

Live Wire

Plug into the
Live Wire

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Manchester Community College

free

What's to Eat? Not Much on MCC's Campus, Many Say

By **Becky Silver**
Live Wire Staff Writer

When eating on campus, students and faculty have the option of the Cougar Café in the Lowe building or the Tower Café in the AST building. But with hours many consider inconvenient, and limited offerings, many students, faculty and staff on campus are wondering why there aren't more choices.

The Cougar Café is considered the best choice by many people because the menu is larger and the prices are more reasonable than at the Tower Café. Everyday, the Cougar Café provides a hot breakfast buffet and a different hot meal for lunch. A main course, two side dishes and a

piece of bread cost about \$5. Another asset at the Cougar Café is the salad bar. However, the Cougar Café closes at 2 p.m. each day, leaving the Tower Café as the only option. With campus enrollment at an all time high, this is a problem for many students. With higher enrollment come more hungry people at all times of the day, many of them with lunch breaks after 2 p.m.

"Every time I come [to the Cougar Café] it is closed," said Jordan Knight, an MCC student. "It's not that I dislike the Tower Café, it's just that it doesn't have nearly as good a menu. It's pretty much just a sandwich stand, they don't even have fries."

So why does the Cougar Café



Photo illustration by Robert Cooper and Lisa Martin/Live Wire

The Cougar Café in the Lowe building is open Monday through Thursday from 7 a.m. to 2 p.m. It closes at 1:30 p.m. on Fridays. Many in the campus community say those hours are too short. The only other option, besides vending machines, is the Tower Café in the AST building, which closes at 7 p.m. Monday through Thursday and is closed on Fridays.

close so early?

"We have tried to keep the Café open later in the past, but there wasn't a large enough population,

so it wasn't practical," said Tim Stuart, who is in charge of running

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Men's and Women's Soccer Teams Have Mixed Seasons

By **Ross Hilton**
Live Wire Staff Writer

The Manchester Community College men's soccer team's notable season ended with a loss to Nassau Community College on Nov. 7 during the NJCAA Division III District III Men's Soccer Tournament.

The Cougars, who reached their third straight NJCAA championship quarterfinal, finished the season with a 15-4-1 overall record.

It was an especially good season for sophomore forward Andreas Blamo, who completed his MCC career with 31 goals and 20 assists for a total of 82 points, becoming the school's career points leader. On Oct. 31,

Blamo broke the 2004 record of 73 career points held by Darren Foster.

Blamo and sophomore midfielder Jacob Marcus were both NJCAA Division III Men's Soccer Player of the Week recipients this season. Freshman goalkeeper Artur Czupryna was also named NJCAA Division III Goalkeeper of the Week. However, the Cougars' 13 wins so far this season were not won by just the players mentioned.

"We all play together. We play as a team, we play as a family," said Blamo.

Two games that really stuck out for the Cougars were their games against Massasoit Community College. MCC won both games, one of which was a shutout.

The Massasoit Community College men's soccer team is one of the top NJCAA Division I teams in the country.

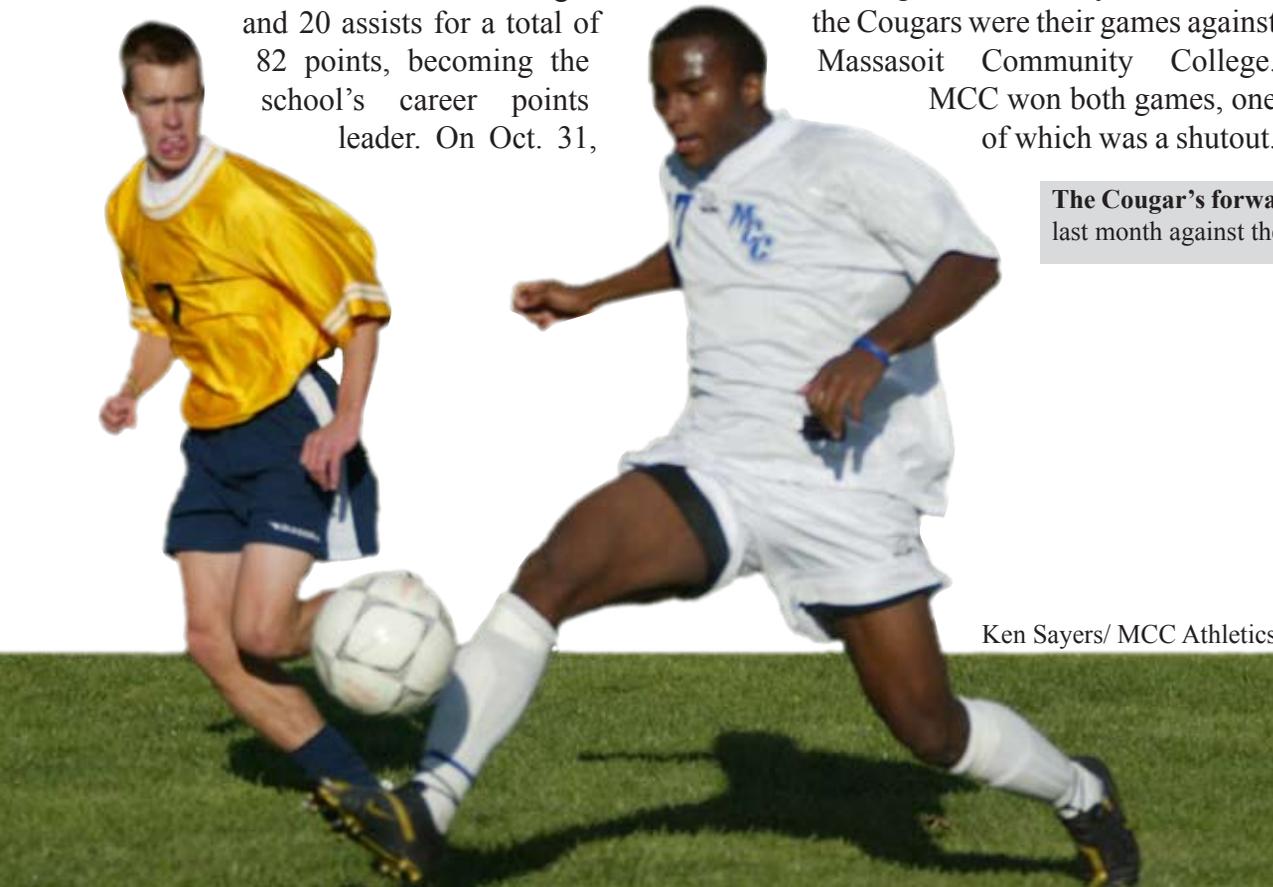
Jim Insinga, the men's head coach, said the key to this team's success has been hard work, playing possession soccer, solid defense, and the speed to counter-attack. He also said this team is very deep and talented with high skills and quick game speed.

"This may be the most talented team I've ever coached," said Insinga.

