This issue’s featured department would like to convey the following message to the campus community.

The Department of Athletics, Recreation, Intramurals and Fitness Center is more than just a game! We are committed to offering a full range of activities to meet the needs from the highest-level Division I varsity athlete to the club sport ice hockey athlete, to the recreational jogger. We are a dedicated group of coaches and administrators who enjoy the preparation for the next competitive event. We share the agonies of defeat, but always look forward to preparing to win the next event. We loved competing for our place at the Big Dance, and enjoyed involving the whole student body in that process. Athletics is one of the events on campus that can bring unity. It is a public endeavor, to be enjoyed by all.

Marilyn McNeil has been the Director of Athletics at Monmouth University since 1994. She traveled 3,000 miles across the country from sunny California to become one of only 12 or 13 women in the country, at that time, to obtain the position of Athletics Director. Today she speculates there is double that amount in the 310 institutions that make up Division I. She laughed and said it is easier to become a university president than to break through the male stronghold on athletics.

Marilyn was born and raised in Canada and her parents still live in what she referred to as the “Florida of Canada”, Vancouver Island. She recently spent some time visiting them. Years ago, Marilyn and her husband, Henry “Hank” Byzinski, represented the state of California in the first World Championship Competition in curling. Curling is a very popular winter sport in Canada and the northern midwestern states. It is similar in principle to shuffleboard, but played on an ice court. One of the eye-catching features of the game is watching a player sweep the ice in front of the swerving, roughly 40-pound, stone. Curling debuted as a full-medal Olympic sport in the Nagano Winter Olympic games. Today Marilyn enjoys working out, playing a little tennis, and occasionally playing golf, if the other players agree with her demand to give her a lot of strokes. She laughed and told me, “and they always do”.

Marilyn and Hank have two children. Tasha is currently working for First Atlantic Bank and is hoping to get into a Hispanic branch so she can eventually obtain employment and return to her beloved Spain. Her son, Derek is a freshman at Vanderbilt University in Nashville. Marilyn likes to drink red wine to relax and laughed when I said I wouldn’t include that fact in this article. She assured me, “Everybody knows it, go ahead”. She also enjoys reading biographies and anything having to do with real-life stories. She admits she really doesn’t have that much free time. For a good part of the weekend, she is attending any number of athletic events and watching a lot of young men and women compete in various sports. She still loves to watch athletics and acknowledges she is fortunate that it is part of her job.

This past year Marilyn was not on as many national committees as in the past, which helped limit her traveling. She confessed she was happy to be grounded for a while. Her travel is now limited to visit Hank in California, or to see Derek in Nashville. She would love to travel more for fun but laughs and says, “once the tuition bills are through” she will find lots of places to visit.

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Welcome Aboard!
01/01/2004 - 03/31/2004

Transfers
01/01/2004 - 03/31/2004

PROMOTIONS
Congratulations!
01/01/2004 - 03/31/2004

James Allan
Network Computing Services

Susan Anderson
Division of Accounting

Eric Buraszewski
Athletics

Charles Clemenza
Facilities Management

Jessica Coleman
Athletics

Garfield Davis
University Police

Brian Gabriel
Athletics

Joan De Grande
Registration and Records

Edward Fitzgerald
University Police

Jennifer Gradzki
Undergraduate Admission

Thomas Manzo
Athletics

Valentina Manzo
Public Affairs

David Marks
Facilities Management

Megan McCluskey
Bookstore

Sarah Moore
Curriculum and Instruction

Kathleen Pearle
Provost

Diana Smith
Foreign Language Studies

Ekron Williams
University Police

Thomas Blumel
Electrical Supervisor

Tracy Carretta
Patrol Officer III

Kathleen Crawley
Senior Programmer/Analyst

Frank Graham
Patrol Officer II

Jennifer Bell
University Special Services Representative, Human Resources

Dena Ebert
Admission Counselor, Undergraduate Admission

Regina LaMarre
Helpdesk Technical Support Specialist, Network Computing Services

Wendy Loihle
Executive Secretary, Administrative Services

Cynthia Plantamura
Assistant to the Dean, Graduate School

Terry Powers
Secretary, Special Events and Programs

Jennifer Thomas, Associate Athletics Director for Compliance, has been employed at MU since 1992. She began her career at MU as director of grants in Institutional Advancement. She then moved on to faculty research grants for a short time and returned once again to Institutional Advancement securing capital gifts. When Senior Associate Athletics Director Joan Martin retired, Jennifer switched gears once more and moved to Athletics.

