The Employee Giving Campaign raised a record $210,010 in 2007.

The Annual Fund's Employee Giving Campaign featured record numbers for 2007, raising $210,010. The previous giving year raised $126,628.

Anthony DelFranco, director of the Annual Fund, said that this fund is the foundation of the university's fundraising efforts. “Our job is to acquire new donors to come on board; those that have never made a gift,” he said. “Once they do come on board we want them to continue to move up and renew their gift.”

The Annual Fund raises money through direct mail, face to face solicitation and the Phonathon. Direct mail, the cheapest yet least effective way, has raised approximately $60,000 to $70,000. Face to face solicitation is often aimed toward donors and alumni that are going on around the campus. “One of the things they look at is the foundation of the university,” he said. DelFranco added, “It all feeds off one another. It means our degree was revised. Mills said that he was pleased with the amount of donors that participated in the year’s Employee Giving Campaign. He said that 55% of the full-time employees at the university gave gifts. “We have already seen people increase their gifts for this year,” said Mills. “We are trying to get across to people that fundraising isn’t just the development offices. It is everybody. Seeing the employees step up the way they have is a great sign of hope.”

The average gift of full-time employees at the university gave gifts. “We have already seen people increase their gifts for this year,” said Mills. “We are trying to get across to people that fundraising isn’t just the development offices. It is everybody. Seeing the employees step up the way they have is a great sign of hope.”

The Annual Fund is currently working with its group of donors that are going on around the campus. “We are looking at people who made outright gifts,” said DelFranco. “We want to try to get them on payroll deduction.”

Mills added that he is, as well, hoping that more employees participate in payroll deduction.

Other goals for 2008 include an increase in participation. With the overall annual fund, you always want to get more donors and alumni particularly giving to the institution because again it shows the pride and that they are proud of the university.”

The Annual Fund staff consisting of Irene Wall, Associate Director; Jennifer Loyen, Assistant Director; Delanie Sarraf, Administrative Assistant; and student worker Jennifer Paccetti for their efforts in contributing to making the campaign a success.

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Eight Students to Travel to Tanzania in May

KAITLYN KANZLER STAFF WRITER

In May, eight students will embark on a trip that will take them from much of what they are used to. These students will travel to Tanzania, Africa, with Cross Cultural Solutions, an organization that focuses on sending people around the world to help women and children.

These students will travel to Bagamoyo, which was founded on the end of the eighteenth century and was the original capital of German East Africa as well as one of the most important trading posts on the East African coast.

“I love the morph of going from Africa to Africa has always been a life long dream of mine,” said Sarah Pfleger, the head of the SAB booth and the students’ involvement, “I think it’s going to be an amazing place and can’t wait for the people and see the country.”

Monmouth University graduate student, Shatiera Porte’e echoed Pfleger’s sentiments, saying, “I once heard for the idea was planning a trip to go to Africa I was ecstatic. Not only have I always wanted to go to Africa, but to learn about another culture and get to meet people was something I was hoping to do with one another. I feel that we are all blessed to get the opportunity to visit another country and embrace their culture, values, religious beliefs, and do whatever we can to help them.”

SHATIERA PORTE’E Graduate Student

McClain Visits New Jersey, Takes Lead

DANIEL J. WISNIEWSKI STAFF WRITER

Pundits had lined up to jab Arizona Senator John McCain’s record. But on Friday, February 1, a reporter was debunked from the race on Thursday. Now it will be a test to conservatives if they will tolerate the decision to leave, and have light improvements in Iraq have. The decision to leave, and have light improvements in Iraq have. The decision to leave, and have light improvements in Iraq have.

Sam McCutchen, a senior and history major at Monmouth was inspired by high school classmate James “Jimmy” Mazza, who died in 2007 because of what he had done in his short time on the earth.

“We heard the announcement of the student that will be made.” Pfleger. “Every little help and see if it is possible to do it differently, even just a little.”

View www.mycrossculturesolutions.org and with the group has announced. They have a plan to make a donation for the students who want to make a donation to help them.

“We are looking for any help students who want to help them.”

Joining the effort, students will travel to another country to learn more about the culture and how to start a new club, contact Amy Bellina at the Student Activities Office on the second floor of the Student Center.

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During winter break, the Monmouth County Police Department participated in training sessions that occurred on campus. The session was conducted on January 2 when the Monmouth County Emergency Operations Center (MOCERT) visited the university. “MOCERT is the county’s SWAT team that would respond to the MUPD in any emergency situation on campus,” said Chief McLear. The training sessions were conducted by the MUPD and the West Long Branch Fire Department. The police department underwent active shooter training in Wilson Hall while officers were off duty. “Active shooter training was conducted in two three hour training sessions. Training covered tactical formations, communications, and reaction actions and entry into Wilson Hall,” said Chief McLear. “The session was a comprehensive active shooter action being conducted.”

The West Long Branch Fire Department underwent active shooter training in Life for fire and rescue training. The session was three hours long. A civilian representative from the MOCERT was to show firefighters the types of weapons a shooter would face in responding to a fire emergency/evacuation on campus,” said Chief McLear.

In conjunction with the Center for Rapid Response, the MUPD underwent training in an active shooter evacuation simulation on January 15 in the event of a Nor’easter. The purpose of the two hour session according to Chief McLear was to provide awareness and procedures in handling an incident of this magnitude. “The ultimate goal of all of us is to have as safe an campus as is possible,” and even a coupon for a free taxi ride from Paramount Cab Corp.

“It helps that the program was created by students who can relate to the party scene,” says Suanne Schaad, the Substance Abuse Education Coordinator in Health Services. "The program is neat because students of all majors can help to take advantage of it, and geared toward helping students in a major way.

