

College textbook costs: What can be done about the price?

By Tish Wilson, *Editor*

PUBLISHERS DEFENDED their practice of introducing new editions, college bookstore buyers argued that their pricing is competitive, and students insisted that the high cost of college textbooks is emptying their pockets during the Connecticut Summit on the Cost of College Textbooks at the state capital Oct. 6.

The Summit, which drew more than 100 people to the Legislative Office Building to discuss the rising cost of textbooks, the causes as well as solutions. The Summit was held by the Connecticut Taskforce on the Cost of College Textbooks, a subcommittee of the Board of Governors for Higher Education. Summit participants included representatives from private and state colleges, publishers, college bookstores and students.

“Unfortunately, I relate the rising costs of textbooks to that of what we pay for gasoline at the pump,” said Marc Herzog, chancellor of Connecticut Community Colleges. “There’s a whole lot of people involved and no one has the single ability to waive the magic wand and reduce the cost.”

The Board of Governors formed the Connecticut Taskforce on the Cost of College Textbooks in December 2004 and asked it to review the costs of college books. The move came in response to complaints from students and state legislators about the cost of college textbooks.

The taskforce read its findings at the Summit. The taskforce made nine recommendations that included results from a survey of 250 faculty members and more than 500 students, as well as suggestions from bookstores and publishers.

See Page 11: “College textbooks”



by Bernadine Bombardier

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Great Path Academy enrolls experienced new principal

By Kayla McNickle, *Staff Writer*

After an intensive search for a new principal, Great Path Academy welcomed Thomas M. Danehy, into the position in August.

Previously the director of human resources for East Hartford Public Schools, Danehy said he was eager to take on the new role of principal. He replaced Kate Carter, founding principal of GPA, who left the school in June to become principal of Hopewell Elementary School in Glastonbury.

A current resident of West Hartford, Danehy is a native of West Haven. He is the youngest of five children. Teaching runs in his family.

“Both my parents were teachers, and that’s actually why I didn’t want to



by Keith Rugar

New Great Path Academy principal Thomas Danehy eager to use his experience to help Great Path

be one,” he said, adding that his original career goal was to become a lawyer. “I was teaching during the day and going to law school at night. I took my bar exam after graduating law school, but I just decided I really liked teaching better.”

Danehy said his legal background will come in handy in his new position, which he learned about through a flyer that came into his East Hartford office.

“I was interested in the position, so I applied, and I guess it was luck of the draw...”

He has served as a principal for many other Connecticut schools, including Portland Middle School and West Middle Elementary and

See Page 10: “New principal”

British author inspires students and teachers

By Crystal Tuttle, *Staff Writer*

E.R. Braithwaite, the acclaimed author of “To Sir, With Love,” talked his love for words and teaching during an appearance at Manchester Community College last month.

Braithwaite was the first guest of the William R. Johnson Sr. lecture series. MCC President Jonathan Daube, invited Braithwaite to speak to the faculty, and then decided to add a public speech for the students and the general public. Braithwaite and Daube first met in London, said Daube, and then met again years later on the metro in Washington, D.C.

Braithwaite said he was at first reluctant to come to MCC, saying his first reactions was “This is not my cup of tea.” But he changed his mind.

Edward Ricardo Braithwaite was born in Guyana, a tropical country situated on the Northern coast of South America. He came to the U.S. to attend Queens College and then the City College of New York. Braithwaite continued his studies at Cambridge University in England, where he earned a masters degree in physics. He enlisted with the Royal Air Force and was a pilot during World War II. But after his service he was discouraged when he couldn’t find suitable work. Although highly qualified, Braithwaite said he found that the color of his skin prevented him from finding a good job.

It was then that he became a schoolteacher at a high school in the East End of London, where social conditions were what he called “horrendous.” The novel, “To Sir, With Love,” which later became a movie starring Sidney Poitier as Braithwaite, is based on his experiences there.

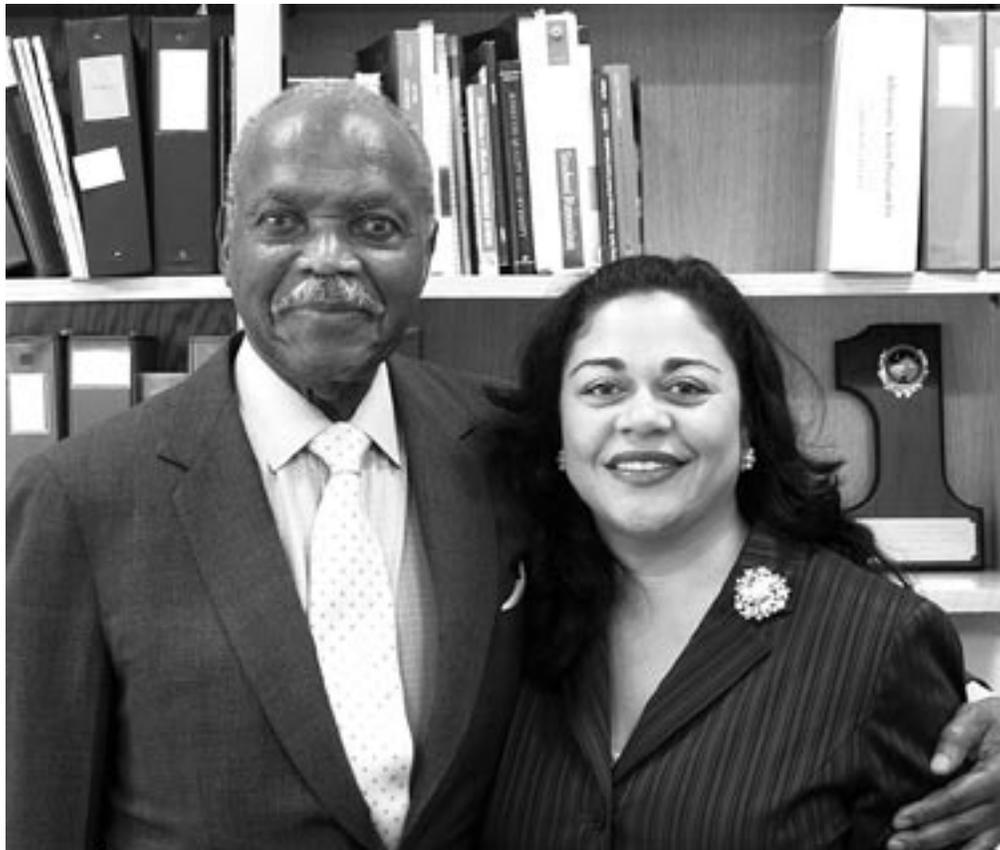
Braithwaite said he discovered a love for words at a very young age. His mother would read to him, and the words, she read would soothe him and instill in him a thirst for language.

That experience was invaluable as he began writing “Sir,” his first book.

“The words were there, I just had to get them off my chest...it just happened,” he said, adding that language is the only thing that one ever really owns. “Language cannot be taken away from you, unlike worldly possessions.”

That is his hope for future generation, Braithwaite said, that young people realize the power of language.

“Our students will inherit this earth, thoughtfully I hope,” he said as he



by Tish Wilson

Author of To Sir, With Love E. R. Braithwaite, with Dean of Institutional Development Lillian Ortiz after his presentation.

looked around at the students and faculty members filling the Fireside Commons during his talk Sept. 22.

Braithwaite urged teachers to teach thoughtfully, to make what they teach meaningful to students, and to include the children in the teaching process. Braithwaite said he had to learn to teach by teaching, and often it was the students who became the teachers.

“This college is for one purpose and one purpose only, to teach young people what to think,” Braithwaite said. “Think about things ahead of doing them, then think them through. This is the challenge of our lives, to be thoughtful.”

Braithwaite’s message is simple and compelling, said Nina Stramaglia, an MCC student.

“[Braithwaite] made me think about our language and how we use it,” she said “I never thought about it that way.”

Sue Kenzig, a writer from Manchester who works with inner city children said, “[Braithwaite] was very inspiring. He had a great deal of insight dealing with youth. What he said worked in 1959 and will work in the future.”

Faculty gets education on ‘echoboomers’

By Eric Tamiso, *Staff Writer*

Get ready for the new world order. Almost one third of the nation is a member of this new generation, and their upbringing is totally different from generations past. They are the echoboomers, and they’re going to change the world.

In order to learn more about echoboomers, a Teaching Tea was held at Manchester Community College Sept. 21. The teas are a monthly event held for faculty and staff of the college sponsored by Academic Affairs, The Center for Teaching, and The Teaching and Technology Guild.

Sandra Rimetz, an associate professor of business, led the discussion and described echoboomers to the gathering of about 20 people. She called them “the most diverse generation in American history,” with 35 percent of them described as non-white.

Rimetz highlighted several big points about this generation, including that they are the first generation to be plugged into the world of technology, with 87 percent regularly us-

ing the Internet, 20 percent since the age of 5. For the most part, she said, echoboomers are the tech supervisors of their own homes, teaching parents and other family members how to hone their skills on the keyboard.

But the majority of them are computer savvy, Jeanine DeRusha, an English professor at MCC, wondered how the rest of the young people who don’t have the skills of an echoboomer would do in the world.

Echoboomers are also known as Generation-Y and they are the children of the Baby Boomers, born between 1982 and 1995. There are 80 million of them, a number that is slightly larger than the Baby Boomer generation, born between the end of World War II in 1944 and 1964.

Echoboomers are one of the most studied generations in history, prodded by sociologists, advertising executives and many others. And they should be studied since each year they spend \$170 billion of their own and their parents’ money.

Rimetz said entire advertising campaigns have been launched at echoboomers. Toyota, for exam-

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Great Path

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Book fair benefits victims of Hurricane Katrina

By Keith Rugar, *Assistant Editor*

Old books were sold for a good cause on Sept. 27 and 28 as Manchester Community College's chapter of Phi Theta Kappa, the academic honor society, held its second annual book fair. This year, 100 percent of the proceeds from the event went to benefit students and community colleges that were affected by hurricane Katrina.

Students and faculty members began donating books in response to the disaster just days after the category four hurricane struck the Gulf Coast, said Elaine Wiatr, the adviser to the club.

"The event is part of a greater effort by the International Phi Theta Kappa Society, and the American Association of Community Colleges," she said. "We are raising money as part this effort to benefit the schools and students that were affected by Hurricane Katrina."

After Katrina hit the Gulf Coast on Aug. 28, New Orleans and its surrounding communities were devastated. The storm also directly affected more than 70 community colleges in Louisiana and Alabama, forcing thousands of students to continue their education elsewhere.

MCC paralegal student and Phi Theta Kappa chairperson Michelle Nickerson coordinated the MCC event.

"Some faculty members went out into their communities and collected hundreds of books for the event," she said. "Close to 4,000 books were collected in all. We spent a month sorting and categorizing all of the books."

