

Computer Repair and Share Club Provides Needed Service on Campus



The new logo (pictured above) for the MCC Computer Repair and Share is an eye catcher by student Eljse Smart.

experienced, free of charge. The club is made up of around 30 students that possess knowledge in the field of computers and computer repair. These students will work to solve any problems, while at the same time learning important repair skills and enjoying their time.

“It’s a really laid back and fun environment,” said Brian Currie, the club secretary. “We’re usually successful [in making repairs], and it’s a great tool for us to learn more about computers.”

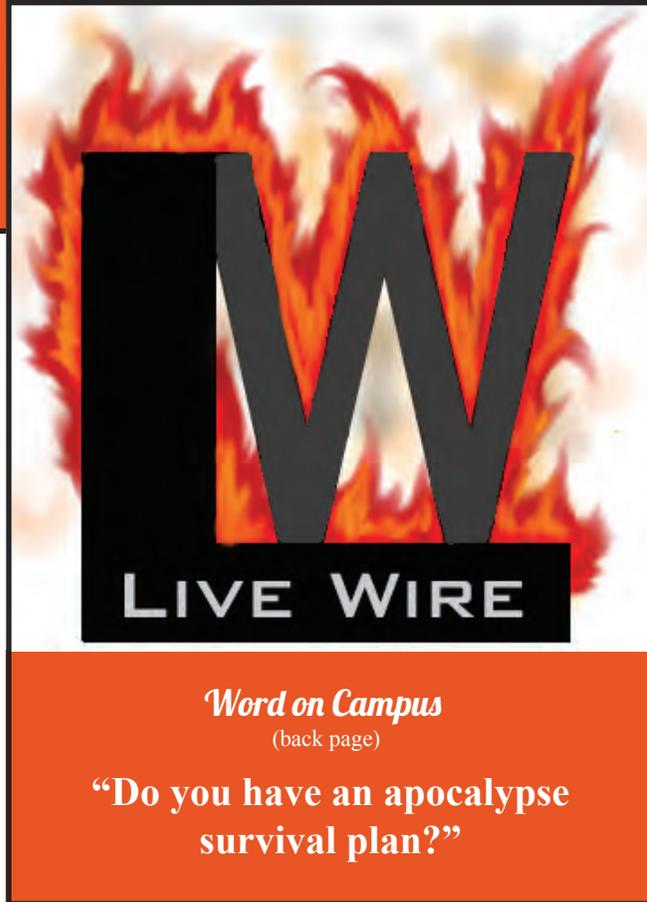
Russell Sabadosa teaches computer engineering at MCC and acts as the club’s faculty advisor.

“I like that the students are getting real life experience with computers,” he said.

So far, more than 20 people have come to the club this semester for help with their computers. Club members also work with members of the community, if they bring their broken computers to campus. If the club is unable to repair a computer because new parts are needed, it will give the owner advice about where to purchase the parts. Once the parts are acquired, the club will use them to complete repairs. Additionally, the Computer Repair and Share Club is planning a fundraiser in the spring, during which thumb drives containing a computer repair toolkit will be available to students.

Manchester Community College’s Computer Repair and Share Club specializes in repairing all types of computers, regardless of the issue their owner has

Though there is a focus on technology, joining the Computer Repair and Share Club isn’t only for



Word on Campus
(back page)

“Do you have an apocalypse survival plan?”

students with knowledge of computers.

“I would encourage all students to join,” said Sabadosa. “They can support the technical aspect, or they can help get the word out.”

In addition to repair services, the Computer Repair and Share Club also sponsors raffles for students to win free laptop and desktop computers. The computers given out in these raffles are acquired by the club through contributions of old or damaged computers from MCC students, faculty and staff or from other forms of recycling. Once computers are acquired, the club works to repair and refurbish them to make them ready for use once again.

Computer raffles usually take place at least a few times each semester. The number of winners during each raffle depends on the number of computers the club has repaired. Winners are informed via email or a phone call. Currently, the club is approaching a milestone: 300 computers given out to students. To sign up to participate in an upcoming raffle, visit www.mcc.commnet.edu/freecomputer.

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Better Water Options are on Campus if You Know Where to Look

By Patience Collier
Live Wire Staff Writer

Anyone who’s tried the water fountains on Manchester Community College’s campus knows how the water here tastes: awful.

The reason for this is a combination of factors, all mainly depending on the publically available water in Manchester, both at the source and in the delivery. The water in Manchester is taken through a number of treatment plants to remove serious contaminants from the water, but between erosion of plumbing and chemical treatments, some particles do get through to the final product, including sulfate, copper, lead, and chloride, according to officials with the Manchester Water Department.

Some of these are from soil runoff, whether natural by-products of a water source’s surroundings such as natural carbons from the ecosystem, or man-made insecticides such as dieldrin, which has been linked to major health problems. Much of the metallic taste of the water from the fountains has to do with particles coming off of plumbing and entering the water supply at the consumer end of the process, and the chemicals fluoride and chlorine are added at the treatment plan, as a way to eliminate harmful bacteria.

The water in Manchester is in most cases well below the EPA safety standards for contaminants, and therefore considered safe to drink for the general public - although it is noted by the Manchester Water Department that those with compromised immune systems can be more vulnerable to contaminants in their water than the general public.

Often, people trying to avoid drinking tap water, whether to get around the contaminants for health reasons or for the sake of taste, go for the option of bottled water. The community at MCC is no different. The Cougar Cafe, the Tower Cafe, and various vending machines around the school carry various brands of bottled water.

However, the fact of the matter is that many brands of bot-



Image courtesy of: Drozfans.com

tled water are almost the same thing - Dasani, for example, is merely a bottle of tap water. It is purified, some minerals are added, and then it is sold in a new bottle. In some ways, although perhaps preferable in taste or health, bottled water is a worse option for the environment than tap water, given how frequently plastic bottles are added to landfills, rather than recycled.

In 2007, MCC became a signatory of the American College and University Presidents Climate Commitment,

which was formed to address global climate change. As a part of this effort, a group called Team Green was formed. The group was devoted to sustainability on-campus, and began to take steps towards reducing the school’s carbon footprint, including trying to change the negative impact of the ways we consume water.

Some of the Team Green’s initiatives, such as replacing the paper towels in MCC bathrooms with air dryers, were controversial, said Patrick Sullivan, a professor of English who remains on Team Green, and the school eventually reinstated the paper towels.

Team Green also pushed for an alternative to bottled water, he said. The new technology was filtered water stations throughout the campus, where users could refill cups or reusable water bottles with clean water, rather than take their chances with the water fountains, or buy more and more plastic bottles that would eventually wind up in landfills.

Two were installed on campus, one in the seating area of the Cougar Café and one in the library.

“We should have one every couple of floors, one every place that students are around. That’s a no-brainer as far as I’m concerned,” said Sullivan.

Unfortunately, the stations are expensive to install, and take more maintenance than a regular water fountain. They have to be removed so that the filters can be changed. The one in the cafeteria was out of order for several weeks. But it is up and running again as of Dec. 1.

But there are currently no plans to add any more, according to officials with the MCC Facilities department.

But those who are tired of searching for a water fountain that’s palatable in taste and low in pollutants have an excellent alternative in the two filtered water stations on campus. All you have to do is seek them out and bring a reusable bottle.

New Print, Copy & Scan System at Manchester Community College

A new student printing system has been instituted at Manchester Community College this fall semester. Students that wish to print, copy, as well as scan a document must set up an account at the CCP Kiosks located in the Library and in the Academic Support Center Tutor Lab. Setting up an account for the first time is easy; an account and pin # must be created by the student. We suggest using a Banner ID for the account and a chosen password will be the pin #. We also suggest keeping your pin # simple and easy to remember! If students forget or would like to change their account information they can manage their account from the Kiosk stations. Costs for printing are: 8 cents for black & white copies, 25 cents for color copies, and 2 cents per page, for scanning to a USB. Three Lexmark Printers/Copiers are located in the Library, one in the Computer Lab in the LRC Room B205-B207, and one printer is located in the Academic Support Center Tutor Lab. Students with money left on their old printing cards can be reimbursed when they create a new account (monies will be transferred to their new account). Students should stop by the reference desk in the library and ask a librarian for assistance. For more information please contact Paula Cook in the library at 860-512-2877.

National Depression Screening Day Successful

In partnership with Community Health Resources (CHR), East of the River Action for Substance Abuse Elimination (ERASE), and the North Central and Southwest Regional Mental Health Boards, MCC was excited to offer free mental health screenings for students, staff and community members as part of the Garrett Lee Smith Suicide Prevention Grant on Oct. 11. Forty-three participants completed a screening and more than 100 students, staff and community members sought informational materials.

Debaters and Winners

The Manchester Political Union held its fall debate last month. The question dealt with the Presidential Election. The winners of the MPU Debate are:

1st Prize—Joseph Maggiore

2nd Prize – Nathaniel Cheatham

3rd Prize—Keith Durao

Look for information on the spring debate next semester.

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The Live Wire

Live Wire Editor: Nathan Cheatham

Assistant Editor: Nathan Mair

Staff Writer: Zach Hand

Treasurer: Jelani Burrell

Faculty Advisor:

Stephanie Davis sdavis@mcc.commnet.edu

**Meetings are weekly in the
Live Wire Office, Lowe 154J**

livewire@mcc.commnet.edu

Main Number
860-512-3290

Asst. Editor
860-512-3289

Student Email Has Arrived

As you may have heard, all Connecticut Community College students were assigned an email address as of October 1, 2012. Starting January 1, 2013, this will be the only email address used to communicate with students. Students can access their new email address by logging into myCommnet and clicking on the "Student" tab. Student can login to their email account using their NetID (ex. 12345678@student.commnet.edu). If you have trouble logging in call the MCC Help Desk at 860-512-3456. As of January 1, 2013 all electronic

Criminal Justice Club Conducts Annual Toy Drive

For the 16th year in a row, the Criminal Justice Club is collecting toys on campus to donate to Community Partners in Action. Toys will be donated to needy children who have one or more parents presently incarcerated within the prison system. Any toy donated, worth around \$12, should be wrapped and a small tag should be attached to the outside of the present to describe the contents. Children, ages 1-12, will be given the presents when they are greeted by Santa on Dec. 15. Presents may be left around the school in designated boxes or dropped off at the office of Donna Nicholson, LRC A-244. For more information, contact Nicholson at dnicholson@mcc.commnet.edu or call her at 860-512-2756.

Trip to Historic Inauguration Planned

The Student Government Association is running a bus trip to Washington, D.C., Jan. 20 to attend the Second Inauguration of President Barack Obama. The cost is \$25 for students and \$30 for guests. There is a limit of one guest per student. The bus will depart MCC on Sunday, Jan. 20 and return to campus late Monday night. Tickets MUST be purchased by Tuesday, Dec. 11, to participate. Tickets can be purchased from the Office of Student Activities, Lowe 154c. Release forms are also required. For more information contact T.J. Barber, OSA director, at 860-512-3283 or via email at tbarber@mcc.commnet.edu.

image courtesy of ccsc.org



Want an opinion?

We love the Lady Cougars!!

See the Women's Basketball Schedule on Page 19

Continued from **Share** pg. 1

The Computer Repair and Share Club also plans to provide another service to MCC. At some point in the future, it hopes to be able to help clubs on campus become more connected with one another, by creating a separate website for each MCC club, and also by linking each club's Facebook page together. Under the leadership of Vice President Brian McPherson, the club is currently still working on this project.

"Right now, it's a work in progress," said Sabadosa. "Brian McPherson has been instrumental for us in managing the project."

For those wishing to make use of their services, the Computer Repair and Share Club is located in the AST building in room C139. Office hours are Mondays and Wednesdays 9 a.m.-12 p.m., 4-5 p.m., and 7-9 p.m., and Tuesdays and Thursdays 9-11 a.m., 3-5 p.m., and 7-9 p.m. To learn more about the club, visit its Facebook page at www.facebook.com/MCCRepairandshare.

2012 and the End of Time: Misunderstanding the Maya Calendar

By Valeria Zenteno
Special to the Live Wire

Rumors about the Maya prediction regarding the end of the world happening on Dec. 21, 2012, have been circulating everywhere. Online there is endless information about it. But not everything people find online is always true, points out Dr. Ed Barnhart, an archeologist specializing in the Maya culture, calendar and archaeo-astronomy. He came to Manchester Community College Nov. 5 to clarify what the Maya calendar really says.

The lecture was sponsored by the MCC Department of Psychology and Anthropology Diversity Committee, the Student Government Association, and the Cultural Programs Committee.

Barnhart has been a Mayan archeologist for 20 years and has contributed to numerous programs on the Maya by the History and Discovery channels. His appearance at MCC drew dozens of curious people.

