanya Farrell, and my publicist liaison Emily Afifi.

Lastly, is a huge thank you to the friends and peers I have made in my time here. Nicholas Salcedo, Kayla Kennedy, Kamea Rodgers, Fradely Delacruz, Yesenia Luna, Alexa Rodriguez, Destiny Montgomery, Lissette Pena, Jessica Pak, Johnny Reyes, Gabe Vega, and so many

more of you.

When I think of you all, I am speechless and yet burst with gratefulness and adoration. The way you have all been there for my ups and downs proves that friendship, mutual empowerment and support can overcome pretty much anything. I love you all, and leave knowing I will see more of you as you all accomplish great things. For many of you, I will see again as I spend another two years on campus for my graduate studies.

Recently, I have been accepted into the School Counseling Masters Program here at Monmouth. Meaning that

spend another two years at Monmouth.

I look forward to the faculty I will be working with, such as Dr. Vernon Smith and Dr. Bobbitt, and the peers I will meet during my graduate years. I would also like to thank my family, specially my mother and brother, for encouraging me and never doubting that I could do it. For going with me on a self-growth journey that has brought us much closer. You all, faculty, family and friends, have made me a better version of myself, and I cannot thank you enough. Thank you to all, and until next time.



ment of my sisters is invaluable, and the love, unity and respect is palpable through every one of you. I know this goodbye is fairly short as I will see you all again, for our lovely organization is a lifetime commitment.

The Intercultural Center bred many of my ideas for *The Outlook*. There, I was inspired to write about what most matters to me, even when I was experiencing writer's block. I know the Intercultural Center and EOF will continue to be the home for first-generation, minority students who feel lost on campus. I will always be thankful for the welcoming

forgettable.

I cannot thank my Professor and Advisor Alena Graedon, Dr. Estes, and Dr. Gac-Artigas enough for making me a better, well-rounded person. Their compassion, constant encouragement and belief in me helped me overcome self-doubt. Your support in and out of the classroom has fostered in me the confidence I need to pursue my passions, and taught me that my best is good enough. A special thank you to Dr. Del Guercio for making Shakespeare such a fun read, and continuously checking up on me throughout the semester by email or phone call.



MU Sports Industry Club Goes to MSG

ERIN MULLIGAN
SPORTS EDITOR

Imagine going to Madison Square Garden for a Knicks game but you also get a tour of the arena and get to hear from a panel of sports industry professionals? Some MU students don't have to imagine anymore because they got to live it.

On March 28, the Monmouth Sports Industry Club spearheaded a trip to MSG with plenty of Hawks in tow who were looking for a fun and educational experience. This trip was an incredible opportunity for those who are looking to enter the sports industry.

Although the Sports Industry Club spearheaded this trip, you didn't necessarily need to be a member of it to attend. If you're interested in sports then you were welcome to join and the club decided to reach out to other Monmouth student-run organizations on campus.

Monmouth's Sports Industry Club President Haider Husaini said, "In order to give as many students the opportunity to go on this trip, we had to collaborate with other clubs to help offset the costs." The club collaborated with Hawk TV, WMCX, the Economics and Finance Club, and Future Business Leaders. He added, "This process took a lot of energy out of us, and I have to hand it to my VP, Luca Morello and our advisor, Professor Harmon."

The entire process of pitching the idea to MSG and Monmouth's Student Activities took a total of almost a year to complete. This was all due to the unknown changes in COVID protocols for both the arena and Monmouth University.

The idea for the trip was sparked by the MSG Group Sales Representative, Phillip Young. The Sports Industry Club Vice President Luca Morello said, "We started on a zoom call last May with MSG Group Sales Rep Phillip Young, where he introduced the idea. Due to the ever changing COVID protocols from both MSG and the University we were unable to make the trip happen during the fall semester."

Morello said "He pitched the idea of a trip to us and us as the Sports Industry Club were interested in making it happen."

Morello spoke about the process and communication between them and MSG saying "We stayed in contact with Philip and over winter break we reopened discussions of a trip." Due to the persistence of the Sports Industry Club's executive board, many Hawks had an unforgettable experience.