Insinga's record as head coach of MCC men's team for the last seven seasons is 70-46-6. He has also been named NJCAA Division III Region XXI Men's Soccer Coach of the Year three times, in 2002, 2003, and 2005.

please see **MCC Soccer** on page 5

The Cougar's forward Andreas Blamo, breaks away from the pack during a game last month against the Naval Academy Preparatory School of Newport, R. I.



Ken Sayers/ MCC Athletics

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Campus Briefs

MCC Student Receives Leaders of Promise Scholarship

J. Ashley Odell, of Manchester, has been named a recipient of the 2006 Phi Theta Kappa Leaders of Promise Scholarship. Odell, along with 29 other community college students from schools across the nation, received a scholarship for \$1,000 to help further their associate degree studies. Odell has been a member of Phi Theta Kappa since the fall of 2005, and is a Liberal Arts major. Odell is also the president of the French Club, vice president the Association of Community Inclusion, and a member of the College Senate and the Manchester Political Union. She was also recently selected to represent students on the Board of Trustees of Connecticut's Community-Technical Colleges. Off campus, Odell volunteers with various civic organizations, including the Manchester Planning Committee and the American Cancer Society Relay for Life committee.

Student Senate News

The Student Senate will be holding several events in November and December. The Holiday Festival will be held Nov. 29 in the Lowe building. The festival will feature activities and food from

different ethnic groups. A Stress Free Finals Day program will be held Dec. 6 from 10:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. in the Lowe lobby and from 1 p.m. to 3 p.m. in the AST rotunda. A massage therapist will be onsite to provide 10 minute massages for students on a first come first serve basis. The next Student Senate meeting will be held Dec. 8 in the AST building in room T201, from 4:30 p.m. to 5:30 p.m.

First annual MCC Intercollegiate Debate

Colleges from all over the state of Connecticut will participate in a debate to be held Thursday, Nov. 29 at 3:30 p.m. in the SBM Charitable Foundation Auditorium of the AST building. The topic that will be debated is "Resolved: The United States is Winning the War on Terrorism." For more information about the debate contact Angelo Messoro professor of political science at (860)-512- 2755.

Found Property Seeking Lost Owners

Lost and found property is managed by the MCC/Police Department (L-174). Unclaimed found property is held at the PD for six months. If it remains unclaimed by the owner

after six months, it is returned to the finder or, depending upon its value, given to a charity or discarded.

A list providing a general description of all found property held at the Police Department is posted on the Police Department's Bulletin Board located next to the Director's Office (L-170) and on the Police Department's website. Here is a general listing of found items currently being held at the Police Department:

- 2 backpacks (both black)
- 6 bicycles (all found last semester)
- Textbooks (including Intermediate Algebra, Abnormal Psychology, and Mathematics in Action)
- 3 cellphones (Verizon, Nokia, and Virgin)
- Clothing (including a jean jacket, 2 sweatshirts, and 2 sweaters)
- Electronic Organizer
- Prescription glasses and sunglasses
- Jewelry (bracelets, earrings, rings)
- 12 Keys and/or sets of keys on keychains (including a Suzuki car key, and a Honda car key)
- 3 umbrellas (2 blue and 1 red)

Tetragrammatron Invades the NewSpace Gallery

By Robert Cooper

Live Wire Assistant Editor

The Hans Weiss Newspace Art Gallery was alive with an assortment of creatures, robots, and sculptures courtesy of artist Jason Robert Bell and his exhibit titled "Tetragrammatron," which opened Oct. 26. The event was a 10-year-retrospective of his work combining elements of mythology, religion, and societal issues.



Robert Cooper/Live Wire

Artist Jason Robert Bell stands next to his life size Caveman Robot that he created as part of the Tetragrammatron exhibit at the Hans Weiss Newspace Gallery. The exhibit runs through Dec. 3.

Bell said the word "tetragrammatron" comes from the middle ages and is a secret name for God in Greek.

"I heard the word, and it just became my favorite word," Bell said.

The exhibit was a foray into a fantasy world, featuring an intense visual barrage of interesting places, characters, and concepts. The two stars of the exhibit were Caveman Robot and Kala. Caveman Robot appeared in many different interpretations that were put together by Bell and his friends, including a seven-foot-tall life-sized version. Bell said the inspiration for Caveman Robot came from a female friend who was upset with men.

"She told me that there were no good men," Bell said, "because they were all Caveman Robots."

Kala is a mythical hairy, female creature, who if she were fully dressed, would be wearing a C-cup bra. She is featured in several paintings. Bell borrowed the name from two sources: the name of the ape that adopted the fictional Tarzan, and the Indian word "Kali," who is the Goddess of Death. Kala was born, Bell said, from "the idea of trying to make a monster beautiful."

One painting titled "Klansman (two views) homage to Guston," features a Ku Klux Klan member with a Swastika on his arm, a confederate flag behind him, holding a rope in one hand and a gasoline can in the other, and a miniature Klansman in the center. The painting is an homage to the late Jewish artist Philip Guston, whose work included Klan members in a cartoonish manner. Bell said that, growing up, his teachers would always tell him his paintings looked like Guston's and that he should do something different.

please see **Tetragrammatron** on page 4

Live Wire

Manchester Community College Newspaper

Officers

Editor-In-Chief

Keith Rugar

Assistant Editor

Robert Cooper

Layout Editors

Saimir Bode

Lisa Martin

Faculty Advisors

Stephania Davis

sdavis@mcc.commnet.edu

Robert Kagan

rkagan@mcc.commnet.edu

The Live Wire

Lowe 253

Great Path

Manchester, CT 06240

livewire@mcc.commnet.edu

Main Number Editor Assistant Editor
860-512-3290 • 860-512-3289 • 860-512-3288

Forum on Israeli-Palestinian Conflict Features Some Agreement

By Lejla Mustabasic
Live Wire Staff Writer

Three women from “Partners for Peace,” an organization dedicated to raising the public awareness of issues and concerns regarding the quest for peace between Israel and Palestine, visited Manchester Community College last month. The women spoke to students at about the difficulties they face living under occupation in a program titled “Jerusalem Women Speak: Three Women, Three Faiths, One Shared Vision.”

Palestine is home to people of three religions - Islam, Christianity and Judaism – and much conflict. The women, Ghada Ageel, a Muslim, Shireen Khamis, a Christian, and Rela Mazali, a Jew, talked about their experiences of living in the heart of the Israeli-Palestinian conflict, in the Gaza Strip.

They explained that after the Israeli occupation of Palestine, the lives of the Palestinian people changed. Israeli forces have confiscated more than a third of the Palestinian land, said the women. But they explained that they represent a Palestinian people who still believe, struggle, and fight for justice.

These three women talked about the inhuman life conditions in Palestine and the treatment they face daily by Israeli soldiers. Ageel and Khamis, who live in Gaza, described their homeland saying, “it is a prison, walls are everywhere.” Israeli troops closed Gaza off by building high walls on every side and placing checkpoints through which no one can pass without the permission by the Israeli military.

Khamis said terrible things happen at the checkpoints, where Israeli forces do not let everyone pass through, not even when they need medical help.

“Women have had to give birth at the checkpoints on the streets,” she said.