"I have to admit that seeing the flyer for this lecture alone made me very nervous...All I could think about were the sleepless nights awaiting me," said Kathleen Brouiliard, who attended the lecture as part of Professor Jean Wynn's Anthropology class.

Many said they were skeptical the prediction would come true.

"Although at some point in history the end of civilization may occur, it isn't likely to occur on a date so specific," said MCC student Caitlin Nelson.

The apocalypse has always been a general human fascination even in early days. The first text about it found was an Assyrian clay tablet which predicted the end in 2800 BC. Western culture's idea of apocalypse has been influenced by the Internet, which has exaggerated the real meaning of the Maya prediction, and Hollywood by making movies such as "2012" and "Terminator," Barnhart said.

Barnhart explained the different ways the world will come to an end, according to the Western culture. They include massive solar flares, the magnetic poles flipping, and planetary alignments. He took on each one.

While, according to information from NASA, there will be solar flare activity, it won't affect human beings. Since the sun is located 100,000,000 miles away from earth, the earth's magnetic field will protect it from such radiance.

"There is not fireball coming to incinerate us," said Barnhart. "The only thing it could affect is our satellites, and that is why NASA is worried."

The idea of the world ending because of the magnetic poles flipping was exaggerated in the 1995 movie "Waterworld," Barnhart said. Yes, the earth flipped 750,000 years ago and Paleomagnetic studies have proven that the poles have flipped many times in earth's lifetime without any detectable catastrophic consequence.

To explain the planetary alignment idea he showed a picture of how the planets look today and how they will look on Dec. 21, 2012 showing no change whatsoever.

Of thousands of Maya texts found and translated by experts, none of them say anything about future calamities, enlightenments or alignments, said Barnhart.

So, are there Maya prophecies?

Barnhart explained that there are but they are cyclical, not linear. The Mayan prophecies do not talk about the end of the world but about changes, the end of a cycle. Since the Mayan calendar is the most elaborate, there is a weak understanding on how it really works within Western civilization. December 21, 2012, is a real date that appears in the Mayan calendar, but the Mayans did not give it real importance or say that the world is going to end on that day.

The assumption of the world ending is because on December 21, 2012, the Grand Odometer of Maya timekeeping known as the Long Count, an accumulation of various smaller time cycles, will revert to zero and a new cycle of 1,872,000 days (5,125.37 years) will begin. Western culture has categorized this change as "the end of the world."

So why does the Long Count end on that day? Maybe it was a way that Mayans had to identify the changes before bad or get worse, said Barnhart.

it is the change, We need to lifestyle changes



"Now time to not the end. change our before it us," he said.

To learn more visit www.mayan-calendar.com or www.mayaexploration.org. To learn more about what actually happened in the Mayan world, like page [maya2012thenewbeginning](#) on Facebook.



Image courtesy of: ManchesterDems.com

ASK JASON

Hi MCC students. My name is Jason Scappaticci; many of you may have already met me in my "other" role as the Interim Coordinator of Transitional Programs. For those of you who have never met me, you will in this role as your advice columnist. This will not be a traditional advice column. My office helps students learn the skills they need to be successful, which is one of the reasons I wanted to write this column. This new advice column has been specifically created to give you answers to your questions. If you have questions about MCC policies, offices and traditions, or academic problems, I'll get you answers.

Dear Jason,

Finals are coming up. HELP!!

-Student

Dear Student,

Thank you for that vague and short letter. You didn't specifically say what it is about finals that you need help with, but my guess is that you are worried about how best to study for finals. Rest assured that this is something many students struggle with. When I was a student I struggled with it as well, but I found some things that really worked so let me share those with you.

First off, you should start studying now. It may seem like finals are far away, but they will creep up fast. Begin review now so that you can focus on learning small chunks of information, as opposed to cramming on a bunch of information the day before the final. Now here are some tools to help you memorize and learn information.

One simple thing to do is create flashcards. There are many perks to creating flashcards, they are:

- Portable
- Inexpensive
- Easy to make
- Easy to organize
- Easy to study from

There are so many great things about flashcards, but the best is that THEY WORK! Making them is simple. Get a package of 3x5 lined notecards. A package of 100 should cost around \$1.

Now take major concepts, dates, important people, or whatever you need to know and put it on the unlined side of the card, this is the "Cue Side". On the lined side write what you need to know about that major concept, date or important person, this is the "Explanation Side." When you have completed your note cards, begin quizzing yourself by reading the "Cue Side" and see if you can get all the points you need to know about it. You can also quiz yourself the other way: read the "Explanation Side" and see if you know what the cue is.

As you get more advanced with the note cards you can begin using colors by buying colored cards or marking them with colored pens and then organizing them that way. For example, you might use red cards for all the concepts from Chapter 4 and blue cards for Chapter 5. Then you easily identify which chapter the card is about and you can focus on the chapter you need to study more. Also keep in mind that these cards can be kept on you and pulled out whenever you are:

Waiting for the bus

On the bus

During commercial breaks when watching TV

Before class

After class

You will be able to find lots of time to sneak in some quizzing using your flashcards. Try it out and tell me how it goes.

Another great study tool is the study guide. Many professors provide a study guide to help students prepare for exams. If the professor doesn't provide a study guide then check to see if the book you use provides one either in the book or online.

If you have a study guide, don't just read down the list of questions and answer in your mind, actually write out the answers to all the questions on the study guide. You can do this on a piece of paper or you can answer the questions on notecards to make flashcards for studying. For example, if one of the questions you need to answer is, "Explain three causes of World War I," then you would write that on the "Cue Side" of the card and put the explanation on the opposite side. So you have answered the question in the study guide and made a flashcard to study from in the future.

If the professor does not create a study guide and the book doesn't have one either, then you can make one yourself. Assemble the questions from quizzes on the chapters and look at your notes to see what the major points of the lectures have been. Chances are these questions and themes will be on the final. Also be sure to go through your textbook. What are the chapter sub-headings? Those are major themes you should know. Does the book have questions at the end of the chapter? If so, those should make it onto your study guide. Once you have assembled the questions and major themes, begin finding the answers just as you would for any other study guide.

Finally there is the option of study groups. If done properly, studying with your classmates in a group can be an effective way to learn information. The most important thing to consider if you want to get a study group together is who you invite. You want to choose the students who have been in class, are engaged and are going to want to study. The student who sits in the back with their head on their desk the whole time is probably not going to be helpful in a study group.

Also, set goals for the group. For example, maybe everybody will arrive with answers to questions on the study guide and you will share answers with each other to see that everybody answered the question correctly. Another great group study idea is to create flashcards and use them with the group.

So, best of luck on finals and remember to use study aids to help you quiz yourself. If you use some of the ones I described, email me to tell me how it goes or tell me what some of your favorite study aids are.

Jason Scappaticci is coordinator of Transitional Programs at Manchester Community College. If you have a questions about MCC policies, officers and traditions or academic problems, Jason will get you answers. Email him your questions at jscappaticci@mcc.commnet.edu.

MACC Helps Those Facing Winter Outdoors

By Scott Taffaro
Special to the Live Wire

“You know what it takes to live in the woods?”

Dan Nadeau’s cold blue eyes probed for an answer.

“All day,” he said, answering his own question.

Without a home, he said, it takes all day to accomplish a fraction of the tasks that people need to perform to meet basic needs such as food, clean clothes, shelter, personal hygiene and the list goes on. To have protection from the elements, you might find yourself searching for tarp, and sticks to support it. For food, cooking over a fire might be one’s only choice if they find themselves suddenly unemployed and unable to find work. Homelessness is not a rampant issue in Manchester, but it still is a matter worthy of addressing.

Manchester and its surrounding towns have been blessed with the Manchester Area Conference of Churches, or MACC. This non-profit organization’s sole purpose is to give aid to people who are in economic turmoil and are struggling to make ends meet.

Jackie Campion, the Assistant Community Engagement Coordinator, defined the mission of MACC as To provide food, shelter, clothing, and advocacy for people’s unmet basic needs.

MACC owns a cluster of buildings at 466 Main Street. It is here that the organization operates a shelter, kitchen, and food pantry. One day this past September, at least 150 people were served at the kitchen, which is open from 11 a.m. to noon Monday through Saturday. The cafeteria is designed to seat a meager 45 people; some patrons enjoyed meals outdoors as a result of the tight situation. Donations are a great way that anybody can help MACC and it’s mission to aid those in crisis.

And that number is growing each day. Laurel Martocci has been living outdoors in Manchester for the past 6 years. Her parents are deceased and she finds herself without a place to live. There were others also living outside who formed a loose community, she said. But the recent storms have decimated that group of people.

Their needs are not extravagant, she said.

“All we ask for are sleeping bags, blankets, fire extinguishers, canned food, first aid kits, and tarps, she said.

While the MACC Shelter is available there is only enough space to accommodate a limited number of people. If you’re feeling particularly generous, MACC would greatly appreciate any time or donations you are willing to commit to helping impoverished people.

For more information about MACC or to make a donation visit

www.macc-ct.org.

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Empty Bowls Helps Fill the Areas Empty Stomachs

By Feven Micael
Special to the Live Wire

Hundreds of dollars were raised to provide food to the needy during the 15th Annual FoodShare Empty Bowls Project Saturday, Oct. 27. Dozens of people came to Manchester Community College from 11 a.m. – 3 p.m. to buy bowls made by local artisans and fill them with soup from area restaurants, all for one low price.



Image courtesy of Greenleafpottery.com

Linda Snyder of Manchester said she had been attending the event for the past five years and always brings a friend.

“I look forward to it every year,” she said.

The event was started by several people, including Sandra Jenkins, an MCC instructor in the Culinary Arts program, who said she became involved to raise money for a good cause.

Along with Jenkins, many local businesses and volunteers help to make it all possible. This year about 30 restaurants in the greater Hartford area donated soup and nine potters, including students in MCC’s pottery classes, donated bowls and Great Harvest Bread in Manchester donated bread.

Volunteers for the event do everything from serving on the sales tables selling bowls and tickets to serving the soups and cleaning up afterwards.

The \$15 purchase a ceramic bowl and unlimited soup. The money raised is donated to FoodShare, which is an organization that serves 128,000 hungry neighbors living in greater Hartford, including 50,000 children and 10,000 seniors.

Lynette Kreiger of West Hartford attended Empty Bowls for the first time. Kreiger, who is involved with other FoodShare events, said she heard about the project through her church.

Gloria Moeller, who works in MCC’s Continuing Education department, said more people need to know about great events like Empty Bowls.

“It’s important to make our students and the public aware of the community service aspects that take place here on campus which benefit our collective communities,” she said.

To learn more about FoodShare call 860-286-9999 or visit www.foodshare.org.

Comics Shop Reopens in Tribute to Hero’s Legacy

By Patience Collier
Live Wire Staff Writer

A Hero’s Legacy is a tiny storefront just off of Broad Street on West Middle Turnpike, easy to miss if you don’t keep an eye out - but anyone who steps in the door can tell you it’s bigger on the inside.

Up until this past August, the store was called Buried Under, and was well known in the comics industry as one of the oldest comic retailers in the country. They carry trade paperbacks, bound collections, and up to date issues from Marvel, DC, Dark Horse, and work from some minor publishers, as well as collectibles from various comic book series.

The first owner of the store, Chuck Bruder, opened it in 1984, and ran it for a little less than 20 years. When he decided to retire, Brian Kozicki, who was a well-known employee there, took over ownership in order to keep the place open, since it was such an important place for the community of comics fans in the area. The store ran under his ownership as Buried Under Comics until earlier this year, when Kozicki unexpectedly passed away.

The whole community of fans in this area, and anyone who had known him through the industry, were shocked and deeply saddened.

The employees of Buried Under had the same value for community, and creating a place for fans, that Kozicki had been so well known for, and they decided to reopen the store, under the ownership of April Kenney, with the crew remaining the same.

The store was renamed A Hero’s Legacy, in reference to the legacy left by Kozicki, and reopened as soon as possible. Today, A Hero’s Legacy maintains the same friendly atmosphere, and remains welcoming to fans and readers of all ages and types. They’ve been around for a long time, and they hope to stick around for a lot longer.

The store is open Sunday through Tuesday, and Saturdays from 11 a.m. to 6 p.m., and Wednesday through Friday from 11 a.m. to 7 p.m. For more information about the shop visit [Facebook.com/AHerosLegacyComicsCollectibles](https://www.facebook.com/AHerosLegacyComicsCollectibles).