When the sale began there were rows and rows of books, all lined up on long tables, ranging from biographies and fiction to romance novels. Prices ranged from 50 cents for children's books to \$3 for some novels.



by Tish Wilson

Several students are reading through books at the MCC Book Fair that raised \$1,749 for community college students affected by Hurricane Katrina.

The event enjoyed a constant flow of students and teachers who were looking to contribute to the cause. After the two-day event, a total of \$1,749 had been raised. The proceeds said, Wiatr "would either go into the general fund that was established by the International Phi-Theta-Kappa society, and the American Association of Community Colleges, or we might select a specific school in the Gulf Coast region and donate the money to them."

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Fall Open House

Saint Joseph College
1678 Asylum Avenue
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www.sjc.edu

Campus Briefs

Alpha Phi Omega

Alpha Phi Omega is a fun co-ed service fraternity looking to create a chapter here at MCC. If you have ever wanted to do something for your community or be part of a fraternity here is the perfect chance. Pledge APO. and you won't regret it. Meetings are Wednesdays at 4 p.m. in the downstairs lounge of the AST building. For more information contact Megan at Kountrykitty27@hotmail.com.

Student Senate

The Student Senate invites all students to attend upcoming meetings. Regular meetings are held on Wednesdays, from 5- 6:30 p.m. on Nov. 9 and Dec. 4, in room A108 in the LRC. The Executive Board also meets on Wednesdays, from 1-1:30 p.m. on Oct. 26, Nov. 2 and 30, and Dec. 7. Those meetings are held in the Student Senate office, L154K, in the Lowe building. Student Senate office hours are 11:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. Mondays and Wednesdays.

Minority and International Students Programs

The Office of Minority and International Students Programs works to meet the college's goals and objectives of providing a socially culturally diverse environment. The office exists to provide educational and cultural programs and services that will increase the college's effort toward student access, retention and graduation. Upcoming events include International Education week in November, African-American History Month in February and a Cultural Diversity Celebration in April. For more information about the programs, events and services contact Joseph Mesquita at 860-512-3205.

Group Fitness Classes

Mondays through Fridays during the semester in the Aerobics Studio, L155, in the Fitness Center in the Lowe Building, group fitness classes are offered. There is something for everyone and every time period, with both midday and early evening classes available. Classes are led by certified and experienced instructors. All levels of fitness are welcome. No specific equipment is necessary, but non-marking sneakers and appropriate workout clothing are required. Classes are payable in full on a monthly basis. See a fitness staff member for rates or call 860-512-3359 for more details.

Alcoholics Anonymous (AA) Meetings for the MCC Community

Students, staff and faculty are welcome to attend the AA meetings every Tuesday and Thursday from 11 a.m. to noon in Conference Room D229 in the AST. BYOLC—bring your own lunch and coffee. No meetings will be held during the holiday break or when the college is closed.

ECHOBOOMERS

continued from p.2

ple, designed the Scion, a new car brand aimed specifically at echoboomers that accentuates individuality, a very big trait of the echoboomers.

The way this generation has been reared is also completely different from any other, Rimetz said. Their parents structured their lives with different activities to fill up their time every single day, leaving little time for imaginative or unsupervised play.

Dr. Mel Levine, one of the most well-known pediatricians in the country and a professor at the University of North Carolina, said this generation that has been told what to do.

"They have been heavily programmed," said Levine in an article published on cbsnews.com Sept. 4. "This is a generation that has long aimed to please. They've wanted to please their parents, their friends, their teachers, their college admissions officers."

One problem with this generation is that employers aren't very satisfied with the work ethic of some echoboomers. When they are late for a class or work, it's not a big deal, said Levine. In time, this naïve mindset of quick gratification in the workplace could be a negative.

"They expect that they're going to be allowed to rise to the top quickly," he said. "That they're going to get all the credit they need for everything they do. And boy, are they naïve. Totally naïve, in terms of what's really going to happen."

Rimetz argued that the Baby Boomers, the parents, are to blame for that attitude. "The parents would do everything for their children, so when they get to a work experience, they won't know how to deal," she said. "Their social skills have also been diminished because of a lack of face-to-face conversation, partially because of the boom in technological communication via the Internet."

Despite their flaws, faculty members at MCC are enthused about this generation and getting a chance to teach them.

Mark Kosinski, director of the liberal arts division and the father of two echoboomers himself, said that this generation has a lot to offer in the future.

"They want to be productive and happy," said Kosinski. "I wouldn't be in this business if I didn't think that glass was half-full."

Wednesday, October 19

The **Student Senate** is holding its annual Club Day event. Club leaders and members can attend and use this chance to sign up new members, or just let people know what your club is all about. To reserve a table or for more information call Andy at the Student Senate at 860-512-3291.

Wednesday, October 19 and Thursday, October 20

Registration for the **Red Cross Blood Drive** will be held in the AST lobby. Students, faculty and staff can sign up for the drive, which will be held Nov. 1. Participants can also register online at www.bloodpartners.org/redcross/mcc. This event is sponsored by Alpha Beta Gamma. For additional information, contact Georgia Buckles at 860-512-2649.

Week of October 23

In celebration of **Respiratory Care Week**, October 23–29, 2005, the Respiratory Care Program will be sponsoring the following events:

- Tuesday, Oct. 25, the Respiratory Care Students will have an informational table in the AST Lobby from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. The theme will be Healthy Lungs = Healthy Life.
- Wednesday, Oct. 26, there will a presentation and panel discussion on sleep breathing disorders. The title of the presentation is "Waking up to Sleep." The speaker will be James Fazio, a registered respiratory therapist, and the panel will include respiratory therapists from sleep labs at Hartford Hospital, Saint Francis Hospital and Medical Center and Manchester Memorial Hospital. The session will be held in the Fireside Commons in the library from 3:30 – 5 p.m. For more information, call Nancy LaRoche-Shovak at 860- 512-2714.

Wednesday, October 26

MCC Majors Fair. Are you undecided about a major? Then take some time for yourself and your future. Come to the MCC Majors Fair from 10:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. in the AST lobby. The college's many career and academic programs will be featured. Stop by and learn what you can do to become a culinary arts major, an English major, a music major, a liberal arts and sciences major or a surgical technician. Free and open to the public. For more details contact Nylsa Ubarri-Young at 860-512-3324.

Thursday, October 27

Hartford Courant Columnist Jim Shea talks about humorous writing and how to do it. He will appear in the Fireside Commons in the Library from 11 a.m. to noon. The event is part of the "Journalism in the 21st Century" Speakers Forum, sponsored by The Live Wire student newspaper. It is free and open to the public.

Friday, October 28

Assessment Testing will be administered at 9 a.m. and noon in Lowe L105. Testing in October will assess students for the spring 2006 semester. Walk-in test sessions are conducted on a first-come, first-served basis. Plan to arrive early; seating is limited. Students must bring their Banner ID number. For more information call 860-512-3304.

Tuesday, November 1

The Alpha Beta Gamma **Blood Drive** will be held from 10 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. outside the AST entrance. Appointments can be made on Oct. 19 in the Lowe building lobby, and Oct. 20 in the AST lobby. For more information contact Georgia Buckles at 860-512-2649.

Applications for the **Legislative Internship Program** are due Nov. 1. Sponsored by the Connecticut General Assembly, the program provides students with the opportunity to experience first hand the formal and informal aspects of the state's legislative process. The program begins in January and continues through the spring semester. For applications or more information contact Angelo Messoro at 860-512-2755.

Wednesday, November 9

Fall Poetry Reading, 8 p.m. in the Library Fireside Commons. Poet Allison Joseph will be presenting her works. She is the author of five collections of poems: "What Keeps Us Here," "Soul Train," "In Every Seam," "Imitation of Life" and "Worldly Pleasures." She is a founding editor of the literary journal "Crab Orchard Review." She has been awarded fellowships to the Bread Loaf and Sewanee Writers Conferences and to the Illinois Arts Council. The appearance is free and open to the public. For more details call 860-512-2688.

Wednesday, November 16

Flu Clinic. The Respiratory Care Program at MCC and the Hospitality Program are sponsoring a Flu Clinic from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. in room E113 in the AST. The event is open to faculty, staff, students and the general public. There is no charge if you have ConnectiCare or Blue Care health insurance and you bring your insurance card as proof. For all others, the fee will be \$30, cash or check only. Checks need to be made out to Visiting Nurse Association of Central CT, Inc. Refreshments will be provided. For more information, contact Kerry McNiven at 860-512-2716 or the Flu Hotline at 1-888-NoToFlu.

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COLLEGE OF PROFESSIONAL STUDIES

6 Walk 'n Roll Raises Money for SMA Research

By J. Ashley Odell, Staff Writer



by J. Ashley Odell

Debbie and Armand Legault enjoy a dance near the Tower Café and Lounge of the Arts, Sciences & Technology Center.

back to the starting point at the McCormick Athletic Complex.

In keeping with its disability-friendly nature, the event was designed so that virtually everyone, regardless of their physical abilities, could participate. Only wheelchair-accessible routes were used, and "spotters" were located throughout the two routes to help assist participants and keep them on track.

After the walk, participants returned to the AST lobby for refreshments and entertainment. A highlight of the day for many was when Debbie and Armand Legault, a newlywed couple, performed their first dance from their August 27th wedding while "Unchained Melody" by The Righteous Brothers played in the background.

Like DeBonee, Armand has SMA, and at the end of the

dance routine, Debbie sat on her husband's lap and kissed him while he spun his wheelchair around to loud applause. Many participants, including DeBonee's parents, were visibly moved.

Prior to her graduation from MCC, DeBonee was one of the most active members of the student body. Most notably, she was a staff writer for the Live Wire, which her mother, Doris, referred to as her "home" while she was there. She was also a member of the

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DEADLINE FOR SUBMISSION OF APPLICATIONS:

NOVEMBER 1, 2005

Campus Advisor: Prof. Angelo Messore
Political Science & Economics Dept.
Lowe Building, Room 219a
(860) 512-2755

<http://www.cga.ct.gov/fisc/internship.asp>

Multicultural Club, A.W.A.R.E., and the Association on Community Inclusion. In addition, she was a member of Phi Theta Kappa, which honored her with a special tribute after her death at that year's international convention.

Dr. Eileen Furey, the coordinator of MCC's Disability Specialist program and the faculty advisor for the MCC Association on Community Inclusion, described DeBonee as "the world's coolest kid." She noted DeBonee's involvement on campus, and also her "smile that could light up a room."

Dr. George Ducharme, the director and co-founder of Communitas, said DeBonee was an "indomitable spirit" who did not want to be recognized for her disability, but instead for her own talents.

Upon graduation from MCC, DeBonee became the first recipient of the President's Award, which is given based on peer, not faculty, recommendation. The award is given to a student who overcomes personal challenges and is able to achieve great success at MCC. According to her mother, DeBonee was also the first recipient of the Hartford Courant's outstanding student journalism award who was not a journalism major. In addition, she received a Phi Theta Kappa scholarship to continue her studies at Saint Joseph, where she was a psychology major and English minor before dying less than a year into her studies.