Ageel explained the situation of her people, saying injustice is at every level.

“We are living a systematic destruction,” she said.

Mazali also told troubling stories and called for peace between Palestine and Israel.

“The Israeli army is constantly recruiting young people and parents have to leave their children in the hands of politicians,” she said, adding that she believes the Israeli government should stop the occupation.

Each woman practices a different religion, but each stressed that they want to live in peace with each other. They said that cannot happen if the Israeli occupation of Palestine does not stop once and for all.



From left to right: Rela Mazali from Israel, Shireen Khamis from Palestine, and Ghada Ageel from Palestine, came to MCC to present their vision of peace between Israel and Palestine to students on Oct. 17. Robert Cooper/Live Wire

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both Café's. “The company is not economically capable of extending the hours due to the budget that they are provided with.”

He added that longer hours mean longer days for his staff as well.

“Our employees currently have a 40 hour work week,” said Stuart. “If we were to stay open even for one extra hour each day, that would require that we pay the employee's overtime, and we don't have the budget to do that. It's simple economics.”

Students and staff also wonder why the prices at the Tower Café so expensive. For example, a sandwich, chips and beverage can cost \$8.

“There are many restaurants within a two mile radius of the campus, there's a Burger King, a Friendly's, a Subway, and many other restaurants,” said Alfred Carter who, as dean of students, deals with issues concerning student life. He said that in comparison to prices at surrounding restaurants, the prices at Tower Café are not out of the ordinary.

Of course, he added, the Tower Café can't offer a dollar menu like McDonald's or Burger King, but he is satisfied that the prices are reasonable. He said that while the sandwiches are about \$6, they come with sides and are made of high quality meats.

As far as the variety of the menu goes, Carter said he is open to suggestions from students. He said he realizes that many students and faculty at MCC are diet conscious and some changes have been made to the food at MCC. There is less salt, more salads and individual sandwiches are made to order.

“We can only do so much in trying to meet everyone's needs,” Carter said. “On a campus this size and with such a diversity of food tastes I think that we are responding to it very well.”

Stuart also explained that he is open to suggestions from members of the MCC community. He said he has expanded the menu in both café's due to the requests of students and faculty. Right now he is working on providing more vegetarian choices at the request of a student. In the next 18 months, he said, the Cougar Café will be renovated, and perhaps at that time, the hours may be extended. Some of the walls will be blown out to make room for a grab and go station, a beverage station, and a second register will be added to make the lines more manageable.

Stuart also said the reason the Tower Café doesn't offer hot items is because that was the agreed upon contract when it opened several years ago. But Stuart did say he would consider putting in a fryalator and a grill now that people are requesting hot items.

“That would make it possible to add items such as French fries, cheeseburgers, and chicken nuggets,” he said.

Carter said that the reason he hasn't thought about changing the hours of the Cougar Café or adding to the menu at the Tower Café is because he hasn't heard any complaints.

“It really is up to the students to make things happen,” he said.

If you think that issues concerning food on campus should be changed, just take a few minutes of your time to let someone who has the authority to change things know that you want more options. Talk to the officers in the Student Senate, Tim Stuart at Cougar Cafe or Dean Carter.

Editorials

Iraq, what a damn mess!

By Robert Cooper
Live Wire Assistant Editor

Three years have passed since the invasion of Iraq and one thing is for certain: the situation continues to spiral out of control on a daily basis. American soldiers are losing their lives in a variety of different methods, including roadside bombings and sniper shootings. Iraqi citizens also continue to die at an alarming rate due to a civil war that no one seems to want to admit is a civil war. And Pres George W. Bush, who claimed Iraq was involved with the terrorist attacks of Sept. 11, 2001 and a terrorist safe-haven, later found out that there was no connection between the country and 9/11, and Iraq wasn't a place roaming with terrorists. But it sure as hell is now.

Since the start of the war in 2003, almost 3,000 American soldiers have died, with 100 dying this past October in the bloodiest month in two years. Some 655,000 Iraqi citizens are gone also because of this war as well as warring religious sects, car bombings, gunfire, poor health, and poor environmental conditions. All of these people are dying for what? Bush recently said that the Democrats don't know how to win in Iraq. Well, after all the chaos, bloodshed, and an inept Iraqi government and police force, apparently, he doesn't either.

The simple fact is that the U.S. has no business being in Iraq. Former Sec. of State Colin Powell went before the United Nations in February of 2003 with this elaborate and theatrical presentation complete with a CGI video of trucks in Iraq with hidden laboratories that could produce chemical weapons, and tales of other "weapons of mass destruction," or what are now known as WMDs. The presentation sounded and looked like something out of a James Bond movie. None of it was true. No WMD's have been found in Iraq, no mobile trucks existed, and no chemical plants were found. There was also no link between Al-Qaeda and then Iraqi President Saddam Hussein.

Okay, I know the next thing supporters of the war like to say is "Saddam Hussein was an evil dictator, who committed atrocities against thousands of Kurds, and the world is better off without him." As if Hussein is the only evil dictator in the world. If Bush is so concerned with ridding the world of evil-doers, then why hasn't he gone to Sudan, where a genocide much greater than anything happening in Iraq is happening at this very moment? There is no rush to rid the world of Sudan's President Omar Hassan al-Bashir, who has allowed the Janjaweed militias to continue to roam into Darfur, violating the residents' human rights through murder, torture, looting, and rape.

I think that's because African lives have no value in the eyes of America and its allies. Remember Rwanda? The evil dictator excuse smells very much like hypocrisy to me. Plus, how can the U.S. talk about how others are treated around the world in the face of the deplorable way the people of New Orleans were ignored and treated in the aftermath of Hurricane Katrina last summer?

Since the Republicans can't use the war in Iraq to their advantage in this election year, they now have chosen to go after Mexican immigrants by trying to build a fence between the U.S. and Mexico. Didn't former Pres. Ronald Reagan tell Gorbachev to tear down the wall in Germany? Now they are trying to build one here?

Well, at least now the Iraqi people can live in a democratic society where they have the same freedoms as we do here in the U.S., right? Freedom in the eyes of whom? One thing that many people don't understand is that you can't bring western democracy based on Christian ideology to a Middle Eastern country with Islamic ideology. The people will reject it. Their belief in what freedom is has been based on their culture that has been around for thousands of years. Any new ideology, including democracy, is not going to be force fed to them and then accepted readily. What would Americans do if the reverse happened? Imagine, everything you knew and believed was taken from you, and another belief system was forced upon you. Isn't that why we feared Communism so much?

And while we are touting freedoms in Iraq, we here in America are slowly getting our freedoms taking away from us. Witness phone wiretappings, Internet searches being monitored, and when anyone uses their freedom of speech to oppose the war, they are viciously attacked and accused of being "Un-American."

Casualties are not the only thing America has lost in this war. This current administration has managed to lose any sympathy overseas for the tragedy that happened on 9/11, as well as credibility in the eyes of other nations. Many people in other parts of the world view America as the terrorist bent on world domination. They feel that the U.S. forced the war in Iraq, and are still very upset about it. Recently, at the United Nations General Assembly, nations around the world applauded as Venezuelan Pres. Hugo Chavez, and Iranian Pres. Mahmoud Ahmadinejad got their shots in on America and Bush.