The Party Smart program is a collaborative effort of the offices of Off-Campus and Commuter Services, the Student Government of SGA, and the Office of Student Awareness.

If any students are interested in this free kit, they can contact the Office of Off-Campus and Commuter Services, the Office of Off-Campus and Commuter Services, and to return fire if they are not in the mood to party, help any student make their party safer, "Fat Tuesday" is symbolic of a dinner party for all of the Catholic students of the Student Government Association. You can also access any information online at www.monmouth.edu/commuter.

SIFE Takes New Program Abroad

SIFE continued from pg. 1

SIFE is the help of Professor Buzza and Dr. Lombardi, both business administration professors here at Monmouth, SIFE is able to offer a new program abroad. The launch is set to take place at Feney College of Hungary in March, Hungary. The number range in age from 18-10 years old. In an effort to ensure maximum re- sults, 4 students will be traveling to Hungary over spring break, at their own expense. Most of the students, here at the center. We are a lovely family,” Jennifer stated excitedly.

“Props to the chef and person behind the meals. Everyone should join; we welcome all students of all major. In the eyes of SIFE, "Fat Tuesday" is symbolic of a dinner party for all of the Catholic students of the Student Government Association. You can also access any information online at www.monmouth.edu/commuter.

SIFE’s pamphlet high-
Camelback Ski Trip  
Sat Feb 16th

Tickets $5 in the Office of Student Activities

Battle of the Sexes  
Thurs Feb 14th  
Magill Dining Hall  
8:30-11pm

Comedian Lynne Koplitz  
Anacon Hall  
9:00pm  
Free to all MU students

SAB’s Weekly Prescription For Fun!!

To have your campus-wide events included, send an email to activities@monmouth.edu. We do not list club or program meeting times in this schedule.

GET INVOLVED

GET INVOLVED

IN CAMPUS ACTIVITIES!!

732-571-3586 • 2nd Floor, Rebecca Stafford Student Center • activities@monmouth.edu

CAMPUS EVENTS THIS WEEK

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 13

Housing Deposits • 11:30 AM - 1:30 PM • Magill Dining Commons
Lenten Mass • 12:00 PM • Wilson Hall Chapel
Orientation Leader Information Session • 2:30 PM • Carol Afflitto Conf.
Artisan Workshop - Native Andean Craft • 2:30 - 6:20 PM • Art Building 601
Film Viewing - Danton • 6:00 PM • Wilson Auditorium
Exercise - Chest, Back and Arms • 7:00 PM • Fitness Center

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 14

Housing Deposits • 9:00 AM - 1:00 PM • Residential Life Office
Artisan Workshop - Native Andean Craft • 2:30 - 6:20 PM • Art Building 601
Valentine’s Day Party • 7:30 PM • Catholic Centre
Battle of the Sexes • 8:30 - 11:30 PM • Magill Dining Commons

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 15

Blood Drive • 10:30 AM - 3:30 PM • Student Center Parking Lot
Resident Assistant Applications Due • 5:00 PM
Film - Soy Andina • 7:00 PM • Pollak Theatre
Yoga Class • 7:00 PM • Oakwood Lounge
Movie - Bee Movie • 7:00 PM & 11:00 PM • The Underground

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 16

Camelback Ski Trip - SOLD OUT • Departs @ 2:00 PM • Student Center
Movie - Enchanted • 7:00 PM & 11:00 PM • The Underground

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 17

NO EVENTS SCHEDULED

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 18

Exercise - Legs • 8:00 AM • Fitness Center
Film Screening - Dias de Santiago • 7:00 PM • Pollak Theatre

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 19

Orientation Leader Information Session • 6:00 PM • The Underground
Jewish Culture Composer Mark Zuckerman • 7:30 PM • Wilson Auditorium
Comedian Lynne Koplitz • 9:00 PM • Anacon Hall
Date Auction • 10:00 PM • Pollak Theatre

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 20

Break the Cycle, Be the Change • 10:00 AM • Wilson Auditorium
Info on Becoming a First Year Peer Advisor • 2:30 PM • Carol Afflitto Conf.
Time Management • 2:30 PM • Bey Hall 223
SGA Auction • 2:30 PM • Anacon Hall
Film - Hands of God • 7:00 PM • Wilson Auditorium
Exercise - Legs • 7:00 PM • Fitness Center
Latin American R E A L I T I E S
The Music, Dance, and Visual Arts of Peru and Brazil
MONMOUTH UNIVERSITY
WEST LONG BRANCH, NEW JERSEY

Call 732-263-6889 or visit our website www.monmouth.edu/arts

ALL EVENTS ARE FREE TO THE PUBLIC (except Peruvian dinner and Peru Negro)
PERU NEGRO FREE TO MU STUDENTS WITH ID

FEBRUARY

6
7 p.m. FILM SCREENING: Soy Andina (Topic: Peru)
Q & A: Mitchell Teplitsky, Director
Pollak Theatre

8
7 p.m. WELCOME: Dean Stan Green
15
7 p.m. FILM SCREENING: Quilombo Country (Topic: Brazil)
Q & A: Prof. Sean Mitchell and
Prof. Hette Williams
Pollak Theatre
22
7:30 p.m. FILM SCREENING: State of Fear (Topic: Peru)
Q & A: Prof. Rosemary Barbera, Prof. Ken Mitchell, Prof. Aaron Ansell, and Prof. Megwen Loveless
Pollak Theatre

11
5:30 p.m. FOODS OF PERU DINNER
Tickets: $35. Dinner and Show packages available
West Long Branch Community Center

12
2:30 - 6:20 p.m. PERU CERAMIC WORKSHOP
Ceramics Studio 601

13
2:30 - 6:20 p.m. PERU CERAMIC WORKSHOP
Ceramics Studio 601

14
2:30 - 6:20 p.m. PERU CERAMIC WORKSHOP
Ceramics Studio 601

17
7 p.m. FILM SCREENING: Hands of God (Topic: Peru)
Q & A: Prof. Bill Mitchell
Pollak Theatre