For more information about Communitas and the MCC Institute on Disability and Community Inclusion, contact Ducharme at 860-512-2789 or gducharme@mcc.commmnet.edu.



by J. Ashley Odell

Debbie and Armand Legault set out for the Kristen DeBonee charity Walk 'n Roll with MCC President Jonathan Daube, far right, not far behind.

MCC Community Service Fair

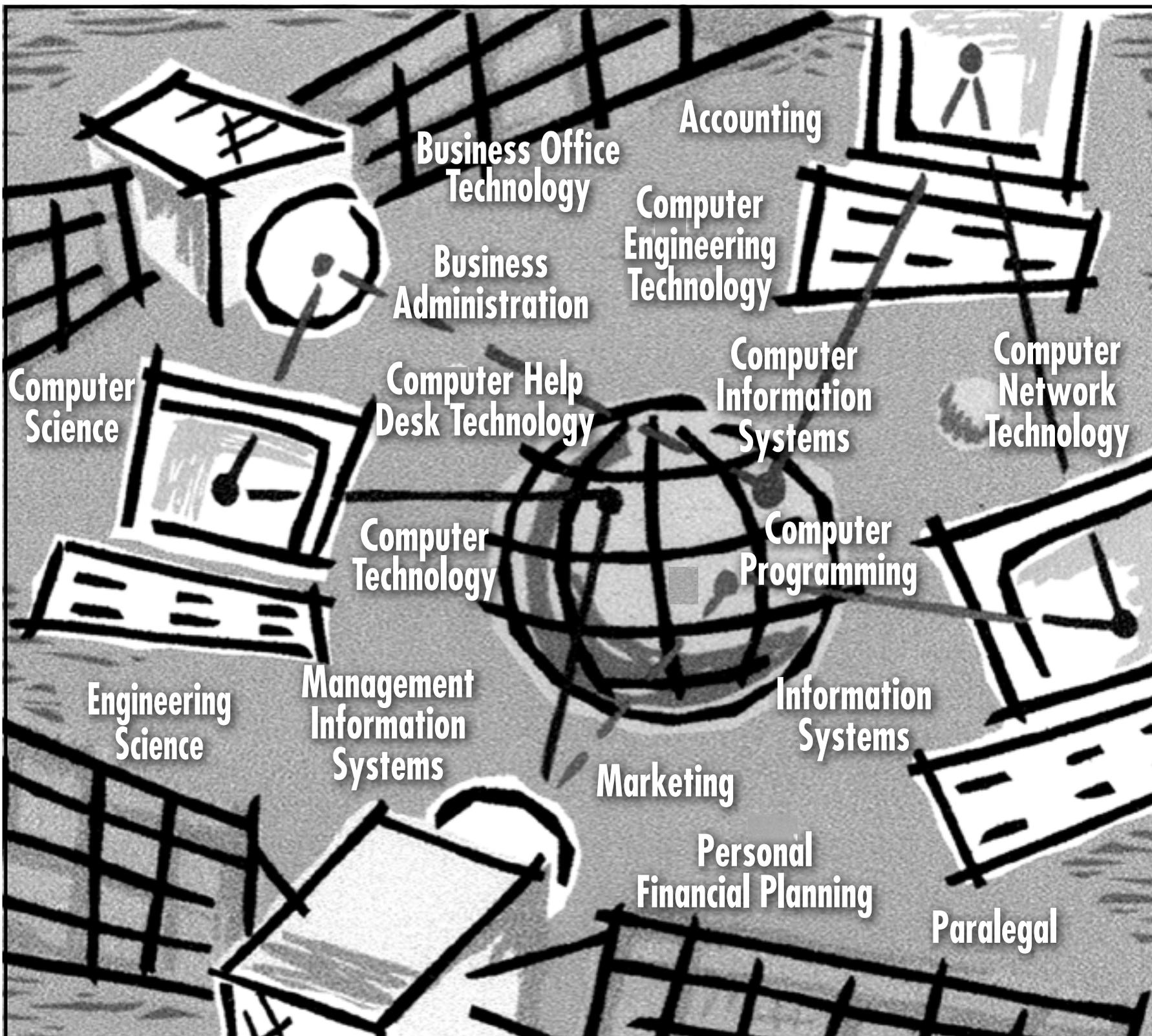


**Tuesday
October 25th, 2005
10:00 am - 1:00 pm
AST Building**

MCC's 7th annual Community Service Fair will bring approximately 25 community based agencies to campus to share with students, and the general public, information about the variety of volunteer opportunities available in the Greater Hartford Area. We encourage students, professionals and community members to attend. The event will provide an excellent opportunity for all involved to learn more about the rewarding experiences that can be gained through Community Service!



For more information, please call Julie Greene, Associate Director of MCC Career Services at (860) 512-3374, or visit the Office in Lowe 177, opposite the bookstore.

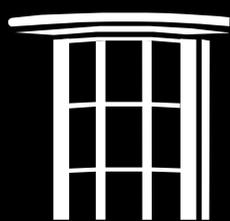


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GUMBO *the way you've never had it*

By Doreen L. Balimidi, *Staff Writer*

GUMBO! A thick stew-like, Creole dish that originated in Louisiana, right? Not at the Live Wire! GUMBO stands for "Gaining Understanding of Many Cultures By Openness." It's the title of our new column devoted to expanding our knowledge about the many cultural influences that make up the recipe of what is America. After all, America was once known as the "Melting Pot," referring to the influx of many cultures immigrating to her shores with the promise of improving their lifestyles and, for some cultures, to gain something they didn't get in their native country: Freedom.

What would you like to know about a specific culture? Have you ever wanted to walk up to someone and ask questions but were embarrassed or felt you would be laughed at? Did you know that the best way to break the ice in getting to know someone is to ask about their cultural traditions? It shows you are interested in what they are all about and you may be surprised that some of their traditions may be similar to yours. And you walk away with a better understanding of another culture without the stereotypes you often see and hear. What are the biggest stereotypes that are out there that exaggerate the true picture of a culture? That is what GUMBO is here to find out and share with our MCC readers. GUMBO will not only embrace ethnic groups to create a one-to-one openness, we will also explore subcultures such as interest groups, special needs groups and groups that affect us spiritually—any culture that you the readers are curious to know more about and to learn what they offer to enrich our world.

In this first issue of GUMBO, we touch upon the Hispanic culture, which in the past few years has become more commonly known as the Latino culture. The term "Hispanic" emerged in the 1970s, created by the U.S. Federal Government to collectively describe the Spanish-speaking population, according to an Ohio University article, *Understanding the Hispanic Culture*, published on the school's Web site. Did you know that the March 2002 U.S. Census recorded 37.4 million people who identify themselves as Hispanic by origin live in the United States? Of that number, 66.9 percent are of Mexican origin, 14.3 percent are Central/South American, 8.6 percent are Puerto Rican, 3.7 percent are Cuban and 6.5 percent are classified as "other," which includes the European/Mediterranean population, such as Spain and Portugal. And in Connecticut alone, 9.4 percent of residents identify themselves as of Hispanic or Latino origin, according to 2000 Census data.

Hispanic Heritage Month began on Sept. 15, which is the Independence Day of five Latin Countries: Costa Rica, Honduras, El Salvador, Nicaragua, and Guatemala. Mexico and Chile also declared their independence in September, according to *Fact Monster.com*. So, through October 15, Hispanic Heritage is honored through a variety of Spanish speaking cultures.

One of the biggest misconceptions about Hispanic culture is that anyone who is a native of a Spanish-speaking country or someone with roots from these countries are the same, when in fact they are not. The language may be similar but there are many words that are spoken differently, from country to country and the foods, traits and customs vary as well.

A source of information about the Latino culture and community is Guakia, Inc., School of Hispanic Music, Art and Dance in the Hartford area. Its Web site is www.guakia.org. Guakia means "we" in Taino, the language of the original natives who inhabited the Caribbean, before Christopher Columbus came. On Saturday, Nov. 5, Guakia, Inc. is sponsoring the 2nd Annual Latinos Who Cook event, an evening of food, fun and dancing. The event will take place from 6:30 to 10 p.m. at Christ Church Cathedral, 45 Church St., in Hartford. Check out the Web site for further details or call 860-548-9555.

Area restaurants that serve food of Latino origin:

Mexican

El Sombrero Mexican Restaurant & Cantina, 151 Queen St., Southington, (860) 621-9474

Spanish Mediterranean

Casa del Sol, 901 Wethersfield Avenue, Hartford, (860) 296-1714

O'Porto, 2074 Park Street, Hartford, (860) 233-3184

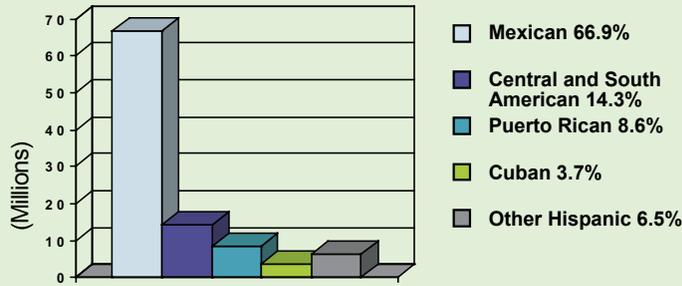
South American

Azul, 124 LaSalle Road, West Hartford, (860) 233-1726

Churrascaria Braza, 488 Farmington Avenue, Hartford (860) 882-1839

Hispanics by Origin: 2002

(in percent)



Source: U. S. Census Bureau, Annual Demographic Supplement to the March 2002 Current Population

Feature Recipe

According to Ray Bayless, chef and author of *Mexico: One Plate at a Time*, "Salsa is neither a dip nor an afterthought." After making this easy Salsa recipe, I guarantee you will never buy "jar" again!

Fresh Tomato Salsa:

3 medium tomatoes, roughly chopped
 1/2 to 1 jalapeno, stemmed and minced with seeds (use less if you like it wimpy)
 1/2 medium red onion, grated
 1 teaspoon kosher salt
 1 clove garlic, peeled
 2 tablespoons extra-virgin olive oil
 1/2 cup chopped fresh cilantro, leaves and stems, divided

Toss the tomatoes with the jalapeno, onion, and the 1/2-teaspoon salt. Smash the garlic clove, sprinkle with the remaining salt and, with the flat side of a large knife, mash and smear the mixture to a coarse paste. Stir the paste into the salsa with the olive oil and 1/4 cup of cilantro.

(Source: Food Network Kitchens, "How to Boil Water" show, "Hot n' Spicy" episode)

Cooking Tip: If you can't get fresh, use 1-2 13 oz. cans of chopped tomatoes. These tomatoes come in several varieties, plain, with jalapeno, even fire-roasted tomatoes. Use what suits you best. Add the rest of the ingredients. Serve with Tortilla chips and your favorite beverage.