So what should happen next? If the President has an ounce of moral decency in him, he would admit that either he lied about the reasons for going into Iraq, or that he made a humongous blunder, and start the process of bringing the troops home. I know a lot of the right-leaning people are under this belief that has been handed to them by the Bush administration of staying the course. But a popular saying goes who is more foolish, the fool, or the fools who follow him? What is to be gained by staying the course? Nothing but more casualties, providing terrorists with advertising material for recruitment, and the continuation of America's downward spiral in the minds of countries around the world. Billions of dollars are being flushed down the toilet for this war that could be used for more important things such as education, fighting poverty, or providing quality and affordable health care for U.S. citizens. It's time to get out of the hell hole known as Iraq.

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"Guston painted the Klan and made them look silly and funny," Bell said. "I'm from Texas, and I wanted to paint the Klan as I see them, which is evil and monsters."

Bell, who has an M.F.A from Yale University, said he has been an artist from the time he was born.

"The first word I spoke was crayon," Bell said jokingly.

Art runs in the family, Bell said. His father was a sign painter, and his mother was, in Bell's words, "an amateur hippie painter." Robert Bell, Jason's father was on hand for the opening, said he was terribly impressed by his son's art.

"I really like the way he does eyes, and expressions," Robert Bell said.

Angie Sokolowski, who attended the opening with her friend Carolyn Zematic, said Bell's art is "absolutely amazing and mind blowing, the art is so intense." Zematic said she liked Kala, and all the different

media Bell uses.

Shamiq-Amir Muhammad, a student and also president of MCC's Muslim Student Association, said he was very impressed with Bell's work as well as the caliber of events put on by the gallery and associate professor and art director Susan Classen-Sullivan.

"For it being a community college, this school has an extensive art program," Muhammad said.

Andrew Klein, also a student and artist, agreed.

"I went to New York for a trip with MCC," said Klein, "and I got more out of this than the galleries in SOHO and Chelsea."

Tetragrammatron will run until Dec. 1. The gallery is open Mon.-Fri. from 9 a.m. – 9 p.m., and Sat. from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. For more information on Bell and his work visit www.tetragrammatron.com and www.cavemanrobot.com.

Editorials



And Now for an Opinion on Opinions

Keith Rugar

On Dec. 15, 1791, the state delegates from the 13 colonies established 10 amendments to the U.S.

Constitution known as The Bill of Rights. I think that the First Amendment is the one that is the most important. It establishes that the government shall not “abridge the freedom of speech, or of the press.” Without this amendment newspapers and other forms of media would have no protection from political interference.

With this freedom, journalists can obtain information and write articles that are in the public’s interest. But another aspect of the news that is protected through the freedom of speech is that of opinions, with everyone from newspaper editors to columnists, and television and radio news commentators using this right to provide the public with a frame of reference that they may not have considered.

But the forum of opinion writing or commentating is one that brings with it a great responsibility to provide readers, viewers and listeners with an honest perception. It is this sense of responsibility that I feel is lacking or being taken advantage of in some cases. Just to explain my conclusion, I will add that the responsibility of providing an opinion is that you are automatically taking a position of authority, you are making your voice heard and that is very important. But some people take advantage of the position of authority they are given and are not always fair to those who are subjected to their opinions. Having an opinion is great. But if an opinion is provided without the support of facts it does no one any good.

Not all opinions carry the same weight. In the lead up to the War in Iraq, the belief that Saddam Hussein had weapons of mass destruction became the number one reason for the U. S. to go to war, and no one in the media really questioned this assumption, because the information was coming from a position of high authority, Pres. George W. Bush. This shows that when opinions are expressed by someone of authority, the only thing that outweighs their word is hard facts against their position. Without hard facts no amount of opposition can change the opinion of someone in authority.

One man who uses opinion to project a position of authority is radio commentator Rush Limbaugh. Recently we heard Limbaugh go on the offensive against actor Michael J. Fox, who suffers from Parkinson’s disease. In advertisement, Fox called for politicians to take the issue of stem cell research seriously and for people to vote for candidates who are in favor of this research, which could lead to a cure for Parkinson’s.

Limbaugh said Fox must be acting or off of his medication purposely to stress the seriousness of his illness. Fox’s condition was noticeably visible in the ad. It showed him shaking uncontrollably and having trouble getting some of his words out. But in my view, Limbaugh’s

calling the ad an attack against Sen. Jim Talent, a Republican from Missouri who opposes stem cell research, is unfair. People who are suffering from these diseases deserve to have a voice and that is what Fox was doing by advocating for Democratic challenger Claire McCaskill, who is in favor of providing funds for research. So opinions usually come with an agenda.

Limbaugh’s agenda, in my mind, is to show his loyalty to the listeners who are against stem cell research because of its loose association with abortion, which I think is just a political ploy to cancel out both issues. As far as I am concerned, this is the wrong way to use the forum of opinion. Opinions should be used to open dialog. But too many political commentators use it as a means to build a listener base by criticizing those with opposing views. This is wrong because it does not help to establish a fluent discourse of ideas when there are conservatives listening to one news source and liberals listening to another. So I think people in a position of authority should be honest with their audience by establishing that their point of view is fair.

Another problem with opinion journalism is the use of unsubstantiated or biased opinions. In recent years television shows such as CNN’s now-canceled “Crossfire,” hosted by Democrats Paul Begala, and James Carville and Republicans Tucker Carlson and Robert Novak, showed that biased opinions and shouting matches are of no benefit to the public. One major criticism of this program was that the hosts were just debating along party lines and not adding to the overall political discourse. With difficult issues like the war in Iraq and terrorism, people deserve some in-depth knowledge on the issues of concern. But this forum did not provide that. It can be said that opinions themselves are not news. In order for something to be newsworthy, the audience has to come away with greater knowledge. And opinions don’t always provide for that.

Now, as the editor of the Live Wire my opinion suddenly becomes of importance – well, a little bit, anyway - and my opinion on opinions is that people should form their own.

The First Amendment also protects an individual’s right to voice their own opinion. I think this is the greatest use of the Bill of Rights of which citizens can take advantage. Although some people think the right to bear arms is the greatest freedom, I disagree. By simply voicing your opinion you are becoming a voice of authority. You are saying that you disagree with the policies or problems in the environment around you. The best way to do that is to write to your local newspaper, or there are always blogs.

With our political figures currently trapped in a time of partisan issues, it has become important for individuals to speak up. People who express their opinion in this way are providing a tremendous responsibility to their community know matter how small their voice may be.

livewire@mcc.commmnet.edu

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The New England (Region XXI) championship was to kick off at MCC on Nov. 4. Blamo said he is confident his team can make it to the Final Four.