8 p.m. PERFORMANCE: Peru Negro
Tickets: $48 / $36 / $24 / Free to MU students with ID
Pollak Theatre
The Outlook

JACQUELINE KOLOSKI
EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

As everyone will agree with me there are not enough hours in a day. If I could have a few extra hours here and there, I would probably be a lot less stressed and frazzled than I am right at this very moment. Late-
ly, people’s phrase of choice is to say to me, “Calm down and take one thing at a time.” I laugh and say I wish I had time to do
that. I’m sure everyone is in the same predicament as me which is why I made this the subject of my editorial this week. Time is
a precious thing especially in college when you have so much on your plate. Not only do you have to worry about homework,
projects, papers but also figuring out what you want to do with your life.

I’m at that place in my college career right now as I know many of my fellow seniors are. May 20 will be here before we
know it and the job hunt is on the brain of all seniors right now. I know I’m feeling that presently as I’m putting the fin-
ishing touches on my resume, getting my portfolio together, and at the same time trying to remain sane in the process as I
begin interviewing for jobs. It is exciting yet scary at the same time thinking of the future and that in three short months my
life is about to change in a big way. I will be out of the bubble that is college and into the real world. Going back to the subject
of time, it goes by fast in college and real life is slowly creeping on all of us. It reminds me of one of my favorite quotes from
the movie “Ferris Bueller’s Day Off”. The quote is, “Life goes by pretty fast. If you don’t stop
and look around once in a while, you could miss it.”

As much as I want to begin the next phase of my life, it’s hard to believe that that time has al-
ready come. It seems as though it was just yesterday I was tour-
ning the Monmouth campus deciding if I wanted to make a life for myself here the next four years. Now I’m about ready to
graduate and I’m wondering where the last four years went. Probably a majority of them was spent in The Outlook of-
line writing articles and laying out sections, but nonetheless I know it was time well spent. As I
mentioned in the beginning of this editorial about having more time, I wish I had more time to
spend here. As the saying goes, time is of the essence. With that
said, I have to make the most of the time I have as does everyone else.

The Outlook is currently looking to fill associate and assistant editorial positions. If you are
interested, please attend Monday general meetings at 8 p.m. for additional information.

Interested in writing, editing, photography or layout & design? Join The Outlook! General meetings are
Mondays at 8 p.m. in The Plangere Center Room 260.

The Outlook masthead designed by Kimberly Lynn Mallen
Back page sports logo designed by Nick Hernandez

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The Outlook provides the Monmouth University community with information concerning issues in and around the University
while serving as a forum for expression of the ideas of its
readers.

Contributions must be submitted
(email outlook@monmouth.edu) by 12:00 p.m. Mondays to The Outlook office.
2nd Floor, room 260, Plangere Center.
All copy must include the author’s full name and contact information.
The Outlook accepts articles and graphic material from students, faculty and administrators, and reserves the right to edit or reject
any material which they determine is not suitable for publication or its readers.

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The Outlook

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Pardon my Mistake, I’m Only Human

BRIAN BLACKMON  
STAFF WRITER

In last week’s “Article of Interest” “Comics: A Shared Language,” a few typographical errors materialized concerning some of the French words used within. Where mistakes originate (whether in this or any work) is beyond my knowledge, and I can only attribute them to the same unique forces which Marcel Duchamp credited them to the same unique knowledge, and I can only at-
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Pardon my Mistake, I’m Only Human

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Last week, my opponent and I debated one of the most important issues of our time. Whether or not English should be made the official national language of the United States. I made the case that implementing such a measure would be unnecessary, while my opponent argued that not doing so could prove disastrous for the country.

Making English the official language of the United States would not only codify a language which everybody was forced to speak, but also would be the only way to ensure that the federal government and its bureaucracies would conduct business only in English. Therefore, the only unification that would occur would be in the realm of the conduct of our national affairs. The by-product of this bureaucratic unity would be a rift between the citizens of the country; a rift that could easily be avoided.

My opponent asserts that it was a series of language barriers between the citizens of the ancient Roman Republic that led to the empire's downfall. This may very well be true if it is true that one cannot conquer Mexico, it might make sense to try and get them to start coming around to our English speaking ways. When I was in Mexico, Machiavelli would certainly agree. However, since America is like Rome only in its Power and not in its decay, this argument makes no sense. Even if the United States were about to be invaded by France or Puerto Rico as additional states in the Union, it would be more reasonable and far less incendiary for them to adopt statewide legislation regarding language than to declare English the federal government's official language.

However, America is not attempting to conquer half the globe, and is not even likely to be absorbing any new states any time soon. So once again, why pick this time in our history to adopt an official national language? There is only one reason, and it is the novelty of the issue is not a viable reason. The number of English speakers in America is increasing faster than the non-English speaking immigrant population, so growing numbers can't be the issue either. Making English the official language of the United States is largely counterintuitive to the argument that a single national language would be a divisive problem. The only way that making English the official language would create a divisive problem, in fact, would probably be to make English the national language. If we let the problem continue to solve itself.

For our argument's sake, let's say that things were not improving as they are. The number of non-English-speaking Americans was on the rise and citizens were crying out for a solution. Even in this scenario, 17 of the 19 states that have already implemented English-only legislation of state Constitutional Amendments (one of which naming the state's language as "American" as a snub to the British). If there was ever a perfect example for the reason we have a federal, not state, system in this country, it is that. Allowing the individual states to conduct their own business is one of the largest responsibilities of the federal government, and at least in this case, the states have been addressed as an issue as they have seen fit. Whether or not the steady decline in non-English-speakers is a result of the state's laws is debatable, but the fact that both the state government and citizens are taking steps to solve a problem is undeniable.