Once everything was set in stone, on March 28, two Monmouth Athletics Busses showed up to campus, parked in front of the student center, and the attendees boarded. Husaini said, "To walk out of the Stu-



The view that the students had as they watched the Knicks play on the court they were just shooting free throws on.

PHOTO COURTESY of @musportsindustry

"...the experience of shooting free throws on the MSG court was a bucket list moment."

Luca Morello

Vice-President, Monmouth Sports Industry Club



The mix of MU students pose for a picture after hearing from the panelists at Madison Square Garden who gave them career advice.

PHOTO COURTESY of @musportsindustry

"Walking onto the court immediately gave me chills."

"I then gazed upon the scratched-up hardwood thinking of the decades of history of New York entertainment"

Haider Husaini

President, Monmouth Sports Industry Club

dent Center and see two of the Monmouth Athletics' busses parked outside was not something I expected whatsoever."

The very second the Hawks arrived at "The Garden", the experience started with the scene of Hall of Fame broadcaster, Mike Breen, walking in. The Hawks were given nothing but a V.I.P experience as they were ushered into the V.I.P lounge to hear from the panel.

Off the panel Morello said that Monmouth alumni, Jennifer Kurowsky, who is the Manager of Group Sales Entertainment and Tourism, and Lindsay Hayes, who is the Senior Manager of Communications for the New York Rangers were amazing.

The VP stated, "They gave everyone great insights about their careers that I feel gave students a vision of what each respective job was like."

Not only did the panelists give great advice but what stuck with Husaini was the progressive way to a successful career in the industry. "The professional panel gave us advice to apply in our daily lives to develop our careers. We were told to look for and capitalize off of any opportunity that comes our way."

After their insight to the field, the group went to shoot free throws on the court and watch the Knicks game. "Walking onto the court immediately gave me chills. 'This is the 'mecca of basketball', I was thinking. I looked around at the thousands of empty chairs. I then gazed upon the scratched-up hardwood thinking of the decades of history of New York entertainment"

Morello stated that he enjoyed the panel the most because he saw how two Monmouth alum were in positions that he is considering pursuing. He added, "The whole experience was a joy as the guest speakers were great, the game was competitive, and the experience of shooting free throws on the MSG court was a bucket list moment."

Not only was this an amazing experience, but it opened up another opportunity with the Brooklyn Nets. The day after the trip, the club specifically received an invitation to sit in box seats for a Nets game and the Sports Industry Club represented Monmouth at the Barclays Center.

The club met with event planners and an equipment manager for the Nets. Husaini said, "The representatives from the Nets were wonderful and provided us with long-lasting memories."

The Monmouth Sports Industry Club has made incredible strides especially after winning Program of the Year for the Knicks trip. The future of the club seems to be in great hands and has an amazingly bright future.



PHOTO COURTESY of @musportsindustry

Students listen to a panel discussion.

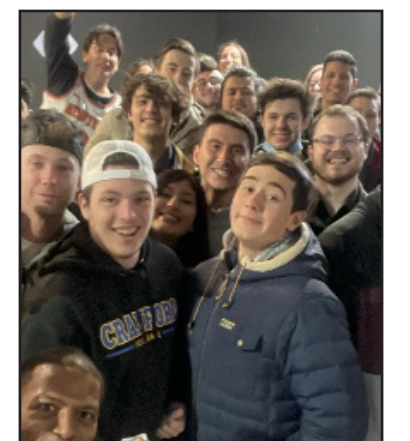


PHOTO COURTESY of @musportsindustry

Students take a selfie while enjoying the game.

A SHY GIRL WHO WANTED TO TALK SPORTS

ERIN MULLIGAN'S SENIOR GOODBYE

ERIN MULLIGAN
SPORTS EDITOR

These past four years have been an illusion. They've been a long four years that went by in a flash.

One Sunday when I was six years old sitting on the couch with my Dad, Erin Andrews came on the T.V. for her pre-game report and that's when I knew what I wanted to do. Sort of.

Growing up, I had a bunch of dreams and career wise, the main two were to either work in sports or entertainment. I fell in love with writing at a very young age when I realized how magical words can be all thanks to Taylor Swift's impeccable songwriting. I also always wanted to be on T.V. but I was a painfully shy kid who was scared to actually pursue it and scared of my own shadow.