The women’s soccer team, however, has not seen the same success as the men’s team, finishing the season with a record of 4-7-1. The top scorers on the women’s team include sophomore back/midfielder/forward BonnieLynn Zannoni (10 goals, 3 assists, for 23 points) and freshman midfielder/forward Seana Pollard (8 goals, 3 assists, for 19 points).

The Cougars had four shutout wins this season; two against Bunker Hill Community College and two against Briarwood College. But these four wins were not one of the games that stood out for freshman goalkeeper Katelyn Randlov and freshman midfielder Monica Gambino. The Sept. 13 game at Springfield Technical Community College, the 2005 defending national champions, was the most important to the Cougars despite their losing 1-4. Despite that, Randlov and Gambino said they came together

and had better communication during that game. Zannoni was able to score a goal in the second half, assisted by Gambino. Also, Randlov had a career game with 18 saves.

“As a team we are very close. We help each other out,” said head coach Alexander Calpa.

Calpa, a former student and soccer player of MCC, was formerly the men’s assistant soccer coach for three seasons as well as an assistant coach for one season at RHAM High School. Throughout his coaching career, Calpa has a record of 52-43-4.

For more information on the men’s and women’s soccer team visit the school’s website, www.mcc.commmnet.edu, and click on the “Athletics & Fitness” section. If you are interested in joining one of MCC’s sports teams, visit the coach’s office near the MCC Fitness Center in the Lowe building.

Saturday One Busy Day

Empty Bowls Helps Fill Cupboard of Those in Need

By Lindsay Eurto
Special to the Live Wire

Come early, pick out something nice from the crafts fair downstairs, and get your soup before all the good bowls are gone. That seemed to be the common advice last month at the 9th Annual Foodshare Empty Bowls Project held at Manchester Community College.

The project was created back in 1990, after a high school art teacher in Michigan came up with a way for his students to raise money to support a food drive, according to the September issue of Newshare, a newsletter created by Foodshare. Foodshare, a regional food bank that serves the needy in the greater Hartford area, sponsors this event as well as many others across the state and country.

“We serve over 350 anti-hunger agencies, two of which are in Hartford and Tolland County,” said Jennifer Conley, a volunteer for Foodshare.

For \$15 attendees received a handcrafted bowl, some of which were made right by MCC students and faculty, as well as unlimited soup and bread. Each bowl had its own functional design, with a variety of colors. Some bowls were donated by area businesses, including Greenleaf Pottery, Sunkware Pottery and The Rusty Kiln.

People were very selective in choosing their bowl, picking them up and comparing with each other’s. Once the bowls were selected, it was time to choose a soup.

With more than 28 different types of soups, four different kinds of muffins and three kinds of breads from Harvest Bread of Manchester, it was easy to get carried away.

Soup flavors ranged from chicken noodle to sweet and sour, baked potato to bacon beef chowder and wild mushroom to pasta fagioli, just to name a few.

However, there was one major difference at this years empty bowl project from previous years: the college’s kitchen was under renovation. So instead of the soup being placed in the newly-purchased bowl, it was brought out in to-go cups. The volunteers, including local Girl Scouts and MCC students and faculty, were able to work around this and the people being served didn’t seem to mind either.

“Must be good, I asked for a second bowl,” said Dolores from Manchester, who was enjoying the butternut squash bisque.

The onion soup seemed to be popular among the guests, many of whom have been coming to the Foodshare Empty Bowls project for years. And why not, because for every \$30 donated, Foodshare can provide enough food to feed one hungry person for a month, said event organizers. In 2005, organizers said the event raised more than \$15,000, which went to hungry people in Hartford and Tolland counties.

For more information on becoming an event sponsor or volunteer call Sarah Santora, Foodshare Volunteer Services, at (860) 286-9999 ext. 105, or email ssantora@secondharvest.org.



Robert Cooper/ Live Wire

Francie Berger, a volunteer with Foodshare, the food bank benefiting from the Empty Bowls event, tends to the bowls as Marcia Jehnings, director of the Social Science and Hospitality division, and her partner Debra Strisun look on at the 9th Annual Empty Bowls project at MCC.



Robert Cooper/ Live Wire

MCC Culinary Arts students Shaun Jarvis and April Doyle stir their Tuscan bean, vegetable, and tomato soup they prepared for the 9th Annual Empty Bowls project at MCC.

Is it Hot MCC Global Issues C Topic of Glob

By Jessica Avery
Live Wire Staff Writer

If you are one of those people who believe that global war it does not affect you, then you should have attended the ann last month at Manchester Community College. It was quite the

Ann Hadley, an associate professor of earth and environme featured speakers, Dr. Anji Seth, Dr. Johan “Joop” C. Varekamp

The first presenter, Seth, is an assistant research professor of Connecticut. Her lecture focused on climate change in the 20th cent illustrated the earth’s atmosphere as a giant bathtub, she said that atmosphere must be balanced by that which is being drained out of t “sinks” such as oceans. But with the 20th century marking a sharp inc nations, it turns out we’re putting in a lot more than the earth can t discussed global warming as it relates to an increase in record setting them have occurred in the last decade.

Seth said solutions to the problem of global warming include cha changes in leadership policies.

Next to speak was Varekamp, a professor of earth science at V humans have impacted the changing environment of Long Island S period ever recorded. At this time, the Dutch were exporting beave North America, between 50 million and 100 million beavers were kill beavers from the Sound may have had an effect on environmental cl

Garcia, the third speaker, is the director of Energy Market In various non-profit organizations to create programs which create a shared with the audience ways to reduce the demand for electrici

Members of the audience also seemed to share Garcia’s inter Al Levere, who attended the conference with his daughter, I

“Connecticut is leading the country in the number of fuel way to create an alternate source of energy in the future.

Each speaker brought something different to the table t of the issue, but one message rang clear among all three s further destroying the atmosphere.

“It is in our control to reduce the carbon dioxio teaches in MCC’s paralegal program.

Day At MCC October 21

MCC Alumni Holds 19th Annual Crafts Fair

By Robert Cooper

Live Wire Assistant Editor

Vendors came from as far away as Massachusetts to sell their handmade items at the 19th annual Manchester Community College Alumni Association Craft Fair. The event, held in the lobby of the Lowe Building, provided something for everyone, with items such as sweaters, woodwork, jewelry and even soap.

Monica Abdullah and her daughter, Fatima, came from Amherst, Mass., with bracelets, necklaces, and earrings that they make along with three other women in their store M & M Links. Abdullah said having the different people make the jewelry is great because they all bring different styles to the table.

Ron Lanzano from South Windsor doesn't have a store, but works out of his home.

"I have been making airplane wind mobiles for over 15 years," he said.

The airplanes are made from beer or soda cans, feature spinning propellers, and include custom made logos. "Sports designs are my biggest seller."

Audrey Letizia, one of the coordinators of the fair, said the annual event helps to attract people to MCC's campus.

"Our primary goal is to bring people to campus, and to have a fun event for people in the community as well as from the college," she said. "Every year the fair is different and more unique than the year before. We emphasize that the crafts be handmade."