This side of the argument has not been "why we should not make English the official language" but rather "why should we?" A simple examination of the available data proves that this is not a new issue. When the United States took over the Philippines, the government not take the next step and declare English as the national language. Why procure English in the printing of federal documents and legislation? Everywhere where English is already the language by de facto. It is time that the English language be received as it right place in the United States as our national language. We are a melting pot of civilizations, and our history presents national language would allow for new legislation to be published only in English; which would save money on transla- tion and printing costs. In short, English needs to be declared as the national language because it would be an efficient means of uniting the nation and allowing us to maintain our culture and combine them with the traditions of American life. "The English are the only way to create American English. Eng- lish is a multicultural language, and it is the only way to create a language where English is already the language by de facto. It is time that the English language be received as its right place in the United States as our national language."

While much has been written on gender and racial voting trends in 2008, the most important and underreported story is that college age students are now voting in record numbers. The youth vote in New Hampshire was twice as large as in 2004, and young voters in Iowa tripled. Election results from Super Tuesday reveal that this trend is now sweeping the nation. The youth voter turn-out rate dwarfed the national average and tripled in Georgia and Missour- i from just four years ago. The youth vote will continue to play a decisive role in the electoral outcome of several key states.

The Super Tuesday primary established a clear front-runner in the Republican Party and delivered a decisive blow to the Democratic Party. Republican Senator John McCain won nine primary states on Tuesday, including the delegate rich states of California, New York, New Jersey, Illinois, and Missouri, making him the overwhelming favorite to capture the Repub- lican nomination. Democratic presidential candidate Barack Obama and Hillary Clinton can each declare victory after processing Tuesday's results. Obama won 13 of the 22 primaria- ries and caucuses, but Clinton won California, New Mexico, and her home state of New York, three of the most populous states. The unfolding historic battle between Obama and Clinton mirrors the 1968 Democratic race between Robert F. Kenne- dyl and Hubert Humphrey in two impor- tant respects. Barack Obama, the consummate professional, runs as the insurgent candidate, challenging Bill and Hil- lary Clinton's nearly two decade old predominance over the Democratic Party. Both campaigns emphasize the need for "change" and a renewed sense of "hope", while Clinton contrasts her experience and reminding voters that she will be "ready on day one". Anoth- er similar importance to the 1968 campaign is the extent to which this campaign is enlisting college age students to the cause.

Barack Obama has been either the largest benefactor or cause of this youthful political resurgence. Early exit polls re- vealed that Obama won by large margins in the youth demographic, even in states won by Clinton. Obama won the youth vote by double digits in New Hampshire, where Clinton was the most popular and Clinton in New Jersey, while losing the state by 10 percentage points. While Obama's margins over Clinton were over and over again the most popular throughout the electorate. The school system would be expected to help students learn English (if a program were better funded, which would help train the teachers in the most efficient means of teaching). As for the govern- ment, declaring English as the national language would allow for new legislation to be published only in English. Even if a law passed only in English, there would save money on transla- tion and printing costs. In short, English needs to be declared as the national language because it would be an efficient means of uniting the nation and allowing us to maintain our culture and combine them with the traditions of American life. "The English are the only way to create American English. English is a multicultural language, and it is the only way to create a language where English is already the language by de facto. It is time that the English language be received as its right place in the United States as our national language."
Regent'sbroadcasted the primary for us to watch on a big screen, so it was cool seeing live footage from Boston, New York, and a few other cities around the U.S. and getting filled in on what's going on with our politics back at home.

It's really surprising to me how so many people over here are interested in our politics.

Last week I had mentioned that I went to Camden Markets, the huge open-air market, but unfortunately it caught fire on Saturday, so that has been big news here.

Starting off the weekend, my friends and I decided to do something different, so we went salsa dancing! Even though we weren't near experienced as the majority of people there, we still had a really good time.

Just walking through London with no destination can be so much fun, because you always end up finding so many things to see and do.

On Saturday, we attempted to visit the London Aquarium, but the line was ridiculously long, so we decided to just do it another day when it won't be as crowded. Another thing that I want to try and do again is the Changing of the Guards ceremony at Buckingham Palace. After standing outside the Queen's residence for about an hour, we were finally told that the ceremony wouldn't take place until the next day – oh well, I still got some great pictures.

After walking around some more, we ended up finding guards standing on horses, which are called no other than Horse Guards. They remain as the official entrance to Buckingham Palace and St. James's Palace. This entrance then continues to lead into Green Park, another one of the Royal Parks of London.

Later on, we ended up at the Churchill Museum and Cabinet War Rooms. The museum part of it is dedicated to the life and work of Sir Winston Churchill, the former British politician who served as Prime Minister of the United Kingdom. This museum included everything from documents he had signed, to clothes he had worn at important events. Also included in the exhibit is an electronic, computerized timeline of Churchill's life, divided into certain time periods, which can be moved with just a touch of a finger.

The War Rooms portions of the exhibits are the actual rooms in which the prime minister, his secretaries, and everyone else working for him, would stay in as shelter from possible bombs. It was really neat seeing the actual things that came straight out of the World War II era.

I'm off to Dublin, Ireland on Thursday, so I'll be writing as soon as I can back from there! Cheers.

PHOTO COURTESY of Paige Sodano

The beautiful statue of the Queen Victoria Memorial stands outside of Buckingham Palace.