Let's speak Spanish:

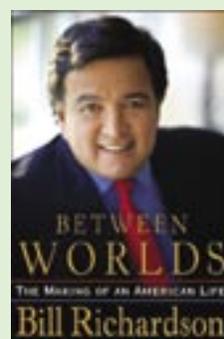
Hello / *Hola*
 Goodbye / *Adios*
 Thank you / *Gracias*
 You're welcome / *De nada*
 How are you / *Como esta?*
 Very well, thank you / *Bien, gracias*
 And you? / *E tu?*
 My Pleasure / *Mucho gusto*

Books to read:

Between Worlds: the Making of a Political Life, by Bill Richardson, Putnam, www.penguin.com

Daisy Cooks! By Daisy Martinez, Hyperion, www.hyperionbooks.com

The Captain of the Sleepers, by Mayra Montero, Farrar, Straus and Groux, www.fsgbooks.com



MCC

President Jonathan Daube uses adjectives to describe Robert Boland: "decency, reliability, total commitment, and truth."

"He even conducted practices during major snow storms, over the phone, e-mail, instant message, and over the internet. It was that dedication that ranked Bob's Mock Trial Program as one of the best in the nation."

—Kim Kyc-Ferchette, former Mock Trial team member

"He always had the same attitude which is why don't we try this, or why don't we try this other thing. There is never just one proposal."

—Alice Savage, Dean of Academic Affairs

"MCC completed him, this is who he belonged as a coach, as a fan, and as a leader."

—Kenneth Osier, brother-in-law

"Bob was not only a consummate faculty member here at MCC, he had a lot of other interests that were exciting and fun, that I shared with him."

—Peter Poulos, MCC Business and Technology

"When he was presented with a case he would consider it carefully, he looked at it from all angles. He was I called, our voice of reason."

—Georgia Buckles, Business and Technologies

"Bob was sincere, with intellectual curiosity, and a profound concern for others."

—Nance Krisenski professor in the Paralegal program

"To me Bob was a strategist, a storyteller, and he was a coach."

—Douglas Dorsey, Academic Affairs Center for Business & Technology Assistant Professor, and a longtime

"He taught me the inner workings of the law when I was on my way to becoming an Attorney."

—Nate Lavallo, former Mock Trial competitor

"He gave me the confidence to do what I really wanted to do; which was to become a teacher."

—Sharon Daily, former student

"He had a theory on everything. Bob was a unique individual, unlike anyone I will ever know in my lifetime."

—Anthony J. Gryk Jr., attorney and friend

"He made everyone he met a better person, he's a great grandfather, the world has lost a great man."

—Maribel Boland, daughter

Remembers Bob Boland



Robert Boland at home in Manchester, March 17, 2005.

By Keith Rugar, *Assistant Editor*

When Robert Boland, a longtime professor at Manchester Community College, died in June, the MCC community lost a true friend, and mentor said many faculty members and friends.

Boland, who suffered from a blood-related cancer throughout the 2004–2005 school year, died on June 3 at the age of 51. Boland, who was loved for his passionate involvement on campus, and respected for his scholarly attributes, left behind a strong legacy at MCC, said Donna Nicholson, coordinator of the Criminal Justice program.

“He was frustratingly perfect, level-headed and scholarly,” said Nicholson, who worked with Boland for 10 years.

Boland, who grew up in Manchester, attended Stonehill College in Easton, Mass., where he received his bachelor’s degree in economics. He then attended The Columbus School of Law at Catholic University of America in Washington, D.C.

In 1979, Boland joined the Manchester law office of Montstream,

Brown, and May. He also worked as an assistant attorney for Manchester from 1989–1991. Boland was also affiliated with the U. S District Court for the District of Connecticut, and a member of bar associations in Connecticut, Hartford County and Manchester.

Boland became an adjunct faculty member at MCC in 1983, and was hired as an assistant professor in 1996. He earned tenure in 2002. He then earned his MBA from the University of Connecticut in 2002 and was promoted to professor of law in April 2005. In his time at MCC, Boland taught 10 classes ranging from business law to legal ethics and trial techniques.

However, his number one passion on campus was the Mock Trial Team, said his daughter, Maribel Boland.

Boland started the team with Nicholson in 1996. Mock Trial is a competition where 20 teams from 10 schools compete against each other in a courtroom atmosphere. Cases are tried and students are judged and scored on their accuracy in prosecution and defense, as well as acting as witnesses.

Under Boland’s direction and leadership, the team achieved success. In 2000, the team made it to the national finals and

ranked fourth in the national standings. The Mock Trial team also earned the right to host the Northeastern Regional competition at MCC and did so from 1999–2004.

“The Mock Trial team was his life,” said Maribel Boland.

Nicholson agreed.

“We would work 30-hour weeks from August till June,” she said. “He never closed his doors to the Mockers. He would be the last one to leave the campus, and he would be here on Sundays for the students.”

Nicholson said she and Boland worked well together.

“We were ying and yang, intellect versus emotion, and it was the combination of the two that made the Mock Trial team so successful. We were a perfect fit,” she said.

Outside of MCC, Boland had a busy family and community life. Boland, who never married, met Maribel Rivera through a friend when she was looking for legal advice. Boland became her mentor when she was 15 and adopted her on March 17, 2005, becoming a grandfather to her three children Hector, Isis, and Melanie.

“He helped me turn my life around,” said Maribel Boland. “He filled the father role, helped me get a GED, and advised me go to college. He was everything to me. He was the first one to hold my daughter. He was more than just a common man.”

MCC President Jonathan Daube also praised Boland’s life.

“I hired him, and am pleased that I did. He was very committed to the students,” he said. “Above all he was a very decent and honest person, he was not flamboyant, and there was strength in his quiet ways. And I miss him.”

A scholarship has been established in Boland’s name to assist MCC students. To make a contribution or for more information contact the Manchester Scholarship Foundation, 20 Hartford Road, Manchester, CT 06040.



Maribel Boland with Robert Boland at her wedding, Oct. 29, 2001.



Robert Boland, far right in glasses, with the Mock Trial Team in 2000.



Robert Boland with granddaughter, Isis Delgado, in May 2004.



Robert Boland with his grandson Hector Rivera at Hector's first Communion.

Hispanic heritage gets celebración

By Darzell Brown, *Staff Writer*

Music, fun and flavor were on hand last month during the opening ceremony of the Hispanic Heritage Month observance at Manchester Community College.

Joe Mesquita, director of the office of Minority and International Student Programs, opened the ceremony. MCC President Jonathan Daube joked that he can relate to members of the Hispanic community because he himself is a minority. He added that "We should call it Hispanic Heritages month" because there are many Hispanic nations.

Lillian Ortiz, dean of Institutional Development and the first Hispanic dean in the state of Connecticut, spoke next.

"Latinos represent 10 percent of the enrollment here at MCC," she said, "and we need to get that number up."

In addition to the speakers, musical guest The Curtis Brothers performed their version of modern Latino jazz. More than 100 faculty, staff and students attended the ceremony.

Indiana Gomez, vice president of the MCC Hispanic Club, said the month-long celebration fills a void.

"It helps Hispanics who were raised here in America learn more about their culture. It is sad that a lot of the fellow Hispanic students didn't attend today's event," she said. "It would be better if they came and learned more about their heritage. But I'm excited to see the huge amount of students who aren't Hispanic come out and take part in celebrating."

Mesquita said the Hispanic Heritage program is one of several produced by his office to support not just minority students, but all students.

"I value the fact that I'm apart of an institution where everyone promotes mutual respect and sharing," he said, "and today is an example of that."

The Hispanic Heritage Month program concludes on Oct. 20 with a student panel, "Latino Students on the Move" at 12-2 p.m. in the Fireside Commons in the library. For more details call Joe Mesquita at 860-512-3205.



NEW PRINCIPAL
continued from p. 1

Cathedral of Saint Joseph School, both in Hartford. He was also vice principal of Hartford's Weaver High School.

Danehy said he is impressed with what he's seen of GPA students so far. Their involvement in a college environment "makes students feel more mature, and, as a

result, act more mature," he said, adding that "students have less time to deal with immature behavior."

How do GPA students and faculty feel about the new principal?

"I think he's great. I think he has a lot of experience and he's going to help us move Great Path to the next step," said English teacher Mary Caplan.

Math teacher Michael West shares her opinion.

"So far, everything he has done has run smoothly, so that's a good sign," he said.

Students also seem to approve of their new principal.

"He's really nice! He gave me money once," said junior Shaquana Leggett.

"I think he's really honest with us. He was really open with us at orientation about himself," said Jen Arnt, also a junior.

As for the future of GPA, Danehy seemed to know exactly what he wants.

"Our immediate plan is to build enrollment up to 325 students by the fall of 2008," he said.

Danehy said he plans to reach that goal by opening the school to more school districts, including, but not limited to, Andover, West Hartford, Wethersfield, and Hebron.



Mega Education's Samuel Vega Jr. introduces Attorney Jeffrey Dressler as students look on.

At the Hispanic Heritage Month Lunch, students listen to Samuel Vega Jr. after enjoying their meal.



MCC hosts two new Minority Fellows

By Marcus Hatfield, *Staff Writer*

For the past 10 years, the Minority Fellowship Program has paired its participants within Connecticut's Community College System with seasoned college veterans, who act as mentors and pass on their expertise and real world experience in a manner unique to the program. This academic year, Manchester Community College is hosting fellows Wanda Reyes-Dawes and Eric Robinson.

The Program offers two types of fellowships: teaching and administrative. Teaching fellows are mentored by professors and are expected to assist the mentor in teaching courses. Administrative fellows spend a minimum of six hours per week in structured administrative activity.

"Being a fellow has given me the opportunity to see everything from the inside," said Reyes-Dawes, who is an administrative fellow working in the Center for Student Development with mentor Voncille Wright, the center's director. "If I had simply been hired, I would not have had the same opportunities."

Robinson, who is a teaching fellow in the Sociology department, agreed.

"I can say unequivocally that I would be limited as a professor without this opportunity," he said. Robinson is being mentored by Professor Jean Wynn, who is an associate professor in the Social Science and Hospitality division.

Candidates to the Fellowship Program must have completed a graduate program and have an interest in a career in community colleges. Then each candidate is interviewed by a five-person-panel, during which they are asked about their background and experience, as well as their interests, goals, and aspirations. Reyes-Dawes and Robinson were notified of their selections near the beginning of August.

Reyes-Dawes holds a master's degree in

Counseling and Student Development in Higher Education from Central Connecticut State University. The fellowship program was recommended to her when she completed her required internship at MCC's financial aid office. She said the program appealed to her because of her desire to work directly with community college students.

Robinson teaches "Principles of Sociology" as an adjunct professor at MCC. He has also previously taught at the University of Connecticut and the Springfield College School of Social Work. He earned his master's degree in social work at Smith College.

"This is the best teaching experience I've had, bar none," said Robinson.