Meet a Professor: Ed Hogan, Graphic Arts

By Brandon Fern
Live Wire Staff Writer

A longtime teacher of Graphic Design at Manchester Community College, Ed Hogan has recently started to teach video game design. He also designs the logo for the Evening of Fine Wines each year, used on invitations, t-shirts and other materials for the college's major scholarship fundraising event, held every April. But he is also known on campus for having one of the most interesting office decors, with shelves filled with collectible action figures and walls plastered with posters from his favorite superhero TV shows, comic books and video game characters. Here is what Hogan had to say about his life and interests during a recent interview.

What was it like growing up?

Well I grew up in New York City, and so it was pretty exciting. I know a lot of people can't say that if they're used to growing up in the country or the suburbs, but they can't imagine. They think growing up in the city, it's dirty, it's noisy, it's horrible. Just like when I was a kid I'd go "how can people live on a farm?" It's kind of dirty and boring and there's no distractions, there's no subway. So I always think "well thank goodness we have people who have varying interests," we have people who want to be farmers and people who want to be engineers, and some other people want to be firemen and other people want to be doctors, so good. So growing up was fun.

What was your family like?

I had a fairly big family, I have 3 brothers and a sister, I'm the middle kid, but I've learned to kind of get around. I grew up in the Bronx, near Yankee stadium, so my Dad or Mom would take us into the city and we'd do things. One of the things my Dad did do, and I always go back to this story, is took us to museums cause, when we were kids museums were free, and my Dad did not have, in any way, a high paying job, so we were definitely a middle class family, and so what do you do with 4 or 5 kids? You go to places that are free, and so we went to the park a lot, we'd go to a foreign university, it was in the Bronx, and we'd run around the football field, we'd go to playgrounds. But we'd go into Manhattan and we'd go to the Museum of Natural History, the Metropolitan Museum of Art. So for the price of a subway ride – which at that time was 15 cents - he could take the whole brood. And it was not in any way because of his interest in making sure we were exposed to culture. It was free, so it was like "go look at the paintings, I'm going to have a cigarette."

When did you first get into superheroes and stuff like that?

Oh really early, really early, I have very particular visual memories of being 6 or 7 years old and making hero figurines out of Play Dough. I have a very distinct memory of making a really good looking Aqua Man, out of Play Dough, and I used to trace comics, and liked comics a lot. The apartment where we lived in the Bronx, with no elevator and no ventilation, on the first floor was a candy store and I knew when the truck came, with the comics, every Tuesday, every Thursday, I was right there when the truck showed up, and I'm sure the owner of the candy store hated me, because everything would be bound up and wired, and I wanted the new ones right away. "Pop 'em open would ya, what are you waiting for? I'd say."

So very early on, I'm not sure what it was that attracted me to them exactly, I'd probably have to spend some years on the couch to figure that one out. Maybe it was the color, maybe it was the fantasy of it, but I did like them, a lot, and I always think it encouraged me to read a lot, because when I got into grade school and through high school, I started to develop good reading habits, and now that's one of my favorite things to do, to read, anything, comic books, graphic novels, science books.

What is your favorite part of teaching video game and graphic design?

The favorite class that I have to teach is my 3D modeling class. I got into it about 10 years ago, and I really like it. It is also the class I enjoy teaching the most because it's amazing to me what other people decide to model. I like to do toys because they have a lot of color in them. I've done electric guitars, also because of color, form and shape, but watching what other people choose to do, like some people want to do a space ship, some want to do furniture. So that part I really do like about it.

I also think that I was doing this stuff before computers came along, so I'm kind of that transitional swing generation that went from traditional tools and media into digi-



Ed Hogan, outside of his office. Photo by Eden Cornwell

tal and more technology-based media. So I really have a deep appreciation for the fact that I can sit down at a computer for a couple hours and create an animation. To do that traditionally could take weeks, but I can do that in a couple of hours, and change it, like the next day. So I have a real appreciation for the ease and power that it puts in our hands.

What percentage of your students would be classified as the nerd subculture?

In the best definition of that, because in that definition I count myself, I'm going to say 25 to 30 percent. I remember one time we were doing a game class, and I installed games on all the machines in the room and one of the things we were going to do for the whole class - the whole 3 hours - is we were going to play games. I had just done a lecture the class before on what's a good game, what's a good design, and what makes good characters. And I wanted people to go around and play as many games as they could.

And, at one point everyone's playing, and somebody did something and all of a sudden it was a "woob woob woob woob woob" kind of sound effect, and everybody in the room cracked up, and I went "what just happened?" and everybody in the room knew what that person had done, everybody in the room knew what game that guy was playing, and knew how he had screwed up, and I thought that was really funny, in terms of a generational thing cause I'm not really myself that much of a gamer, I find it interesting, but I'm not. So when I think for my generation, it was music that bound you and your friends, and the generation together. What bands you liked and didn't like, what style of music you liked and didn't like, for example rockers hated disco people. And now I find that kind of unifying element is gaming, because someone your age has been exposed to gaming since you were a little kid.

Out of all the action figures and collectables here, which would you take with you if the building were on fire and you could only take three?

Oh that's a tough one. I would save this Flash statue, because that was the first one I ever bought. I have a very small Superman one that's at home but if it were here, I'd save it, I might save my Batmobile. It lights up when you hit the button on it. What would the third thing be? My "Bioshock" Big Daddy, that's more recent. If we're talking sentimental items, my Woody doll that a student gave me. So that's three.

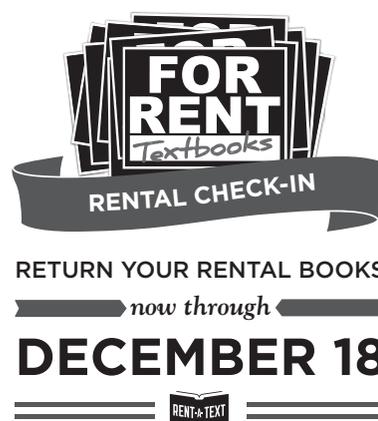
What is it like teaching students who have the same interests as you?

Part of why I have all this stuff in here is that I think when students come in it relaxes them, you know that it's not a severe, "grown-up" experience, but it's a little freeform, a little funkier, and it's a little "oh hey, this is someone who understands me." I mean, if I didn't have this stuff here, I'd have it at home, and that drives my wife crazy.

A student just dropped by the office yesterday, he came in, wanted to talk to me, and we started talking about things and I realized as we were talking, we were talking about 3D modeling and it's place in gaming and stuff like that, and he was asking questions and I could see that he was kind of getting interested and excited, and I realized, so was I. I was being very enthusiastic about what I was saying, and that was not a put on, that was the way it just came out of me and it reminded me of when I hire new teachers, if they ask me if there's any advice I always say the same two things: show students that you know your stuff and show them you are enthusiastic for what you do, because those two things go a long way.

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Not Happy with the Food on Campus? Get Involved to Make Changes



By Nathan Cheatham
Live Wire Editor

The holidays often have an expanding effect on our waistlines. The Thanksgiving meal accounts for a single meal of an average of 2,500 calories, with the leftovers possibly adding up to tens of thousands of calories. And with end of semester exams this week, most people have tempered exercise for more study time, to keep pace with finishing all of their courses successfully.

Even though this is also the time many people go on diets, to make up for the excess food they eat during the holiday feasts, for some people this dieting comes once a year. But for many people on campus, alternative eating habits are a personal lifestyle choice. With the high obesity rate in the U.S., many people, especially younger generations, are clinging to new trends in food habits. There are many different trends, from vegetarian to vegan, wheat/gluten free, to even eating minimal sugar, and many more.

Until the beginning of the holidays, I had been practicing pescaterianism. Pescaterianism, also called flexaterianism, is the practice of eating a vegetarian diet, with fish and dairy products. I had started this diet at the end of the last spring semester and concluded it suddenly because of a lack of protein that was causing extreme fatigue and lack of motivation. After speaking with a dietician, I found that my lack of protein was coming from my day-to-day meal decisions and not from my lack of access to protein rich foods (I have protein shake mix in my cabinet), and the majority of these decisions were happening on campus at Manchester Community College where I spend nearly 40 hours each week.

When looking into what was influencing my eating habits on campus, I found many instances where the Cougar Cafe and the AST Tower Cafe were falling short of providing for my personal needs.

Since my first round of classes do not get out until just after 3 p.m., when the Cougar Cafe closes, I often find my late lunch at the Tower Cafe. During the period of time that I had been practicing my diet avidly, I often found little diversity for my meals in the tower because the only product that is filling enough to energize me till the end of the day is the garden salad.

Sure, I could have had any of the other salads, but they all had meat on them. I could have also had pasta salad or yogurt, but they were too small to satisfy my hunger till I got home. On the days I was able to make it to the Cougar Café before it closed, I found a greater diversity for my personal diet. I could have a tuna sandwich from the deli, and a wider range of salads from the salad bar. But I seldom made it there before 3 p.m.

These shortcomings have been an issue not just for me, but also for many students on campus. I have often heard from students directly or overheard people complaining that the Cougar Cafe closes too early, or there isn't enough healthy food being provided on campus. Many students feel like they have little voice in what is being provided for them, and get very frustrated at feeling pressured to eat off campus. As one of these students, I chose to make my voice heard and find answers as to the why the Cafes on campus had these short falls.

Very quickly my questions turned into meetings with Mike Lenski, who is the manager of Lessings, the company that runs Cougar Cafe and the Tower Cafe, and Cynthia Washburne, director of Student Life, who have the most immediate impact on the day-to-day operations.

Lenski has a wealth of knowledge about the MCC operations. Lessings provides services for more than 3,000 students, faculty and staff who frequent the cafes with a limited kitchen of a couple ovens, a six-burner range, and a three-basin sink. This very limited space was never meant to feed the amount of people it does, Lenski said.

He explained that the hours and prices of the Cougar Cafe were set when Lessings took over the contract from the previous provider, and that they were negotiated between the state, MCC, and Lessings. For Lessings to be willing to extend the hours there would need to be interest from those willing to buy after their normal hours.

"Adding hours also adds a second shift of employees," Lenski said, "so to make the profit to stay open will require even more sales."

As far as healthy food goes, Lenski explained that the Tower Cafe and Cougar Cafe are two different operations.

He said that the Tower Cafe focuses on prepackaged products that they can make in the back kitchen, while Cougar Cafe is able to provide a more diversified choice of fresh foods.

The salad bar is one of the busiest features of the Cougar Café. There are vegetarian entrees made, like veggie lasagna and eggplant parmesan, but those products sell half as much as regular meat entrees.

When it comes to the Tower Cafe, stringent records of everything made is kept so that there is little waste or leftovers for the next day. Lenski, being open to suggestions, listened to my suggestion of more prepackaged choices of non-meat salads. If students and other patrons use their money to voice their approval, more options may be available in the future.

Though financially students can have the most immediate effect on what is produced in the cafes on campus, they could also get involved with the college advisory committee that oversees the Cougar Cafe and the Tower Cafe.

Washburne heads the college side of the issues surrounding campus food. She formed the advisory committee, which is open to all students who wish to have their voices heard on this topic. The scope of the committee is extensive, and with proper participation could have a great impact on the menu and hours of both the Tower Cafe and Cougar Café.

Lenski and Washburne have worked hand in hand in the past, and Lenski is on the committee so that decisions are realistic and immediately actionable. Students wishing to voice their opinions and come up with resolutions to the problem can join this committee; they can form surveys and find out exactly how many students are interested in vegetarian dishes (or the possibility of vegan dishes).

Washburne said that being the director of Student Life limits her ability to focus on all issues that arise, and that student leaders can emerge and make a difference at this level.

Issues like expanding the hours of the Cougar Cafe can become a reality through research on how many students are on campus after three and how long it would be feasible to extend the hours. This opens up opportunities for all sorts of leadership, from surveyors to publicity and graphic design artists, expanding the resume or transfer ap-

plication with much needed community involvement.

To get involved, contact Washburne at cwashburne@mcc.commmnet.edu, Student Government Association President Jonathan Colon at ma-sga-pres@mcc.commmnet.edu, or the Live Wire Editor Nathan Cheatham (me) at livewire@mcc.commmnet.edu. We can direct you how to best get involved and develop leadership skills, and make an impact. Don't forget to say "Hi" to Mike Lenski in the Cougar Cafe; he always has an ear for students, he said.

The Black Middle Class? No Such Thing in America

By Nathan Mair
Live Wire Assistant Editor

In my family's basement, there are five plaques on the wall next to the television set. Those plaques belong to my father, one of the hardest working men I know. He has worked with the same company as an HVAC technician for more than 20 years and today he currently holds a supervisor position. He received his last award a little over a year ago for being a patriotic employer. He took part in helping a member of the U.S National Guard get a job with his company, TLD. The plaque reads "Office of the Secretary of Defense, Employer Support of The Guard And Reserve Recognizes Paul Mayor as a Patriotic Employer."