In sixth grade, I wrote an article about the Giants winning the Super Bowl for class. My teacher told me that I did a great job and she asked me to not stop and to keep at it. From then on, I took journalism classes in middle and high school along with joining my school newspaper.

Coming into college, I was confused. I just wanted to work on One Direction or Taylor Swift's teams and go on tour with them but that wasn't the most realistic goal. I realized at orientation that I was not meant to be in the music industry. I called my Mom and told her that I needed to change my major. She said, "I knew it. I wasn't gonna say anything, but you were always meant to be in sports." That was also when I realized that my Mom knows everything and is always right.

My family is the most important thing to me in the whole entire world. I got my love of sports from my Dad. My Mom gets me through every day by answering every single one of my hundreds of calls and texts a day even if she's at work.

They've both encouraged me throughout the process

and execution of developing my blog and YouTube channel. They both push me. They both support me. Mommy and Daddy, not everyone gets to have two parents who are as loving and fun as you are and I don't think that I'll ever be able to properly express to you how much I love and appreciate you.

To my sister, despite the fact that I often get mistaken for being your friend or younger sister (even though I'm seven years older), you are literally the best thing that has ever happened to me. Elise Marie, I know I tell you I love you all the time and constantly invade your personal space, but I don't actually think you'll ever understand just how much I love you. Thanks for every single thing you do for me. I love you, Bubs!

To the rest of my family: my aunts, uncles, grandparents, cousins: I love you all so, so much. You all keep tabs on everything I'm up to and your support means so much to me.

To my friends both at MU and from home, I love you endlessly. You're some of the most fabulous people who have done nothing but encourage me.

Part of the reason that I work hard and have confidence in my work is because I have a gigantic support system behind me. How lucky am I to be surrounded by people that make me laugh until I cry and love me so much that I feel as though my heart could burst. I love you all so much!

To everyone at CCM, thank you for helping me develop a greater appreciation and love for the Catholic faith and to Cristina for providing a wonderful environment where we are always learning and laughing! I made the best decision of joining the Catholic Campus Ministry where I found friendships that I will cherish forever.

To everyone at Hawk T.V, thank you for making the studio and control room a great learning environment and for making the club so much

fun! Thank you, Professor Scott and Professor Dolphin for guiding us and rooting for us throughout our goals in the studio and beyond as well as giving us unmatched insight on the media industry. I have met some amazing people and I will hold onto the lessons I learned and memories we made forever.

To everyone at The Outlook, thank you for the support over the years and for all of the knowledge I have gained. Thank you to my writers, fellow editors, and Dr. V for your advice and great conversations!

Both clubs are filled with such talented people and I am so excited to see what everyone accomplishes!

I came to Monmouth as a petrified freshman and started out as an entertainment writer for The Outlook because I was scared to make the jump to sports. Sophomore year, I was sick of being a wimp and I joined Hawk T.V. where I became a news anchor and got involved with the sports shows and last year was awarded "Most Outstanding Member". Soon after joining Hawk T.V., I became a sports writer for The Outlook.

This year at Hawk T.V I co-produced and was an anchor of the sports talk show, "Under Pressure" and "Hawk TV News", I became sports editor for The Outlook, and the Publicity Chair for the Catholic Campus Ministry. I've done all of this but not alone. Thank you to every professor who has helped me along the way.

I want to give a big thank you to some of the most impactful educators I had as well while growing up: Mrs. Hathaway, Mrs. Aloia, Mrs. DeWitt, Ms. Kenney, Mrs. Britting, Mrs. Calendrillo, Mr. Hunt, Dr. Pepe, Mrs. P, Mrs. Sibilila, Ms. O'Hagan, Señora Kelly, Señora Rodriguez, and Mrs. Perry. You all helped me come out of my shell.

Again, thank you to my family and friends. It has been far from easy but I have learned so much from my time at Monmouth. So long, MU, thank you for everything!



MU Track Dominates In Split Competitions

JOHN SPINELLI
STAFF WRITER

The Track and Field team this past weekend on April 15, competed at the Bucknell University Invitational in Lewisburg, PA and Moravian Invite, at Moravian University in Bethlehem, PA on Friday April 15. The men and women's team did very well. Most of the distance and mid-distance athletes went to Bucknell while the jumps, throwers, and sprinters went to Moravian University.