He explains that his weekly meetings with Professor Wynn have provided a wealth of information, and that both Wynn and the entire MCC community have been generous in extending their resources to him. An example: despite his previous teaching experience, this semester is the first in which Robinson has been able to take advantage of the time-saving Scantron, an electronic device that scans student tests so that instructors don't have to grade them by hand.

Both Robinson and Reyes-Dawes said they would like to remain at MCC once the academic year, and thus their participation in the program, is complete.

Reyes-Dawes said she hopes to work in the Student Affairs Office, preferably as a counselor, offering career guidance to community college students.

"I want to motivate and empower the students," she said. "I want them to know that they can continue to get their education at MCC and elsewhere."

Robinson said his goal is to become a full-time teacher. For now, he is getting the most out of the program.

"Now I'm like a student," he said. "I'm learning so much, and the program is so enriching. It contributes to my strengths as a professor."

continued from p. 1

The recommendations include urging faculty members to know the price of textbooks they are considering for classes and use that price as a consideration as they plan their textbooks use; faculty should be encouraged to use textbooks for multiple terms or years and for multiple courses; and the practice of “bundling” course materials should stop. Bundling is when various materials—textbooks, workbooks, CD-ROMS and other elements—are shrink-wrapped together and sold as a single package to students rather than allowing students to purchase those elements separately.

In addition to the recommendations report, an open floor was given to anyone who wished address the issue. Members of various constituencies commented during the open discussion period.

Used textbooks were heralded as one effective way students can reduce textbook costs, according to Jade Roth, vice president for books for Barnes & Noble College Booksellers. She said students can save 25 percent by purchasing a used text. However, she said, the demand for used textbooks exceeds the supply; therefore some students must buy new books.

Roth said class instructors select the educational materials—either a single textbook or a bundle—and provide the bookstore with the purchase information. After that, the store must “source” the book. Sourcing books is another term for locating the book. And the first step in this process is to buy back textbooks that students no longer want or need. If the faculty member provides textbook information for the next term in a timely manner, the students are then paid 50 percent of the purchase price for selling their used book back to the bookstore.

But, faculty member do not always provide book information for the next term in time for buybacks to be arranged.

“It is our company goal to have 90 percent of all faculty adoptions by finals,” Roth said. “Last buyback period, the Connecticut stores averaged 67 percent, up from 53 percent the year prior...”

Demetrius Giannaros, professor of economics at the University of Hartford, said part of the problem with textbooks is the monopolization of the publishing business by a few publishers. Prices are higher, he said, because there is not enough competition. He also said that the class professor is partly to blame for the costs that students pay.

“What the [publishing] industry is doing is best for the industry, that’s capitalism...The professor is in control not the [student]...” Giannaros said.

Giannaros, who is also a Democratic state representative from Farmington, said he is never given a price list and when he inquires the salesperson says

he call with the information but he never does, Giannaros said. In addition, Giannaros said once he began to compare prices he found macroeconomics textbooks that books ranged in price from \$60 to \$175.

“I looked myself on the Internet to see what prices I could get and they range from \$88 to \$150 for the same text,” he said. “I told my students to forget the bookstore go and buy it on the Internet. We must empower our students.”

Bruce Hildebrand, executive director for higher education for the Association of American Publishers (AAP), said the publishing industry is trying to stay competitive as more sources for textbooks appear on the Internet.

“The average four-year college student spends about \$600 per year on textbooks,” he said, “equal or less than 5 percent of their education dollar.”

But University of Connecticut students Saachi Kumar and Van McPherson disagreed with Hildebrand, adding that new editions of textbooks are really old editions with rearranged pictures and words. Kumar is a premed major and McPherson is a political science major.

“I pay over \$1,000 per semester [for books...]” Kumar said, adding that she is particularly bothered by the practice of bundling. “I’m at college to learn from a professor. I don’t want to be taught from a computer screen. The fact of the matter is we don’t have time to go through five million supplementary materials when you have six courses, a job to try to pay for all of this and extracurricular activities while you are trying to study.”

McPherson agreed with Kumar.

“I bought a used book. It was \$167 from the co-op [bookstore]. I found it disheartening that the book was almost a page on page match from the previous edition,” McPherson said. “With art books you’re not going to put a new Monet or Picasso in it.”

Thomas Bavier, MCC dean of administrative affairs who represented the interests of community colleges at the summit, said several steps are being taken to address the issue.

“MCC and Follett [the company that runs the MCC bookstore] will hold an open forum on our campus this year with our faculty and staff to discuss emerging issues and concerns regarding textbook pricing,” he said. “Our goal is to increase the buy back dollars paid to students.”

Valerie F. Lewis, commissioner of the state department of higher education and the moderator of the summit, urged the audience to contact her via e-mail or phone with suggestions to “find common ground that meets our goal of mitigating costs without taking away [academic and capitalist freedoms].” She can be reached at vlew@ctdhe.org or at 860-947-1801.

The Taskforce is scheduled to submit its final report to the Board of Governors in April 2006.

Understanding Scotland

19th Annual Global Issues Conference

Saturday
October 22, 2005

9:00 a.m.-4:30 p.m.

Manchester Community College

SBM Charitable Foundation Auditorium

The 2000 census reports nearly 10 million Americans with Scots or Scots-Irish ancestry, yet mention Scotland to most and visions of tartans and bagpipes come to mind. However, modern day Scotland is one of the world’s most urbanized societies, with the vast majority of its people living in the industrialized Lowlands. It has contributed substantially, not only to the development of the United Kingdom, but to the world at large.

Speakers

Scots Law in a Time of Legal Globalization
Lord Rodger of Earlsferry

Scots Exodus and the U.S.A.
Professor Thomas Devine, O.B.E.

Scotland: How to Survive Sharing a Bed with an Elephant
Sir Russell Hillhouse, K.C.B.

The Church of Scotland:
From ‘Established Church’ to Minority Church
The Very Reverend Professor Iain Torrance

Conference tickets:
general public, \$20; students, \$5 (I.D. required).
Cost includes Scottish luncheon.

Information: 860-512-2752



MANCHESTER
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Editorials

'Hello, my name is...'

By Tish Wilson, *Live Wire Editor*



provided by Tish Wilson

I'M SURE EVERYONE WHO READS THIS has seen this item that I am about to describe. Most likely you have worn one on your lapel. Let me give you one more hint. It does tell one important fact about you. Did you figure out what I'm talking about?

If not, for the sake of time I must reveal the answer to my riddle. It's one of those stickers that say, "Hello my name is..." And I will fill in the blank: Tish. I am the new editor of our

paper, "The Live Wire." Since this is the first issue produced with me as editor, I think it is fitting that I inform you of who I am and my vision for our paper.

My major is communications and I have a passion for people. I envision "The Live Wire" as a paper with a purpose. We are a public servant, here to present the truth of stories in an unbiased manner. It

is our responsibility to inform, entertain, and enlighten you with every issue. Our paper is here to serve you, the reader. Our mission, first and foremost is to you, the reader.

So keeping that in mind, we, the staff of "The Live Wire," need your help. While we search for events and issues to cover, we can do only so much. We need you to not only keep your eyes and ears open but also to contact us, via e-mail or telephone, of upcoming events or issues on campus and in the local community that are important to you. It is my goal to improve the quality of our paper and expand the readership. But no woman is an island; all of your comments and suggestions will be read and taken into consideration.

By now I'm sure you've noticed that the paper looks a little different. The leaves will be changing soon, so the paper has a fresh

new look for the fall semester. Read it from cover to cover. Plug into "The Live Wire" and let it generate your minds.

Our first issue features a center spread dedicated to the life of Robert Boland. Although I didn't know him personally, I know that he will be sorely missed. He touched many lives and hearts in the MCC community and abroad. I want to thank him for the human being and man that he was to so many people. The way those who knew him speak of his character and his traits should inspire us all. This first issue is dedicated to him. May he forever be remembered.

I want to also thank this team of hard workers, from our faculty advisors and layout designer to our writers, photographers and interns. Our first issue looks good but the best is yet to come.

—Tish

Reporter finds common ground with DeBonee

By J. Ashley Odell, *Staff Writer*

Sometimes when you read novels about journalists, you'll come across a scene where the reporter is researching a story and they suddenly find something that changes the mood entirely. The author of the novel doesn't tell you what it is at first, but you shortly begin to figure out what it is: The reporter and the person they're researching are strangely alike, and they're only just beginning to realize this. The scene inevitably ends with the reporter "getting chills" or something else cliché.

Well, this is going to be one of those cliché articles, so bear with me.

I went to the Kristin DeBonee Walk 'N' Roll this morning, partly to cover it for the Live Wire and partly to volunteer with registration. I was expecting to get there around 9:30 a.m., write down some facts, get a few quotes, take some pictures, and be home by noon.

It's about 3:30 p.m. now, and here I sit in the Live Wire office, with no plans to leave any time soon.

Kristin DeBonee, as you (hopefully) read in the news article on the event, was an MCC graduate who died in March 2001. She was 21, yet she wasn't supposed to live past age 4 due to a debilitating disease known as spinal muscular atrophy. From everything I've learned about her in just one day, the fact that she blew past that age—and then some—isn't surprising.

The list of similarities was immediately apparent to me. Kristin was a fellow Manchester girl. We both finished high school with high honors. She loved to read, and she took pride in her academic successes, just as I do. She liked Winnie the Pooh, watching figure skating and gymnastics, and collecting stamps. She listened to the same music I listen to now. She was strong in her faith, as I try to be, and was never ashamed to admit that.

She was an aunt who was loving the experience of watching her niece Julia, whom she called her "jewel," grow up. She was even there to assist when Julia was born. I've been a proud auntie for almost my entire life, but with my youngest niece, Morgan, I've had a similar experience. I was there for the first appointment to hear her heartbeat, I was there for her ultrasounds, and I'm still there for the coloring sessions and fragmented discussions about Ernie and Thomas the Tank Engine.

From the moment she set foot on campus, Kristin was very involved with clubs, including two of the same ones I'm involved with. We even have a shared position—staff writer for the Live Wire. She loved to write and studied English at Saint Joseph. I write constantly and plan on studying English when I transfer. She completed an internship while at MCC, which happens to be the same one I'm thinking of applying for next semester.

Kristin had a muscular atrophy disorder; I have a neurological disorder that causes atrophy of the muscles. She had limited use of her hands and needed accommodations to get her work done as a student, just as I do. Regardless, she wanted to be viewed as Kristin, not a disability, which is something to which a whole lot of us relate.

Kristin died way too young—we all know that. However, if it hadn't been for her walk today, I never would've known that she was a Live Wire writer. I never would've stayed here late to go through the archives and dig out all of her old newspapers. (She was a fabulous writer, by the way. I'm very envious.) I never would've learned everything I have about her so far. I never would've found myself making plans to come back to learn more.