PHOTO COURTESY of Paige Sodano

Sir Winston Churchill's kitchen is part of the underground War Room exhibits found in the Museum.
Top 5 on the Billboard

1) Alicia Keys -- As I Am
2) Juno Soundtrack
3) The Mars Volta--The Bedlam In Goliath
4) Bullet For My Valentine--Scream Aim Fire
5) 2008 Grammy Nominees

VERONIQUE BLOSTEIN
STAFF WRITER

Hey Idol lovers! On last Tuesday's episode of American Idol, the show hit its season tour in Atlanta, Georgia. Josh Jones opened up the auditions with his Queen rendition, which stood out, and each was just as impactful throughout all 11 tracks, it became inarguable that Simple Plan puts the punk pop genre over the past couple of years, more companies are not only liking new bands, but also are not exactly outing talent, have hit the scene. With their Converse wearing, the most 'punk' thing about them, Simple Plan puts most of their musical focus on the pop end of the spectrum. While barely being able to sit through all 11 tracks, it became increasingly apparent that each one was pretty similar. None of them stood out, and each was just as irritating as the one that followed. The opening track, "When I'm Gone", is currently the band's first single off the new album, which ooze with the same idea that Pierre Boivin called it a spurious girlfriend "nothing but a lie" over and over again. Even when he is not repeating himself, Pierre continues to get to the bottom of the shady behavior by singing, "I found a note with another name; you blow a kiss, but it just don't feel the same". These lyrics are perhaps the most unoriginal since Paris Hilton graced us with her mess of a musical contribution to the industry. "Time to Say Goodbye" is about a love that is better off left behind. Pierre sings about all of the lies and deceptions that came with the woman who he is in love with and who is not an faithful lover. At this point, it was unclear of what was more nauseating, Pierre's vocals or hearing about this relation ending at the same time.

"Holding On" is about how depressing the world can be, but there is that certain someone that balance her home life with her job and let go. In short, it is a typical love song with the same idea that all of us have been repeated an unacceptable amount of times.

After having two years to lay low, Simple Plan managed to put forth an album that shows no musical or creative growth since their emergence. With the occasional addition of syncretic beats and vocals, their music continues to sound like recycled versions of what they have previously thrown together. The only notable difference that entitle me to Pierre's new and emo-improved haircut, which is concisely nothing too swanky either.

ALEXANDRA JOHNSON
STAFF WRITER

Just when you thought the airwaves were finally safe, Simple Plan broke the silence of their two year hiatus. The French Canadian quintet released their self-titled album on Tuesday, in hopes that their latest musical production will follow the lead of their prior two Platinum selling releases. Jam-packed with highly predictable lyrics and a washed up sound, this album unsurprisingly lacks any creativity and originality. With a growing demand for music that is pop punk genre over the past couple of years, more companies are not only liking new bands, but also are not exactly outing talent, have hit the scene. With their Converse wearing, the most 'punk' thing about them, Simple Plan puts most of their musical focus on the pop end of the spectrum. While barely being able to sit through all 11 tracks, it became increasingly apparent that each one was pretty similar. None of them stood out, and each was just as irritating as the one that followed. The opening track, "When I'm Gone", is currently the band's first single off the new album, which ooze with the same idea that Pierre Boivin called it a spurious girlfriend "nothing but a lie" over and over again. Even when he is not repeating himself, Pierre continues to get to the bottom of the shady behavior by singing, "I found a note with another name; you blow a kiss, but it just don't feel the same". These lyrics are perhaps the most unoriginal since Paris Hilton graced us with her mess of a musical contribution to the industry. "Time to Say Goodbye" is about a love that is better off left behind. Pierre sings about all of the lies and deceptions that came with the woman who he is in love with and who is not an faithful lover. At this point, it was unclear of what was more nauseating, Pierre's vocals or hearing about this relation ending at the same time.

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Do You Really Want to Be the Next American Idol?

A first hand look at the American Idol Audition Process

With every new season of American Idol comes a new chance to become the next Kelly Clarkson or Kelly Osbourne. Many people sign up hoping to capture the spotlight, but few actually do. However, the writers at work, there were no new scripts, and shows (and movies) couldn’t even release the film the scripts they had because filmmakers didn’t have the rights to tweak the script. Without the writers at work, the writers who are getting paid, and the writers who are getting paid, the writers are the actual owners of the story. The past three and a half months have been cruel to the writers, and now we can all get on with the rest of the television season.

For one am I happy for the writers, because they have something that they didn’t have before. But now the brilliant writers are inventing something new. They are excited to have my shows back, and to continue to surf through every Thursday night while watching new episodes of The Office.

FILE PHOTO COURTESY OF KRIEGER VACAM

Photo Courtesy of Kristen Renda

Kristen Renda
Entertainment Editor

As I first reported back in November, there was a strike within the Writers Guild of America, and the writers were picking out different corporations. They handed out fliers to people passing by at the unions before Os- car night so a Golden Globe recognition was given. For this reason, the writers have succeeded and will be back to work on Wednesday, February 13, 2008.

There was a meeting with the head of the Writers Guild of America, and now writers will be receiving a nice share of royalties from their work when it is broadcast over the Inter- net. This is the main concern the writers had. Whenever their work is broadcast on television or sold or licensed on DVDs, the writers get a percentage of money ing by asking them to help in the strike.

People may think they can’t do anything, but all they have to do is write a letter to the big guys at these corporations and tell them to give the writers what they deserve because we want our shows back.

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Valentine’s Day is right around the corner, and for a lot of people, this is good news. However, it may not be good news for others! Either way, it should be a day to be enjoyed, whether you’re single or attached. There’s no need to mope around simply because you don’t have a date…you can still have fun with it anyway! Here are some ideas (including last minute!) for your significant other if you’re attached, or some neat little party or gathering ideas for you and your friends if you’re single!

Valentine’s Day is all about love…and chocolate of course! Here are some fun chocolatey ideas to give to your partner or your friends!