Jennifer's husband, Bill Shields, is retired and Jennifer cheerfully reported he is responsible for the total care of house and home for both of them. She says she is an avid walker, a manifestation of her lifelong dedication to fitness. Jennifer has a wide and varied range of interests and promptly began ticking them off to me. She loves to cook all kinds of food, especially ethnic foods. To relax, she reads novels and especially likes mysteries. She is a fan of college sports and feels college athletes have a lot of heart. She enjoys the outdoors and is a huge beach fan, as well as avid golfer. She is eager to travel anywhere she hasn't been before - cities, national parks, beaches, etc. She enjoys going to shows and the many entertainment options in Manhattan. She likes all kinds of music and has a small collection of folk music from different cultures.

Between she and Bill they have four grown children, all out of the nest, and she asked me to note her resounding, "Whoopee!" Jennifer is a farmer's daughter who grew up outside Fargo, North Dakota. When I looked up at her to confirm I heard her correctly, she nodded and laughed, "yes, it's true", grinning widely.

Jennifer looks forward to coming to work every day and believes there are many opportunities to grow at MU (including obtaining her MBA). Jennifer ended our interview by stating, "I would do anything to help move the institution forward". Go Hawks!

Kevin Callahan, Head Football Coach, has been employed at MU since 1992. Prior to coming to Monmouth, he was employed as the assistant football coach at Colgate University for nine years. Additionally, he has also coached football at Wagner, Syracuse and the State University of New York at Albany.

Large families are a common bond between Kevin and his wife, Ann Marie; they are both one of eleven chil-
The Employee Activity Committee was very pleased with the enthusiastic response to the first ever “National Wear Red Day” for women on Friday, February 6, 2004, sponsored by The American Heart Association. On short notice $150 was raised and many employees showed their support by wearing red. Thanks to all who participated and contributed.

The Employee Activity Committee returned to Broadway on Saturday, February 7th when we saw “Gypsy”. Everyone agreed Bernadette Peters was sensational in the leading role of Rose, and the convenience and fun of the bus is the best way to go into Manhattan.

The Employee Activity Committee teamed up with the SGA (Student Government Association) and 30 employees participated in The Big Event on Saturday, March 27th. Everyone really enjoyed working side by side with colleagues and students in this community service event.

April saw us head to The American Museum of Natural History and/or Central Park for a wonderful day in the City on Saturday, April 17th. There was so much to see and do at both locations.

The Employee Activity Committee event for the month of May is a day at the ballpark. On Sunday, May 2nd we will be attending the Lakewood Blue Claws baseball game at beautiful First Energy Park in Lakewood.

Once again we will be sponsoring a Sunset Cruise on the Navesink River on Saturday, June 26th. Come spend a relaxing evening as we tour the lovely Navesink River on the 52-foot, two-level party boat, “Venture”. Enjoy the sunset along with snacks and dessert. We are limited to 100 people so make your reservations ASAP. Tickets are $15 per person.

For your convenience, we have deeply discounted tickets to Six Flags Great Adventure and Loews Movie theatres. Please check the Employee Activity Committee website at http://www.monmouth.edu/resources/hr/eac.asp for various discounts offered to employees throughout the year.
children. They have two children of their own, Kevin, 12 and Julia, 10. To relax, the Callahans spend a lot of time with their children, going to the theater, athletic events, and gymnastic activities, as well as spending time with their large extended families. Kevin tries to stay physically active and exercises as much as his busy schedule permits. He works around the house landscaping and sometimes enjoys building projects and working with wood. He enjoys reading historical books, either fiction or non-fiction. In thinking about what he does to relax, Kevin said he used to do quite a bit of hunting, but no longer does. He enjoys playing golf occasionally and being outdoors, especially near the water.

The family likes to travel when they have the opportunity, and recently attended the Broadway show “Wicked”, as well as taking a weekend trip to Washington, DC.

When I mentioned the great season his football team had this year he beamed and said, “Our players did a great job this year. It was a lot of fun”. Coach Callahan was named 2004 Northeast Conference Coach of the Year.