More importantly, for me anyway, I never would've met her mother today. I wouldn't have gotten the "you go do it" pep talk from her, "it" referring to my dreams. Kristin had it far worse than me physically, yet look at everything she accomplished. I'm hesitating about simply submitting an application to do an internship next semester out of fear I won't be "able" enough to do the work, and she actually did it for an entire semester. What exactly is there to fear? Kristin wasn't afraid.

Kristin did die too young, but she didn't die without affecting anyone. The articles her friends from the Live Wire wrote about her after her death show that, but today did as well. Not only did more than 100 people come out to show their support for her mission - that being support for people with disabilities - but one in particular found a personal hero they desperately needed.

Thank you, Kristin.

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Meet with a Bryant University transfer counselor at the Manchester Community College Transfer College Fair on November 3, 2005 from 10 a.m. - 1 p.m.

BRYANT FACTS

- Bryant's academic programs: applied psychology, business administration, communication, information technology, international business, and liberal arts
- Transfer scholarships from \$7,000 to \$20,000 are available for academically qualified students.
- 94 percent of the class of 2004 were employed or enrolled in graduate school within six months of graduation.
- Last year almost 300 companies recruited Bryant students.
- Bryant is ranked #2 "Most Connected Campus" by *The Princeton Review* on Forbes.com.



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Smoke Gets in Your Eyes

By Amy L. Kendall, *Staff Writer*

Perhaps you've seen them around campus—signs reading “Smoking is Permitted only in the Parking Lots”? There seems to be a lot of misunderstanding about what a parking lot is at Manchester Community College.

For example, the area directly outside the rotunda doors is *not* a parking lot, nor is the Village area between the main campus buildings. And exiting five steps out any door on campus does not put you in a parking lot.

On a day like one we had recently, with its drizzling rain and gusty winds, I understand why smokers wish to cluster at the rotunda doors. A light rain is certain to cause any MCC smoker to melt. Soon, it will be winter and our smokers won't want to venture far. You wouldn't want to get frostbite while getting those few drags between classes.

You may think this editorial is an attack on your right to smoke, but this is neither an attack nor a plea for you to stop smoking. It is your right as an American to spend over \$1,800 a year on your pack-a-day habit; the government greatly appreciates your contribution of more than \$2.50 per pack in taxes. If you want to suck down chemicals such as benzene, carbon monoxide, arsenic, and hydrogen cyanide, well it is your body. Never mind that tobacco kills more Americans than the AIDS virus, illegal drugs, homicides, fires, and auto accidents combined—you're immortal anyway!

And MCC employees are grateful to you too. Think of the janitorial staff you're helping to employ just by tossing your discarded butts wherever you please. This campus isn't your home; why should you have to worry about keeping it clean?!

What I am asking for from smokers is respect.

First and foremost, respect your fellow classmates, faculty and staff. Give them space to exit the building without having to navigate through a cloud of second-hand smoke. Allow them to walk between buildings or to sit in the

courtyard and enjoy some fresh air. Understand that some people at MCC have severe allergies, and when you expose them to your habit you rob them of their ability to function at their best.

Second, respect the school. The MCC campus is one of the best looking of the almost 60 college campuses I've seen. How do you think it looks to a first-time visitor who is greeted by a carpet of cigarette butts at the door?

Lastly, respect yourselves. As I mentioned, smoking *is* your right, but how do you think you look standing in front of a no smoking sign, puffing away? You think you look so cool, such the rebel defying authority. Well, in the opinion of this writer, you look like you can't read.

I also want to challenge the MCC administration: if you are going to have a policy such as “Smoking is Permitted only in the Parking Lots,” then please enforce it. I understand that the school can't have someone watching for smokers every minute. However, the occasional dispersal of offending smokers by the MCC police is not the answer. The offenders simply circle back to the door once the police have gone.

In closing, I would like to offer two solutions to this problem.

First, school officials should consider placing a smoking courtyard in the parking lot. Smokers would then have a designated area to smoke in. Perhaps the school could even go so far as to require it be kept clean or revoke smokers' privileges.

My second, and certainly less popular idea, is to enact a fine system for offenders. If you're parked illegally on campus you get a ticket. Issue a ticket to a smoker who has illegally parked themselves too close to the buildings. The State of Connecticut can issue a fine of \$219 for anyone caught littering. If someone decides to discard their cigarette on the ground, ticket them. All this extra money could then be used either in a scholarship fund, an anti-smoking education for children, or maybe even a donation to the American Cancer Society in Manchester Community College's name.

Leave the Smokers Alone Already!

By Mary Atamian, *Staff Writer*

“Reminder: Smoking is permitted only in the parking lots.”

I'm just sitting here, at a table, and staring at a sign that reads that. The wind blows, sending the smell of cigarette smoke into my nostrils. It is soon replaced by the smell of someone's cologne.

So smoking isn't permitted, but cologne is? How is one more wrong than the other?

I strongly believe that smoking should be allowed everywhere on campus, except for inside the buildings. There is enough ventilation to drive the smell away outside. Besides, the smell still gets on the person's clothes anyway, so the rest of the campus still smells something. And

if the administration has such strident rules about smoking in the parking lots, why are all the ‘Butt Depots’ in front of the buildings? Think about these things, people! And if the administration wants these rules to be enforced, they actually have to get out and do something!

If one does go out into the parking lots to smoke, then they do run the risk of getting run over.

As a rather dramatic twist of irony, I just witnessed a student sit down next to the warning sign, cigarette in hand. He doesn't care what the administration says. I don't care that he's smoking around me. No one else cares. It's his choice to smoke; he can do it where ever he wants to!

Full lots lead to frustration

By Jonathan Muszynski, *Staff Writer*

This semester at Manchester Community College, it's easy to notice that there are a lot of new faces. There seems to be many more students, period. The hallways teem with humanity between classes. This is not mere perception. Since the opening of the new campus, enrollment has gone up, rising four percent since just last semester. Our new campus seems to be handling it well. Except for one area.

If you are one of the many students who like to arrive ten minutes before class and try to find parking, you may have noticed that our parking lots are straining under the stress of the hundreds of cars students use to get to our commuter school. Perhaps you have experienced the unique thrill of desperately circling Lot C along with ten other cars, silently cursing those who linger in conversation by their cars. “Your classes are over,” you think bitterly to yourself. “Quit yer yappin' and get out of my space.”

And when these lollygaggers finally move, a car from the other direction may have cut you off, stealing your coveted space and denying you vehicular potency.

Fine, you figure, I'll just park in the back, at the farthest reaches of the lot; surely there must be a vacancy at the lengths that no commuter dare tread. But what's this? It's more than the front of the lot that is full. Even the absolute furthest spot from the AST building in the C lot is taken. In fact, one can see that other students have resorted to parking next to curbs along the corners of the lots, reducing the size of

lanes meant for driving, not parking. On days with speakers or job fairs drawing non-students as well, our ability to find a parking spot is greatly diminished.

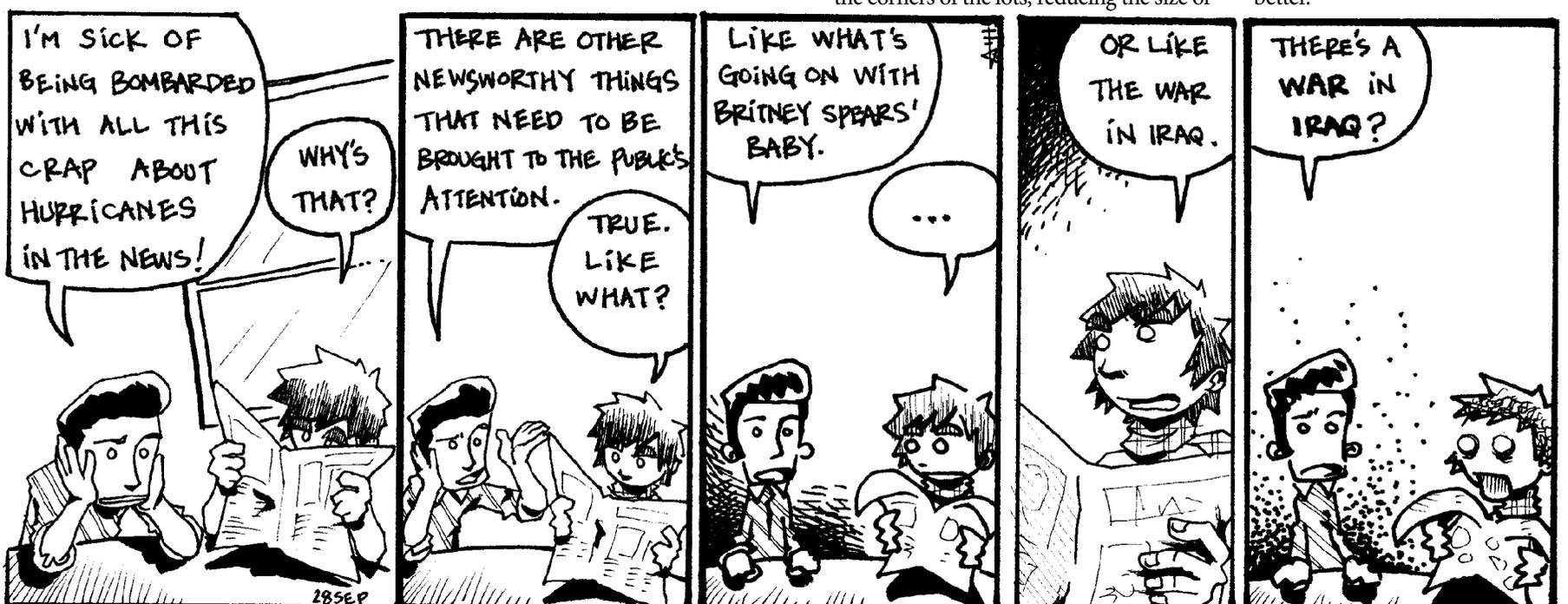
The lot by the Lowe building is not much better. If anyone dared, and arrived well before class, one might find a spot in the parking lot by the old lower campus. But as everyone in Connecticut knows, that long walk will become biting cold as we move into winter.

Recently, parking by the band shell has been opened for the overflow. And as more students drop classes in these early weeks, the parking congestion has been clearing up. However, as a commuter school, making sure that there is adequate parking should be a priority for MCC. It is true that most students drive to and from school, each in their individual auto. Programs such as car-pooling could be initiated by the Student Senate, but that Band-aid will not hold back the tide forever, if it even catches on.

Traffic woes are not unique to MCC. The entire state should look into better mass transit, as anyone who's driven on I-84 can tell you. After all, what good is higher enrollment if students have no way to use their cars to get there?

Before 2010, MCC must address its growing parking woes before aggravation turns to crisis. MCC certainly has enough land to add more parking. The most exciting event during your day at college should not be jockeying for a place to park your wheels. We students deserve better.

If at First You Don't Succeed



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Acoustic Alchemy performance jazzes MCC crowd

By Keith Rugar, Assistant Editor

With a rollicking show that featured old and new music, Acoustic Alchemy kicked off its North American tour on Sept. 28 at Manchester Community College's SBM Charitable Foundation Auditorium.