How nice of TLD to recognize my father for assisting in the hiring process of a guy who served this country. But come on. For a guy who has been dedicated, working six, sometimes seven days a week, for two decades, putting in overtime when necessary, and also balancing another part time job, ya'll could have at least spelled his last name right. It's "Mair" for the record, not "Mayor."

My "pops" should be the epitome of middle class America even after working day in and day out, ignoring fatigue and ailments, burning his flesh and damaging his fingernails just to support his family, but he isn't. My father is a black man and a black man in America cannot be a member of the middle class.

He cannot be a member of the middle class because, for one to be middle class, one has to have ownership and ties to the means of production and distribution and black men in America do not have that because that's how the system is setup.

According to various studies, a black man in America can have an annual salary of \$80,000 and a white man can have the same, and the two would look equal in terms of their economic condition but when you look under the surface they are not. The white man's salary is tied to investments and mass production and distribution while the black man's annual income stays in the bank.

The white man that makes \$80,000 has a greater chance of moving up on the socioeconomic ladder while the black man has no other choice but to be content with the illusion that he is apart of the middle class. If we were a white family, my father would have most likely moved our family out of the North End of Hartford a long time ago, to get us away from the negative influences that plague the city. While my father is worried about paying the mortgage, his car insurance, bills, and helping me get through college in the span of two- five years, the white man's salary has increased by \$5,000 and the next two years looks promising for him so he'll go out and buy a home.

According to the Pew Research Center, statistics on the black middle class show that from 2005 to 2009, the average black household's wealth fell by more than half, to \$5,677, while white household wealth fell only 16 percent to \$113,149. The report was published in the Chicago Tribune.

The origin of the middle class classification stems from an earlier concept that dates back to the Middle Ages (500-1500 AD). It is a concept that German philosophers Karl Marx and Friedrich Engels perpetuated through their world view of social class known as Marxism. And in Marxism, class struggle is highlighted, as there will always be conflict between the two main groups, the proletariat and the bourgeoisie.

The bourgeoisie is a term that describes the wealthy and prosperous, whereas the proletariat is the lowest socioeconomic status that one can attain. Members of the bourgeoisie in the middle ages were people who owned capitol and that fact remains true for the American middle class today.

But there is no such thing as the black middle class, because black men in this country do not and cannot own anything on a mass scale. Black men have tried throughout the years to become prosperous and make their communities prosperous through independent ownership. Their efforts go back to post slavery times, especially in the 20th century where African-American men and women built prosperous and wealthy communities to ultimately have it destroyed.

A perfect example of this was the "Negro Wall Street" in Tulsa Oklahoma. The Negro Wall Street was a very progressive community of black professionals, as it became the home to several multimillionaire professionals and more than 600 businesses. But Tulsa also became the home to thousands of Ku Klux Klan members who

shot and hung these black professionals. These actions ultimately led to race riots that burned down the Negro Wall Street in 1921.

We as African Americans without a doubt have the ability to own capital and have a major role in the mass production and distribution of goods. But America's racism is deeper than social attitude; the racism in America is institutionalized.

As long as America continues to run on this institutionalized racism, there can never be a black man that has revenue in the millions and uses that money to fund prosperous Black businesses that distribute their own goods, which in turn supplement a real middle class structure in black communities. There are small black businesses, of course, but that's all they are: small. You'll never find a prosperous black business in white communities or Asian communities and if you do, that owner has to dance to the standards set by someone else.

I find it sad how we have to buy our living essentials and even our culture from business establishment's setup by Asians. How can black Americans be middle class if we're relying on Asian businesses for our food, our hair products, our clothes and sneakers? We're even buying our dashikis from them.

So when I think of the middle class system, I think of a system of people who can be independent and not rely on goods from an outside source for community well being. Other cultures and groups don't rely on the services and goods created by black people; in fact, for a lot of white people in control, if they could have it their way, we'd already be back in Africa because we're expendables that are just here for capitol exploitation. We're not field workers any more so they don't see us as much use, only on the football field and basketball courts in which they benefit more than the athlete who is distracted by unfulfilling materialism.

Both candidates in the 2012 presidential election frequently used the term "middle class" throughout their campaign. President Barack Obama perpetuated the ideology of building a strong middle class to stabilize the economy. He, along with his Vice President Joe Biden, both discussed the importance of creating more jobs that will enhance American-produced goods.

The American people voted and Obama became president for a second term. Obama frequently stated on the campaign trail that he wants to give tax breaks to the middle class and have upper class citizens pay just a little bit more in taxes. He said he views the middle class as those that make less than \$250,000 a year.

Challenger Gov. Mitt Romney had the exact same definition of who is middle class, but we all know that Romney copies everything that Obama says. This country is predominantly filled with citizens who make that or less and many consider themselves middle class even if they make more than \$250,000.

The typical American wants to be included in the middle class group because of their egos. The two candidates running for the Presidential seat this year put a lot of emphasis on building the middle class and perpetuated the idea that middle class Americans are the backbone of this country.

I agree with that notion, middle class Americans are a strong component in strengthening the economy through their ties with mass production. My father and the other 40 million African Americans in this country are not apart of the backbone of this country. We are considered to be second class citizens that are living in an "illusion of inclusion." We are expected to work, go to school, and be respectful and law abiding second class citizens. That includes keeping our mouths shut and never addressing the issue of reparations for slavery or any U.S plot to systematically disenfranchise our people.

But I refuse to keep my mouth shut and accept my predisposed role as a second class citizen.

One would probably be inclined to make the

argument that the black man can no longer be a second class citizen because a black man is president of the U.S. That is true, but Obama is a tool of propaganda used to muzzle any cry of racism and black disenfranchisement.

America's white elite society, who will always be in political control, knew that the black community would rally behind Obama because of the color of his skin and sure enough we all fell for the hype, including myself. They built up this little-known senator from Chicago and put him to work to build up a strong campaign. Obama may have melanin in his skin but he is sociologically constructed as a middle class white man who had privileges growing up because of his white mother. He has a large white network and, because of this, Obama identifies with other black people only to a certain degree, so he won't go out on a limb to fix our communities.

Take a look at where he served as state senator, for example. Chicago is considered America's murder capitol as young African Americans are being shot on a regular basis and it is the home of one of the nation's highest job loss rates and as of yet Obama hasn't addressed the urgent need to clean that mess up.

African Americans have frequently expressed their frustration with Obama's lack of intervention in the black community. A Chicago "Black nationalist" had this to say on Obama's lack of interest in poor black communities: "I would not honestly tag Obama as a fighter for black people, black agenda or black issues," (*The Washington Examiner*).

I consider Obama to be just as black as I am biologically, but consciously he's white and he was built up so that black people can be content as second class citizens and not cry for equal opportunities or for change in our communities.

But I'm not content, because I see past the propaganda. The

aid that some African-Americans receive from Affirmative Action and other such programs, is miniscule in value to the reparations that this country owes African Americans in repayment for slavery and its lasting effects.

Why shouldn't we have reparations? America granted the Native Americans sovereign land for their harsh mistreatment and gave \$20,000 to each affected Japanese American post World War II as an apology for holding them in camps while the country battled Japan. African Americans were promised 40 acres and a mule after slavery was abolished, but that policy only lasted for a year.

This is why any success and fortune that I accumulate in my life will be put toward independent black businesses and programs, separated from white American capitalism because that would be a detriment to the progression of black America. Black activist Marcus Garvey said it best: "Any leadership that teaches you to depend upon another race is a leadership that will enslave you."

It definitely won't be an easy venture, but I refuse to immerse myself in mental slavery. I have to look out for my people who nurtured me and played a key role in my foundation building.

There seems to be no sturdy definition of the term middle class in America, but the stereotypical middle class American works from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., sometimes more, 6 or 7 days a week, goes on one major vacation per year, aims to have no more than three kids, struggles to put their children through college, has no more than two cars, is not frivolous with their expenditures and, most of all, takes pride in their sacrifices. That kind of lifestyle pretty much sums up the lifestyle I witnessed growing up.

But, according to Karl Marx's philosophy, that isn't enough to be considered middle class. In order to middle class, one has to build American capitalism through investments. And believe me, if my father controlled a piece of American capitalism, he would be able to afford putting me through school, no problem.

Spelling someone's name wrong isn't really a big deal. You just apologize, correct yourself and keep it moving. But in this case, the CEO of TLD had more than 20 years to get my father's last name right, and its only four letters long. We're only human, and being human means that we were born into imperfection, but something in my heart tells me that they don't care much about the correct spelling of my father's last name. To TLD my father is just

another nigger who thinks he's accepted in the middle class culture while only working not to progress, but to pump money into the real middle class.

We are still slaves in this country, minus the whips and shackles. The only way we can liberate ourselves is by sticking together and reproducing little black soldiers that will help protect our business establishments that we'll use to nourish our communities without outside corruption. I know this sounds a little militant but it seems necessary in order for us to get on the same playing field as the white middle class.

Why this Election Mattered

By Joseph Young
Live Wire Staff Writer

This past election made all kinds of history.

For the first time ever, women will represent the states of Wisconsin, North Dakota and Massachusetts in the United States Senate. Same sex marriage was legalized in two more states and so was recreational marijuana. Congress will convene with 45 Latino members and a Democratic Caucus which, for the first time in history is made up of both women and minorities.

Tammy Baldwin became the first openly gay member of the United States Senate. Ted Cruz became the first Hispanic elected to the Senate from Texas, even though he is a Republican, and for the first time in American history no American will ever be denied a fair shot at the American dream, or denied fare treatment from their healthcare provider due to a pre-existing condition, as the most recent election result makes permanent The Dream Act and The Patient Protection and Affordable Healthcare Act, both of which the Republican Party voted against. Also, millions of imprisoned people in the states of Colorado and Washington will now be out due to the legalization of marijuana. These are just some examples of how this election changed the world.

Yes the Republican Party retained control of the U.S. House of Representatives after Nov. 6, but Democrats certainly gave them a tough time, capturing seven seats in that chamber (six more seats haven't been called yet and are leaning Democrat) knocking off Tea Party favorites Joe Walsh, Allen West and Scott Brown and, very nearly, Michelle Bachmann, chair of the House Tea Party Caucus.

Democrats captured three senate seats and, of course, President Barack Obama was re-elected as well. Let me tell you what these victories mean for you, for America and for the world.

The Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act, which has been ridiculed as "Obamacare" will remain the law of the land since Obama was re-elected. This means that millions of American families will no longer have worry about skipping a mortgage payment or possibly selling their house or going bankrupt simply because one of their children gets sick. Women can no longer be denied access to healthcare and pregnant women cannot be discriminated against because of a pre-existing condition and people under the age of 26 can stay on their parents' healthcare plan if they are not married. By 2014 nearly everyone in the United States will have health insurance. We will come one step closer to universal healthcare for all and the aspiration of deceased Sen. Ted Kennedy of healthcare as a "fundamental right" and not just a privilege for those who can afford it is reality.

Here in Manchester, true fighters Tim Larson, Jason Rojas, Geoff Luxenberg and Steve Casano were re-elected and Joe Diminico was elected State Representative. Although he cannot fully fill the shoes of Jack Thompson, he will definitely be a close enough replacement.

Also re-elected were Congressmembers John Larson of the 1st district, Joe Courtney of the 2nd district, Rosa DeLauro of the 3rd district and Jim Himes of the 4th district. Voters in the 5th Congressional district elected Elizabeth Esty to replace Chris Murphy in the state legislature.



Image courtesy of: onbeingablacklawyer.com

Assassin's Creed III a Worthy Follow-up and Fine Gift for the Gamer

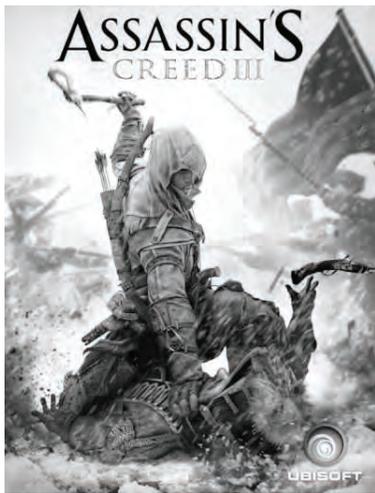


Image courtesy of gamingenthusiast.net

to work on Assassin's Creed: Brotherhood, and Assassin's Creed: Revelations in that time the game still stands firmly on its own two feet, especially in the same month Halo 4 and Call of Duty: Black Ops 2 were released.