Doug Padron, Director of Sports Medicine and Health Education, has been employed at MU since 2002. Prior to coming to MU, he worked at Villanova University for four years, was a graduate assistant at Michigan State University for two years and was an undergraduate student at Towson University.

Both Doug and his wife Kelli grew up in Ocean County and they currently live in Point Pleasant. They have two boys; Cal is three years old, and Luke turned six months old in the early part of April. For relaxation, Doug enjoys most sports and playing golf, but admits he doesn’t play very well. He laughed and said he has a whole new list of activities now, with both boys. Family life is what keeps them busy, and Doug admits with the two little guys it is “all a lot of fun”. This summer Doug and Kelli would like to get away and travel some, but with the boys being so young it will be limited to primarily regional travel. Doug likes to read anything having to do with sports, but as far as novels go, he has no one particular interest, he’s “all over the place”. He also enjoys going to the movies and watching dramas.

Thomas Dick, Director of Communications, has been employed at MU since 2000. Prior to coming to MU, he was employed at New Mexico State University where he was assistant athletics media relations director for two years. He wistfully told me the weather was always nice there. Prior to NMSU he had a one-year internship at the University of North Carolina in Wilmington, where again, he commented the weather was always nice. He attended graduate school at Georgia Southern University in Statesboro and made yet another reference to the nice weather.

Thomas was born and raised in Cleveland, Ohio. We both laughed about the fact that the weather in Cleveland is very similar to New Jersey. He is a single guy and has no pets (no, the office goldfish doesn’t really count as a personal pet). He gave up watching television a couple of years ago. Thomas often attends the movies, and has no preference to genre; he primarily attends any of the newer ones that are released. Thomas uses the Fitness Center and expressed a desire for a larger facility. He likes to watch sports, but told me he doesn’t like hockey because he doesn’t like skate. Thomas likes to cook and bake; his recent prized possessions are an industrial-size mixer he received as a gift this past Christmas, as well as a bundt pan shaped like a cathedral. He said he is looking forward to warmer weather because he likes to grill outdoors.

Thomas loves to travel and has been to a variety of locales - Montreal, Boston, San Francisco, Fresno, Spain, Portugal, France and Switzerland to name a few. He really enjoys the fact that his position as Director of Communications allows him to travel quite a bit. This summer he is looking forward to visiting Calgary. At the end of our interview he laughed and told me, “I’m all about fun stuff”.

Michele Woods-Baxter, Assistant Coach of Women’s Basketball, has been employed at MU since 2000. She came to coach in NJ by way of Florida. Michele coached boy’s basketball in Fort Lauderdale for nine years, then coached at Tallahassee Community College for two years, where she met Jackie DeVane (MU Head Coach of Women’s Basketball). Michele heard about the assistant coaching position opening up at MU through mutual friends and Jackie convinced her to apply, the rest she laughs and says, “is history”.

Michele grew up in a very small town in the country in Oxford, Michigan, and is the youngest of ten children. She attended St. John Fisher College in Rochester, NY where she played varsity volleyball. Michele’s mom and dad now live in Florida and that is where she and her husband Jim go to vacation. Jim also coaches women’s basketball at MU. The Baxters met while coaching and Michele laughs and says, “our whole life is basketball, everything is tied to it”. She and Jim coach high school boys’ basketball together for years and then spent nearly five years hardly seeing each other due to conflicting schedules. Jim was at Florida State as an assistant coach and Michele was in Fort Lauderdale coaching boys 17 and under. She says it’s been a whirlwind.

Michele and Jim spend a lot of time recruiting during the allotted recruiting period, and attend as many high school basketball games as possible. “Coaching is a full-time job”, Michele says, “and other than vacationing, we spend our time working on making the Monmouth University women’s basketball team as successful as possible”.

Jim Baxter, Assistant Coach of Women’s Basketball, has been employed at MU since 2001. Jim was coaching a minor league professional team in the Memphis franchise prior to coming to Monmouth University. It was the first time he and his wife, Michele, were in two different cities for basically seven months; they both agreed it was no fun. Prior to coaching in Memphis, he was the assistant coach at Florida A&M University.

Jim got a kick out of telling me he is from the covered bridge capital of the world, Rockville, Indiana. It is a very small town with a population of 1,800 people and the largest
Dawn Gannon, Secretary in the School of Science, Technology and Engineering, was recently named 2003 Volunteer of the Year by the New Jersey Chapter of RESOLVE, a non-profit consumer organization.