AA, which has been around since 1985, is a British adult contemporary jazz band whose first album, "Red Dust," was released in 1987. Since then the group has enjoyed critical acclaim for its instrumental albums and has earned a following of loyal fans wherever they go. The group is marking its 20th anniversary this year, and is touring in support of its 15th album, "American English."

The band consists of founding member Greg Carmichael on string guitar, Miles Gilderdale on electric guitar, Fred White on keyboards, Eddie M. on saxophone, Frank Felix on bass and drummer Greg Grainger.

The nucleus of the band revolves around the relationship between the two guitars, said Carmichael.

"It is the tonal balance of the two guitars

that I loved when me and [co-founder] Nick Webb started the band," Carmichael said. "It provides almost a ying-yang effect that was unique at the time, and I feel that it still is today."

Over the years, the band has been able to experiment with different styles of music. Some of their recordings are upbeat rock, while some of their other songs take on a more mellow tone, and they even have a few reggae inspired songs.

"Since we write instrumentals it gives us the freedom to work through different genres of music," said Carmichael.

At MCC, the auditorium was filled with about 300 loyal fans. As the band took to the stage, a cheerful roar went up. The group played songs from various periods of its 20-year career, starting off with "Georgia Peach," a light tune from "Red Dust." The crowd then became excited as the band began playing "Say Yah" the first single from "American English." "Say Yah" is an up-tempo pop tune that provided the only vocals of the evening in the songs hook, "Say Yah."

After that, the band went into a reggae

inspired song called "The Beautiful Game," from their album of the same title. They played many extended songs with several guitar and saxophone solos, but not in a jam band kind of way. Nothing about the group's music is over done. It is as though every note has a purpose. Their songs are crafted in a pop format, using jazz styling to bring texture to the music.

Near the end of the show the band performed some of its livelier songs, which had the band rocking and guitarist Gilderdale whaling on his hollow body electric guitar. Members of the crowd then jumped out of their seats and began dancing. Lights from the stage were scanned back at the audience in time with the music, an effect that created a quick blur of light, like a train going through a subway station. As the band reached the peak of their performance, the volume and intensity of their music began to grow until it all built up to one final note. At that point the frenzied audience cheered and gave the band a boisterous standing ovation.

The concert began a school year of concerts planned for MCC, said Carl Ochnio, director of Career Services and coordinator of the concert.

"My goal is to bring national acts to MCC," he said. "We have a great facility here that provides for an intimate atmosphere that is great for these kinds of shows."

Future performances include jazz artists Marion Meadows on Nov. 11 and Brian Culbertson on Dec. 30. For more information visit the college Web site at www.mcc.commnet.edu.

'5 and Dime' exhibit buys controversy

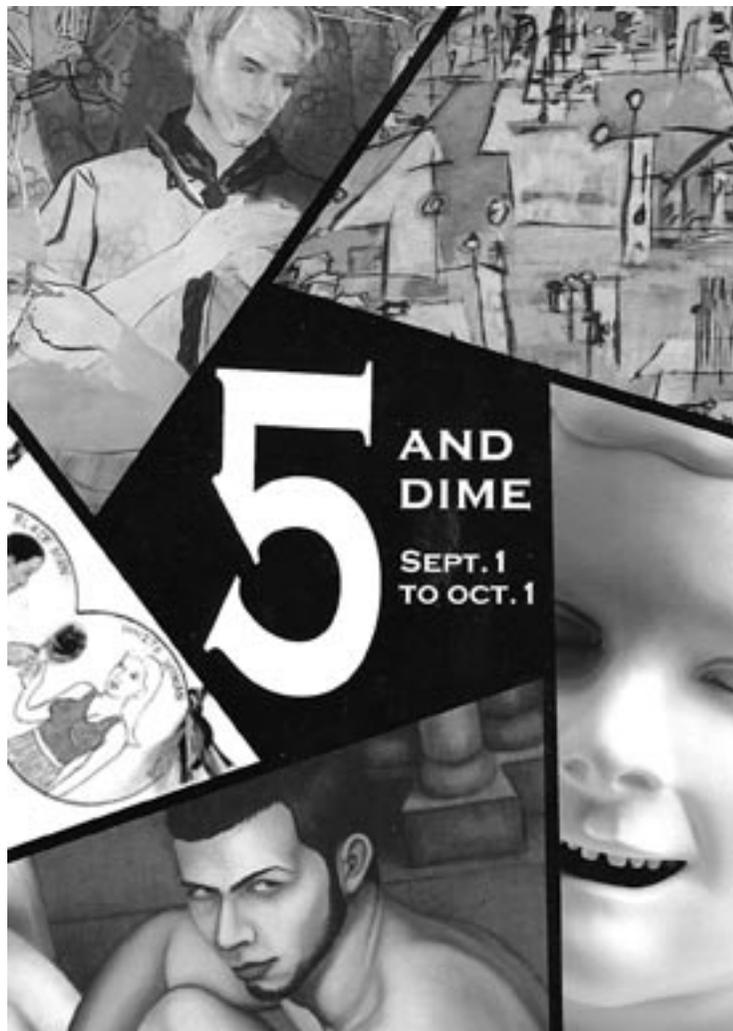
By Wyatt Shibley

On September 1 the Hans Weiss Newspace Gallery opened its doors to the "5 and Dime" exhibit featuring artwork by five talented MCC alumni. Artists Jon-Ramsay Barnes, Tanya Batura, Maria Gabriela Galarza-Block, Raymond J. Majerski and Brandon Wallace work in a range of medias and styles that, although varying, compliment each other well. Although every piece in this exhibit is an awe-inspiring display of talent, it's the work of Raymond J. Majerski, and to a somewhat lesser degree John-Ramsay Barnes, that has raised the most eyebrows and stirred the most controversy around campus.

Majerski pours his Catholic upbringing and his experience as a gay man into his art. However, when describing his work in his artist's statement Majerski says "My personal life is private. I do not want my art labeled as "gay art", nor "American Roman Catholic." With scenes of mildly graphic homosexuality involving exposed genitals and religious figures, his paintings are sure to shock, offend, or inspire all who see them. If a good controversy has a fairly balanced amount of supporters and opponents, Majerski's art is definitely good controversy. It only takes thumbing through the comment sheet left on a table outside the exhibit to see the range of reactions viewers have had. With everything from a short and simple "pornography," to long messages of support and encouragement, it's clear that students are almost split in their reactions. However, his most poignant and moving pieces are three paintings depicting scenes from Nazi Germany. Each

painting looks quite dated and all three have German slogans on them. These paintings focus on the persecution of homosexuals under Hitler's regime; one of many groups heavily persecuted by the Nazis but rarely spoken about. Possibly the most touching of these three shows a group of men in a concentration camp with the phrase "Nur harte arbiel heilt perverse," or "Only hard work cures pervers" printed on it. It is also important not to overlook the depth of meaning in these paintings "These drawings are also a metaphor for the stringent rules of conduct, acceptability and conformity in modern gay male society," Majerski said in his artist's statement.

The art of Jon-Ramsay Barnes offsets that of Majerski with use of lighter colors and more lighthearted motifs. Boy Scouts, young friendships, and group acceptance are reoccurring themes in Barnes' art. Although a few of his paintings are somewhat sexual, it's a fairly innocent sexuality. In one painting a Boy Scout is getting his thigh examined by a nurse for ticks, and looks noticeably aroused. This speaks to memories of youth and adolescence and serves as a sort of nostalgia for the things



not commonly spoken about. Many of Barnes' pieces consist of two-dimensional drawings set against simple backgrounds with different pictures of a certain repeating image overlying the main picture. In the case of the previously mentioned painting, a series of black tick outlines cover the piece. Many of his paintings seem to reflect his experience as a photographer by holding a specific moment for viewers to examine. One is left staring at such works watching the motion in the picture, the words in the mouths of the people, the move they are about to

make, and the thoughts inside their head.

It's a common thought that literature presents readers with words and stories, and leaves the readers to make images in their heads. Visual art immediately presents people with an image. Because of this the biggest challenge for a visual artist is to make their viewers stop and think. When this challenge is met, the world is graced with the communication of an idea that transcends language barriers by speaking to the human mind itself. The artwork at the "5 and Dime" exhibit does exactly that. Whether people have found it offensive, inspiring, or just plain shocking, these pieces have stopped their audience dead in their tracks and left them wondering.

Kanye's 'Late Registration' Earns a Good Grade 15

By Kris Venezuela, *Staff Writer*

It's been about a year and a half since Kanye West of Rocafella Records released his freshman album "The College Dropout." Now he's come out with his second effort, called "Late Registration."

"Registration" has a lot to live up to, compared to "Dropout," which was nominated for several Grammy Awards and won best rap album in 2004.

"Registration" makes a grand entrance with a song featuring Adam Levine of Maroon 5 titled "Heard 'Em Say." The bass is well put together and the piano melody both make the song lullaby-like with a hip-hop twist. Levine comes in with warm vocals that round out the rough edges and makes the song sound different compared to anything Kanye has done so far.

Another track that comes as part of the package that has been released as the second single is "Gold Digger," which features an appearance by Oscar-winning actor Jamie Foxx. Kanye flips the table by pairing the song with samples from the late Ray Charles' "I Got a Woman." The song shows the ego of Kanye and all the "girl-problems" that come with being a star. The whole beat of the song has a blues-type vibe and Kanye's sing-talk delivery gives it a good-humored feel.

In a great album there has to be some collaboration with other artists, and with Kanye's reputation as "the Louis Vuitton Don," there seems to be no problem getting that help. Appearances on "Registration" include Dipset's own Cam' Ron, rapper Common, "Houston's finest" Paul Wall, rapper The Game, new artist Lupe Fiasco, singer Brandy, the "retired" rapper Jay-Z and more.

The main collaboration on the album that made a splash in the water is the one between Kanye and co-producer Jon Brion, whose hip-hop experience is none. With Brion's help, the chaotic personality, upbeat zest,

and the out there vision of Kanye is all kept in line by Brion's extensive producing abilities. Kanye knows who to pick for his album to make a difference, because for the past year other artists wanted help from Kanye. He talks about this experience on the song "Bring Me Down featuring Brandy." He raps, "every one wants to run to me for their singlay/ it's funny how these wack n***as need my help/ they weren't around when I couldn't feed myself/... made a mil' myself/ I'm still myself and I'll look in the mirror if I need some help."

In an interview published in Vibe magazine earlier this year, Kanye was asked how he would top his first album. He said then "...well I'm a go really big or I'm a just head back home, back to Chicago."

With the song "Crack Music featuring Game," some critics have said Kanye is trying to be controversial. In some politicians' eyes, he has gone "over the top." For example, he compares cocaine to the "rap game" in the song and he also asks, "Who gave Saddam anthraxes? / George Bush got the answers/ back in the 'hood, it is a different type of chemical/ Arm-n-Hammer Bakin' soda raise their whole quota."