- Chocolate covered strawberries
- Brownies – use a cookie cutter to shape them as hearts
- White chocolate raspberry cheesecake

There are tons of recipes you can look up using many different types of chocolate. There is bitter-sweet, semisweet, milk and white.

You can mix and match or create something new using one or all of them!

Of course, if you are waiting until the last minute, there is always the conventional box of chocolates that you can pick up at almost any store!

As you can see, there are many different ideas that you can either make yourself or pick up at the store for your sweetheart or friends for Valentine’s Day!

Valentine’s Day Breakfast in Bed

If you are really feeling ambitious, you could go all out for your loved one, roommate, or friends by serving them a really awesome breakfast in bed! You can make this extra special just by decorating the tray with the little Valentine’s Day heart candies, red and pink napkins and plates, or if you really want to get fancy a few rose petals. You can bake them something extra sweet the night before if you wish.

You can prepare Valentine’s Day breakfast in bed for your sweetheart, parents, or friends to make their day extra special! Prepare some of it the night before if you or your significant other has work in the morning.

Recipe for sugar cookies:

- 7 cups flour
- 2 cups white sugar
- 1 1/2 tsp salt
- 1 1/2 tsp baking powder
- 1 tsp baking soda
- 3 eggs

Preheat oven to 375 degrees F

In a large mixing bowl, mix together flour, sugar, salt, and baking powder. Mix in shortening. Once the shortening is well blended, stir almond flavoring and milk into the dough at the same time, followed by eggs. Roll out dough onto a floured surface, using a floured rolling pin. Roll the dough cut into desired size and shape. Bake at 375 degrees F (190 degrees C) for 8 to 10 minutes, or just until bottom is golden.

Happy Valentine’s Day MU!

Recipe for some Valentine’s Day Crepes!

- 1/2 cup whole milk
- 1/2 cup flour
- A pinch of salt
- 1 tbsp butter
- 1 egg
- 1 1/2 tsp sugar

Melt butter and allow to cool a little bit. While that is cooling, mix in milk and eggs with a whisk. Add butter and whisk well. Add a little bit of sugar while whisking. Apply thinly to a nonstick pan (or use Pam). Separate crepes with a paper towel so they don’t stick. You can add anything to crepes; bananas, fruit, jello, etc. To make them extra special for Valentine’s Day roll two crepes up with fruit (or whatever you like) and decorate them with confectioner’s sugar and use raspberry jam to make a heart around them.

Attached! Here’s a customized (and inexpensive!) gift idea!

Being a student, money doesn’t exactly grow on trees for us. You may think that this may hinder getting your honey the perfect Valentine’s Day gift… but here’s a simple idea that he or she will love! Pick out your favorite picture of the two of you together. You can get a picture frame at a Dollar Store, and pick up some decorating supplies at AC Moore, Michael’s, or anything like that. Customize the picture frame to how you think your significant other might like it! It’s thoughtful, inexpensive, and guarantees to get the right reaction.

When it’s Party Time!

If you’re single, there’s no reason to stay in and mope around! Have a little get together with friends. Here are some party favor ideas to make your friends Valentine’s Day fun too!

- Fill a basket with red, white and pink carnations, each tied with ribbon. Have corsage pins on hand if guests choose to pin on flowers as they arrive.
- Cover your front door with fun decorations like ribbons, wrap and cut out red and pink hearts.
- Place red and pink candles around the house and in the bathroom for a more romantic feel!
- Make a mixed CD of all favorite songs, or songs completely against love, if you prefer!
- For take-home party favors, fill red glass votive candle holders with candies. Set each in the middle of a square of tissue paper, twist to close and tie at the twist with ribbon.
- Bake some heart-shaped sugar cookies and leave out decorations for your guests to decorate on their own!
- Have a bowl of red punch. A great recipe for punch is simple: equal parts cranberry juice, cherry juice and lemon-lime soda with crushed ice to keep it chilled.
- Leave candy hearts (the ones with the little sayings on them) around the kitchen or dining room table (if you have one) for decoration.
- As you can see, you don’t have to be attached to someone to enjoy Valentine’s Day! There’s great ideas for all of your loved ones, including your friends and family! Happy Valentine’s Day!

Information courtesy of allrecipes.com

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Online application and more information at
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• Gain excellent skills and hands-on experience
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• Students from all areas of campus are encouraged to apply

About the Time Commitment:
• Training - May 14-16, 2008; June 29 - July 5, 2008
• Orientation Programs - July 7 - July 25, 2008
• Welcome Week - August 27 - September 6, 2008

Want to Learn More? Come to an Information Session:
• Friday, February 8 – 202A, 12:00 PM
• Monday, February 11 – 202A, 4:00 PM
• Wednesday, February 13 – Carol Afflitto, 2:30 PM
• Tuesday, February 19 – The Underground, 6:00 PM

APPLICATIONS DUE THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 21 @ 4:30 PM
(All applicants will go through an interview process)

Where to get an application or to ask questions:
The Office of Student Activities and Student Center Operations
2nd Floor, Rebecca Stafford Student Center, activities@monmouth.edu
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**Catholic Centre at Monmouth**

- **Mass**
  - Every Sun 7 P.M.

- **Eucharistic Adoration**
  - Every Monday 9 P.M.

- **Bible Study**
  - Tuesday at 7:30 P.M. beginning Feb 19

- **Lenten Masses**
  - Wed, Feb 13, 20, April 5 and 19 at 12 P.M. in Wilson Chapel

- **Rosary**
  - Every Monday 3:30 - 4:30 P.M.

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Editor Note: This page contains articles written by the student members of these organizations. The Outlook is not responsible for the content of these articles. Send articles to outlook@monmouth.edu. Deadline is Mondays at 2:30 p.m. Otherwise, publication may not occur.