Madrid, Spain
Spring break will undoubtedly be permanently etched in the minds of the twenty-three people who traveled to Spain this past March, along with art professor, Vincent DiMattio. The terrorist bombings that took place at the Atocha train station during their stay was quite shocking, but fortunately the group was not in that area at the time of the incident. Despite this tragedy, the students and employees, Enrica Taormina, Pat Dodd, Robert Mataranglo, and Vincent DiMattio all enjoyed the trip.

Debi Palmer, Assistant to the Associate Vice President, Controller’s office, and her husband Robert, are the proud new parents of baby daughter Kristen Theresa, born on January 29, 2004. She weighed 6 lbs 13 oz and was 19 inches long at birth. Kristen joins her two older brothers, Robert and Ryan and sister Olivia.

Maureen Worth, Assistant to the Director, has been employed at MU since 1995. She was employed as assistant to the principal at the United Cerebral Palsy School for a number of years, prior to coming to MU.

Maureen and her husband, Richard, have two children, Adam, who graduated from MU last year and Sabrina, who lives in Houston. Sabrina’s son, Robbie, 8, attends sports camp every summer at Monmouth. The Worths have two dogs, a cat, birds and fish.

Maureen and Richard like to garden once the weather gets warmer. They share the chores; her husband works on the vegetables, while she works on the flowers. Maureen also enjoys reading quite a bit; she says she has no real preferences or favorites about what she reads. Last summer a young boy by the name of David, from the “Fresh Air” program, came and stayed with the Worth’s house for two weeks. The Fresh Air program places children from urban areas into different homes in the country. Maureen explained her interest in this program by telling me that when she was a young girl she was one of the Fresh Air children herself. At that time she visited the Pennsylvania Dutch country and stayed on a farm. She thought it was a great time and is happy to be able to help some city children in return.

Maureen’s blues singer sister, Wendy, lives with her husband in Amsterdam on a houseboat. The sisters love to travel and very often both couples vacation together. Wendy does most of the planning and research, and then off they go. The couples have been to varied places such as Key West, Florida and the Greek Isles by way of a cruise out of Venice, Italy. They spent time in a bed and breakfast in Amsterdam, in the Netherlands, which was their favorite stop. Maureen enjoys the opportunities to meet people and learn about their cultures. They have been to more countries than they can count and enjoy traveling together.

Athletics continued on page 6
Do you have a question about benefits?

Just...

Ask Angela.

Can you provide me with a list of services that require pre-certification under the Horizon Blue Cross Blue Shield Health Plan?

Horizon Blue Cross Blue Shield of NJ provided me with the following list of services that require pre-certification:

- Durable Medical Equipment (DME) purchases over $500.00 and all DME rentals.
- Prosthetics when required by contract.
- Home IV therapy.
- IV therapy when rendered in a physician’s office.
- Hospice services.
- Infertility services when required by contract.
- All inpatient hospital services, including inpatient rehabilitation.
- Physical therapy and occupational therapy.
- Plastic, reconstructive and cosmetic surgery (regardless of the place of service).
- Skilled nursing facility (extended care, inpatient rehabilitation, etc.)
- Private duty nursing.
- Transplants.
- Mental Health/Substance Abuse services must be coordinated through the Horizon BCBSNJ/Magellan Behavioral Health Program.

Any service received from a non-plan physician or provider must be prior authorized by Horizon BCBSNJ in order to be covered. It is the member’s responsibility to obtain the prior authorization when utilizing out-of-network benefits.

If you have questions concerning the plan, you may call Horizon Member Services at 1-800-355-2583.

Monmouth Review call for submissions

The Monmouth Review is the University community’s literary and art magazine, published twice a year. All employees are invited to submit for consideration poems, short stories, essays, fiction, drama, interviews, photography, drawings, computer-generated art, and other forms of two-dimensional art.

To submit literary works, please send each work as an e-mail attachment to Professor Stanley Blair in the Department of English, at sblair@monmouth.edu. To submit artwork, please contact Professor Karen Bright in the Department of Art and Design at x3523. Please include information about how you may be contacted, as well as a brief biographical note of up to fifty words.

If you have any questions about the Monmouth Review, please contact Dr. Blair at his office, Wilson Annex Room 505, or phone x3619.