The gameplay is improved tremendously over the past three games, and contains many aspects that players are familiar with. Free-Running returns, although with some improvements. A major improvement is that the player only needs to hold down the right trigger, or R1, button to free run. Free running also allows players to move through the trees, cliff side terrain, as well as jumping through windows and running through open doors to escape pursuing enemies.

Fast travel returns from Assassin's Creed II, due to the frontier (a large forest area where 1/3 of the game takes place) being three times larger than the city of Rome from Assassins Creed Brotherhood and connected to Boston, New York, and the Davenport Homestead. Many players may find it tedious to free run or ride a horse from one city to the next with the terrain being so eccentric.

Combat was built from the ground up for this game alone. One of the improvements is the ability for Conner to wield dual weapons in combat. The game also adds the Tomahawk, the bow and arrow, flintlock pistols and muskets (though the reload time on them takes a few seconds and leaves you open to attacks). Swords, daggers, and the trademark hidden blades are all available again.

Conner also has the opportunity to take part in historical events such as the Boston Tea Party, the Battles of Lexington and Concord, and many more. The game features the Anvil Next engine which, along with improved graphics, allows the game to have more than 200 enemy characters on screen at one time. This makes the battles more amazing and historically accurate.

The game also places Conner as Capitan of the Aquila, a war ship that opens Conner to the beauty

of the sea. Naval gameplay pits you against the elements as well as your enemies. For example, preparing to fire at a British boat can leave you open to crashing into the cliffs if you're not careful.

The game also features a lot of collectables, such as pages from Benjamin Franklin's almanac and feathers, and trinkets that Conner can exchange for information on Captain Kidd's fabled treasure. The economic aspect of the game has changed exponentially from the previous games. Most items can be found in convenience stores or from traveling merchants. However, money is gained mainly through hunting and caravans from the homestead.

Hunting can seem tedious at times, because some game need to be stalked before they can be killed. But some larger, more aggressive game can attack you and attempt to kill you, making certain game more valuable than others. The homestead is a large plot of land that Conner and his mentor Achilles call home. Conner can help those who have lost their homes to the loyalists and the Templars and offer them a place on the homestead, where they can start anew and help to bring income to the Homestead. It also contains many secrets left by Achilles and his fallen Assassin brethren.

The multiplayer mode takes the form of Animus Home Entertainment, whereas the previous multiplayers were training programs for Templar agents. Many of the specs of the multiplayer mode feel familiar, but there are many improvements. These include an improved system of identifying your target, as well as ways for you to identify your pursuer. The kill system is improved with different ways to kill targets. For example, if your target attempts to stun you while you attack at the same you will get the kill because you are the pursuer. The game also has multiplayer characters that are based around the time period such as a Huntsman, a carpenter, a Red Coat soldier, a pioneer and many others.

All in all, the game manages to take a subject we talked about in school because we needed to know what the Founding Fathers went through to give us the freedoms we have today, and make an amazing game. This is a game I would definitely suggest playing. If I had to rate it, I'd give it an A+.

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I Watch in Amazment

By JeAndra Davis-Marcellin

I Watch in AMAZEMENT...

wrapped in the turmoil to BE FREE.

It's apparent that she sees so differently.

As life's beauty surrounds her,

She can't run caught by happiness which cripples her.

Living in the very essence she holds dear.

AN Optimist, no questions asked,

An Optimist by choice,

An Optimist with an empty canvas, and a life time to paint it.

To bring LIFE, PURE LIGHT!

What could motivate this BRIGHT euphoria of Hopes and Dreams?

Bright lights, harmony, maybe peace.

The temple she dwells at no force needed

is on the corner of the HEARt and FAith.

A fixation of LOVE,

It's her Religion, She preaches OVER AND OVER AGAIN.

A joyous being sent from God!

She's blessed and PROUD of it!

Knowing the sheer beauty of it all

She is sent to guard what you seem to call LOVE.

I leave you with this fine-tuned Song.

SINCERELY THE WOMAN WHO TRULY LOVES

Poem By Renee Shuckerow

I hate talking

I hate talking because nobody listens

No one really cares what you have to say

Besides, talking gets you in trouble

So from now on

I'll keep listening

From now on

I'll keep laughing

But from now on

I'll stop talking

poetry corner

H.I.M.

By

Joshua P. Shaw

Behold! The new Human Interface Machine!

A massive revision of the outdated one.

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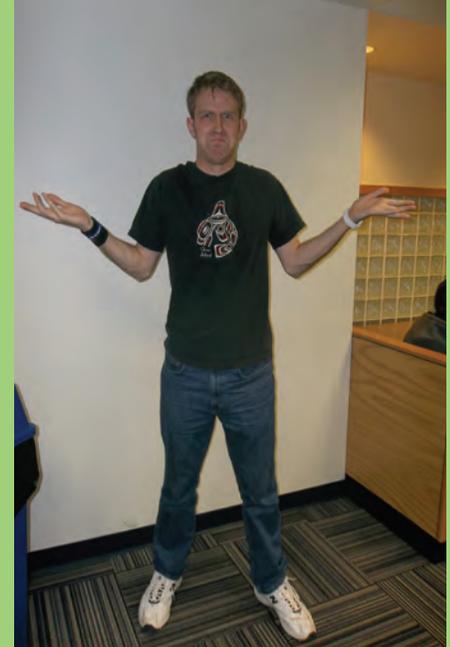
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MCC Vogue

By Alta McKinney
Live Wire Staff Writer

When most people think fashion, they think of Coach, Louis Vuitton, or Armani. Fashion is so much more than department stores and designer names, though. Whether you're wearing worn-out jeans or the dress you got last week at a consignment shop, that's your unique individual style and expressive looks abound at Manchester Community College.

When approached about the concept of fashion, many students I talked to were apprehensive. One went as far as saying "I don't do fashion." Still, people were surprisingly receptive to talking about the various trends and styles they see around campus. What they saw as "lazy day clothes" and typical student wear, I understood as the MCC Vogue.

With the arrival of cold weather, boots and cozy sweaters have made a hearty comeback on campus. Taller, fur-lined boots are commonplace, but I noticed a new trend of the shorter, heeled boots as well. It's a clever way to combine higher fashion and stay warm.

Of course, what would winter be without pullovers?

"I call it 'Bum Chic!'" said Marc Changanaqui. He was wearing a simple sweater over a button-up shirt, skinny jeans, and a pair of worn Converse All-Stars. Any college campus would be incomplete without these iconic sneakers, am I right?

Recently, ironic T-shirts and thick-rimmed glasses have made their presence known, and everyone is calling it "Geek Chic." It is a combination of effortless cool and funny pop-culture references. A regular Geek Chic trend is having your bag covered in buttons, usually printed with quirky quotes or imagi-



native images. Between allusions to the British "Keep Calm and Carry On" and the classic sci-fi show *Star Trek*, MCC has quite a diverse representation of nerd culture.

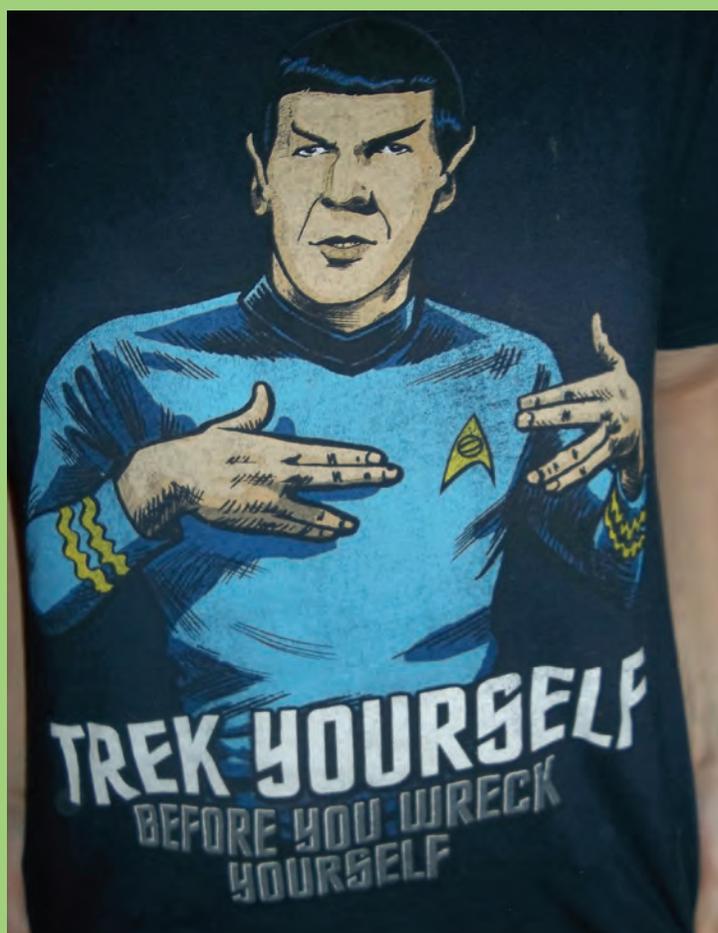
Another common theme among students is school pride. It's nearly impossible to walk down the halls without seeing at least one MCC Cougars hoodie or sweat pants. While we won't be seeing this particular trend on the cover of *Seventeen* anytime soon, no one can deny how fantastic fleece feels on a cold winter morning. MCC Wear isn't only reserved for clothing, though. I've seen our logo plastered all over bags, travel mugs, and more, a subtle way to express your school spirit.

Regardless of the time of year, hats are a staple among teens and adults alike. It can be a way to broadcast your favorite sports team, to complete your outfit, or to just have fun! Hats are versatile and useful, and they can be a fun addition during sunny or rainy weather. Among men, mild colored caps are popular, whereas I found that women preferred theirs to be bright and colorful.

Everyone has their own brand of fashion that they adhere to. Some people stress about the latest trends, and others would rather throw on whatever is clean in the morning. Either way, it's important to wear what's comfortable to you. Wear what makes you happy. Most of all, have fun with it!

Thanks to: Cara-Jo Sparks, Chris Noell, Tyler Renner, Devon Whitman, Amiah McCoy, Nicollete Rustic, Donnell Allen, Charles Gascoigne, Joel Palmer, Brent LaVoie, Morgan Rose Nelson, Kira Ruchlin, Veronika Zhikhareva, Paige Kolakowski, Edward Dovzhansky, and Marc Changanaqui for assisting with this article.

Photographs by Amber Roberge



Hats, Boots, MCC-Wear, Geek-chic, and Hipster



Some Recent Releases Would Make Great Gifts, Some Wouldn't

By Stephen Patitucci and Jelani Burrell
Live Wire Staff Writers

WCCC Live at Planet of Sound 6



The Rock 106.9 WCCC has recorded live acoustic albums for the past six years, called WCCC Live at Planet of Sound. Every year's album has been amazing, so when I heard this year's album I wasn't surprised. It has to be my favorite one to date. It includes *45* by Shinedown, among many other great songs.

What sets this album apart from previous years is the songs and how well they lead into each other. In years past it consisted of bands with different styles that didn't sound good together. This album has bands that have a similar sound but retain their own distinct vibes.

This album makes a great gift for anybody who likes rock music. Not only will you be giving the latest WCCC Live at Planet of Sound album, but you will also be supporting The American Cancer Society. All proceeds from this album will help with cancer research and help provide care for cancer victims and their families.

So this holiday season you could give a gift to someone, and you can feel good knowing that you are helping a truly great cause.

Wild Ones by Flo Rida

This album isn't very good. Flo Rida doesn't actually sing much; it is mostly a bunch of other people. He doesn't start singing until the later songs, which can make people not want to keep listening. Many people could get disappointed when they don't hear Flo Rida. *Wild Ones* could have been good, but the songs don't sound good together. Flo Rida needs to do an album of just him and no one else on it. It would help if the songs on the album flowed well together.

I strongly recommend that little kids do not listen to this album. Many of the songs are very sexual. The song Whistle is not about blowing a whistle (big surprise). I cannot stress enough how inappropriate this album is for younger listeners. Flo Rida had some good songs in the past. But in my opinion this album won't be counted among his best work, it is too sexual.



Th1rt3en by Megadeth



Megadeth is one of the big four in metal music, along with Metallica, Slayer, and Anthrax. Over the years they have faced a lot of criticism from groups of people claiming they play the devil's music, and that they have no talent. However, if these people took the time to listen to their latest album, called *Th1rt3en*, they would see that Megadeth is an extremely talented band.

I was one of those people who liked rock music but didn't like Megadeth until I heard this album. This album made me realize that Megadeth doesn't deserve the negative attacks they have been getting. They are really a good rock band that deserves to remain as one of the Big Four in metal.