Many of the people selling their crafts are regulars at the MCC fair and travel to others around the state. Nancy Goldstein, who said she was known for her stuffed moose and angels, has been doing craft shows since 1988 and exhibiting at the MCC fair for the past two years.

John Wolfe, of South Windsor and owner of Woodworks by Wolfe, has been making his wood creations for more than 12 years.

"I do it as a hobby," he said. "It has kept me busy after my retirement." Wolfe said he averages about three to four fairs a year, and attends the MCC fair every other year.

Corrine Horan, who has been writing a column in the East Hartford Gazette for 25 years called "Where the Action Is," said she has been exhibiting at the fair for 15 years. Horan was awarded a trophy by the MCC Alumni Association for Outstanding Business Partnership for her work getting the word out about the craft fair.

"Over 75 percent of the people who are here come from East Hartford, and found out about it through my column," said Horan. She was selling her hand painted sweatshirts, fleece throws, stuffed snow people and stuffed Raggedy Ann and Andy dolls.

Others were making their MCC craft fair debut.

Pam Bell, of Ledyard, introduced her line of homemade soaps for the first time at MCC.

"I'm very pleased with this fair," said Bell. "There are a lot of high quality crafts here."

Carol Anderson and her daughter, Valerie Scheer, have been coming to the event since it started.

"Val was just a little girl when we first came," Anderson said. Anderson said she especially comes for the booth featuring pillowcases made by Rosemary LeGrande and her mother, Mary Roane.

"I come looking for this lady [Roane] because I bought things from her last year," said Anderson.



Robert Cooper/ Live Wire

Fatima Abdullah of Amherst, Mass., came to MCC to sell handcrafted jewelry, including earrings, necklaces and rings.

In Here? Conference Heats Up Global Warming

Global warming is not important because of the Global Issues Conference, an eye-opening experience.

Environmental sciences, introduced the speaker and Bryan Garcia.

Geography at the University of Connecticut. Using a simple model that shows the carbon dioxide put into the atmosphere through natural

increase in the planet's population and the advancement of industrialized nations take out. This is one of the main causes of global warming. She also discussed how temperatures. Within the last century, of the 10 hottest years, nine of

changes in individual choices, collective education on the problem, and

Wesleyan University in Middletown. He presented his theory on how global warming is caused. During the early 1600's, Europe was experiencing its coldest winters as a result of the Little Ice Age. It is estimated that in the last 100 years, the world has warmed within a span of 200 years. Vanderkamp said that this eradication of global warming is up to humans to stop global warming from

initiatives for the Connecticut Clean Energy Fund. He works with the public to raise an awareness of clean energy and its benefits to the community. He also discussed the consumption of fossil fuels. He said he sees fuel cells as a promising technology in clean energy.

He has an ongoing interest in renewable energy resources. He said he sees fuel cells as a promising technology in clean energy.

to provide the audience with a well-rounded understanding of the speakers: it's up to humans to stop global warming from

le in the atmosphere," said Nance Krescenski, who



Robert Cooper/Live Wire

Johan C. Vanderkamp, who teaches earth science at Wesleyan University, discusses the impact humans have had on the Long Island Sound during the Global Issues Conference on Oct. 21.



Robert Cooper/ Live Wire

Paula Raum, of the Institutional Development Department, sold baked goods that were donated by the MCC Alumni Association, MCC faculty members and the MCC chapter of the Phi Theta Kappa Honor Society during the Crafts Fair Oct. 21.

Arts & Entertainment

“TAKE ME OUT” STRIKES A NERVE

By Keith Rugar
Editor

The way we treat other people may be a reflection of how we feel about ourselves. This was one theme expressed in the play “Take Me Out,” which is being performed at Hartford’s TheaterWorks through Dec. 3.

The play deals with social issues pertaining to race, ethnicity, and sexual orientation, and comments on how individuals relate to each other in regards to these issues.

The main character, Darren Lemming, is the focus of the social drama. Lemming is a star hitter and left-fielder on the fictitious New York Empires. He causes trouble for himself and his teammates when he announces at the start of the play that he is gay. This was news to the other players on the team.

Interesting, but this is a theme that we have seen before. MTV has been setting up six people to live in a house on their “Real World” reality show for the last 15 years, and at least one cast member is always gay. If this story line is one that has become familiar to us, then what does this play have that is so different? I guess the writer, Richard Greenberg, thought that the game of baseball provides a new atmosphere for this conflict. Even though there are certainly no homosexuals in baseball; I mean why would a gay man be interested in playing a game where all of the men run around in tight pinstripe uniforms? Well, okay maybe he would. But that’s not all that the play was about.

Let me pause here and say that this play for a mature audience. Greenberg, who won a Tony Award for Best Play two years ago when “Take Me Out” was on Broadway, provides the audience with the full experience of what it’s like in a locker room full of players, including nudity and foul language. Now, male nudity might be artistic the first time, but I think Greenberg seems to be gearing his play to those who have a greater appreciation for this kind of artistic expression. So that’s great... but getting back to baseball.

Baseball in “Take Me Out” is used as a microcosm of society. The team is comprised of Lemming, who is also of mixed race in addition to being gay, the Chinese pitcher who does not speak English, the two Hispanic players who do not speak English, and Shane Mungitt, an uneducated pitcher from Arkansas or Tennessee or Mississippi, who creates the catalyst for the story. As the ignorant pitcher, Mungitt has trouble dealing with the racial, ethnic and sexual orientations expressed on the team. The rest of the team also feels uncomfortable with him. The discomfort and ignorance lead to explosive confrontations, but the team diplomat, Kippy, tries to foster understanding and peace.

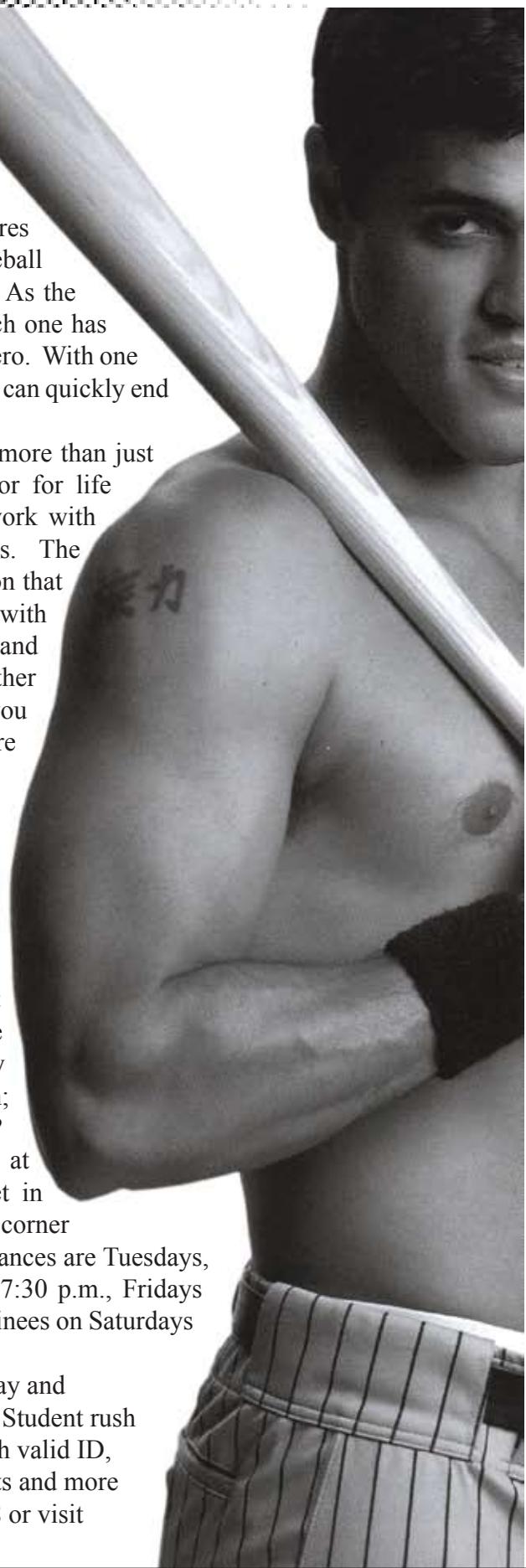
“Take Me Out” also explores what it means to be a man. Baseball is a man’s man kind of a sport. As the players step up to the plate, each one has an equal opportunity to be the hero. With one swing of the bat, the losing team can quickly end up on top.