Alpha Sigma Tau

Alpha Sigma Tau will be hosting the first annual “Beauty and the Greek” on Monday, February 25, 2008. “Beauty and the Greek” is a chance for Greek and non-Greek students to be partnered up and compete for fabulous prizes. The format of the event is similar to the show “Beauty and the Geek”. The proceeds of the event will go to our many philanthropies such as Suicide Awareness. Mark your calendars and please come to support the sisters of Alpha Sigma Tau!!! If you have any questions or are interested in participating as a contestant please contact Jenna DeLozier (s0620281@monmouth.edu) or Nicole Russo (s0583809).

Women’s Political Caucus of NJ, MU Chapter

The Women’s Political Caucus of NJ Monmouth University Chapter wants YOU! If you missed us at the involvement fair, and are interested in politics please contact Nicole Kavanaugh at s0664922@monmouth.edu for more information on this multi-partisan organization. The WPCNJ MU Chapter will be the second WPC chapter at a University in the country, and second only to Rutgers.

RHA/Winterball

RHA meetings are every Tuesday at 9pm in the Oakwood Lounge. Residents and commuters welcome! RHA is also the proud host of Monmouth’s Annual Winterball in Wilson Hall. This year our theme is *A Hollywood Affair* and it will take place on Saturday, February 23, 2008 at 7 p.m. Tickets are on sale now in both the dining hall and in the information booth in the student center. Prices are: 1 for $30; 2 for $45; 3 for $60; 4 for $75. We look forward to seeing you at this red carpet event!

Political Science Club

The Political Science Club is planning an exciting spring semester! If you’re interested in writing about politics or recent news events write for the politics page of the outlook. Interested in debate? The club is beginning a debate team this semester. The club is also planning a Support the Troops event as well as a trip to Washington, D.C. If you’re interested in having a lot of fun with the Political Science Club, stop by a meeting every Tuesday in Bey Hall room 228 at 3:45.

Student Activities Board *SAB*

Come help organize and plan fun activities and events on campus. We want your suggestions and ideas, and we want to hear what you have to say. SAB is open to all students on campus so stop by our meeting this Thursday at 4pm, 3rd floor student center. Can’t make it to the meeting? No problem, email us at sab@monmouth.edu or stop by our event in the dining hall this Thursday at 8:30pm. We invite everyone to attend this free event on Valentines Day.

Cupboard bare? Don’t call mom & dad—call us!

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- Cheerios or Raisin Bran Bowls 10 Bowls $12.50
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HAWKS SPECIAL
FREE FREE FREE BREAKFAST FOR THE SCHOOL WEEK!
Receive 5 cereal bowls with any E-Z Delivery Order.
One per customer. Exp. 2/29/08. Code: H2
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Spring 2008 Sexual Assault Counseling Services

Learn how sexual assault can impact you and gain the support and information necessary to heal from this intimate form of personal violence. Meet with a trained rape counselor on campus.

Every Tuesday
Counseling and Psychological Services
Rebecca Stafford Student Center, First Floor
10AM-1PM

For more information stop by or call:
Counseling and Psychological Services at 732-571-7517
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This service is FREE and CONFIDENTIAL For Monmouth University students.
No Appointment Necessary.

Co-Sponsored by:
Counseling and Psychological Services
180-Turning Lives Around
What are your plans for Valentines Day?

Compiled by: Jacqueleyne Bodmer

Nicole
Senior
“NOTHING!!”

Bob
Senior
“It’s a surprise!”

Sarah
Freshman
“Going to SAB event in the DH to win a Wii”

Megan
Freshman
“Going out with friends”

Grace
Senior
“Going out to dinner and then going to sleep.”

Jackie
Sophomore
“Working, it’s just another day.”

Sam
Sophomore
“Trying to win a Wii at the Dining Hall”

Kait
Freshman
“Going to dinner with my best friend”

Cori
Senior
“Hopefully someone surprises me with some roses and something romantic...hint hint.”

Roxann
Junior
“I hope I have a date!”
Hawks Go ‘Oh and Two’

Men drop two more NEC games to Sacred Heart and Mount St. Mary’s

ERIC WALSH
SPORTS EDITOR

The Monmouth men’s basketball team has played hard all season, making almost every game a close contest. However, the Hawks have found themselves on the losing end of 17 of the 22 total games they have played this season. This remained true for the team’s two games this past week, as Monmouth played hard, but lost both games by a close margin.

On Thursday, the Hawks came out flat at Sacred Heart, going down by double digits in the opening half of the game. The Blue and White put together a few successful offensive sets, but found themselves down 40-24 at the halftime intermission. The second half opened in an ugly fashion for Monmouth, as Sacred Heart scored the first two baskets. However, MU dropped in a 14-point run to make the score 44-36 with 1:46 remaining in the contest. Yaniv Simpson’s two three-pointers got the Hawks going, as they were able to chip into the Pirates’ lead. Simpson hit another three to make the score 46-41 with 3:29 remaining, the Hawks could not pull out a victory.

Simpson led Monmouth with 20 points against Sacred Heart, but the Hawks could not pull out a victory.

Late Season Slump

Women defeated by Mount St. Mary’s 78-72, outlasted by Sacred Heart 64-55

ANDREW SCHETTER
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

The Monmouth University Women’s basketball team fell to Mount St. Mary’s 78-72, Saturday afternoon at Boylan Gym. The loss came despite an outstanding effort on the glass, as the Hawks out rebounded the Mountaineers 49-26.

Mount St. Mary’s shot an outstanding 50 percent as a team and was led by guard Tiffany Green who scored 23 points on 8-11 shooting including 3 buckets from beyond the arc. The Hawks were led by Forward Jennifer Bender who recorded her 7th double-double of the season notching 21 points and 14 rebounds in the loss.