Even though some of the songs on the album aren't very appropriate for young listeners, this album is very well put together. The song *Guns, Drugs, & Money* may be a little much for younger people. One thing I'm not a big fan of is the way they spelled thirteen on the album. I am not a fan of replacing letters with numbers.

Besides the spelling of the name of the album, it is an amazing piece of art. The best song on the album is without a doubt *Public Enemy No. 1*. This song has everything from amazing lyrics to some of the best guitar playing I have ever heard.

Gossamer by Passion Pit

Passion Pit struck a chord, several, actually when I heard their first album, *Manners*, for the first time. It was powerful, dark, hopeful, and it had a level of musicality I didn't think I could find anymore. When I heard about Passion Pit's second studio release, wonderfully titled *Gossamer*, I went nuts, cashews and everything else. It came out on July 20 of this year and I have known of its release for some time, but I slept on it because I was wrapped up in holding my life together.

I should start off by saying that Passion Pit, for those who don't know is an electropop quintet out of Cambridge, Mass., and they have an electronic sound similar to our own Middletown-based band, MGMT. This record is distinct in its overall sound in part because of 1) lead vocalist/songwriter Michael Angelakos's personal issues regarding depression and alcohol, and 2) the change in the lineup.

What I admire the most about PP's music is their ability to record songs that are so damn uplifting in their music, giving everything a SpongeBob Squarepants-esque, sunny day feeling, but when it comes to their lyrics, they're deeply personal and steeped in pain and depression. *Constant Conversations*, for example, is an R&B ballad about Angelakos's reliance on his fiancé to clean up his dignity and put him back together during his drunkenness. Apart from the slow rhythm, it's reminiscent, for me at least, of the track *Sleepyhead* from *Manners*. The album's amazingly brilliant lead single *Take a Walk* concerns itself with a coming to America story about an immigrant losing his high-end lifestyle to bad investments and the economy.

All in all, *Gossamer* is a well-rounded album with so much emotion, you'd think they were trying to send you to a therapist. It brings a new level of introspection to the band's repertoire although it doesn't quite measure up to *Manners*. In my opinion, it's not exactly a close second (I doubt that's what they were going for anyways) but doesn't disappoint at all. It's fun, entertaining and would make for a VERY nice Christmas/Chanukah/Saturnalia/holiday gift.



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GPA Class of 2013 Climbs Mount Monadnock – A Hike of a Lifetime

By Gregory Efanayi
Great Path Academy

When I first heard that one of our upcoming senior trips would be climbing a mountain whose name I couldn't pronounce I had some conflicting thoughts.

My first thought was "awesome that sounds like fun" since I've never climbed anything but a few flight of stairs. My next thought was "But what if no one else goes?" because it would be disappointing if none of my friends or classmates did not want to go. After all, you never know because people can be lazy. The meeting before the trip told me otherwise because about half the senior class was there.

The bus picked us up at Great Path Academy at 6:30 a.m. on Wednesday, Oct. 16, a day that so many of us will not ever forget! We left this early in order to maximize the daylight to make sure we had enough time to safely climb up the mountain and back down. Seeing that Mount Monadnock is in New Hampshire, there was plenty of time to sleep on the way there. I slept about half the time traveling up to the mountain, so I was refreshed and ready to go and also pumped and excited like everyone else.

When we started there was mainly a flat path with some rocks and boulders. I tried to stay in front and pace myself with those there because I like to challenge myself in physical events. For a while I was in front with a few others, but I couldn't keep up that pace when the path started getting a lot rockier. Challenge failed.

The three people in front moved ahead, while I met up with a new group and as we kept going the path continued to get steeper, which I expected. What I didn't expect was having to climb over rocks. It was then that I began to think that even though I knew we were climbing a mountain and no matter how many times someone else or I said "mountain climbing" I kept seeing an image of myself walking on a somewhat flat path up the mountain. From the reactions of the group in front and back of me I wasn't the only one who didn't see this coming.

The third group of people I ended up with were three guys and teacher Heather Gillies and I was with them about two thirds of the way up. Going up the mountain was getting harder after each step and the extra baggage most people had was making it even more challenging. We were told to dress in layers, so you can take them off if you get hot, and bring a lunch and snacks.

The problem was that it wasn't cold at all; in fact it was a rare day for nice weather: warm and no wind, so the layers were taken off but you still had to carry them, along with the backpack, if you brought one.

Along the way there were beautiful views where we stopped and took many pictures knowing that even more beautiful views were up ahead. The best part of the hike was when we could see the summit of the mountain and those hikers who had already reached



Photo courtesy of Great Path Academy.

it, making the rest of the way up much easier.

When we finally reached the summit, I had such a great feeling and I knew then that all the strength used to reach the summit was well worth it. The view was amazing as we were on top of the world looking down on towns, farms, lakes and rivers, and able to see as far as the city of Boston on the horizon.

At the same time, there was a side of me that was dreading having to go back down. After taking more pictures and making a short video, we ate our lunches, enjoyed the views and some epic rap battles among students while we waited for the rest of our group to get to the summit.

In the end, most made the summit and those who did not climbed most of the way and were able to enjoy the views as well as the accomplishment. This was not an easy feat by any means but we were able to accomplish our goal, which was great. Some had a harder time than others while some didn't make it to the top but everyone worked hard.

I've been asked many times would I do this again and my answer is yes. To me this whole experience was fun and well worth it. Next time, however, I will have a better idea of what to expect and be in much better shape to climb a mountain.

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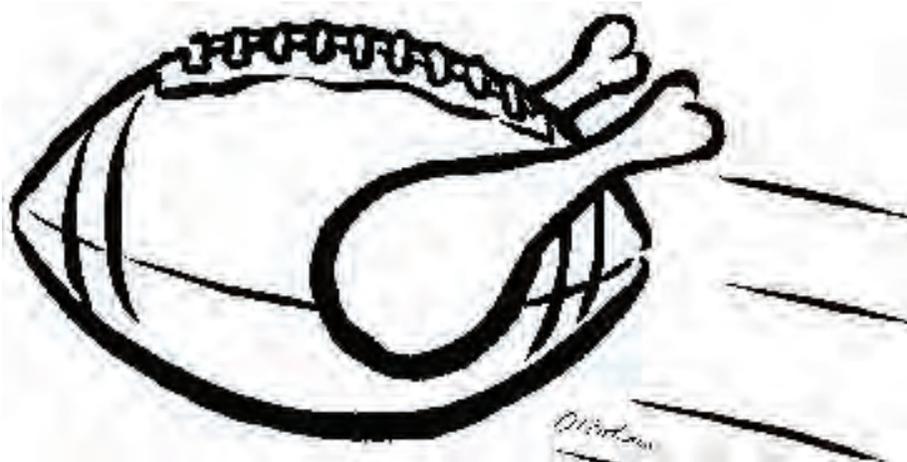
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Thanksgiving Day Football Tradition Rooted in College Rivalry

Image courtesy of: Frankthetank.com



By Zachariah Hand
Live Wire Senior Staff Writer

Each year on Thanksgiving, Americans eat turkey, watch the Macy's Thanksgiving Day Parade through the streets of New York City, and simply relax. To many, these traditions exemplify exactly what Thanksgiving is: a time of togetherness, good food, and fond memories. But in addition to these age-old traditions, there is another that brings out the competitive side of Americans: football.

Each year on Thanksgiving Day, there are three NFL match ups that take place at various times throughout the day. As always, the Detroit Lions and Dallas Cowboys each host a game, and a third game is assigned to two teams that do not play annually on Thanksgiving Day. While it has since become an extremely popular tradition, Thanksgiving football had humble beginnings.

Thanksgiving Day football was first played in the 1870s between the college teams at Princeton University and Yale University. Professional football on Thanksgiving was introduced during the 1890s, and several teams participated each year.

It was in 1934 that the Detroit Lions began their tradition of playing annually on Thanksgiving, when owner George A. Richards decided to promote the game as a means of increasing attendance. Since this time, the Lions have only missed playing on Thanksgiving.

The Cowboys began their Thanksgiving tradition in 1966, and the third annual game between two different opponents each year was added in 2006. This year's match ups featured the Houston Texans at the Detroit Lions, the Washington Redskins at the Dallas Cowboys, and the New England Patriots at the New York Jets.

The Texans/Lions game was shrouded in controversy, due to a call that may have changed the outcome of the game. During the third quarter, with the Lions leading 24-14, Texans running back Justin Forsett appeared to be stopped around his own 25-yard line after being tackled by two Lions defenders. However, Forsett got back up after the tackle, and ran to the end zone, scoring an apparent touchdown. In his frustration, Lions coach Jim Schwartz threw a challenge flag, negating the mandatory review of all scoring plays. Replays later showed the Forsett was down after the tackle, and the touchdown should have been called back. But thanks to Schwartz throwing the flag, the referees were forced to uphold the call. The Texans then went on to win the game 34-31 on a Shane Graham field goal in overtime. It was the 9th straight Thanksgiving Day loss for Detroit.

The Redskins/Cowboys game saw Washington quarterback Robert Griffin III continue his push for offensive rookie of the year, as he threw for 311 yards and 4 touchdowns. Cowboys quarterback Tony Romo also had a decent game, throwing for over 400 yards and 3 touchdowns, but was unable to deliver a much needed win for Dallas as the Redskins held off a late rally, winning 38-31. It was Romo's first career loss on Thanksgiving.

The final game of the day featured the Patriots pummeling the circus of a team known as the Jets 49-19. Though the game remained scoreless through the first quarter of play, the Patriots came to life in the second quarter, at one point scoring three touchdowns in a span of 52 seconds on a pass from quarterback Tom Brady to running back Shane Vereen, a fumble recovered for a touchdown by safety Steve Gregory, and a fumbled kickoff returned for a touchdown by wide receiver Julian Edelman. It was the Patriots 5th straight win.

This year, each Thanksgiving Day NFL game offered its own unique brand of excitement. From overtime thrillers to rivalry beat downs, Thanksgiving Day was once again a great day to be an NFL fan.

Now that the Thanksgiving games are over, football fans can look forward to the sport's next big holiday: The Super Bowl in February, this time in New Orleans.

Women End Soccer Season with Shutout Victory, but No Playoff Appearance



2012 Manchester Community College Women's Soccer Team -- Back Row: Head Coach Jeremy Wilson, Jamie Mancuso, Nicole Hornish, Jessy Serban, Mfoniso Ekpo, Kailee Doerfler, Holly Halliwell, Ashley Parke, Audrey Van Horn, Assistant Coach Megan Riemer; Front Row: Emma McGuinness, Alsisha Clahar, Arianna Rivera, Danielle Hebert, Alexandria Nuccio, Brittany Barber, Stacey Lambert.(not pictured: Nicole Wade) Photo by Paul Ofria.

By Paul Ofria
MCC Sports Information

Coach Jeremy Wilson was watching his team's final practice of the fall and reflecting

on his third season as Manchester Community College's head women's soccer coach. He has coached more talented teams and teams that won more games, but was hard pressed to name a team that had improved as much over the course of one season.

"It's not going to show up as a championship season in the record books," Wilson said, who led his team to the Region 21 Division championship in his second season in 2011. "But the group that we had here came the farthest and the fastest over a short period of time."

The Cougars started the 2012 season with 10 consecutive losses before winning three of their final four games. The lowpoint came with back to back losses of 15-0 and 16-0 to Holyoke Community College and Bunker Hill Community College, respectively, at home over a three-day span in mid-September.

"We took a step forward in every match," Wilson said. "And I think what really gave me hope was the week after we played Holyoke and Bunker Hill, the girls came back and gave 100 percent at practice with the mindset and mentality that 'we are going to get better, we're not going to let that happen again.'"

The October rematches, both on the road, both losses, (6-0 and 4-1) were competitive and showed marked growth and improvement.

"We didn't win as much as we would have liked," Wilson said. "But they were competing, and ultimately winning games. They were able to stay focused, think positive and recognize that failing on a day doesn't condemn them to being a failure."

Sophomore captain Stacey Lambert of Lebanon had a goal and three assists in her final game at MCC to lead the Cougars to a 6-0 victory over Bristol Community College in the season finale, while freshman captian Ally Nuccio of Tolland added a pair of goals.