But baseball in this play is more than just a game; it provided a metaphor for life in general, how we live and work with those that are different from us. The play made a grand generalization that we are only uncomfortable with differences if we don’t understand them. If you cannot accept other peoples differences than you become the thing that you are most uncomfortable with.

By depicting ballplayers as being insecure, the play made the assertion that we are all insecure. And if we are insecure with ourselves, we will be uncomfortable with others. And “Take Me Out” is also about finding where we fit in. With the main character Darren being gay the play asked where he fits in; can a man’s man, be a gay man?

“Take Me Out” is playing at TheaterWorks, 233 Pearl Street in downtown Hartford, near the corner of Ann & Pearl streets. Performances are Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays at 7:30 p.m., Fridays and Saturdays at 8 p.m. and matinees on Saturdays and Sundays at 2:30 p.m.

Tickets are \$35, except Friday and Saturday nights, which are \$45. Student rush tickets are \$10 at show time with valid ID, subject to availability. For tickets and more information call (860) 527-7838 or visit www.theaterworkshartford.org.



Spoken Word Series Makes its Debut



Robert Cooper/Live Wire

Featured poet Steve Straight reads from his book “The Water Carrier” at the first evening of the Mishi-maya-gat Spoken Word Series on Oct. 12 in the Fireside Commons.

By Robert Cooper

Live Wire Assistant Editor

It was an evening of creative expression at the Fireside Commons in Manchester Community College’s library last month when the Mishi-maya-gat Spoken Word and Music series made its debut. The series, which will run until at least June of next year, will feature spoken word poetry from MCC faculty members and students monthly. The event was put together by Stephen A. Campiglio, an assistant in the Continuing Education Department. please see **Mishi-Maya-Gat** on page 9

Arts & Entertainment

Mishi-Maya-Gat continued from page 8

The opening night featured the music of C-, a band made up of several MCC faculty members. Holly June Jacobs is the lead singer as well as an MCC graduate, and staff member in the surgical tech department. English professors Ken Klucznik and Patrick Sullivan rounded out the trio, both playing the guitar and providing the backup vocals. Steve Straight, also an English professor and author of "The Water Carrier" was the featured poet of the evening.

C- started the evening with a half hour music set playing a wide variety of musical styles such as bluegrass, folk, rock-a-billy, jazz and even punk.

Their first set was followed by an open microphone for those in the audience who signed up to read a 1-4 minute poem. The readers included MCC students and others from the community here in Connecticut and Massachusetts.

Lee Jamieson came from Easthampton, Mass., and read a couple of poems. Dylan Blodgett read several poems from his book, "Midnight Ramblings of a Madman with Slices of Reality, Vol. 1". Scott Beaulieu, a student at MCC, got peoples attention with a poem called "Waking up with a Hangover and Realizing you've been F***ed." He apologized for the language, saying that he's young and full of angst.

Later, Straight read several poems from his current book, "The Water

Carrier." His first poem, "Only Connect," was addressed to a single reader who may be sitting at home alone, Straight said. He also told the audience that he was getting tired of government-funded wars.

"It's time for average people to come up with suggestions on how things should be done," he said.

He then read a poem called "The Flag of Cucumber," a concept to unite people all over the world. Straight said he is almost finished with his second book and may use "The Flag of Cucumber" as the title.

Several staff members and future feature poets were on hand to show their support for their colleague. Jeanine DeRusha, who will be the featured poet in December, said she liked listening to the music and the poetry together. Art professor Susan Classen-Sullivan said she enjoyed the energy of the evening.

"It was a nice mix of poetry, from the older people and the young," she said.

Sharicka Clarke, who said she sometimes goes to poetry readings in Hartford

at the Russell restaurant, found the poetry interesting. But, she added, the poem by Beaulieu could have been milder.

"Everyone is free to express themselves," Clarke said, "but I don't like the swearing too much."

The series will be held on the second Thursday of each month. For more information visit www.mcc.commnet.edu/faculty/spoken.php.

"The Departed" is Textbook Martin Scorsese

By Robert Cooper
Live Wire Assistant Editor

Fall is officially here, and with the change of seasons comes a change in the movies released at the local theater. Gone are the big-budget, special effects laden summer movies. In their place are movies with thought-provoking plots and actors who are true thespians. The Departed, Martin Scorsese's latest offering, is definitely worth the \$10 admission price.

The Departed, which stars Jack Nicholson, Leonardo DiCaprio, and Matt Damon, is textbook Scorsese. Scorsese includes all of his favorite ingredients: swear words, racial and homophobic slurs, over-the-top violence, and a head-nodding soundtrack featuring 1970's classic rock.

Set in South Boston, Nicholson plays Frank Costello, an Italian mob boss whose motto is "Nothing is ever given to you, you have to take it." Damon is a hotshot police officer on the rise named Collin Sullivan. Sullivan is more than just a police officer, he is also the inside man for Costello, who has served as a father figure to the young cop since he was an adolescent. DiCaprio rounds off the superstar trio playing undercover cop Billy Costigan, who gets the task of infiltrating Costello's gang in an attempt to topple the Mafia Don.

Other all-star actors in the movie include Mark Wahlberg as Sergeant Dignan, who uses unorthodox methods to try and intimidate police officers. Martin Sheen plays Capt. Queenan, who is good cop to Dignans bad cop. Alec Baldwin gets some laughs as Capt. Ellerby, Vera Formiga, fresh from another ultra-violent film, Running Scared, is a police psychologist and the love interest of Sullivan, and Anthony Anderson is the token Black guy. He's a police officer.