Head Coach Mike Nelson noted on the invitationals, "It was a great weekend for our

team at both places with several top ten performances and victories at Moravian. I'm really impressed with our student-athletes and coaches. We're taking advantage of these opportunities and enjoying the process."

At Moravian University, senior Jalen Jones won both the 200m and 400m in blazing times of 21.46 and 48.62. Meanwhile Yasmeen Tinsley won the 400-meter hurdles easily in 1:01.23, which is now 6th place on Monmouth's all-time list. The past weekend had a variety of winners and top ten performances. In the 400m, Madison Latimer also

won her event.

In the farther events at Moravian, junior Steven Baah-Mensah took home the gold, winning the 3000-meter steeple with a time of 9:51. In the 800-meter, junior Chantel Osley also won the event in 2:17. Additionally in the men's 4x400m, freshman Jordan Ricketts, graduate student Tim Jacoutut, senior Jalen Jones and sophomore Matt Martino won the relay in 3:22.85. For the 400m, freshman Madison Latimer also won her event.

In the sprints, sophomore Brandon Muir took the win while junior Azez Adedokun in second together both ran under

11 seconds in the 100m. The sprints also had other victories with senior Naeem Green winning the 110m and Danny Fenton winning the 400m.

In the Pole Vault, senior Lauren Saifi earned the gold finishing first place with a jump of 3.65 meters. This also places her third best of all time in school history. Sophomore Connor Bennet also won his event winning the pole vault in 4.70 meters.

In the jumps, freshman Veronika Chainov won the High Jump easily. Junior Natalya Torres also had a good day, winning the Long Jump in 5.72 meters. Sophomores Colson Martin won the Long Jump, Kevin Kevelier earning the High Jump, while senior Mo Diagouraga won the Triple. Freshman Rett Schnoor in the long jump and 100 meters had marks which made the top ten of school history.

In the Javelin events, Danielle Steff took the win with a throw of 48.97 meters. In the additional throwing events, junior Mujeeb Ali won the shot put, while sophomore Natalie Rolon Issa won the women's event as well. Senior Alexis Uzoaru threw a far 51.52 meters in the hammer throw.

Many miles away in Lewisburg, the team competed under the stadium lights during an evening of fast time. At 4pm, senior Michael Pavicic ran a new personal best of 9:16 for the 3000m steeple. Shortly after in the 1500 meters, senior

Lou DiLaurenzio, sophomore Stone Carraccio, and senior James Hoffman all ran under 3:50 in the 1500m while freshman Tennessee Tremain was not that far off in 3:53.

In the women's distance events, senior Keelyn Cummings ran 17:35 in the 5000m while sophomore Marisa Kilgariff was fifth (all time in school history) in the 3000m steeple. The team had a strong showing in the 1500m, when senior Ashley Navarro ran 4:30.22 and sophomore Katie Locker ran 4:31 both running top ten school times.

For the 10,000m later in the night, sophomore Seb Reed ran a hot time of 30:21 while juniors Cam Janovic ran 31 and Jared Taylor 31:10. During the women's event, fifth year Mackenzie Jones was very close to the school record, running a blazing 35:34 and following her was senior McKenzie Delahanty in 36:39 and sophomore Allie Pierontoni in 37:29.05.

Up next, the team only has the Virginia Challenge at the University of Virginia in Charlottesville, VA on April 23 and the Penn Relays on April 28-30, for the regular season.

Penn Relays is the oldest Track meet in the country, dating back to 1895. Afterwards May 7-8 marks the start of the championship season at the Metro-Atlantic Athletic Conference (MAAC) Outdoor Championships at Rider University in Lawrenceville, NJ.



PHOTO COURTESY of Monmouth Athletics

Lauren Saifi prepares for her pole-vault event during her competition where the track team was split up yet had a very successful weekend.

Monmouth's Busy in the Win Column

ERIN MULLIGAN
SPORTS EDITOR

JOHN SPINELLI
STAFF WRITER

The Monmouth University Baseball team struggled this past weekend against Quinnipiac despite earning a win in the first game of the series that they dropped to the Bobcats.