Ashley Parke of Woodstock had a goal and an assist and Nicole Wade of Norwich had two assists. Kailee Doerfler of Tolland

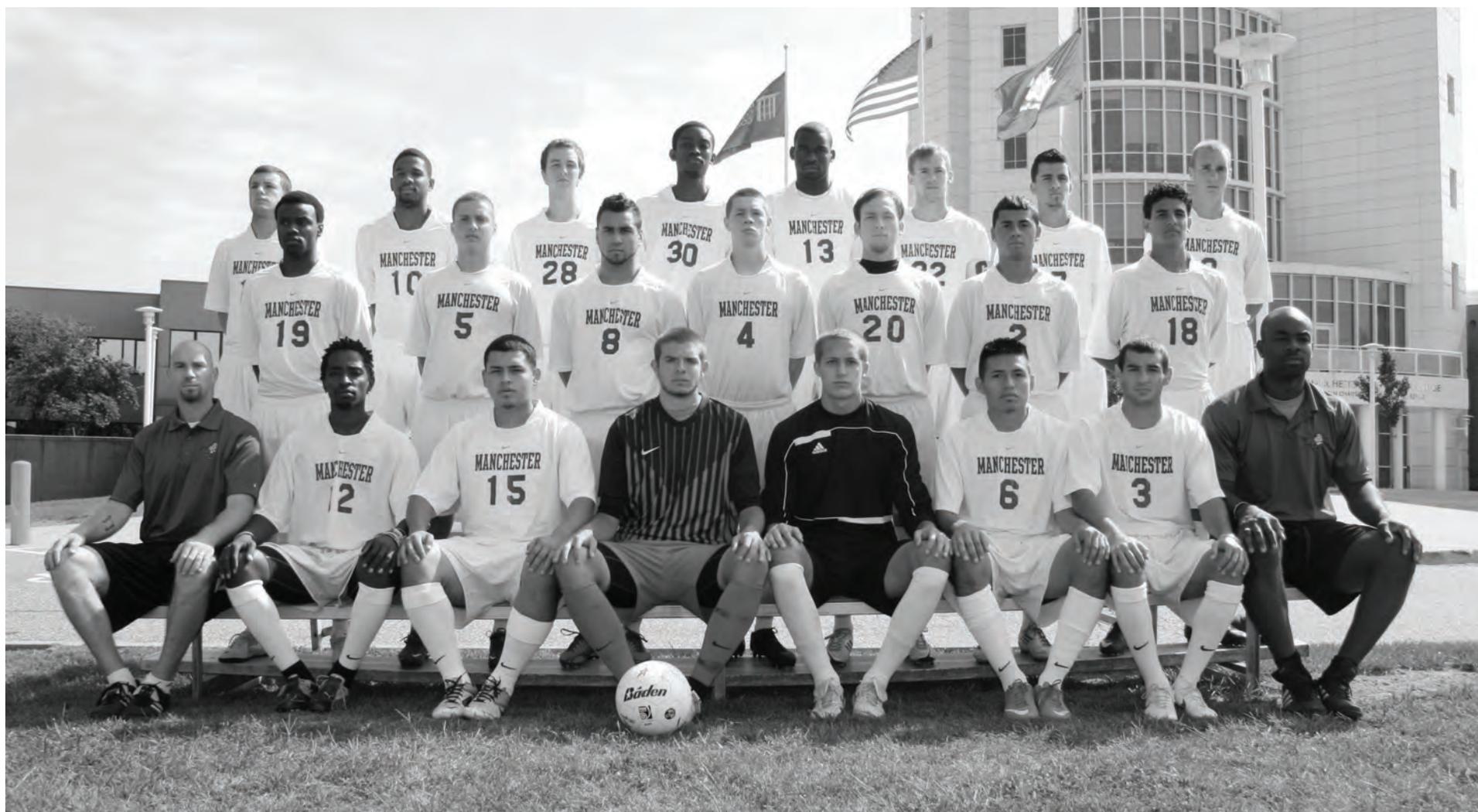


MCC's lone sophomore Stacey Lambert receives flowers from head coach Jeremy Wilson prior to her final soccer game at the college. Photo by Paul Ofria

and Nicole Hornish of East Hartford also scored for MCC, who fished the season with a 3-11 record (3-6 in Region 21, Division III games), but did not qualify for post season play for the first time since 2006.

"It was a very, very, rewarding and successful season in perspective of the growth and progress of the individuals and the group as a whole," Wilson said.

MCC Men Penalty Kicked Out of Region 21 Tournament



2012 Manchester Community College Men's Soccer Team -- Back Row: Stavros Ghirardi, Chris Grant, Niall Geoghegan, Kwasi Boateng, Eduardo Sebastiao, Joey Plude (captain), Brandon Elvas, Tyler Jones; Middle Row: Richard Cousley, Eric Fleeher, Chaz Dasilva, Tim Goodale, Mark Grant, Danilo Rivera, Anibal Saenz; Front Row: Levi Brown (assistant coach), Hanish Rubanza, Edgar Hernandez, Bobby Strevel, Steve German (captain), Carlos Valverde, Alex Voskanov, Darren Foster (head coach). Photo by Paul Ofria.

By Paul Ofria

MCC Sports Information

The two New England rivals traded punches like heavyweights for 110 minutes without a ball crossing a goal line, but Bunker Hill Community College (18-2-1) scored four goals in the penalty kick round to Manchester Community College's two, and claimed the 2012 Region 21, Division III men's soccer title in Manchester on Oct. 28.

Bunker Hill moved on to the NJCAA Division III National Championship Tournament in Herkimer, NY, where they lost in the semi-final round to the eventual champions and tournament host, Herkimer Community College.

It was a departure for MCC (12-7-1) and Bunker Hill, who met in the Region 21 championship game for the past five straight years with MCC winning three titles ('08, '09 and '11) and Bunker Hill taking two ('10 and '12).

"You could see both teams had a game plan," Bunker Hill head coach Scott Benjamin said. "We moved the ball the way we wanted to and they tried to counter

really quickly, and they did."

MCC first-year head coach Darren Foster, who was a player on MCC's 2002 Region 21 championship team and an NJCAA All-American in 2004, was proud of his team's accomplishments during the season after a 0-4 start and how it performed in the championship game against one of the top Division III teams in the country.

"We knew our work was going to be cut out for us as BHCC was a powerhouse, ranking number three in the nation," Foster said. "We shut down the region's top scorer and also other players that had emerged on their team."

The MCC defense kept Vladimir Mead and Marcus Linbjork who came into the game with 19 and nine goals respectively, off the board. BHCC goalkeeper freshman Estive Sosa made 14 saves, including a bullet from Mark Grant from 15 feet away with just over six minutes to play in regulation that seemed to temporarily knock the wind out of him.

MCC goalkeeper Steve German of Coventry was outstanding in goal while making 13 saves over 110 scoreless minutes, and his backline, consisting of Eric Fleeher of Coventry, Kwasi Boateng of East Hartford, Joey Plude of East Haddam and Edgar Hernandez of Windham were busy all afternoon clearing balls and disrupting the Bunker Hill offense.

Chris Grant of Hartford and Danilo Rivera of East Hartford scored for MCC during the PK round, but Sosa reacted quickly and blocked a Tyler Jones shot that was heading for the net, just under the crossbar, to clinch the victory.

Bunker Hill Coach Benjamin noted the work of MCC's Boateng, who had a foot or head on nearly every ball that crossed the center line.

"He was winning all the balls we were trying to send through in the air," Benjamin said. "I thought their back line did well."

Despite the disappointment of having his first season as a head coach at the collegiate level end prematurely, Foster had no complaints.

"The season turned out to be a great one," Foster said. "[Assistant] Coach [Levi] Brown and myself were blessed to have a great group of student-athletes who bought into our futbol club. They wanted it as much as we did and are a great bunch of guys. Each player understood his role and most importantly, they believed in themselves and believed in the team."



Freshman Danilo Rivera (East Hartford) scored five goals for the 12-7-1 MCC men's soccer team in 2012. Photo by Paul Ofria.

Grant, Lambert, Headline All-Region Soccer Teams

By Paul Ofria

MCC Sports Information Sophomores Mark Grant of Coventry, Joey Plude of East Haddam and Steve German of Coventry were named to the NJCAA Region 21, Division III men's soccer first team after leading Manchester Community College to its fifth consecutive championship game.

Kwasi Boateng of East Hartford, Richard Cousley of Hartford and Tyler Jones of Rockville were second team selections for the 12-7-1 Cougars.

Grant, who was a first team selection in 2011 when he helped lead the Cougars to the NJCAA national championship tournament with 17 goals and nine assists (43 points), had 19 goals and 14 assists (52 points) as a sophomore. Plude made the transition from attacking midfielder to defender over the summer and was the backline anchor for first-year coach Darren Foster. German made 129 saves and allowed just 16 goals over 15 games for a 1.23 goals against average.

Both Plude and German were keys when MCC shut out #4 Bunker Hill Community College through two overtimes in the Region 21 championship game on October 28. Bunker Hill advanced to the national tournament on penalty kicks. Boateng also made a smooth transition from offense to defense in his second season at MCC, while freshmen Jones (12 goals/12 assists) and Cousley (16 goals/four assists) were essential pieces to the potent Cougar offense that averaged 4.1 goals per game.

On the women's side, sophomore captain Stacey Lambert of Lebanon was named to the NJCAA Division III All-Region 21 first team while Alexandria Nuccio of Tolland and Arianna Rivera of Manchester were named to the second team. Ashley Parke of Woodstock was an honorable mention.

Lambert started all 14 games in the defensive backfield for the 3-11 Cougars and scored two goals and assisted on four others.

"She walked into the program and started right away on the regional champion team and was a big part of our success," said head coach Jeremy Wilson.

Rivera was a key member of Wilson's defensive backfield and provided offense (three goals) when called upon. Nuccio, who was a freshman captain, played aggressively in the midfield and contributed to the offense with three goals while Parke had two goals and an assist from her midfield position.

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Movies in Review:

By Jelani Burrell
Live Wire Staff Writer

The Twilight Saga, Breaking Dawn, Part 2

Twilight has done it again! Except this time, they did it worse. I saw the pre-views first and they made it look very appealing and not crappy (then again ALL pre-views do that). But like sitting through melodrama that was I can't begin to tell enjoy myself.

So yes, final installment and as the introduction Rami Malek, who screen talent to this cinematography beautiful scenes of range.

The entire developments and the final fight scene. minutes of noth- fight scene that's

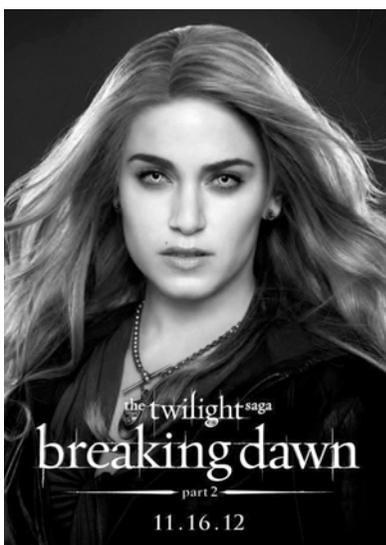


Image courtesy of aceshowbiz.com

Bella is now a vamp in this there are new faces, such of Benjamin, played by brings much needed on-farce. I will say that the is very good. There are Vancouver and the Denali

movie has minimal plot basically serves to set up After an hour and fifteen ing happening, we get to a

not only not badass, it's also nonexistent. I mean the whole thing is hypothetical.

So you walk in to watch a film, and you suffer through a cast of good-looking people connected to a piss-poor script with the most unappealing dialogue since **Street Fighter: the Legend of Chun Li** and the only thing that shows any sort of a return on your \$10 investment isn't even exactly a part of the storyline. Literally nothing happens. Nothing. It's completely anticlimactic. You'd get more out of a season of the TV show "The Vampire Diaries," with banter that's significantly more appealing and less mundane acting. Believe me when I say I'm not trying to lampoon this, or ruin it for Twilight stans, but this wasn't a good try by any standards and it failed even to live up to Breaking Dawn Part 1. The script and the sequence of events couldn't have been more disappointing. This film is not only the worst that I've seen this year (and I've already seen **Underworld: Awakening**), it's a big "screw you" to its fans and anyone with half a brain.

Life of Pi

So you've got a book about some dude on a lifeboat with an untamed Bengal tiger. Yeah it's weird, but it's much more entertaining than you'd think.

In this Ang Lee directed adventure flick, you're transported to a family zoo in Pondicherry, Tamil Nadu, India. Our protagonist's name is Piscine Molitor (played by Shuraj Sharma as an adult). It's because famous French named himself know.

So to pack every- to Canada, loose and a freighter ship. eventually the their story truly anything by visual art, the not seen since I'm glad I paid well worth colors and hues the limited set Pi is drifting with a tiger story still man- feeling of adventure

much of a soundtrack, but the musical backdrop is inspiring. I'm absolutely enthralled by the depth of the protagonist's narration because he doesn't just capture the life of the story, but he gives it a personality and perspective I'm not quite sure I've seen before. The narration and the film's philosophical premise complement each other. It's an incredibly well-executed movie with a bang-up plot and acting that doesn't disappoint.