The Departed, a reworking of the 2002 Hong Kong movie Internal Affairs, keeps movie goers enthralled from the opening credits to the closing credits. The plot is full of more twists and turns than a ride at Six Flags, but it isn't difficult to follow. The movie may be too graphic for some viewers, especially the bang bang, shoot 'em up finale, but it fits in nicely with Scorsese's other crime thrillers GoodFellas, and Casino.

The three leading actors each put together compelling and totally believable performances. Nicholson plays Costello with his typical maniacal flare that only he can deliver. That may be good for Nicholson lovers, but those who do not care for him, will say he's the same character in just about every movie. DiCaprio has definitely come a long way from the TV show Growing Pains, and has no trouble pulling off the Boston accent. DiCaprio got his first taste of playing a tough guy in another Scorsese movie, Gangs of New York, and that same posturing makes for a seamless transfer to this role. Damon, a Boston native, was the perfect choice for the roll of the crooked cop.

Since this is the time of year when movies start trying to vie for that coveted Oscar nomination, the exceptional plot, and caliber of acting in this movie makes it easily a contender for several nominations, including a Best Picture nod. Whoever said old-fashioned crime dramas are out of style, was dead wrong. The Departed has definitely reinvigorated the genre.

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Arts & Entertainment

Sofia Coppola Tackles Poor, Misunderstood “Marie Antoinette”

By Cassandra Cammarata
Special to the Live Wire

Like many girls who reach their 18th birthday – know as the age of womanhood - Marie Antoinette has a party, filled with gambling, countless bottles of champagne, a myriad of plates filled with sweets and endless laughter. She sneaks off with a few friends, stumbling from the champagne, to a field to watch the sun rise. Antoinette wakes up hung-over, in the clothes from the previous night, her hair looking like it hasn't seen a comb in weeks. She, like many girls, is ushered into womanhood with a bad headache. The only difference is she's the queen of France in 1769.

Sofia Coppola's new film, “Marie Antoinette,” stars Kirsten Dunst as Antoinette and Jason Schwartzman as Louis XVI, her husband through an arranged marriage. Coppola uses a modern soundtrack, with many 80's punk and alternative songs, in contrast to the lavishly ornate and impeccably precise sets and costumes of the time. This gives a sense of youthful rebellion and a modern feel to the movie, which Dunst and Schwartzman also play into. Dunst's lack of refined acting and Schwartzman's painfully shy awkwardness seem to help the dynamic of their characters, even giving them a realness and relatable quality, despite the fact that the movie is set in the 18th century.

Antoinette was originally from Vienna, Austria, and was betrothed to Prince Louis when she was just 14. Four years later, the Prince's father died, making him king and Marie queen. The French Court, which was rife with corruption, did not embrace Antoinette's naivety and unrefined nature. Countless times she is told that her position is not in any way

stable until she the marriage has been consummated and she has given birth to an heir, specifically a boy. This becomes a problem, but it does not lie in her, but rather in her husband, who seems to have a little trouble becoming intimate. Antoinette's sister-in-law gives birth to a boy first, and Antoinette becomes the subject of private ridicule. She locks herself in her quarters, crying for hours, and then emerges to go on a shopping spree, gorging herself on new shoes and fabrics.

But in the midst of an upheaval by the people of France, riots break out. There is a shortage of bread, and people are starving. The lower classes are infuriated, and storm the monarchy's mansion in Versailles. Their hatred is most directed at Antoinette, for her lavish spending on herself, but they do not know of her personal struggles. She was in constant struggle with herself between loyalty to the life she was given and the pursuit of a spiritual happiness that cannot fully be expressed within the stifling nature of the French Courts. The people did not realize that she too was being oppressed. And she became the most misunderstood monarch of France.

Coppola's fresh and modern approach to integrate a great historical figure's life with a modern spirit and youthful edge gives people something new to experience. Dunst and Schwartzman have a chemistry that, like many relationships, takes a while to develop. There is a sense of purity in their characters, and the audience connects to them through their emotions, not their place in time. How refreshing to see a younger generation giving their take on history, giving way to a new presentation of historical occurrences. Coppola invites you to a history lesson full of the vibrant, emotional wave of Marie Antoinette's inspiring yet misunderstood reign.

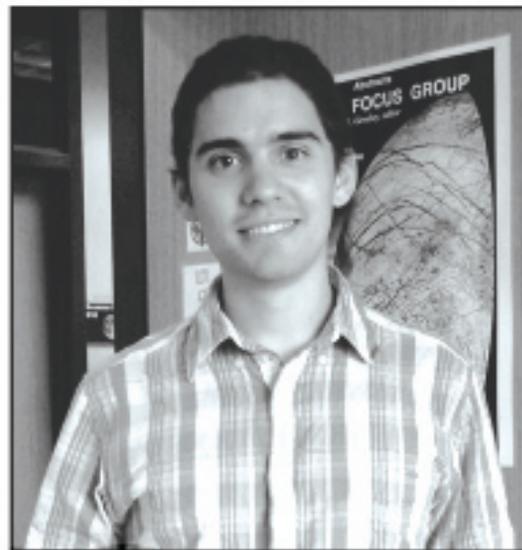
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Solution to October Sudoku

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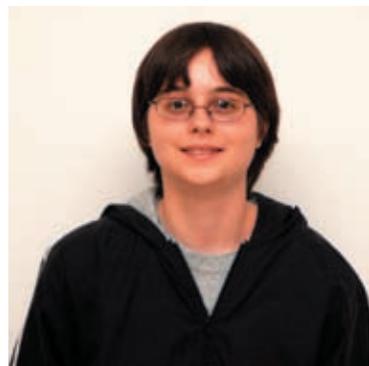


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Word on Campus



Lesley DeBacco
Sports and Fitness

“I’m thankful for my family and friends, and I’m thankful to be living in a free country.”



Peter Johnson
General Studies

“I’m thankful for life, because you could die at any minute. I lost my mother a couple of years ago.”



Will Freeman
General Studies

“I’m thankful for my family, and that I had the insight to go back to school.”



Sean Parylak
General Studies

“I’m thankful for food on the table. I’m fortunate to have food, it’s a good thing to have.”



Amanda Bergstein
Graphic Design

“I’m thankful for life. I celebrate the people around me, I celebrate it not snowing yet, and I celebrate school almost being over.”



Ben Riley
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“I’m thankful for my family. My mother has been taking care of me and my brother by herself. I’m working full time, and give back to her. I am thankful to be successful.”



Lynzie-Rose Koutsopoulos
Computers

“I’m thankful for my friends and family, because they’ve been there for me throughout everything, and I’ve been there for them too.”



Tisha Summers
Graphic Design

“I’m thankful for my family and friends and good health, because no one is promised tomorrow.”



Monika Weiss, a conceptual artist from New York, came to Manchester Community College on Nov. 1 to get students involved in a project titled “Horos” that was part of her “Intervals” series. This project is one aspect of a three-part conceptual series. During the daylong project, Weiss and others constructed a canvas of white cotton and then traced their bodies and completed abstract drawings out of chalk and coal. The event was filmed and the film will be shown at Real Art Ways studio in Hartford in January. Weiss said she is interested in the unknown elements of a project that shape the art.

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