On April 15, the Hawks won 7-4, where star pitcher Trey Dombroski struck out 13 batters, a career-high. Both Alex Barker and James Harmstead homered during the match-up that opened league play. Stephen Aldrich struck out two batters in the ninth, earning Monmouth's defeat.

In the next game, the Hawks lost 13-5. During this match-up, Phil Stahl hit his first career homerun. Although the bullpen did not allow an earned run, the team wasn't able to get the win.

On Saturday, the Hawks officially lost the series when they lost 13-7 against the Bobcats. Three Hawks homered but the team couldn't catch up.

Head Coach Dean Ehehalt told Monmouth Athletics, "Today we fell behind early and were unable to dig out. In order to win conference games on the road, we need to play better baseball. Phil Stahl had a good day for us."

Over on the softball field, Monmouth softball split a doubleheader with Marist on April 16. In game one the Hawks fell 16-0 but surged back in game

two earning a score of 6-4.

During their win, the team was led by home runs from Stavi Augur and Abby Warner. There was no score for five innings until Augur hit a two-run homerun to left center at the top of the sixth to get things going. Head Coach Shannon Salsburg told Monmouth Athletics "I am proud of how the team rebounded." She added, "Billie was outstanding, we had clutch hitting and the team fought until the very last pitch together. That is Monmouth softball."

As for lacrosse, there was a ton of winning with both the men's and women's teams earning wins. The men's team got a win against Canisius 6-4 with a strong defense. Noah Lode, who was named MAAC Co-Defensive Player of the Week, committed 12 saves. Looking ahead, the team will face Manhattan on Friday.

The women's team earned an exciting win on Senior Day over Marist 18-9. Eleven different Hawks made a goal on Saturday. Head Coach Jordan Trautman told Monmouth Athletics "We are thrilled to get another big conference win. It was a great day of lacrosse and exciting to continue to see consistent play. We now head into our bye week to rest and recharge for our final regular season conference game next Saturday."

During the past week, Men's and Women's Golf and Tennis closed out the regular season, with men's tennis taking home the title of Regular Season

champions- scoring a perfect season with no losses in the conference.

On April 11, Men's Tennis at home in a match against Rider University, honored the seniors Austin Klapman and Sasha Pachnev. In a good way to end their careers, the two also won their doubles match. On April 16, the men's team secured the spot of officially winning the regular season. The team was 7-0 against Niagara University at their course.

Head Coach Chris Leight said, "We are excited to finish the MAAC regular season with an undefeated record. It has been a fun and very successful season. Now we will have a strong week of practice and be ready for the MAAC Tournament next weekend."

Contributing to the win was Niels Van Noord, Victor Castro, Dmitry Bezborodov, Lucca Silva, Charlie Penman, Arthur Dussauby, Christof Zeiler, and Trent Massam.

Unfortunately, the women's tennis team this year was unable to make the MAAC Conference playoffs. They lost a match 4-3 to Niagara University. Head Coach Patrice Murray said, "I am proud of our team's fight today and all season long. We came up just short of making the conference tournament."

Senior Nicole Glasser and graduate student Sydney DeNardo were honored for their contributions to the team for the past four years. During

the match, Nicole Glasser and sophomore Zoe Klapman won two singles while in the doubles the team had a good competition.

For the doubles, Nicole Glasser and Lenien Jamir won their match, while Zoe Klapman/Jo Pax and Maddison Mills/Lauren Landstrom won their doubles matches easily, however due to the singles competition the team came short of the overall victory.

The Women's Golf team also had their last home meet on Thursday, April 14, at Eagle Ridge Country Club in Lakewood. Junior Claire Orr victoriously won the meet winning her first collegiate career win as a Hawk. In addition, during the beginning ceremony, seniors Mackenzie Matarese, Amanda



PHOTO COURTESY of Monmouth Athletics

Billie Kerwood pitches during MU's win and earned MAAC Softball Rookie of the Week.

THE OUTLOOK



SO LONG, HAWKS UNTIL NEXT SEMESTER



Claire Orr of the women's golf team won her first tournament while the mens team placed ninth. Men's lacrosse earned a win as the women's team defeated Marist on Senior Day.