I don't believe for a minute that anyone watching this film wouldn't enjoy it (although there's probably somebody out there). This movie has some surprises that will leave you with intrigue and questions, but the good kind, not the "why is there a plot hole so big I can drive my SUV through it?" kind, which makes the movie even more enjoyable. I found this film to be personable, fun, and family-friendly.

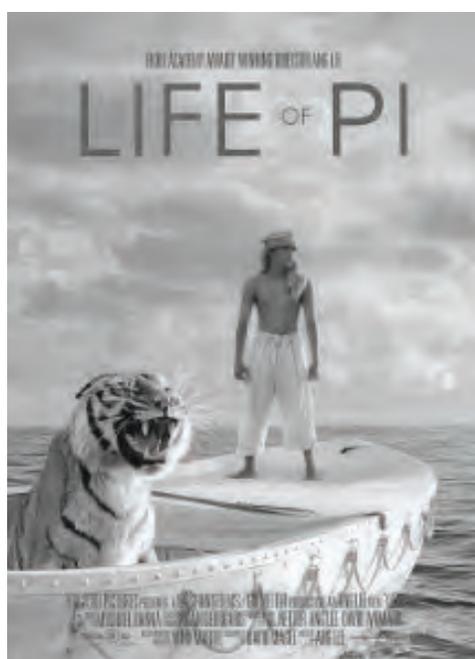


Image courtesy of collider.com

Pi's family decides thing up and move when all hell breaks storm capsizes their So Pi and the tiger are only survivors, and begins. The film, like Lee, is a work of likes of which I've Zhang Yimou's **Hero**. for a 3D ticket; it was the cash. I mean the come alive. Given pieces for the story – in the Pacific Ocean much of the time - the ages to give you that and excitement. There isn't

Local Music and Events at Venues Across Connecticut

December 10 – January 19

Dec. 10
Allegaeon- Webster Theater
Wiz Kalifa- Webster Bank Arena

Dec. 12
I Declare War- Webster Theater
Make Me Famous- The Palladium, Worcester, Mass.
Gerald Kelly- Funny Bone
CT Whale v. Worcester Sharks- XL Center

Dec. 13
Victim of Innocence- The Space
A nite of Reggae Dance Hall & Soca – Toad's Place

Dec. 14
Riders on the Storm: A Tribute to the Doors- Toad's Place
Joined Forces – Allstars Sports Bar, Manchester
Josh Sneed- Funny Bone
CT Whale v. Albany Devils- XL Center

Dec. 15-
Battle of the Bands – Webster Theater
Hostage Calm album release party- The Space
WCCC Christmas Chaos with 3 Days Grace, All that Remains – Oakdale Theatre
Spoiled Rotten- Allstars Sports Bar, Manchester
Josh Sneed- Funny Bone
CT Whale v. Portland Pirates- XL Center

Dec. 16
Josh Sneed- Funny Bone

Dec. 17
Au Revoir, Oddczar, White Women- The Space

Dec. 18
Open Mic - Funny Bone

Dec. 19
Comedy from Beyond- Funny Bone

Dec. 20
Flatfoot56, Gameday Regulars, Hook and Sinkers –The Space
Kyle Dunnigan- Funny Bone
Trans-Siberian Orchestra- XL Center

Dec. 21
Major League Turn over – Webster Theater
Kenny Rogers- Foxwoods Resort Casino
Mission Transmission- Allstars Sports bar, Manchester
Kyle Dunnigan- Funny Bone

Dec. 22
Sparks The Rescue, Moving Brooklyn, Like Violet- The Space
Kick- Allstars Sports Bar, Manchester
Kyle Dunnigan- Funny Bone
CT Whale v. Providence Bruins- XL Center

Dec. 23
Kyle Dunnigan- Funny Bone

Dec. 26
Spectrum, Kenny Ward- The Space
Hatebreed, Emmure, This is Hell- Toad's Place

Dec. 27
A Will Away, Cry Baby, DC wonder- The Space
CT Whale v. Bridgeport Sound Tigers- XL Center

Dec. 28
Vanna- Webster Theater
Zach Deputy- Toad's Place
Dark City Saints- Allstars Sports Bar, Manchester

Dec. 29
2012 Jingle Bell Rock and Metal Fest –Webster Theater
Stuck at Second- The Space
Coldplay- Mohegan Sun Arena
Square JR- Allstars Sports Bar, Manchester

Dec. 30
All ages Open Mic- The Space
Badfish: A tribute to Sublime- Toad's Place
Four Year Strong- The Palladium, Worcester, Mass.

Dec. 31
 NYE Extravaganza feat. ShakeDown- Toad's Place
 Cyndi Lauper- Mohegan Sun Arena

Jan. 1
 Open Mic- Funny Bone

Jan. 3
 Cosby Sweater Kids- The Space

Jan. 4
 Static Cherry- Allstars Sports Bar, Manchester
 CT Whale v. Adirondack Phantoms- XL Center

Jan. 5
 Paul Di'anno, the voice of Iron Maiden- Webster Theater
 HouseParty- Allstars Sports Bar, Manchester

Jan. 6
 Chasing Morgan- The Space
 CT Whale v. Wilkes Barre Scranton Penguins- XL Center

Jan. 11
 Johnny Winter- Toad's Place

Jan. 12
 Queen Extravaganza- Oakdale
 Skillet- Mohegan Sun Arena

Jan. 13
 Underoath- The Palladium, Worcester, Mass.

Jan. 15
 Open Mic- Funny Bone

Jan. 19
 Big Jims "Screw Winter" Bash- Toad's Place

Women's Basketball Schedule 2012-2013

December

Sat 15 Community College of Rhode Island Warwick, RI 1:00 PM

Sat 22 BRISTOL COMMUNITY COLLEGE MANCHESTER, CT 1:00 PM

January

Sat 5 NAVAL ACADEMY PREP MANCHESTER, CT 1:00 PM

Sat 12 Northern Essex CC^ Haverhill, MA 1:00 PM

Thu 17 Gateway CC^ New Haven, CT 6:00 PM

Sat 26 ROXBURY CC^ MANCHESTER, CT 1:00 PM

Wed 30 Springfield Technical C.C.^ Springfield, MA 6:00 PM

February

Sat 2 Massasoit CC^ Brockton, MA 1:00 PM

Wed 6 UConn-Avery Point New London, CT 7:00 PM

Sat 9 CCRI MANCHESTER, CT 1:00 PM

Sat 16 Bristol CC^ Fall River, MA 1:00 PM

Tue 19 QUINSIGAMOND CC^ MANCHESTER, CT 6:00 PM

Sat 23 Dean College Franklin, MA 1:00 PM

All home games (in bold) are played on Manchester Community College's campus in the Great Path Academy gymnasium.

^ NJCAA Division III Region XXI game

** Schedule is incomplete as listed - additional games to be added

Ask the Question, Save a Life

By Bronte Laurent
 Special to the Live Wire

Did you know that just asking someone if they are planning to take their own life can prevent them from doing so? It can and, with a little training, anyone can be equipped with the tools to help save a life ended by suicide.

That is the goal of QPR Suicide Prevention Gatekeeper Trainings, said Joseph Navarra, a Manchester Community College student counselor. With the support of the MCC Counseling Center, the Leadership Institute, and other college offices, Navarra has been teaching others on MCC's campus about QPR. QPR stands for Question, Persuade, and Refer, which are three simple steps that anyone can learn to recognize the warning signs of a suicide crisis and how to question, persuade, and refer someone to help.

"Suicide is an attempt by people without hope to find some relief," said Navarra. "As suicide prevention folks our job is to give them hope."

The sessions have been held on campus throughout the fall semester and will continue in the spring. A session on Nov. 15 began with sobering statistics. While Connecticut happens to have one of the lowest rates of suicide compared to other states across the U.S., suicide has been one of the leading causes of death for 10 to 54 year olds in Connecticut, and is the second leading cause of death for young adults 18-24, many of whom are in college. In 2011, it was reported that more than one person a day is dying by suicide in Connecticut alone. The majority of those committing suicide use firearms.

The training encourages people to ask direct questions of those they are worried about, such as "Do you ever wish you could go to sleep and never wake up?" or "Are you thinking about suicide?"

Speak in positive terms and listen, while persuading the person to seek help or let you seek help for them if you get a positive response to your question. Then refer that person to the help of a counselor or crisis hotline.

The QPR program was created by Paul G. Quinnett, a clinical psychologist and the director of the QPR Institute, an educational organization dedicated to preventing suicide located in Spokane, Washington. Just as everyone should know how to revive someone using CPR, everyone needs to know QPR.

QPR is not intended to be a form of counseling or treatment, but is intended to offer hope through positive action, according to Quinnett's pamphlet on QPR. It is an attempt to reach those who are in a position to recognize the warning signs, clues and suicidal communications of people in trouble and to ACT vigorously to prevent a possible tragedy.

"I can't believe I was not aware of all this information, I actually know someone who I may be able to help now thanks to this training," said one MCC student who attended the Nov. 15 session. "I just wish more people on campus would get to these sessions so they can be aware like us, because this is serious stuff man."

The next QPR Training session will be held Wednesday, Dec. 12, from 10-11:30 a.m. in LRC A108. It is free and open to the public and registration is not required. For more information about QPR Suicide Prevention visit www.qprinstitute.com. For more information about sessions on campus during the spring semester contact Joe Navarra at 860-512-3332, or via email at jnavarra@mcc.commnet.edu.

**Would you like to promote your club in the
Live Wire?**

**Submit an advertisement for an upcoming
issue!**

**All clubs are eligible to receive a free
1/8 page ad per school year.**

**email: livewire@mcc.commnet.edu
or sdavis@mcc.commnet.edu**



WORD ON CAMPUS

“Just relax and have a couple of beers.”

“If it happens, it happens. It’s not worth getting worked up over. I’m just going to live day by day.”

“Shotgun and machete!”

Brian Joyce

Samantha Fanon

Nick Clarizio

Fine Arts

General Studies

Accounting & Business

“Do you have an apocalypse survival plan?”

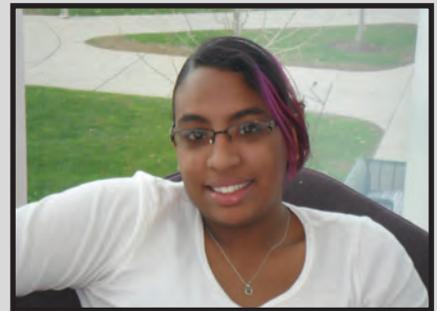
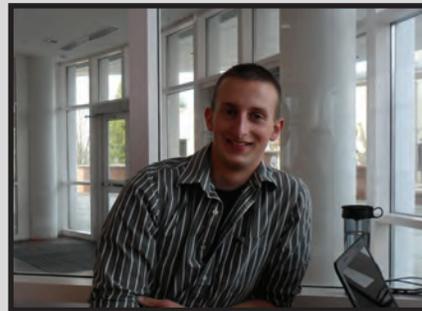
Have a question you think we should ask students?

Suggest it to the Live Wire!

email

sdavis@mcc.commnet.edu
livewire@mcc.commnet.edu

All photos by Eden Cornwell



“Freak out and find some place to hide!”

“Safe full of guns, bunch of ammo, and get ready to kill some zombies.”

“Live in a tree where I can’t get caught, equipped with guns, food and clean water.”

Kathryn Saxton

Dan Burgess

Jelisa Harvey

Nursing

Mechanical engineering

Criminal Justice

Happy Holidays

LW

from the Live Wire staff

Toxins Drive Population to Moon

Since the recreational use of bath salts became popular in late July, there has been a rise in the number of reports of illnesses caused by the parasite *toxoplasmosa gondii*, which is known to exist in the human digestive system.

Studies have shown that this parasite is triggered when its host consumes large amounts of methadone, a key ingredient in bath salts. Once it is triggered, the parasite wreaks havoc upon the human body by interfering with the digestive system and excretory system, putting a great strain on the heart and lungs, and eventually, finding its way to the brain. Once in the brain, the parasite feasts on brain matter, slowly eating away at the

victim’s brain cells and taking over their basic motor skills, their memories, and their intelligence. After the death of the victim, the parasite reanimates the body and feeds on living flesh.

Once the end result of infection by this parasite became apparent, efforts were made around the world to keep all of the victims away from the general public, since the United States government would not allow the killing of what it viewed as citizens. As the infection spread, slowly enveloping whole nations, an organized effort was put forth to begin colonizing the moon since all seemed lost on Earth. On Dec. 21, 2012, the first colony on the moon was established.

SEE YOU IN 2013... MAYBE!?