The game was close throughout the game until Sacred Heart exploded in the second half. They kicked the lead to 10 in 3 separate occasions but, each time Mount St. Mary’s was able to connect on their next offensive possession. The story of the game was the inside game. The Blue and White outrebounded the Mountaineers as they overcame Mount, outscoring them 30-14 in the paint. The Mountaineers had 15 starters with double digit scoring efforts. The defensive effort of Monmouth just failed to produce enough stops when it mattered. The Hawks also failed to win the points off turnovers battle in the contest as the Mountaineers capitalized with 18 points off of Hawks miscues.

The day did bring about some positive things for the Women’s basketball team as they were apart of National Girls and Women in Sports Day.

The University celebrated National Girls and Women in Sports Day with a “think pink” theme Saturday afternoon at Boylan Gym against Mount St. Mary’s. The “think pink” theme of the day was referring to the pink wrist bands worn by my many in attendance to promote awareness of the disease.

Monmouth University hosted a brunch before the game against Mount St. Mary’s which included current players, coaches, as well as grammar school athletes from the community. The brunch focused on issues like leadership and building up confidence in both your family and team. Over 800 schools including Monmouth participated in a raffle during the game, with all proceeds going towards breast cancer research.

After the game Monmouth improved to 7-37 overall and 5-8 in conference play while dropping Mount to 7-37 overall and a disheartening 4-7 conference play.

On Monday evening, the Hawks traveled to Fairfield to take on the Sacred Heart Colonials, who came into the contest second in the NEC at 15-8 overall, and 10-2 in the conference. Although the Blue and White battled hard, the game never fell into place for the visiting team, as they were defeated 64-55.

The game was tied with just over nine minutes to play when Sacred Heart when on a run scoring 10 unanswered points, making the score 57-47 with 4:45 left in the game. The Hawks never really threatened after that point, eventually losing by nine, 64-55. The Blue and White were led by two players who each had 10 points. Bender, Veronica Ran-del, and LaKia Barber each scored in double figures in the losing effort, with Bender adding eight rebounds.

Although the Hawks dropped three conference games last week they still have a chance at a bid in the NEC tournament where anything can happen. They also gave back to the Monmouth community for a much greater cause. Their next tip off is scheduled for Saturday, February 16, at 4 p.m., when they take on Wagner in Staten Island, N.Y.
The 2007 college football season was one less than usual, although, it ended much the same way it did in 2006, with my Ohio State Buckeyes getting steamrolled at the National Championship game by yet another SEC school, while I sat and watched the spectacle. I actually once again, died a little inside. I’m not sure if it was worth it. If you’re a playoff system in Division-I, the last college football (er, excuse me now Football Bowl Subdivision) only got louder this year, with multiple teams getting hot at the same time, finding short-changed by the so-called BC Mess system. The most vocal opposition to the BCS and in favor of a playoff system, a group of geologists, and Oregon, are the only teams that this year’s Big 12 deserved to play in New Orleans, and there were some who felt that this was a fact. The Big 12 also looked good in the right bowl on the wrong day. So, with all this unrest in College Football the division, an article entitled, “Why College Football Doesn’t Need a Playoff” came to my attention. While there may be some heads and garner support for the idea, the idea has already read all the way to this point, haven’t you? I understand a shift may sound like a paradox, but it is true: the reason college football needs the bowl system is because it already has one.

I’ll give you a minute to digest that. Fact is, every week is like a playoff in college football and there is no sport in America in which the regular season means so much. It’s not just about what your team is doing, but what other teams are doing as well.

Here is the best example I give for that: I’m a fairly rational person. Let’s say you’re an fan of an NFL team that is on the brink of making the playoffs. It’s the last two or three weeks of the season, and your team, in order to get in, needs help from other teams. Some need to win, some need to lose. Well, it’s like that every week in college football’s battle for the National Championship.

As a point of fact, both LSU and Ohio State needed help to get to the National Championship Game. After their loss to Illinois, the Buckeyes fell from number one all the way to number seven. Here is how the BCS standings looked like November 11th:

1. LSU
2. Oregon
3. Kansas
4. Oklahoma
5. West Virginia
6. Ohio State
7. Virginia Tech

Two weeks later, after Kansas State fell to Missouri, Oregon lost two in a row, and their starting quarterback, and LSU’s, and the team was the Arkansas Darren McFadden (19), who finished in the first place.

This week’s monmouth captured three of their four losses in the 2008 Northeast Conference Indoor Championships. The 4X400 relay team consist-

Tiffany McKenna, Mary Wilks, Tiffany McKenna, Doherty and freshman Ben Hut- tman. The 4X400 relay team, clearing the same height, also earned a sixth place

Michele Losey won the 400m race with a time of 56' 4". Senior Michelle Losey came away with a personal best and stands more than a half-meter better than the conference’s second-ranked performer.

Keller didn’t disappoint as the favorite in the shot put, winning the event with a throw of 60' 4", while helping the Hawks take second at the NEC Indoor Championships.

This week, sophomore track and field athlete, and former state champion, Michele Losey has been named the Monmouth University/WindMill “Top Dog of the Week” after helping the Hawks’ women’s team to the 2008 Northeast Conference Indoor Championships this past weekend.

Losey won the 400m race in a time of 56.81, then helped the 4X400 relay team claim first. Losey, along with Illiana Blackshear, Brittany Gibbs and Cristin Stein, finished the relay in 3:53.94 to claim first place.

This was the women’s team’s third NEC Indoor crown, and first since 2003-04.

Women Take First, Men Second at NEC Indoor Championships

A total team effort sparked the Monmouth University’s women’s track and field team to a win at the 2008 Northeast Conference Indoor Championships. The 4X400 relay team claim first place.

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Michele Losey and the Monmouth University women's Track and Field Team sprint their way to the NEC Indoor Championship.

Full Story on Page 19