It's not just in music where Kanye raises eyebrows, but in other situa-

tions, like the Concert for Hurricane Relief, which aired nationwide on NBC last month. Kanye went off script and declared "[America is set up] to help the poor, the black people, and the less well-off as slow as possible,"

he said. "George Bush doesn't care about black people...the way they portray us in the media. If you see a black family, it says they're looting. See a white family it says they're looking for food."

Fans and other people have speculated as to why he would say these

things, but Kanye expresses himself and is not afraid to do so in song or in other ways, even when it's a stab at a former president as he did at the Live 8 Concert. In a MTV report in July 2005 Kanye talked about the AIDS virus, saying, "It's a man-made disease - that was placed in Africa, just like crack was placed in the black community to break up the Black Panthers."

Kanye isn't all controversy, and he shows it in two songs, "Hey Mama" and "Roses."

"Roses" is presented in a story-like way, with Kanye's grandmother in the hospital, and each verse has a smooth groove so that Kanye's lyrics about his dealings are the main focus. He raps, "I think we at a all time high/ to get there we run, we fly, we drive/ because with our family we know where home is/ so instead of sending flowers... we the roses."

The chorus is a complement to the whole song with a different beat compared with each verse. It gives the song that deep impact to reach the heart and move the soul.



Burton and Depp unite again for 'Corpse Bride'

By Jonathan Muszynski, *Staff Writer*

Stop motion animation is arguably the most labor-intensive way to make a feature film. Animation teams can work for a solid week and have only five seconds of completed product to show for it. So it is no surprise to find that "Tim Burton's Corpse Bride" has the feel of a labor of love to it from the opening sequence to the end of the movie. The art concept is so complex and the handmade animation so lovingly and beautifully crafted that one might swear it was digitally done. But the film is not flawless.

"Corpse Bride" begins with a more earthbound bride, Victoria Everglot, voiced by Emily Watson, and her fiancé Victor Van Dort, voiced with brilliant sheepishness by Johnny Depp. It is the day before their arranged marriage, and they have only just met, flanked by their parents who pin all their hopes on marrying their offspring into wealth. Neither knows that both families are nearly penniless.

After bungling the wedding rehearsal, Victor is sent off alone to memorize his vows and perfect the ceremony. Walking in the woods, Victor mis-



<http://corpsebridemovie.warnerbros.com>

takes a withered, bony hand for a tree branch, and practices his vows, placing Victoria's wedding ring on the Corpse Bride, voiced by Helena Bonham Carter, who has been waiting in the woods for a husband ever since she was murdered by her fiancé for her dowry.

Victor is whisked away into the underworld, where his reluctance and

fear of the land of the dead give way to admiration of the Corpse Bride. While Victor feels torn between his undead wife and his living fiancé, rumors of his dalliance with a mystery woman reach the waiting wedding party, and a new suitor begins to court Victoria.

Danny Elfman once again teams up with Burton for some great original tunes. Imaginative animation accompanies the musical numbers, setting up situations and explaining back-story. Christopher

Lee and Michael Gough give outstanding vocal performances in a film full of great voice acting. Depp, Watson and Carter all are charming as ever, even as puppets. The story does a good job of making the film feel like a classic fairy tale, with romance, danger and the supernatural all weaving together in a playful mix. The

Probably the most significant song on "Registration" in terms of Kanye's life is "Hey Mama," which discusses his childhood with his mother in Chicago. In "Dropout," Kanye made a song titled "Family Business," which describes the West family, and "Hey Mama" is very similar in terms of beat, feel, and vibe. Now that Kanye has made it and is worth millions, a lot of the lyrics are about him trying to "repay" good old mom. In one line, he raps, "I guess it all depends tho' / if my ends lo' / I'm a take it up and get that Benzo' / Tint the windows/ ride around the city and let your friends know..."

The whole song isn't all about giving back to mom, but describing the many lessons that were taught like, "My mama told me to go to school, get your doctrine/ something to fall back on you can profit wit/ but still supported me when I did the opposite."

"Late Registration" is a very well rounded album, and is definitely a Kanye West production, in terms of quality. It is said in the movie and music industry that it is very difficult to come out with a second album or film that is better than the first. "Dropout" was an album that you can listen to from track one to the last, including the funny skits. It seems to me that "Registration" lacks that quality of straight listening, probably due to the lack of quality skits and a non-existent impact song such as "Jesus Walks" from "Dropout."

You may ask if this CD is good or not? Of course it is, and you can even call it "great" compared to other albums out there right now. But compared to his freshman album, "Late Registration" gets an A-. It's just not as good as his first.

pacing is perfect, the gags are bound to make kids laugh and the heart is strong, which ultimately turns out to be the one snag in this easy-flowing eye candy of a film.

With only one real villain, the plight of Victor and his two wives is a sticky mess to untangle, and it is untangled unevenly in the last few minutes of the film. Building up two heroines at odds for the same man is a common theme in romantic films, which makes the hurried solution to this quandary a little unsatisfying and one-sided. The resolution is not overly jarring, but a more developed ending might have elevated this very good film into an absolutely great one.

Overall, fans of Burton's visual style will have plenty to soak in, kids will have plenty to laugh at and be captivated with, and adults and animation fans will have much to rejoice about. Grab the young and the young at heart and head out to see this blessed event. Marriage and death, particularly in the movies, make a great union.

Word on Campus

Are textbooks too expensive?



Sergio Martin
Business major

"They are too expensive, they're not as valuable as they seem."



Bill Sharp
Accounting major

"It's a joke. They're definitely not worth it."



Mike Mazzotta
Communications major

"Yes and no. Compared to other schools, MCC students tend to pay a little less than some schools, but in the grand scheme of things they're still expensive."



Shelley Seddon
General Studies major

"They're way too expensive. Its cheaper to buy them online than in the bookstore."



Matt Lawrence
General Studies major

"Yes, I have a class where we use handouts and not the book. It just seems like a waste of money."



Megan Reilly
Therapeutic Recreation major

"I have a grant, but it doesn't cover books. I spent \$400 on books, it's like a month of work. Last semester I had one book that cost \$130, the most expensive book I ever bought."

Sports

Baseball, basketball and football make for an active fall

By Kyle Dorau, *Staff Writer*

Forget the holiday season. This is, without a doubt, the best time of the year.

Leaves are changing color, there's a cool breeze in the air, and somewhere, Joey Harrington has just thrown another interception. October is the greatest month for sports.

Baseball has reached the pinnacle of its season, the playoffs, with eight teams vying for a World Series Championship. Everyone is gunning for the defending champion Boston Red Sox, who begin their defense against the Chicago White Sox, owners of the best record in the American League. The Yankees make their annual postseason appearance looking to dethrone their bitter rivals, but they must first take care of the Los Angeles Angels of Anaheim of Orange County in the state of California, or whatever their name is nowadays. In the National League, the juggernaut that is the St. Louis Cardinals take on a mediocre San Diego Padres squad, while the Houston Astros face off against the Atlanta Braves, celebrating their 14th straight National League East title.

While the fall classic is taking place, another sport shares the spotlight. Football is well underway, and as usual, surrounded by unparalleled popularity. Sundays are a religious holiday in many a home. Sorry to disappoint those of you in the clergy, but you aren't the ones being referenced here. In stadiums across the country and in millions of households worldwide, people are kneeling at the altar of the gridiron and praying Hail Marys of the aerial variety. In doing so, they pig out while watching pigskin and ponder some of life's great mysteries, such as: What will Terrell Owens do next? Can a Jets quarterback stay healthy? And most puzzling of all, just how exactly do you spell Roethlisberger, the last name of the Pittsburgh Steelers quarterback?

The New England Patriots want to repeat as champions, but it seems unlikely as the Indianapolis Colts now boast the suffocating defense the Pats once had thanks to Bloomfield native defensive end Dwight Freeney. New England's problems boil down to a pair of crushing losses. Linebacker Tedy Bruschi's stroke that sidelined him for the season evidently sidelined the heart and soul of their defense as well. The other departure that hurt the champs was offensive coordinator Charlie Weis' leaving to take the head coaching job at University of Notre Dame.

It's fitting the new coach of the Fighting Irish is named Charlie, because much like the big-budget movie "Charlie and the Chocolate

factory," Notre Dame is a factory itself. Only instead of churning out candy and sweets, they manufacture football players. Much like the factory in the movie, Irish fans live in an elaborate fantasy world when it comes to their team. Granted, nobody should take them lightly, and Weis has turned things around in South Bend, Ind. However, this is still the same inept squad from last year, and all it will take for Notre Dame fans to come back to earth is their annual beating at the hands of national powerhouse University of Southern California.

Unless you're a total diehard or a Canadian citizen, you probably don't care, but hockey is back. The National Hockey League resolved their lockout, and with the resolution came a salary cap, new rules, a new logo, and a new star in the form of Sidney Crosby of the Pittsburgh Penguins. The league is trying to create more scoring, and thanks to goalie pad restrictions, the elimination of the two-line pass and shootouts to decide a winner after a tie game, they may have achieved their goal. Hopefully for the NHL, it is enough to attract the casual fan.

Following hockey is basketball. In the National Basketball Association, the usual dominant franchises like Detroit and San Antonio are on top, while the jokes of the league such as Atlanta and Toronto are at the bottom. Look for the Denver Nuggets and Indiana Pacers to be very good once again, but thanks to some creative off-season acquisitions, the Miami Heat will win their first ever NBA Championship, provided Shaquille O'Neal and Dwayne Wade can stay healthy this year.

As we embark into this wonderful time of the year, this is a good time to remind you to check out MCC Athletics as well as your

favorite pro teams. The MCC Cougars men's soccer team is having another spectacular year, and women's basketball is just around the corner in early November. See some high-level athletes and show some Cougar pride.

Men's soccer team alive and kickin'

By Kyle Dorau, *Staff Writer*

The Manchester Community College men's soccer team, The Cougars, has had quite an eventful season so far, one with more ups and downs than a rollercoaster.

They began with what seemed to be two wins at the Cayuga Community College Men's Soccer Invitational in New York. However, due to a paperwork snafu, they won those games with an ineligible player, and were later forced to forfeit them by scores of 1-0.

The team took off from there, though, going on an offensive tear, scoring a total of 25 goals in their next four games en route to four wins. As of Oct. 3, the team is 7-4-1 and is just starting to get into the heat of conference play, with important games coming up against Massbay Community College, Springfield Tech, and Holyoke Community College.

Standouts include freshman forward Andreas Blamo, who has scored 12 goals and sophomore forward Colin Jackson with team-leading 15. Freshman goalie Jonathan Wyman has had three shutouts for the Cougars.

The regular season wraps up Oct. 22, on the road against Dean College, while the final home game of the schedule takes place Wednesday, Oct. 19, against Community College Rhode Island at 3 p.m. Head coach Jim Insinga looks to lead his troops back to the Division III National Junior College Athletic Association playoffs.